The Don of the Day
Lyrics by Prof. A. A. Robb, ca. 1910, Tune: Father O’Flynn (traditional)

G                        A7         D       G       D       G       D
1. Of Dons we can offer a charming variety, All the big pots of the Royal Society
G                        A7         D       G       D       G
Still there is no one of more notoriety / Than our Professor, the pride of us all.

G                        D       Em       A7       D
[Chorus:] Here’s a health to Professor J.J.! May he hunt ions for many a day
C                        G
And take observations, And work out equations,
G                        D       G
And find the relations / Which forces obey.

G                        A7       D
2. Our worthy Professor is always devising
G                        D       G       D       D
Some scheme that is startlingly new and surprising,
G                        A7       D       G       D       G
In order to settle some question arising / On ions and why they behave as they do.
G                        D
Thus, when he wants to conclusively show
Em                       A7       D
Some travel quickly and some travel slow,
C                        G       G       D       G
He brings into action magnetic attraction / And gets a deflection / Above or below

[Sing chorus]
3. All preconceived notions he sets at defiance
By means of some neat and ingenious appliance,
By which he discovers a new law of science
Which no one has ever suspected before.
All the chemists went off into fits;
Some of them thought they were losing their wits,
When quite without warning (Their theories scorning)
The atom one morning / He broke into bits. [Sing chorus]

4. When the Professor has solved a new riddle,
Or found a fresh fact, he’s fit as a fiddle,
He goes to the tea room and sits in the middle
And jokes about everything under the sun.
Then if you try to look grave at his jest,
You’ll burst off the buttons which fasten your vest
For when he starts chaffing, Though tea you be quaffing,
You cannot help laughing along with the rest. [Sing chorus]