American History Through Music RThesis Submitted to the University Honors Program In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Baccalaureate Degree With Upper Division Honors Department of Elementary Education by Sara Caracheo DeKalb, Illinois August, 1995

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THE\$STITLE: Rmerican History Through Music

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DISCIPLINE: Music/Education YERR:1995

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RBSTRRCT:

Rmerican History Through Music is a compilation of Rmerican folic songs and brief historical summaries dating from this country's inception to the early 1988's. It is designed to be used educationally in uarious ways. It could be used as a supplement to Rmerican history as each time period is studied. It would also be useful as a reuiew of Rmerican history at the end of a year's studg, Finally, it could be modified to serue as a musical production for performance before an audience.

There are eight time periods included: Colonial Times, The Rmerican Revolution, The Nation Grows, Westward EHpansion, Differing Ways of Life, The Ciuil War, The Cowboy Era, and Great Immigration. These time periods and the music would be altered to suit the needs of each particular classroom setting. There is also a cassette tape of the fifth grade at Clay Elementary School in Woodstock, IL performing the songs.

AMER ICAN HISTORY THROUGH MUS IC HONORS CAPSTONE PROJECT

SPR ING, 1995

SARA CARACHEO

ADUISOR- DR. UAN NEST

PROJECSUMMRRY

I haue attempted to compile a uaried selection of music that represents highlights of Rmerican history from our country's inception to 1988. Rs I put this project together, I realized there were many different directions I could take. I decided to deuelop a basic frameworle, that could easily be adapted to fit seueral different purposes. Therefore, I haue included photocopied selections of music, an oueruiew of their place in history, and program notes regarding each song. This material could be adapted in seueral ways, depending on the purpose and age leuel of the students involued.

I enuision this project as having three possible uses. It could be used as social studies lessons throughout the year. It could also be used as a year-end review of Rmerican history. Finally, it could be used as a musical program for the students to present to an audience.

First, the music and its history could be used throughout the school year as uarious time periods are studied in Rmerican history. Songs could be supplementary or integral parts of study. MusiCwould be a wonderful addition to the social studies curriculum at any age leuel. It is also more memorable than dry facts and dates.

Secondly, the songs & their history could be used as a reuiew of Rmerican history at the end of the year. They would prouide an interesting and useful way of reminding students of the history they

had discussed throughout the school year. This could be used in conjunction with the use of the songsthroughout the year, but they wouldn't necessarily haue to be used together.

Finally, the songs and their history could be used as a musical program for the students to present to an audience. So often in elementary schools students are eHpected to present musical programs by grade leuel. An American history music program would be more meaningful to students and parents because it would be connected to their studies. Many other aspects of history could be brought into this type of program. Students could deuelop period costumes and euen draw period scenery for the different historical eras. This would really strengthen their grasp of American history.

In order for this project to be used in any of the three aforementioned ways, the music would have to be adapted. Unless suitable arrangements could be found within the school's music supply, the folk melodies would have to be arranged to suit the student body. This project could really be used at any grade level which studied American history from fifth grade to eleventh grade. The music would need to be adapted to suit the students' abilities. I have selected mostly folk melodies so that copyright law can be obeyed as the melodies are arranged anew.

I also feel that this project can continue to grow as I grow in my teaching career. Songscan be added, omitted, or changed with each

new year. Time periods can also be added or omitted as the curriculum dictates for a particular classroom. In conclusion, this project, although completed for the purposes of this Capstone, is really neuer ending. I hope it will continue to grow and change as I do.

HISTORCRLOUERLEW

These summaries of historical periods can be used as background for the class or spoken as a narrative between the songs if the students perform the project. While they are very brief, they try to give a taste of what the time period was like. Students might also choose to write their own historical summaries if they are going to present a program. This would be another opportunity for them to review and learn more.

Colonial Times:

During the 1688's and 1188's, many Europeans came to Rmerica and settled along the East Coast. They formed colonies that were gouerned by the British. The colonists were a uery religious I} hardworking people. Their only music was either religious hymns or children's playing songs.

OLDHUNDRED
SKIPTOMY LOU
FRRMERNTHEDELL

Rmerican Revolution:

By 1775, the colonists had grown tired of British rule and laws they considered unfair. They declared their independence and began the Reuolutionary War. Rlthough many colonists fully supported the struggle for independence, all had to deal with the hardships of war.

YRNKEEDOODLE.

JOHNNYHRSGONEFORR SOLDER

The Nation Grows:

Rs the colonies became more and more crowded, some people decided to moue westward in search of better liues and more land. Rs the country grew, two important innouations made communication and trauel easier. Canals and railroads were inuented in the early 1888's and quickly put into use.

