

Deserter

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The musical score is written in 3/4 time and G major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a melody line with guitar chords (D, A G D G, C G A D, A G D G A D) and a guitar tablature below it. The second system continues the melody with chords (G, D, G, C A D, A G D G D A D) and a corresponding guitar tablature. The tablature includes fret numbers and bar lines.

As I was a-walking down Radcliffe highway
 A recruiting party came a-beating my way
 They enlisted me and treated me till I did not know
 And to the Queen's barracks they forced me to go

When first I deserted, I thought myself free
 Until my crel comrade informed against me
 I was quickly followed after and brought back with speed
 I was handcuffed and guarded, heavy irons put on me

Court martial, court martialy help upon me
 And the sentence passed upon me, three hundred and three
 May the Lord have mercy on them for their sad crelty
 For now the Qeen's duty lies heavy on me

When next I deserted, I thought myself free
 Until my crel sweetheart informed against me
 I was quickly followed after and brought back with speed
 I was handcuffed and guarded, heavy irons put on me

Court martial, court martialn quickly was got
 And the sentence passed upon me, that I was to be shot
 May the Lord have mercy on them for their sad crelty
 For now the Qeen's duty lies heavy on me

Then up rode Prince Albert in his carriage and sticks
 Saying "Where is that young man whose coffin is fixed?
 Set him free from his irons and let him go free
 For he'll make a good soldier for his Qeen and country"