

Dubuque

The musical score for "Dubuque" is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff is marked with a boxed 'A' and a 'D' chord. The second staff has 'D', 'A7', and 'D' chords. The third staff has 'G', 'A7', 'D', and a boxed 'B' with a 'D' chord below it. The fourth staff has a 'G' chord. The fifth staff has a 'D' chord. The sixth staff has two first endings: the first ending has 'A7' and 'D' chords, and the second ending has 'A7' and 'D' chords.

Also known as "Old Dubuque" or "Duck River" among other titles.

Although from the same tune family, it is somewhat different from the Salyer family tune "Duck River" in this collection.

Dubuque, Iowa, takes its name from Sieur Julien Dubuque, a French-Canadian who was one of the first white men to settle the area, which at that time was under the control of the Fox tribe of Native Americans and the Spanish monarchy. Dubuque dealt successfully with both, obtaining permission to mine lead in the latter 18th century. He befriended a local Mesquakie Chief named Peosta, and perhaps married his daughter, Potosa. Dubuque died in 1810 and was buried on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River, just south of the town that bears his name.

I learned this from Bill Spence and Fennig's All-Star String Band.

It was also recorded by Bob Carlin and The West Orrtanna String Band.