ERIECRNRL

SHE'LLBECOMN' ROUND HEMOUNT IN

Westward EHpansion:

The braue souls who moued west in search of new and better ltues faced many hardships. Through it all, they perseuered and euen managed to keep their spirits high as they journeyed to their promised land.

BOUNDFORTHEPROMSEDLRND SWEEBETSYFROMPIKE

Differing ways of life:

Rs people settled in uarious parts of the country, new ways of life emerged. Those who moued westward often became farmers and ranchers. Those in the north liued in cities and became an industrialized society. Those in the south often owned large plantations which required slaues. With the inuention of machines that increased the need for cotton, slaues' llues grew harder. Some slaues sung songs to pass the time and keep up their hope. Others used songs as secret messages and helped fellow slaues escape north on the Underground Railroad.

SWINGLOW, SWEETCHRRIOT FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

ueu War:

With the differing lifestyles in the North and South came differing opinions. In the 1858's Southern states felt their rights and way of life were being threatened. When Rbraham Lincoln was elected in 1868, southern states started to secede and euen form their own nation. By 1861, we were engaged in the Ciuil War, which would last a long four years.

DIHIE

BRTTLECRYOFFREEDOM ERTNGGOOBERERS

Cowboy Times:

Rfter the nation was reunited, there came another westward surge. Many went west in search of gold; others just longed for a change in lifestyle. The late 1888's were the golden age of the cowboy.

HOMEONTHERRNGE ACROS\$HEWIDEMISSOUR

Immigration:

The late 1888's and early 1988's were also a time of great immigration to the United States. People came from all ouer the world to start new liues in the melting pot of Rmerica. Because of the many cultures that joined together to form this country, we have a diversity in many aspects of life. Perhaps it is the rainbow of cultures from which we have come that make our country the rich and varied nation we still are.

GREENGROWTHEILRCS
RMERICRTHEBERUTIFUL

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CHAPTER I Music of the Pilgrims

"From modern jazz back through the ages, Way to the primal pipes of Pan
The lady in her parlor singing
The solitary Indian flinging
His weird wild song to the setting sun.
"Music s the tie and the kinship of man
And ever will be 'til man is done.

Anon.

Music history in the United States did not go way back to the first pipes of Pan, but it did have a very meagre beginning in the early part of the seventeenth century. When the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, they were very thankful to reach our shores, for they had had a very long trying journey across 1; heocean. They expressed their thanks and gratefulness in the music of their hymns, which they brought with them from their former homes. One of their favorite hymns was "Old Hundred". The words, which they sang wit~ real feeling and devotion, were taken from the one-hundredth Psalm of the Bible. It was customary, in that early church service, to have one person "line"-oue', or sing, the words of each phrase, as the congregation held the last tone of the preceding one; so that everyone would be sure of the words and the tune of the next line. This is probably the reason for the long tones at the beginning of some of our hymns today.

As you sing this great hymn, -Old Hundred", you will recognize the tune as that of the "Doxology", wh~ch is sung in many churches at the p-resent time.



¹From the Fourth Book of NEW MUSICHORIZONS, copyright Silver Burdett Company. Reprinted by permission.



Yan - kee Doo - dle, keep it up, Yan - kee Doo - dle dan - dy,



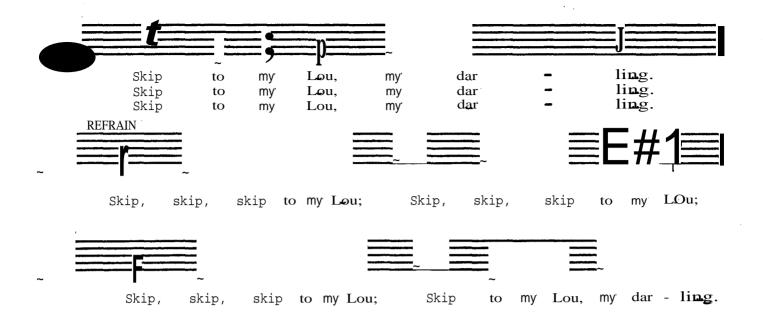
Mind the mu - sic and the step, And with the girls be hand - y.

One of our modern living composers. Morton Gould. arranged the tune of "Yankee Dnodle" for the orchestra. Can you tell what he did to make it interesting for the different instrument players?

