Not Far from Ballston

As sung by Lawrence Older
Tune: Variant of Sweet Betsy from Pike

Moderately, in 1 \( \frac{j}{d} = 60 \)

C G7 C

1. Not far from Ball - ston and on a small knoll Was the
2. His hips, they stuck up____ and his bones, they were bare; It
3. One day____ when Ben had him out on the pike, Ben
4. Of old Ned Twee - zer there's no - thing to fear; He

C F C

fine res - i - dence_ of a man_ named Joe Cole. And at
took him all_ sum- mer_ to_ shed win - ter's hair. He_
spends all his mon - ey on whis - key and beer. And at
C F C

sell-ing old hors-es he's not a bit slack For he
loaned him to Jake Carr, which turned out a sin, For he
C G7 C

go-in' so fast_____ his speed could not check; He flew
going to Ball - ston, he's not a bit slack, For he's
C G7 C

sold a ben old - er than an old_____ hat rack.
plowed him_ and plowed him 'til he plowed off his skin.
off in the ditch and the poor_ steed broke his neck.
sure to get a jag on be - fore he gets back.
C F

REF: Sing whack flar - a- led,____ de whack flar - a - lay.

C G7 C

_ If you don't like my shan-ty, pass out the back way.

Notes on rhythm and pitch changes in the verses:
Vs. 2: 'summer' is sung with eighth and dotted quarter notes, on the beat, on C
Vs. 3: Older begins the third verse on a C; 'day' is sung on a half note C; 'up' is sung on C; 'fast' is sung on a half note C
Vs. 4: 'Ned' is sung on an E; the first syllable of 'money' is sung as an eighth note C

In general, one must go with the natural flow of the words for each verse, as the rhythm changes with the text.