

The Old-Time Collection



The Southern Girl's Reply (lyr: Pearl Rivers)

1 I cannot listen to your words, this land's so far and wide, go find some happy northern girl to be your loving bride. My brothers they were soldiers. The youngest of the three, was slain while fighting by the side of General Fitzhugh Lee.

Ch Hur - rah! Hur - rah! For the sunny South I say,
Three cheers for the southern girl, and the boys who wore the gray.

2 My lover was a soldier, too, he fought at God's command; a sabre pierced his gallant heart. You might have been the man. He reeled and fell but did not die, a horseman spurred his steed and trampled on his dying brain. You might have done the deed.

[Chorus]

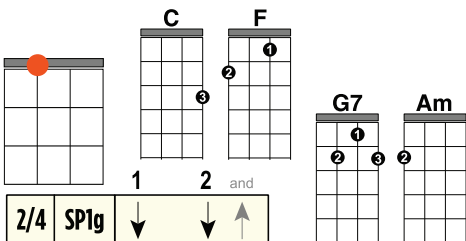
3 They left his body on the field, whom the fight this day had won, a horseman spurn'd him with his heel, you might have been the one. But there's no hatred in my heart, nor cold nor righteous pride, for many's the gallant soldier fell upon the other side.

[Chorus]

4 But still I cannot take the hand that smote my country sore, nor love the foe that trampled on the colours that she wore. Between my heart and yours there rose a deep and crimson tide my lover's and my brothers' blood forbids me be your bride.

Ch Hur - rah! Hur - rah! For the sunny South I say,
Three cheers for the southern girl, and the boys who wore the gray.

Southern Girl's Reply



The music of this song is the air to another American Civil War song, *The Bonny Blue Flag*. The words were very likely written by Eliza Jane Nicholson (1843-1896) under her pen name Pearl Rivers. Fitzhugh Lee (1835-1905), mentioned in the first verse, was a Confederate Cavalry General.

