

## REUBEN GROVE'S BALLAD

War of 1812

Submitted by John G. Peck, Jr.

The manuscript of the following ballad was found among the papers of Reuben Grove, a Tennessee soldier of the War of 1812. Verses of this same song were also found among the papers of Capt. Jacob Hartsell of Washington County, Tennessee. [See ETHS PUBLICATIONS No. 11 (1939) 93-115]. Reuben Grove is further identified in the Grove Family Record and Grove Family Bible articles also published in this issue.

- 1) Our Countrys invaded O hear the alarm  
Turn out sons of Tennessee and gird on your arms  
We are sons of Columbia and strangers to fear  
Sure heaven will smile on the Brave Volunteer
- 2) Our campaign will prosper, our trust is in God  
For what calls for vengeance like Innocent blood  
Our nations in danger, the enemy is near  
Then don't be afraid to turn out, volunteer
- 3) The arms now suspended will soon strike the blow  
And the blood thirsty murdering savages lay low  
Let savages tremble and great Briton fear  
When they hear of the March of the Brave Volunteer
- 4) Let everyman to his post quickly fly  
And before he'll surrender determined to die  
And teach Briton's army by this time next year  
The force wealth and power of the Brave Volunteer
- 5) The blood of our Fathers has bought liberty  
And raised up a nation proud hearted and free  
Their sons will maintain it their freedom so dear  
And to meet their Invaders, turn out volunteer
- 6) We'll kill all the torys if any we find  
We'll march and we'll leave all the Cowards behind  
We'll leave them at home their Coward coats to wear  
Whilst we go campaigning, the Brave Volunteer
- 7) The rich and the pore, the grate and the small  
Transported to see us defending them all  
And oft they will think and for us shed a tear  
And say their success to the Brave Volunteer
- 8) We'll glory in fighting in liberty's cause  
Our fame through the world shall be sung withal  
Whilst others oppressed with tyranny sevier  
We will stand recorded the Brave Volunteer.

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- 9) Then will be enroled the records of fame  
Our Dead will inspire sweet Liberty's flame  
Our tombs will be honoured with tears, and with (?)  
And Hosannah be sung o'er the Brave Volunteers
- 10) We'll leave our dear wives and our sweethearts behind  
And they'll wait with patience for our return  
To Deserters and Cowards our sweethearts will declare  
They'll smile upon none but the Brave Volunteer
- 11) When wars and it thunders shall cease for to roar  
Then we will return and Enjoy our store  
Our wives and our sweethearts will meet us with cheer  
And fly to the armes of the Brave Volunteer
- 12) With joy we'll embrace our friends all again  
With our wives and our children at home we'll remain  
We'll train up our Children their rights to revere  
And when they're invaded turn out Volunteer

Reuben Grove His Song Ballad  
Reuben wrote the 15 of January 1814

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