Recording- "Yankee Doodle " -Arranged by Morton Gould

In the peaceful days that followed that war. the colonists found time to have some fun. One of their popular folk games was "Skip to My Lou"; I know you have all played games in which one boy or girl in the center is without a partner. They manage to get one. but that puts someone else in the center alone- and so the game goes on. Our first stanza says. -Lost my girl. now what will I do.? Of course if a girl is in the center. she will sing. -Lost my boy. now what will I do.? You could learn this song very quickly. and then play the game.





Suggested Supplementary Material

Songs

Old Colony Times-Music Everywhere-A Singing School Series
The Noble Duke of York (game) -American Singer Series, Book III
Drummer Boy-American Singer Series, Book IV
Lady Round the Lady-Our Land of Songs-A Singing School Series
In Good Old Colony Times-Singing America-Zanzig et al.

Recordings

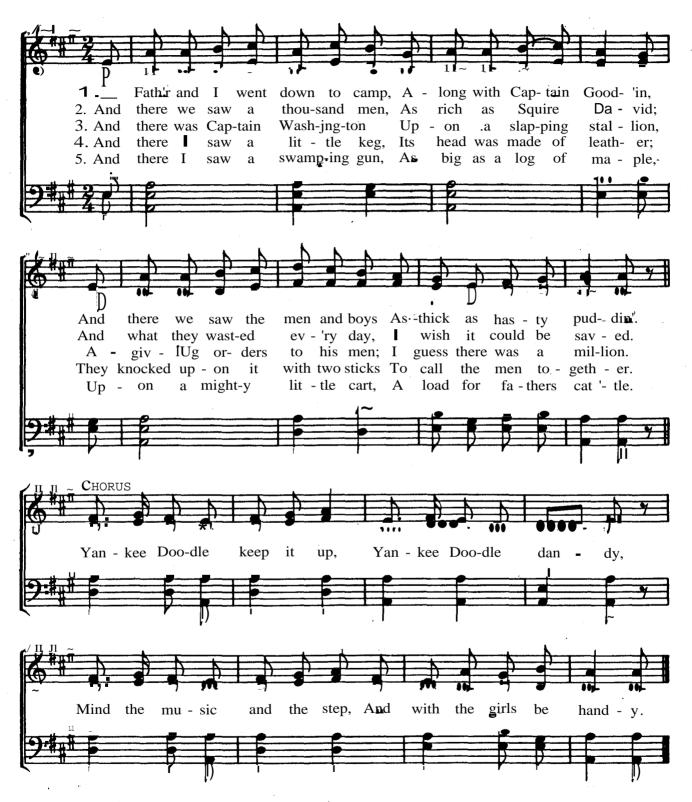
Songs of Early America-Sung by Siegmejster Singers

THE FARMER IN THE DELL

irst cousin to the nineteenth-century country **L** dance was the "singing game," which also derived from the "playing game" of colonial times, as well as from the morris and druid dances of ancient Britain. One of the singing games most popular with children was THE FARMER IN THE DELL, a "game of choosing," in which a "farmer" is selected and stands in the center of a turning circle of players. He then selects a "wife," who joins him and selects a "child," and so forth. The last to be chosen, the "cheese,", becomes the "farmer" when the game begins again. A more sophisticated type of singing game was the "kissing party," an early evening rendezvous of young adults in a kitchen or parlor. One of the songs frequently chosen for the occasion the perky GOIN' TO BOSTON. In the Kentucky 11"...".mtainsthis song was sung to a fast hand-clapping and fact kicking game, which usually were shout



Yankee Doodle



- And every time they fired it off
 It took a horn of powder,
 And made a noise like fathers gun,
 Only a nation louder.
- It scared me so I hooked it off,
 Nor stopped, as I remember,
 Nor turned about till I got home
 Locked up in mother's chamber.

