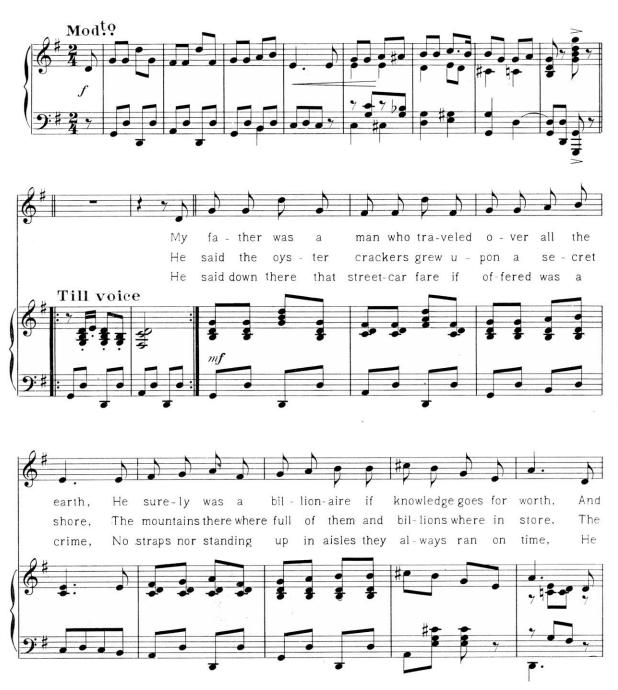


Down where the Oyster Crackers Grow

EDDIE DUSTIN



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My father said a man's a chump in very many ways,
For instance, when he marries he "cuts out" the happy days.
"My boy," he said, "before you wed I hope that you will pause
And think of all the jawing that is done by mother-in-laws."
He said he knew of just a few who always squarely dealt.
He said they were the "jawless" kind
And told me where they dwelt.

Chorus.

Down, down, down, down where the oyster crackers grow,
Mother-in-laws without any jaws.
I'd like to ask the married man for kind applause,
The husband wins, there's no "butt ins,"
Married men they have some show,
Down, down, down, (where?) down where the oyster crackers grow.

V

My father ran for alderman and what do you suppose
A Hebrew beat him for the place and won it by a nose.
He said election was a fraud and swore a streak of blue,
I pitied him but little boys don't know just what to do.
I sympathized and asked if he would ever run again,
He said he would in that land where there was no ache or pain.

Chorus.

Down, down, down where the oyster crackers grow,
Politics there are on the square and honest politicians linger everywhere,
Gangs and rings are unknown things,
There's always lots of dough,
Down, down, down, (where?) down where the oyster crackers grow.

VI

If ever man was known to work they'd send him right to jail They'd feed that man on hay unless somebody furnished bail, They'd feed him on all breakfast foods until he swore by "force" And when they'd turn him loose his wife was given a divorce, A lake of beer that sparkled clear beneath a frothy foam, Would dissipate all sorrow that had gathered round his home.

Chorus.

Down, down, down where the oyster crackers grow,
No trusts are there on food or air,
Why, biscuits fairly blocked your passage everywhere,
Lovely place to feed your face,
Oh, how I longed to go
Down, down, down, (where?) down where the oyster crackers grow.