

At a Georgia Camp Meeting

Old-Time, Cake-Walk. Words and music by Kerry Mills. **DATE:** Published in 1897. **RECORDING INFO:** WV fiddler Henry Reed; Leake County Revelers; Double Decker String Band; Arthur Smith; Dave Van Ronk. **RELATED TO:** Peaches Down in Georgia. **OTHER NAMES:** Georgia Camp Meeting; Milwaukee Here I Come; Georgia Cake Walk. **NOTES:** The cakewalk was an eccentric, syncopated dance of the 1890's. This song was one of the greatest cakewalk tunes of the time. Some of the lyrics have been edited for content.

A camp meet-ing took place by the riv-er trace Way down in Georg-ia. There were
 5 folks large and small, lank-y lean fat and tall, At this Georg-ia camp meet-ing. When church was out, how the
 10 Sis-ters did shout They were so hap-py but the young folks were tired And wished to be in-spir-ed and
 15 hire-d a big brass band. When that big brass band be-gan to play pret-ty mu-sic so
 21 gay hats were the thron a - way. Thought them fool-ish peo-ple their necks would
 27 break when they quit laught-ing and talk-ing and went to walking for a big cho-co-late cake.

A camp meeting took place, by the river trace; way down in Georgia.

There were folks large and small, lanky, lean, fat and tall at this Georgia camp meeting.

When church was out, how the "sisters" did shout, they were so happy.

But the young folks were tired and wished to be inspired, and hired a big brass band.

CHOURS: When the big brass band began to play pretty music so gay, hats were thrown away.

Thought them foolish people their necks would break,

When they quit their laughing and talking and went to walking for a big chocolate cake.

The old "sisters" raised sand, when they first heard the band; way down in Georgia.
 The preacher did glare and the deacons did stare, at the young people prancing.
 The band played so sweet that nobody could eat, 'twas so entrancing.
 So the church folks agreed it was not sinful deed, and they joined in with the rest.