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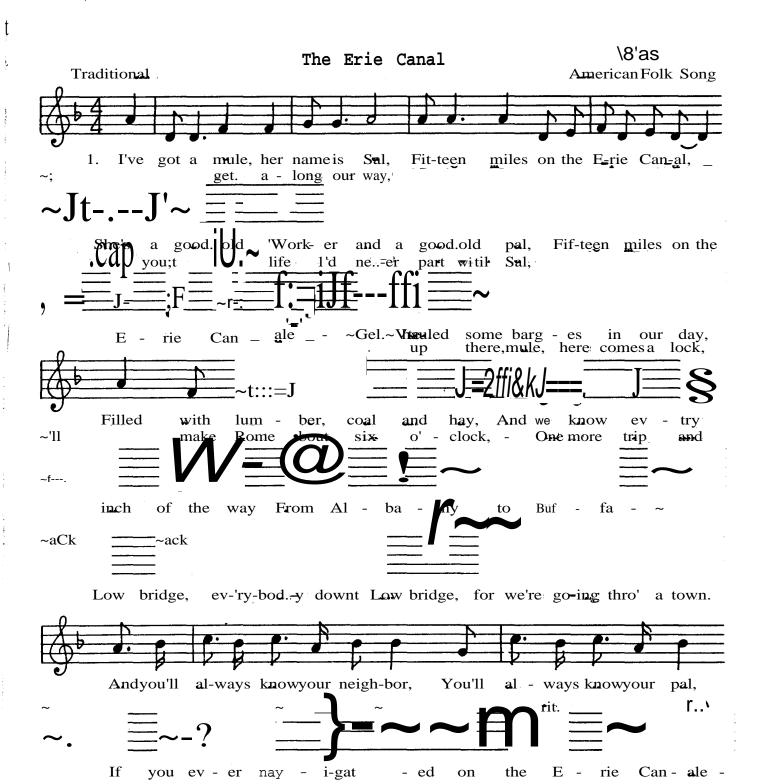
Bo~ He Nan



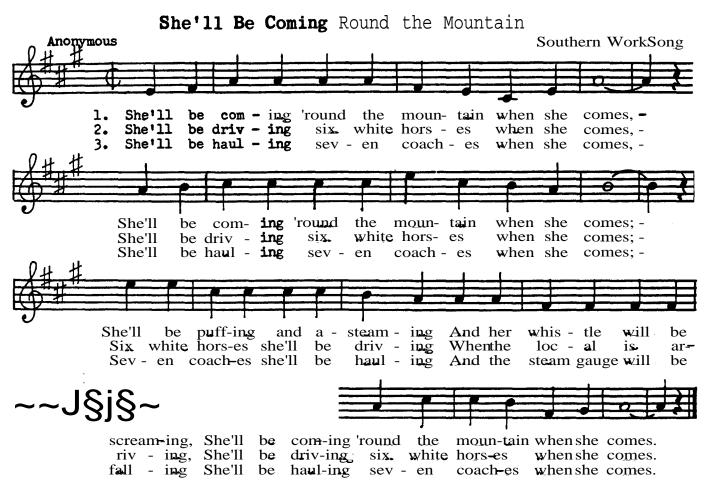
"Yankee Doodle" is the most famous song to come out of the American Revolution. But "Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier" is probably the most beautiful.

As you listen to the recording, imagine the sadness felt by a young woman when her loved one went to fight in the war.





Another machine, about which we can sing, is the train. When railroads were first developed, they were the main topic of conversation among people. Many strange tales and songs naturally arose about this new monster. When the people heard the whistle of the train, they all ran to the station to see it pull in. Some of the early trains had six horse-power engines. The song speaks of six white horses, which were the six white ribbons of steam that came from the engine. The coming of the train was an exciting affair, which the townspeople celebrated with a feast. What did they have to eat at this celebration? The song, -She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain", tells you.



These new trains required tracks of steel rails, which were hammered down with steel spikes. Driving these spikes down into the rock was very hard work. There was one man, John Henry, who could whop steel spikes down faster than anyone else. People came from far and near just to watch him pound the steel down, as the little shaker boy held the spikes steady for him. The work of building or laying the tracks was made easier by the use of songs. The men swung their hammers and sang or grunted, to the rhythm of the music. A song, called "Drivin' Steel", shows you how it would sound.



Bound for the Promised Land

Hundreds of stirring Hallelujala songs were born in the Great RefJifJal that swe~t through Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee in the early 1800's. "Bound for the Promised Land," which trQfJeled ~erha~s farthest of all these songs, ref/ects the o~timism of a ~ioneer ~eo~le and the courage of a young and growing country.



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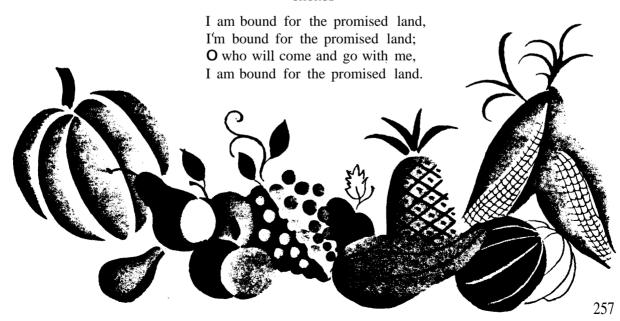
There generous fruits that never fail
 On trees immortal grow;
 There rocks and hills and brooks and vales
 With milk and honey flow.

