

another version

Shady grove, my true love
Shady grove, my honey
Shady grove, my true love
Bound for shady grove

Wish I had a needle and thread
Fine as I could sew
I'd sew that pretty girl to my side
And down the road I'd go

When I was a little boy
My mama told me
If I never kissed a girl
My lips would grow all mouldy

Every night when I go home
(My wife?) I try to please her
The more I try the worse she gets
Damned if I don't leave her

When I was a little boy
I wanted a whittlin' knife
Now I am a great big boy
I want a little wife

Wish I had a banjo string
Made of golden twine
Every time I play on it
I wish that girl was mine