The Story of Norah (Noah)
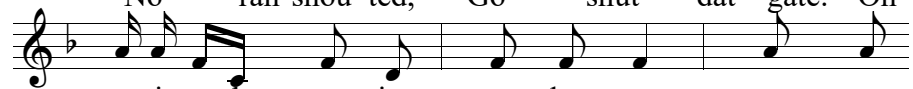
Negro Spiritual
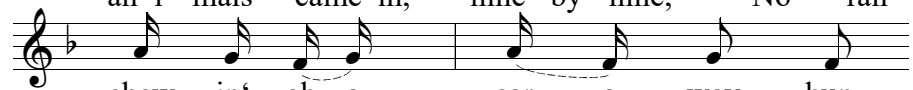
Vivo

Now did-n't ole No-rah build him-self an ark?
Oh a-ni-mals come in two by two,
" " " " " " four by four,
" " " " " " six by six,
" " " " " " eight by eight,

Built hit ou-ten ob hick-o-ry bark. Oh
big rhi-no-ce-ros and de kan-ga-roo. Oh
two by the win-dow and two by the door. Oh
hy-en-a laugh-in' to the mon-key's tricks. Oh
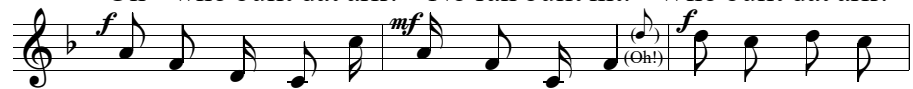No-rah shou-ted, "Go shut dat gate." Oh

an-i-mals came in, one by one, cow a-
an-i-mals came in, three by three, bear a-
an-i-mals came in, five by five, thus dose
an-i-mals came in, seben by seben, says de ant
an-i-mals came in, nine by nine, No-rah

chew-in' ob a car-a-way bun.
hugg-in' a bumble-y-bee.
an-i-mals did ar-rive.
to de ele-phant "Who is you a-shovin?"
hol-lered, "Boys, cut dat line."

mf (Oh!) *f* *mf*

Oh who built dat ark? No-rah built hit. Who built dat ark?

f *mf* (Oh!) *f*

No-rah built hit. Oh who built dat ark? No-rah built it,

cutt-in' his tim-bers down.

The story of Norah   Die Geschichte von Noah

Negro Spiritual   Geistliches Lied der Schwarzen

1

Now didn't ole Norah   Nun, hat nicht (der) alte Noah
build himself an ark?   sich eine Arche gebaut?
Built him outen ob hickory[1] bark.   Er (hat) sie gebaut aus Hickory-Rinde.
Oh animals came in,   Oh, die Tiere kamen hinein,
one by one,   eins nach dem anderen,
cow achewin'   (die) Kuh kaute
ob' a caraway bun.   an einem Kümmelbrötchen.

Oh who built dat ark?   Oh, wer hat die Arche gebaut?
Norah built hit.   Noah hat sie gebaut!
Who built dat ark?
Norah built hit.
Oh who built dat ark?
Norah built hit,   Noah hat sie gebaut,
cuttin' his timbers[2] down.   indem er sein Bauholz fällte.

2

Oh animals come in two by two,   Oh, Tiere kamen hinein zu zweit,
big rhinoceros[3] and de kangaroo.   (das) große Nashorn und das
          Känguruh.
Oh animals came in,   Oh, die Tiere kamen hinein
three by three,   zu dritt,
bear ahuggin' a bumble-y-bee.   der Bär umarmte eine Hummel.

Oh who built dat ark? …

3

Oh animals come in four by four,   Oh, die Tiere kamen hinein zu viert,
two by the window   zwei durch das Fenster
and two by the door.   und zwei durch die Tür.
Oh animals came in five by five,   Oh, Tiere kamen hinein zu fünft,
thus dose animals did arrive.   auf diese Weise trafen die Tiere ein.

Oh who built dat ark? …

_____   _____

4

Oh animals come in six by six,	Oh, Tiere kamen hinein zu sechst,
hy-en-a laughin'	(die) Hyäne lachte
to the monkey's tricks.	über die Possen des Affen.
Oh animals came in,	Oh, Tiere kamen hinein
seben by seben,	zu siebt,
says de ant to de elephant,	die Ameise sagte zum Elefanten,
"Who is you ashovin'."	„Wen schubst du (denn da)?"

Oh who built dat ark? …

5

Oh animals come in eight by eight,	Oh, Tiere kamen hinein zu acht,
Norah shouted, "Go shut dat gate."	Noah schrie: „Geht, schließt das Tor."
Oh animals came in nine by nine,	Oh, Tiere kamen hinein zu neunt,
Norah hollered,	Noah brüllte:
"Boys, cut dat line."	„Jungs, kappt das Tau."

Oh who built dat ark? …

[1] *hickory* ein nordamerikanischer Baum mit essbaren Nüssen und hartem Holz
[2] *timber* bearbeitete Baumstämme bzw. Nutzwald; verwandt mit dt. *Zimmer*
          (der aus Holz gezimmerte Raum)
[3] *rhinoc(e)ros:* beim Singen lässt man da *e* weg

Negro Slang	*Englisch*
ole	old
Norah	Noah
hit	it
outen ob	out of
-in'	-ing
dat	that
bumble-y-bee	bumble-bee
dose	those
de	the
is you	are you