

## The Milking Pail

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics: "Please mo - ther buy me a mil - king pail a mil - king pail a mil - king pail." The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics: "Please mo - ther buy me a mil - - king pail O mo - ther do." The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes.

M. Where shall I get the money from? (spoken)

Ch. Sell father's feather bed (sung)

M. What'll father sleep on?

Ch. Sleep in the boy's room

M. Where will the boy sleep?

Ch. Sleep in the servant's room

M. Where will the servant sleep?

Ch. Sleep in the pigstye

M. Where will the pig sleep?

Ch. Sleep in the wash tub

M. what shall I wash in?

Ch. Wash in an eggshell

M. The eggshell will break

Ch. Wash in a thimble

M. The thimble won't hold the baby's clothes

Ch. Wash by the riverside

M. Supposing I was to fall

Ch. Serve you right!

Then Ch. run away. The one caught is mother in the next round.

Ring form, dancing round mother in centre

Source: Children at Coates School, 10th April 1911. Collected by Cecil Sharp no.2576.