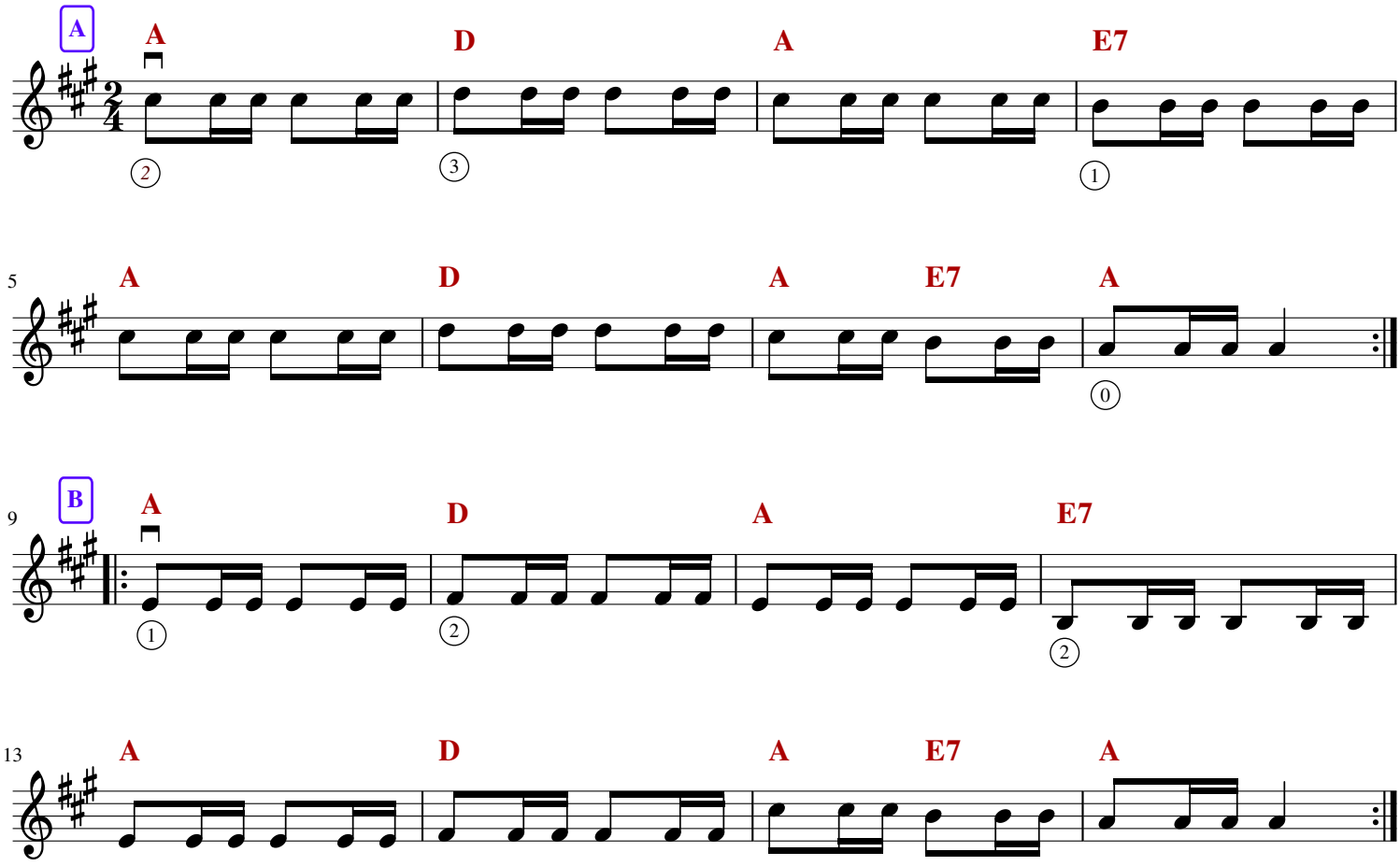
Boilem' Cabbage Down

Key: A Major

Instructor - Jimi Beeler



(verses and chorus sung to A part)

1. Went up on the mountain to give my horn a blow
   Thought I heard my true love say, "Yonder stands my beau"
   Raccoon and a 'possum running side by side
   Raccoon said to the 'possum, "Won't you be my bride?"

2. Raccoon up a 'simmon tree, 'possum on the ground
   Raccoon said to the 'possum, "Shake them 'simmons down"
   Jay bird died with the whooping cough, sparrow died with the colic
   Along came a frog with a fiddle on his back,
   inquiring his way to the frolic

3. Took my dog to the blacksmith's shop to have his mouth made small
   He turned around a time or two, and swalled the shop and all

chorus

Boil 'em cabbage down boys, turn, turn the hoe cake brown
The only song that I can sing is boil 'em cabbage down

This tune was first performed in minstrel shows before th American Civil War.
"Hoe cake" is bread that slaves baked on garden hoes over an open fire.