He’s In the Jailhouse Now

Pink Anderson - 1950

Intro

Verse 1.1
I had an old friend name Campbell
Campbell used to steal and gamble
He made his living cheating all the while (yes sir)
Now he had a little game he called euchre
Blackjack, dice and poker
He thought he was the smartest dude in town

Verse 1.2
But I just found out Monday
Campbell got locked up Sunday
They got him in the jailhouse down in town
They got Campbell in the jail
And got no one to go his bail
That judge he won't accept no fine (they got'm)

Chorus 1.3
He's in the jailhouse now
He's in the jailhouse now
I told Campbell once or twice
Stop playing cards and try to shoot dice
He's in the big house now

Verse 2.1
I remember last election
The white folks was in action
Trying to get they self a president
A colored man by the name of Bill Austin
Walked from New York to Boston
Just to find a colored settlement

Verse 2.2
Now my brother Bill's a voter
Bill's a great promoter
He's always looking for some good advice
So they told Bill a'go to the polls
And vote for both mind and soul
Instead of voting once the fool voted twice (that settled it)

Chorus 2.3
Bill's on the rock pile now
He's on the rock pile now
I told Bill to go head home
And let them white folk's business alone
Bill's on the choin gum now

Verse 3.1
I walked up to town last Friday
I met a girl they call Lidey
I thought she was the prettiest girl in town (I sure did)
She began to call me Honey
And I began to spend my money
We walked into a cafe and set down

Verse 3.2
Folks, I made sure I wa' in it
I was spending every minute
Buying this old liq' n'' wine by the quart (sure was)
But when I went to pay that man
I found that lady's hand
Right in my pocket where my money was (they got 'er)

Chorus 3.3
She's in the graveyard now
She's in the graveyard now
I told the judge to his face
That woman's hand was out of its place
She's in the ape-yard now