

I had an old black mammy who used to sing to me All kinds of funny little songs and funny poetry; One of a "low sweet chariot," one of "cane in the brake," One of her old white Massa, of possum and hot hoe-cake, And more about a "heap o' things;"—but the one that I liked best West one she sang when I went to sleep with my head upon her breast. ... 'Twas:

> "Hi l' said de Possan, "des shake dat 'sinnaon tree l' "Golly !" said de Rabbit, "you's a shakin' dem on me l" Den dey picked wid der claws,

An dey licked der paws,

An' dey tuk a heap home to der Maws-

A heap, oh a heap, homey, home to der Mawa.

Then I would raise my head and beg, "Oh sing it once again 1" And she would say, "Hush, honey chile 1" and rock and pat me. Then:

"Dey picked wid der claws,

An' dey licked der paws,

An dey tak a heap home to der Maws-

A heap, oh a heap, homey, home to der Mayra-

Oh a hesp, oh a hesp, oh a hesp, hesp, hesp.

Oh a hee-co-cap-Oh a hee-co-cap-"

And I never heard the out, because I always fell asleep.

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Mammy's Song

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