There were three Ravens sat on a tree,
From "Melismata" (1611)  
Thomas Ravenscroft

1. There were three ravens sat on a tree, Down a down, hey down, hey down.
There were three ravens sat on a tree, with a downe, There were three ravens sat on a tree, They were as black as black might be, With a down, der-rie, der-rie, der-rie down, down.

2. The one of them said to his mate, down a downe hey downe
The one of the said to his mate, with a downe:
The one of them said to his mate Where shall we our breake – fast take?
With a downe, derrie, derrie, derrie, downe, downe.

3. Downe in yonder greene field, down a downe hey downe, hey downe.
Downe in yonder greene field, with a downe:
Downe in yonder greene field, There lies a Knight slain under his shield,
With a downe dery downe, down.

4. His hounds they lie downe at his feete, down a downe hey downe, hey downe.

5. His Haukes they flie so eagerly down a downe hey downe, hey downe.
His Haukes they flie so eagerly with a downe:
His Haukes they flie so eagerly Ther’s no fowle dare him come nie.
With a downe dery downe, down.

6. Downe there comes a fallow Doe, down a downe hey downe, hey downe.
Downe there comes a fallow Doe, with a downe:
Downe there comes a fallow Doe, As great with yong as she might goe.
With a downe dery downe, down.
7. She lift up his bloudy hed,
   down a downe hey downe, hey
downe.
She lift up his bloudy hed,
   with a downe:
She lift up his bloudy hed,
   And kist his wounds that were so red
With a downe dery downe, down.

8. She got him up upon her backe,
   down a downe hey downe, hey
downe.
She got him up upon her backe,
   with a downe:
She got him up upon her backe,
   And carried him to earthen lake
With a downe dery downe, down.

9. She buried him before the prime,

10. God send every gentleman
    down a downe hey downe, hey
downe.
God send every gentleman
   with a downe:
God send every gentleman
   Such haukes, such hounds, and such
a Leman,
With a downe dery downe, down.

---

There were three Ravens sat on a tree,
From "Melismata" (1611)  BASSVS. Thomas Ravenscroft

---

Downe hey downe, hey downe, hey downe.
She buried him before the prime,
   with a downe:
She buried him before the prime,
   She was dead her selfe ere even-song time.
   With a downe dery downe, down.

God send every gentleman
   down a downe hey downe, hey downe.
God send every gentleman
   with a downe:
God send every gentleman
   Such haukes, such hounds, and such a Leman,
   With a downe dery downe, down.

---

Downe hey downe, hey downe, derrie downe downe.
There were three Ravens sat on a tree,

From "Melismata" (1611)  
**MEDIUS.**  
Thomas Ravenscroft

Downe a downe, hey downe,

with a downe, hey der-rie der-rie, downe, downe, downe.

---

There were three Ravens sat on a tree,

From "Melismata" (1611)  
**TENOR.**  
Thomas Ravenscroft

Downe hey downe, hey downe, hey downe.

with a downe,

with a downe der-rie, der-rie downe a downe.

---

1Original is a half note.
There were three Ravens sat on a tree,

From "Melismata" (1611)  

Thomas Ravenscroft

(1)

There were three ravens sat on a tree, Down a down, hey down, hey down, There were three ravens sat on a tree, They were as black as black might be, With a down, der-rie, der-rie, der-rie down, down.

With a down, hey der-rie der-rie, downe, downe, downe.

With hey downe downe, der-rie downe downe.