

And there has been days together—and many a weary week—

We was both of us cross and spunky, and both too proud to speak ;

And I have been thinkin' and thinkin' the whole of the winter and fall,

If I can't live kind with a woman, why, then, I won't at all.

And so I have talked with Betsey, and Betsey has talked with me,

And we have agreed together that we can't never agree;

And what is hers shall be hers, and what is mine shall be mine ;

And I'll put it in the agreement, and take it to her to sign.

Write on the paper, lawyer—the very first paragraph—  
Of all the farm and live-stock that she shall have her half ;  
For she has helped to earn it, through many a weary day,  
And it's nothing more than justice that Betsey has her pay.

Give her the house and homestead—a man can thrive and roam ;

But women are skeery critters, unless they have a home ;  
And I have always determined, and never failed to say,  
That Betsey never should want a home if I was taken away.