A Song for the Man

Words by the author of "A Life on the Ocean Wave" i.e. George Pope Morris

A Henry Clay Ballad Music Arranged by Henry Russell Adapted to the popular air of the "Brave Old Oak"by Edward T. Loder







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3. At the outset, amid foes, 'gainst Slavery he rose, And staked all, the stain to efface; And although baffled then, he would be as bold again, In the proper time and place. The Tariff's pioneer, to whom should be so dear The cause which we all uphold? Home Labor's early friend, he ever will defend The banner he first unrolled. (CHORUS) 4. When Mister John Bull, with his pockets all full, Put his spoon in our Yankee mess, And dared to profane our flag upon the main, And our own brave Tars to impress, --Who then, for sailor's rights, bequeathed on Bunker's heights, Indignant defied the foe, --Spread our canvass to the blast, nailed our colors to the mast, And said to Mister Bull, -- NO! NO! (CHORUS) 5. But not in war alone was heard that trumpet-tone, That called us to dare and do; The men of Ghent can tell how ardently and well, In peace he has served us too. And when to raise a flame the Missouri Question came, And clouds o'er the Union hung, Who then was found but Clay the tempest to allay, All our country's chiefs among? (CHORUS) 6. In Freedom's sacred cause, whoever saw him pause, Or a fear for himself betray? The boats of Bolivar trod faster on to war With a cheer from Henry Clay! And Greece too heard his voice, bidding freemen to rejoice, And threw off the Moslem's yoke; And tyrants on their thrones felt a chill in all their bones, While Freedom's champion spoke. (CHORUS)

7. But hark to those alarms! that muttered cry, to arms! Ah! it is no foreign foe! The Nullifiers rise -- there are portents in our skies --Shall the blood of kindred flow? E'en Jackson cannot save the Union from a grave --Is there no one to lead the way? Ay! he steppeth forth once more, contentment to restore. Three cheers now for Henry Clay! (CHORUS) 8. In the days of our gloom, ever thus has he come To the aid of Liberty! Of the Constitution's cause, the Union and the laws, The worthiest Champion he! He would rather be right, (he has said) than win the fight; But the might with the right shall dwell; And a People's gratitude to him the brave and good, Let next November tell! (CHORUS) 9. From the Hermitage a wail is borne upon the gale. Alas! are there none to heed? O! the day is gone by when Kremer's wretched lie Could our Harry's course impede. In vain the Lokoes strive, though oh! Veto to revive That slander of ancient date; The People laugh to scorn a falsehood that was born Of malice and spleen and hate. (CHORUS) 10. Then a song for the Man, the brave, true Man, Who had ruled in our councils long; The Sun of his renown -- it shall never go down While a freeman can chant a song! For Clay the bold and true, and for Frelinghuysen too, With a cheer now ready, boys be! For as sure as Heaven's arch bends over us, next March, We shall see, what -- we shall see! (CHORUS)