

BANTAM COCK BY JAKE THACKERAY

Am

It was a grand upstanding bantam cock, So brisk and stiff and spry,

G F Em

With springy step and jaunty plume

E Am

And a purposeful look in his eye,

E Am

In his little black blinking eye, he had.

Am

I took him to the coop and introduced him to my seventeen wide-eyed hens.

G F Em

He tupp and he tupp as a hero tups

E Am

And he bowed from the waist to them all, and then

E Am

He upped and he tupp 'em all again, he did.

Am

And then upon the peace of me ducks and me geese he rudely did intrude.

G F Em

With glazed emyes and open mouths

E Am

They bore it all with fortitude

E Am

And a little bit of gratitude, they did.

Am

He jumped my giggling guinea fowl and forced his attentions upon

G F Em

My twenty hysterical turkeys and

E Am

A visiting migrant swan.

E Am

But the bantam thundered on, he did.

Am

He ravished my fan-tailed pigeons and me lily-white columbines,

G F Em

And while I was locking up the budgerigar

E Am

He jumped my parrot from behind;

E Am

She was sitting on me shoulder at the time.

Am

And all of a sudden with a gasp and a gulp he clapped his hands to his head,

G F Am Em

Fell flat on his back with his toes in the air.

E Am

My bantam cock lay dead

E Am

And the vultures circled overhead, they did.

Am

What a champion brute; what a noble cock; what a way to live and to die.

G F Em

I was diggin' him a grave to save his bones

E Am

From the hungry buzzards in the sky

E Am

When the bantam opened up a sly little eye.

Am

He gave me a grin and a terrible wink the way that roosters do.

G F Em

He said, 'You see them big daft buggers up there?'

E Am

They'll be down in a minute or two;

Am

They'll be down in a minute or two.'