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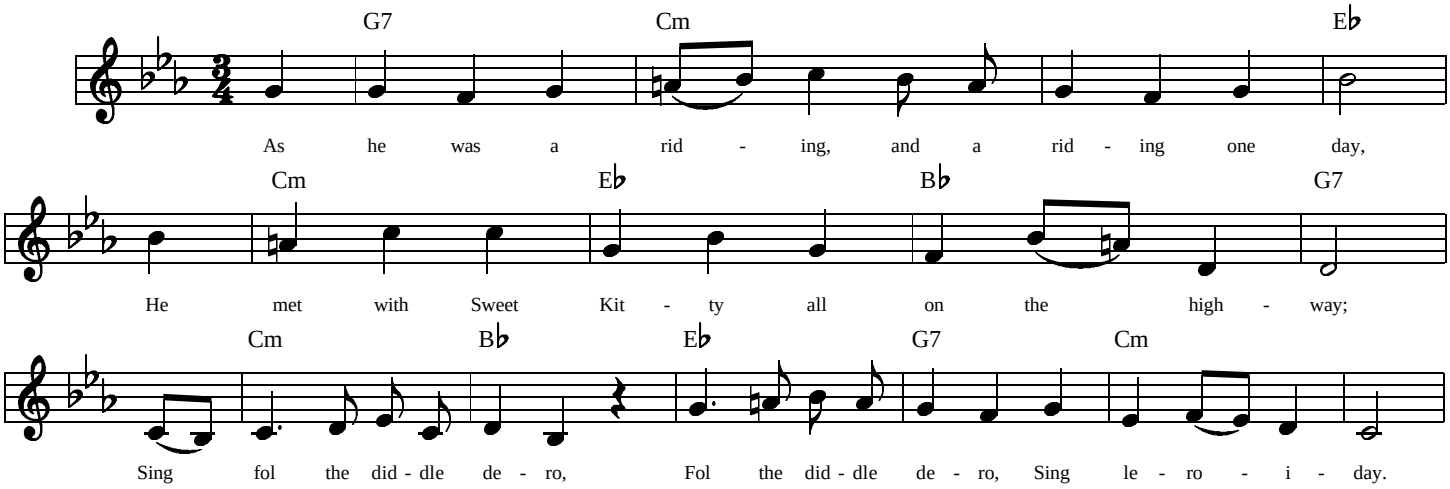
SWEET KITTY

Collected by CECIL J. SHARP



1 As he was a-riding, and a-riding one day,
He met with sweet Kitty all on the highway;

Chorus Sing fol the diddle dero,
Fol the diddle dero,
Sing le-ro-i-day

2 I gave her a wink and she roll'd her black eye;
Thinks I to myself I'll be there by and by.

3 Come saddle my horse and away I will ride
To meet with sweet Kitty down by the seaside.

4 Six times he rode round her, but he did not know;
She smiled in his face and said: There goes my beau.

5 I said: Pretty maiden don't smile in my face,
I do not intend to stay long in this place.

6 If you'd know my name, you must go and enquire;
I was born in old England, brought up in Yorkshire.

7 Come, all pretty maidens, whoever you be,
With roving young fellows don't make yourself free.

NOTE

The tune, which is in the Dorian mode, was used in Mr. Granville Barker's production of Hardy's "Dynasts," being set to the words, "My Love's gone a-fighting." The words, which are related to those of "Brimbledon Fair" (No. 75), have been compiled from several versions that I have collected.