

Little Longings

I wish I had a little wife
And owned a little land
I'd have a little house upon it
And feel a little grand
I'd want a little daughter and
Likewise a little son
And when I'd a little time to spare
I have a little fun

A little glassy lake I'd have
With filled with little fishes
My little prancing shavers should shine
With little powder fishes
I should see the little birds
Should sing their little throats
And on the little hills should prisk
My little napping goats

I'd lounge a little after meals
And take a little ease
And if my little wife should need
I'd rub a little knee
I'd let it rage a little - then
I'd take a little beer
And little snappers go out and hoe
My little patch of corn
As I should want a little cash
I'd take some little pains
Since every little trifle helps
To lay up little gains
And then I'd smile at little ills
Above of life's little cares
Enjoy a little paradise
And laugh at little cares

The Same

These longings though are vain
Get little minds they bore
And when a little mortal gets
He sighs for little more
Despite the little ballad says
To call it little ring
He wants but little here below
He wants that little long P.C.

See how the foolish gamecocks rage and fight
Exerting all their skill and all their might
Each other to torment or to destroy
And cause in brutal men infernal joy
How after hours the barbarous work proceeds
Each strives for conquest each in anguish bleeds
It nearly match they fight till nearly dead
Then dropping faint each with mangled head
But such their folly each in triumph crows
While all his gains are wounds and pains and blows

Just as the blustering heroes of our race
By needless wars incur supreme disgrace
See lovers bruis'd to jelly by clench, I fear
See succours and pistols bleed vain duellists
But worst of all see men in peace delight
In mustering armies for the savage fight
To try which can the other harm the most
While each in martial murder makes his boast
Surprising madness what in Christians too
Fathers forgive they know not what they do...