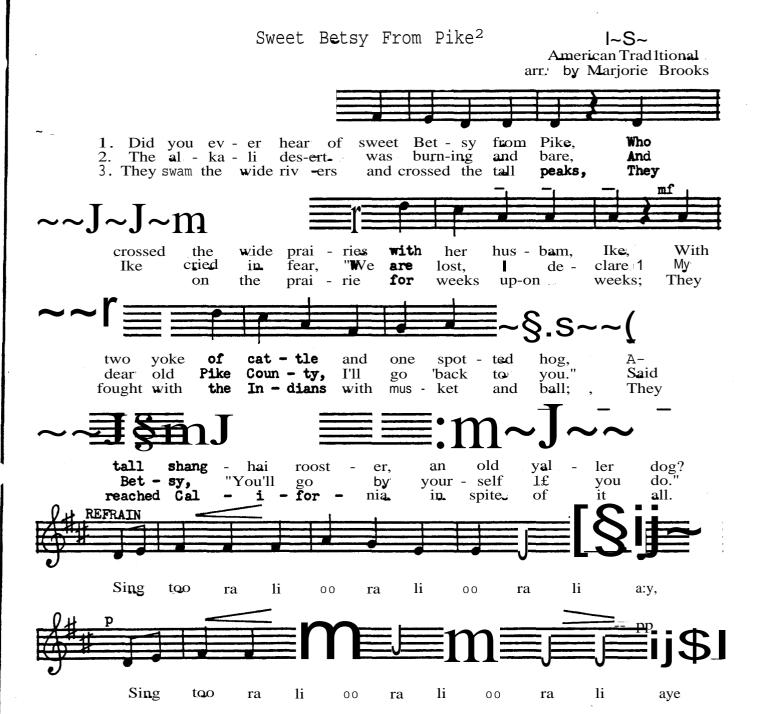
In

3

4. Soon will the Lord my soul prepare For joys beyond the skies, Where never-ceasing pleasures roll, And praises never die.

CHORUS





ZFrom On Wings of Song of A WORLD OF MUSIC SERIES. Used by permission of Ginn and Company, owners of the copyright.

A Sob-Chorus Song

When the recording of "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" is played, listen for the solo parts; sing along on the chorus parts.

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot CD

REFRAIN

Black Spiritual Chorus



Swing low, sweet char - i -ot, __ Com-in' for to car-ry me home;



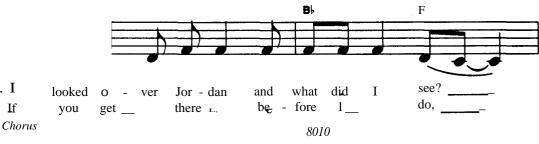
Swing_ low, sweet char - i - ot, ___

Com-in' for to car-ry me home.

VERSE

1. I

2. If



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band _ of an - gels A Com -In' for to car - ry me home; friends 1 m Tell $all_{_}$ my

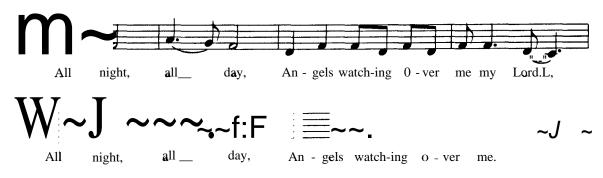


com -in' af - ter me, _ com -in' too, __

Com-in' for to car - TV me home. 3. I'm sometimes up and sometimes down, Comin' for to carry me home, But still my soul feels heavenly bound, Comin' for to carry me home.

Add a Partner Song

Here is another Black Spiritual. It can be sung as a partner song with the refrain of "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."







