Stone's Rag

Oscar Stone



"Stone's Rag", also known as "Whiskers", "Lone Star Rag" and "Forty-Eight Dogs in the Meathouse" was composed by Oscar Stone, fiddler for Dr. Humphrey Bates' Possum Hunters, a 1920's-1930's Nashville string band. Stone himself never recorded it.

It was first recorded in 1928 by his friend Charlie Arrington, a fiddler from Tennessee in the Grand Ole Opry band Paul Warmack's Gully Jumpers. It was later recorded by Thomas C. Ashley, Banish Misfortune, Byron Berline and others.

There supposedly are records from the Opry indicating Stone played his tune on broadcasts at WSM.

This is one of the post-ragtime "rags" that fiddlers and mandolin players developed in the early 20th century using the syncopated rhythms of the ragtime tradition.

Other rags/blues tunes in this collections are:

"Cherry River Rag"

"Colored Aristocracy"

"Dora Dean"

"L & N Rag"

"Old Jackson Stomp"

"Pig Ankle Rag"

"Ragtime Annie"

- all in the Tunes section and

"East Tennessee Blues"

"Eli Green's Cakewalk"

"Hawkin's Rag"

"Horace Hanesworth"

"Sister Kate"

"Woody's Rag"

- in the Legacies section.

I learned it from the New Lost City Ramblers album **String Band Instrumentals** (1964).