

I Heard Old Master Pray Last Night

As sung by
Hamilton Lobdell
06-24-1941 Mukwonago, WI

Verse

1. I heard old mas - ter pray last night, I heard him pray for me, that God would
5
come with all his might, from Sa - tan set me free. 2. The hounds are
9
bay - ing on my track, old mas - ter's close be - hind, re - solved that
13
he will strike the blow be - fore I cross the line.

Chorus

17
Old, old mas - ter, don't think hard of me. I'm on my
21
way to "Can - na day" where color - ed men are free.

Verse 1.

I heard old master pray last night,
I heard him pray for me,
That God would come with all his might,
From Satan set me free.

Verse 2.

The hounds are baying on my track,
Old master's close behind,
Resolved that he will strike the blow
Before I cross the line.

Chorus

Old, old master,
Don't think hard of me.
I'm on my way to "Canaday"
Where colored men are free.

Critical Commentary

Transcriptions by MB and HST.

HST notes:

In the Professional Papers series:

Sung by Hamilton Lobdell, age 87, Mukwanago, 1941.

Mr. Lobdell learned this snatch of an old slave song during his childhood in Mukwanago. The melody is Stephen Foster's Oh Susanna.

K.G.