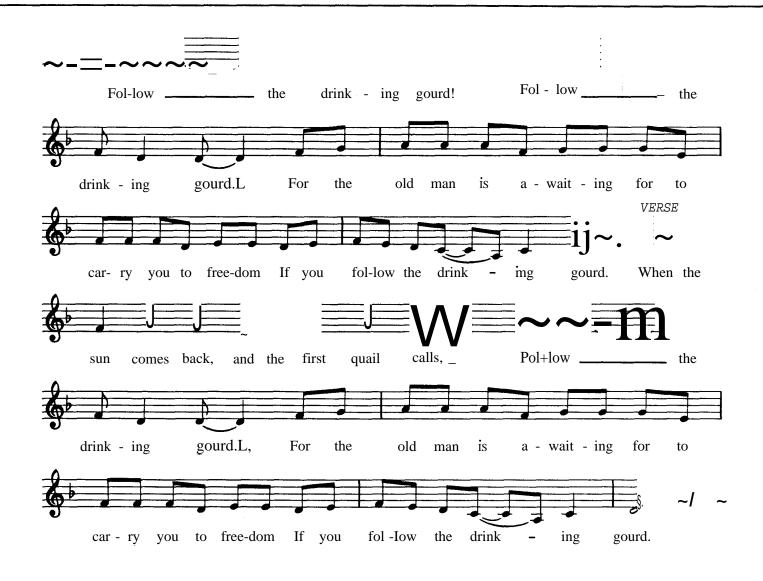






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(Repeat chorus)

The riverbank makes a very good road, The dead trees will show you the way. left foot, peg foot, traveling on, Follow the drinking gourd. (Repeat chorus)

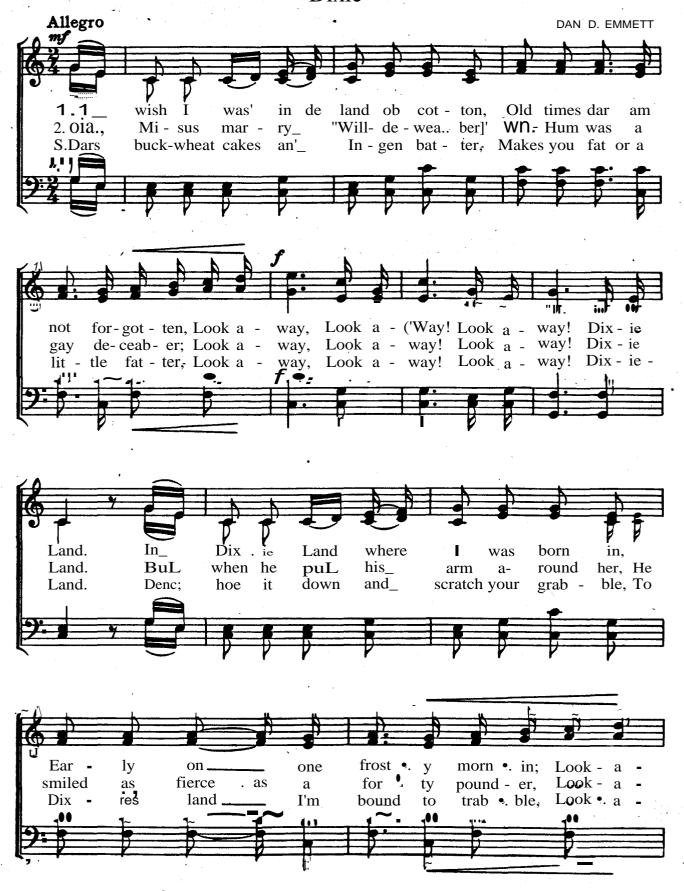
The river ends between two hills, Follow the drinking gourd. There's another river on the other side,

There's another river on the other side, Follow the drinking gourd .. (Repeat chorus)

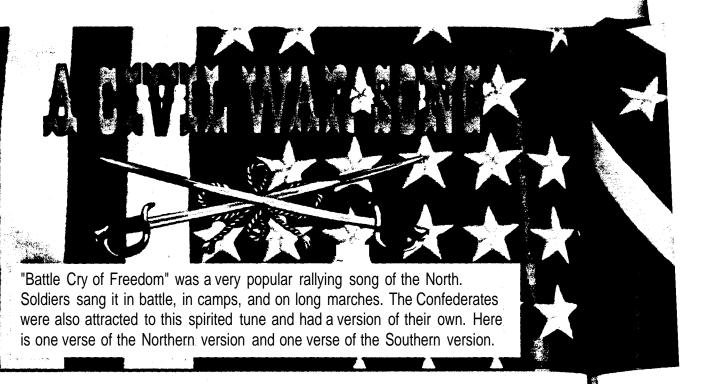
. When the great big river meets the little river, Follow the drinking gourd.

For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom If you follow the drinking gourd.

