

Bold General Wolfe

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "1. Bold Gen - eral Wolfe to his men did say "Come, come my lads and fo - llow me. On yon - ders moun - tain that 'ppears so high, through fire and smoke my boys, through fire and smoke my boys. All from the sight of our Brit - ish guns." The score includes various time signatures: 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4.

2. Yonders French souls on yonder mountain high
Whilst we poor souls in the valleys lie.
(repeat 2 lines)
I see them falling like moths in the sun.
All from the smoke of those English guns.
3. At sixteen years when I did begin
All for the honour of George our king
(repeat 2 lines)
Let all commanders do as I've done before
Be a soldier's friend, my boys, be a soldier's friend, my boys
And then they'll fight for ever more.
4. The very first volley that they gave to us
Wounded the general in his left breast
(repeat 2 lines)
Yonder he sits for he cannot stand
"Fight on so boldlie, fight on so boldlie
For while I've breath I will give command."
5. "When to old England you do return
Pray tell my friends I am dead and gone
(repeat 2 lines)
And tell my old tender mother dear
Not to weep for me, not to weep for me.
For I died the death I wished to die."
6. "Here's all my treasure lies all in gold
Take it and part it, my blood runs cold."
(repeat 2 lines)
"Take it and part it," General Wolfe did say.
"You lads of honour, you lads of honour,
Since you have gained the day."

Source: Sung by William 'Daddy' Shepherd, Winchcombe Workhouse. Collected by Percy Grainger
5 April 1908.

Notes: Words rather indistinct.

©Gloucestershire Traditions