

# The Valiant Soldiers

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*For other versions of this work, see [Marching Song of the First Arkansas Colored Regiment](#).*

WE are the valiant soldiers who've 'listed for the war;  
We are fighting for the Union, we are fighting for the law;  
We can shoot a rebel farther than a white man ever saw,  
As we go marching on.

Chorus.--

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah, as we go marching on.

Look there above the center, where the flag is waving bright;  
We are going out of slavery, we are bound for freedom's light;  
We mean to show Jeff Davis how the Africans can fight,  
As we go marching on.--Chorus.

We are done with hoeing cotton, we are done with hoeing corn;  
We are colored Yankee soldiers as sure as you are born.  
When massa hears us shouting, he will think 'tis Gabriel's horn,  
As we go marching on.--Chorus.

They will have to pay us wages, the wages of their sin;  
They will have to bow their foreheads to their colored kith and kin;  
They will have to give us house-room, or the roof will tumble in,  
As we go marching on.--Chorus.

We hear the proclamation, massa, hush it as you will;  
The birds will sing it to us, hopping on the cotton hill;  
The possum up the gum tree couldn't keep it still,  
As he went climbing on.--Chorus.

Father Abraham has spoken, and the message has been sent;  
The prison doors have opened, and out the prisoners went  
To join the sable army of African descent,  
As we go marching on.--Chorus.

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