

# Traditional & Folk Songs with lyrics & midi music

[www.traditionalmusic.co.uk](http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk)

## James Bird

James Bird

Where is Bird? The battle rages,  
Is he in the strife or no?  
Now the cannons roar tremendous:  
Dare he meet his hostile foe?

Ay, behold! see him and Perry!  
In the selfsame ship they fight;  
Though his messmates fall around him,  
Nothing can his soul affright.

Ay, behold! a ball has struck him,  
See the crimson current flow:  
"Leave the deck," exclaimed brave Perry;  
"No," cries Bird, "I will not go".

"Here on board I tuck my station,  
Ne'er will Bird his colors fly;  
I'll stand by you, gallant captain,  
Til we conquer, lest we die.

Still he fought, though faint and bleeding,  
Till our Stars and Stripes arose,  
Victory having gained our efforts,  
All triumphant o'er our foes.

[Bird deserts; he is court-martialed and shot]

See him kneel upon his coffin;  
Sure his death can do no good:  
Spare him! Hark! O God, they've shot him!  
See, his bosom streams with blood.

Farewell Bird; farewell forever  
Friends and home you'll see no more  
Now his mangled corpse lies buried  
On Lake Erie's distant shore

DT #361

Laws A5

Printed in Folk-Songs of the South  
SOF