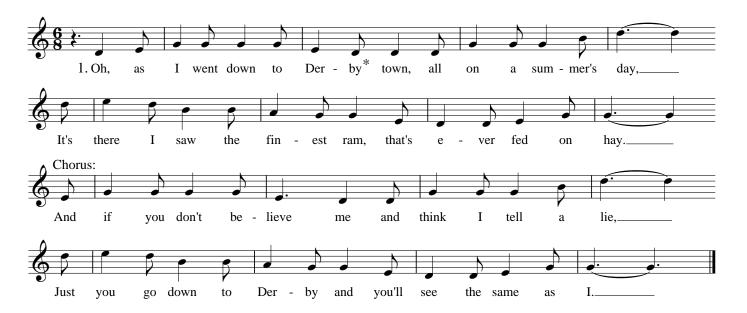
The Derby Ram

Informant/Performer: Charles Ingenthron Walnut Shade, MO, 1941 Source: Library of Congress AFS 5252 A1 Collected by Vance Randolph



^{*} pronounced "Darby"

Oh, the wool upon this ram's back
 It drug to the ground,
 And I hauled it to the market
 And it weighed ten thousand pounds.

(Chorus)

3. Oh, the horns upon this ram's head They reached to the moon, For the butcher went up in February And never got back till June.

(Chorus)

4. Oh, the ears upont his ram's head They reached to the sky, And the eagle build his nest in there For I heard the young ones cry.

(Chorus)

 Oh, every tooth this ram had Would hold a bushel of corn, And every foot he stood on Would cover an acre of ground.

(Chorus)

Background Information

There is a tradition that George Washington sang this song to the children of Chief Justice Ellsworth and even a further tradition which believes that "this was the only song that George Washington ever sang." It is a "lying song" as fantastic as Paul Bunyan's Blue Ox and as popular.