Glossed text

See p. 146-147 in:


This text was retranscribed from a digitally processed copy of the audio recording made by Lorenzo Dow Turner in 1932. Diana Brown of Edisto Island, SC – 88 years old at the time of the interview – talks about hard times in her community when the Red Cross sent in food which was distributed by the white people on Edisto Island (see Turner [1949] 2002: 262 f.). Turner’s original recording is stored at the Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music (Accession No. 86-107-F; EC 10" 687; item No. 4, side B, strip 1).

\[At \ bɪn \ əp \ sɪstə \ ˈkʌmpəl \ ˈhʌs, \ ən \ ə \ pɪl \ əm \ pəˈtətə\]
\[1SG \ been \ up \ Sister \ Campbell’s \ house \ and \ 1SG \ peel \ some \ potato\]
\[I \ was \ at \ Sister \ Campbell’s \ house, \ and \ I \ peeled \ some \ potatoes\]

\[pʊt \ æn \ do. \ Sɪstə \ ˈkʌmpəl, \ ə \ sɛ, \ ju \ eβə \ si \ ˈkat \ ɪt\]
\[put \ on \ door \ Sister \ Campbell \ 1SG \ say \ 2SG \ ever \ see \ cat \ eat\]
\[and \ put \ them \ on \ the \ door. \ ‘Sister \ Campbell,’ \ I \ said, \ ‘have \ you \ ever \ seen \ cats \ eat\]

\[ə \ tɛtə \ ˈskɪn? \ Sɪstə \ ˈkʌmpəl \ sɛ, \ sɪstə, \ sɔpəm \ ə\]
\[raw \ potato \ skin \ Sister \ Campbell \ say \ Sister \ something \ ɪp\footnote{PFV} \ raw \ potato \ skins?’ \ Sister \ Campbell \ said, \ ‘Sister, \ something\]

\[kəmɪn. \ it \ iz \ ˈstæbəʃən \ də, \ ət \ dem \ ˈpipl \ ən \ ə\]
\[coming \ HL \ is \ starvation \ there \ but \ them \ people \ NEG \ know\]
\[is \ happening. \ There \ is \ starvation \ there, \ but \ those \ people \ don’t \ know.’\]
I said, 'those white people (the Red Cross) sent food here to feed us, and they (the white people on Edisto Island) carried

them give the young people work there on it to the young people who were working there on

dem place 3PL NEG give 3SG.NEG widow their place. They wouldn’t give any to a widow.

They carried it to the people who had man and

wife and children work for 3PL.NEG give 1PL wife and children working for them. They didn’t give us

none law say too old can’t work for anything. Their law says that we are too old. We can’t work for.

dem yes ma’am! Now there are five of us old people

dem there get thank.you see five there who didn’t get a thank you. See? Five! Didn’t get a thank you. Those
there IPFV complain 1SG tell 1SG NEG complain 1SG left all there (the old people) were complaining. I said I don’t complain. I leave all

thing in God hand Sister Janie 1SG say God going make things in God’s hands. ‘Sister Janie,’ I said, ‘God will make

diz buckra jump up an Edisto. A se god gan in these buckra jump up on Edisto 1SG say God going in these white people on Edisto jump up.’ I said, ‘God will go in

dem bed n tak dem vot. ai tel om so. 3PL.OBJ.Poss bed and take 3PL.OBJ out 1SG tell 3SG.OBJ so their beds and take them out.’ I told her so.