Dixie











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196 Songs of America's Heritage

Shout

Shout,

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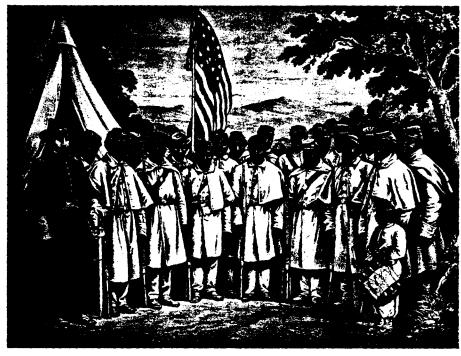
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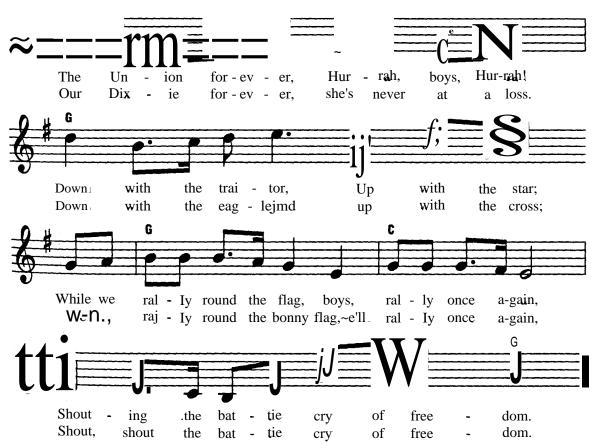


IS,



Black soldiers at Camp during Civil War William Penn

~REFRAIN



L. E. Watters



As he His .



s of the ~ who is as the



Walter Evans

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- ly. one.

I)

Eating Goober Peas



A. Pindar

1. Sit - ting by the road - side · a sum - mer day on 2. When a horse -man pass - es sol - diers have a rule To the 3. Just he - fore the bat - tle the gen - 'ral hears row, 4 Now my song has last al - most long e - nough, The ed

Chat - ting with my mess - mates, pass - ing time a - way: at their loud - est, "Mis - ter, here's your mule." out • says, "The Yanks are com - ing, Hear their ri - fles now." He sub-ject's in - ter - est - ing but rhymes are might-y rough, I



P. Nutt

the shad - ow Ly - ing in But an - oth - er pleas - ure turns a -round in won - der. this war o - ver, wish was

un - der - neath the trees. en - chant -ing - er than these What do you think he sees? A when free from rags and fleas, We'd

peas!

Good-ness, how de - Ii - cious wear - ing out your grind - ers of Geor - gia sol - diers kiss our wives and sweet-hearts.

goo - her eat - ing peas. goo - her eat - ing peas. eat - ing goo - her peas. gob-ble goo - her peas.



Good. ness, how de - Ii - eious,'

"Goober peas" are really peanuts, and the

people who originally sang this song must have liked them, judging by the cheerful mood of the music.

Eat - ing goo - ber

The song dates back to 1866, when it was first printed. It was very popular with the soldiers in the South during the war between the states.

A Home ioly, of Doors

If you traveled around the world, you would see all kinds of homes. This song tells about a home out-of-doors.

Home on the Range Q

American Cowboy Song



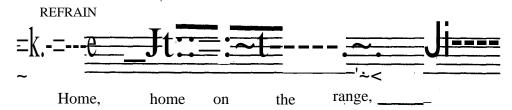


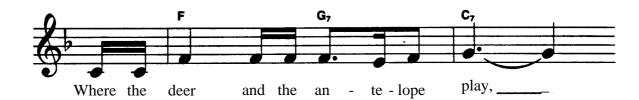
play, _ Where the and the an - te-lope deer stars, _ With the lights from the glit - ter - ing





And the skies are not cloud - y all day. If their glo - ry ex - ceeds that of ours. ___









Open Range

ŗht

Prairie goes to the mountain,

Mountain goes to the sky.

The sky sweeps across to the distant hills

And here, in the middle,

AmI.

Hills crowd down to the river,
River runs by the tree.
Tree throws its shadow on sunburnt grass
And here, in the shadow,
Is me.

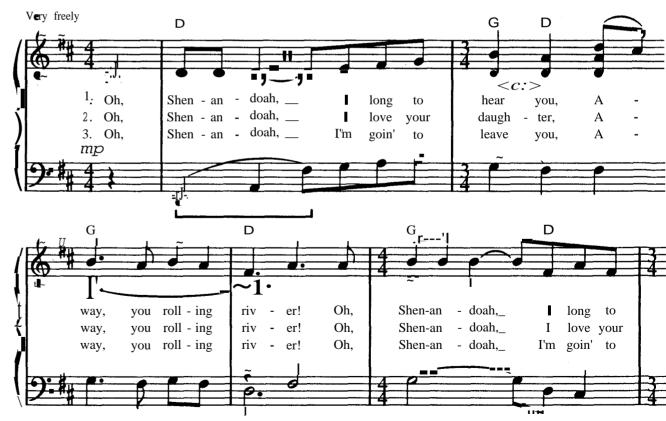
Shadows creep up the mountain,'
Mountain goes black on the sky,
The sky bursts out with a million stars
And here, by the campfire,
AmI.

