

OFTEN HEARD THE TALE BEFORE.

Words by CHAS. H. TAYLOR.
Moderato.

Music by ERNEST W. HASTINGS.

PIANO. *f*

KEY C.

p

1. When Jones en - coun - ters Brown, who has a sto - ry to re - late, A thing he's heard a hun - dred times or
 2. When a cas - u - al ac - quaint - ance, a mere stran - ger, so to speak, Would bor - row half - a - crown or some - thing

G.t.

more, Now does he laugh Ha! Ha! or im - po - lite - ly in - di - cate That he's
 more; And earn - est - ly pro - tests that it is "on - ly for a week," You have

f.C.

of - ten heard the sil - ly thing be - fore? It all de - pends up - on the cir - cum -
 met that kind of weak - ness, perh'aps, be - fore. . . . In - to your trou - sers pock - ets both your

G.t.

stan - ces of the case; If Brown's an in - flu - en - tial kind of bore, Be
 fists at once you cram; They are emp - ty! "Aw - f'ly sor - ry! Hor - rid bore!" And

f.c.

sure that he re-ceive it with a smile up - on his face, You'll have seen that kind of smile be - fore.
then you add a sort of half a - pol - o - get - ic "—" You'll have heard that kind of "—" be - fore.

CHORUS.

Oh! ma - ny, ma - ny times; Yes, lots and lots o' times. The
Oh! ma - ny, ma - ny times; Yes, lots and lots o' times. "Beast - ly

joke is old and poor And he's heard it times a score, But he yells a - loud with glee, For he
sor - ry! aw - fully poor!" Then you make tracks for the door, It's a dou - ble game of spoof, But you

dare not let him see That he's of - ten heard the tale be - fore.
win and save your oof, And he's of - ten heard the tale be - fore.

3.
When Smith goes out to supper, and returns home late at night,
He has a difficulty with the door;
The keyhole wobbles strangely in the dim uncertain light—
You'll have seen that dim uncertain light before.
He sings of Monte Carlo and the man that broke the Bank,
And an inoffensive Bobby tries to floor;
But in the Court, the following day, his memory's a blank—
You'll have seen that kind of blank before.
Oh! many, many times,
Yes, lots and lots o' times.
He was sober that he's sure,
He's teetotal less or more,
But the beak looks up and says
"Forty bob or seven days,"
For he's often heard that tale before.

4.
You know the seaside lodgings girl, the Hydropathic maid,
Who rouges, more or less, too often more,
She's twenty, in the gaslight, but she's forty in the shade—
You'll have seen that shady kind of "shade" before.
She wears bewildering stockings, and such high and shiny boots,
And exhibits plenty of them, to be sure;
Her hair's that lovely golden that gets darker at the roots—
You'll have seen that kind of hair before—
Oh! many, many times,
Yes, lots and lots o' times;
But of rambles on the shore
Do be careful, I implore;
For she'll give the Jury shocks
When she's in the witness box,
And she's often told the tale before.