

## Unknown

# Hoe, Emma Hoe (circa 1700)

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### Verse 1

Caller: Emma, you from the country.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Emma help me to pull these weeds.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Emma work harder than two grown men.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

### Verse 2

Caller: Old Joseph was a wood workin' man.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: When he got old he lost his way.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Makes that boss man right mad.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Needs a young man to learn his trade.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe. (Repeat)

### Verse 3

Caller: Now see that possum he works hard.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: But he cain't work as hard a me.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: He sits a horse just as pretty as can be.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: He can ride on and leave me be.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, you turn around dig a hole in the ground, Hoe Emma Hoe.

### Verse 4

Caller: Master he be a hard hard man.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Sell my people away from me.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Lord send my people into Egypt land.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Caller: Lord strike down Pharaoh and set them free.

Chorus: Hoe Emma Hoe, Hoe Emma Hoe, Hoe Emma Hoe.

Source: Colonial Williamsburg Official Website

<http://www.history.org/history/teaching/enewsletter/february03/worksongs.cfm>