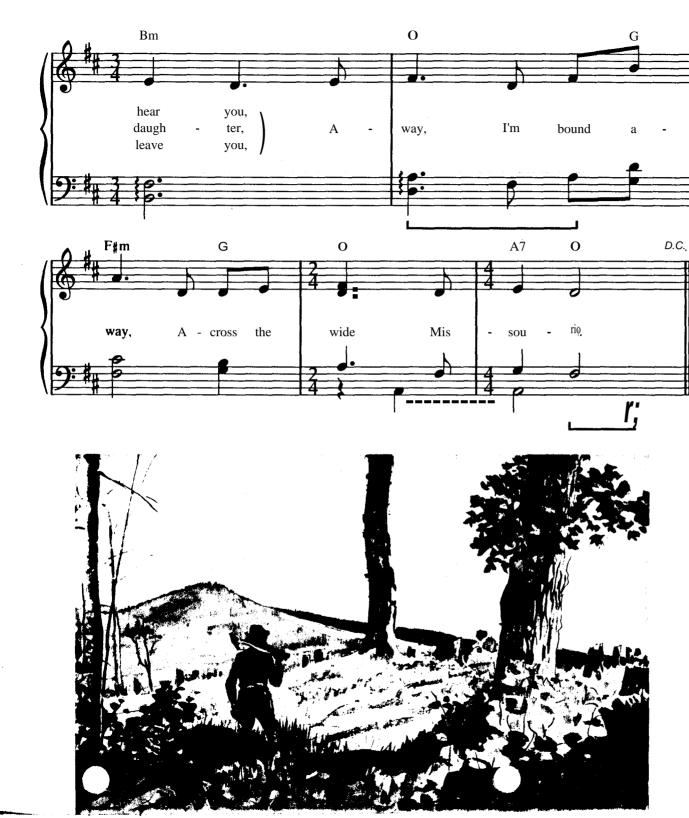
Kathryn and Byron Jackson



ACROSS THE WIDE MISSOURI

The westward urge of pioneer and settler was driven by mighty motives: a need forland, a search for wide-open spaces, an opportunity for wealth, the hope of greater liberty. But going to the West also meant leaving the East, forsaking the long familiar and the well loved for the new, the untried, and the hazardous. This extraordinarily beautiful 80ng expresses the wayfarer's emotions in movingly simple terms.





He exchanges one river, the Shenandoah, for another, the Missouri. Rolling through a fold of Virginia's Blue Ridge, the Shenandoah marks a portion of the continent's earliest western frontier. Rising in the Rocky Mountains of Montana, coursing through the Dakotas, forming the Nebraska-Iowa border, and winding down into Missouri to join the Mississippi River at St. Louis - embarkation point for the nation's new frontier-the Missouri River marked the entrance to the Far West.

Although *The Pioneer*, by the great eastern American painter Winslow Homer, is set not in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley but in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York, it does suggest the similarly gentle, well-forested landscape the westward-bound settler was leaving to risk his fortuneand his life - in the titanic country of the Missouri and beyond: a land vaster and wilder, but also less hospitable and more threatening.

William Jacob Hays, a New York artist best known for his quiet paintings of animals, fruit, and flowers, made one trip to the West, in 1860. Among many other paintings, that journey produced the magnificent view of the "wide Missouri" reproduced on the opposite page, which conveys something of the frontier's boundless promise and endless challenge.

A Herd 01Bison Crossing the Missouri River William Iacob Hays, Sr., American, 1830–1875 Oil on canvas, 1863 BBHe

The Pioneer
Win.lnw Junnar A "AID'r,,,a,, 1 a"2-=_| 01 n

GilliEl, GftOWTHE LILACS



A favorite song of Irish immigrants to America was GREEN GROWTHE LILACS, which soon became popular throughout the United States. Its lyrics refer to the sacrificing of Ireland's beauty for the promise of freedom in America. (The version printed here is from the repertoire of Tony Kraber, one of the leaders of the folk-song renaissance.) JIMMY RANDALis another song that had its origin in the Old World; indeed, this unhappy tale of a poisoning was known in almost every European country. (The earliest printed version appeared in Italy in the seventeenth century.) Sir Walter Scott, the poet and novelist, believed that the original Jimmy might have been Thomas Randolph, or Randal, Earl of Murray, who died in 1332.

