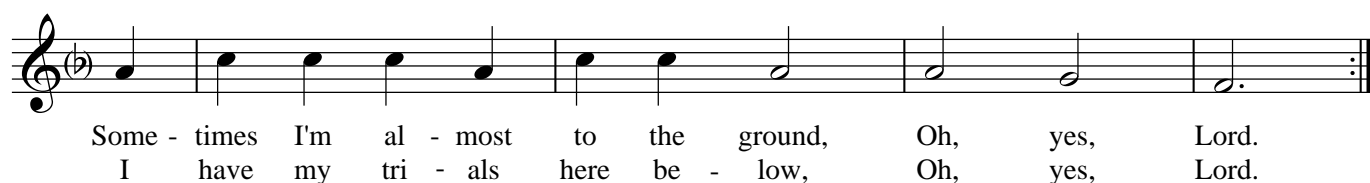
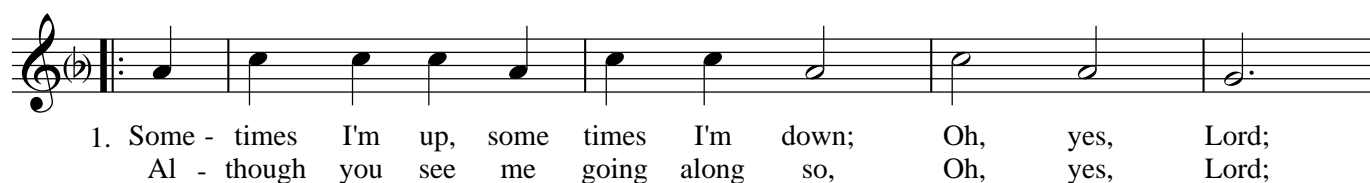
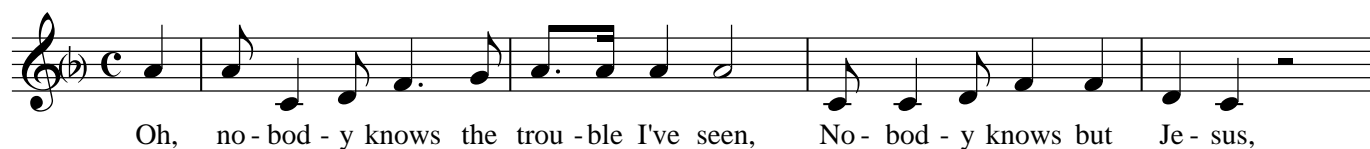


Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

Source:

Jubilee and Plantation Songs

Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co., 1887



2. One day when I was walking along, Oh, yes, Lord,
The element opened, and the Love came down, Oh, yes, Lord.
I never shall forget that day, Oh, yes, Lord,
When Jesus washed my sins away, Oh, yes, Lord.
(Chorus)

Background Information

"Once when there had been a good deal of ill feeling excited, and trouble was apprehended, owing to the uncertain action of Government in regard to the confiscated lands on the Sea Islands, Gen. Howard was called upon to address the colored people earnestly and even severely. Sympathizing with them, however, he could not speak to his own satisfaction; and to relieve their minds of the ever-present sense of injustice, and prepare them to listen, he asked them to sing. Immediately an old woman on the outskirts of the meeting began "Nobody knows the trouble I've had," and the whole audience joined in. The General was so affected by the plaintive words and melody, that he found himself melting into tears and quite unable to maintain his official sternness."

Allen, William Francis et al., *Slave Songs of the United States*