

# The Diggins–Oh

From "Modern Street Ballads" by John Ashton 1888 and set to the tune of "Kelvin Grove".

The musical score is written in 2/4 time and consists of four staves. Each staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, and guitar chords are indicated above the staff lines. The chords are: C, G, C, Dm, G7, C, G, Dm, G7, C, F, Dm, C, G7, C.

I've come back all skin and bone from the dig - gins - - oh.  
And I wish I'd nev - er gone to the dig - gins - - oh.  
Be - lieve me, 'tis no fun, I once weighed fif - teen stone,  
But they brought me down to one at the dig - gins - - oh!

I built a hut with mud at the diggins–oh.  
That got washed away by flood at the diggins–oh.  
I used to dig, and cry that it wouldn't do to die,  
Undertakers charge too high at the diggins–oh.

A crown a pound for steaks, at the diggins–oh.  
Ditto chops, and no great shakes, at the diggins–oh.  
Five "hog" a small pig's cheek; If a herring red you'd seek,  
One will keep you dry a week, at the diggins–oh.

They tied me to a tree, at the diggins–oh.  
With my nuggets they made free, at the diggins oh.  
I escaped from bodily hurt, though they stole my very shirt,  
I had to paint myself with dirt, at the diggins–oh.

But now I'm safe returned from the diggins–oh.  
Never more I mean to roam to the diggins–oh.  
It some peoples' fortune mends. Much upon the man depends–  
I'd sooner be here with friends than at the diggins–oh.