

JUN 22 1918

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My Country and Flag Come First

— Song —

Words by
Miss Vida General

Music by
William F. Meeder.

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M. 1646

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MY COUNTRY AND FLAG COME FIRST

Song

Words by
Miss NITA SENECAŁ

Music by
WILLIAM H. MEEDER

1.

'Tis just a little story of a father, old and gray,
Who sits amid the twilight gazing at the sun's last ray;
His thoughts are not upon it, or the gathering shades of night,
They're far away with a boyish form who fights for his country's rights.
'Tis just a short while, yet how long it seems, he's been away!
Will he return again? -- No one can tell.
The tear-drops glisten in his eyes, it was his only son
He pressed unto his heart that day as he bade him a fond farewell.

Chorus

"My Country and Flag come first, my boy,
So you and I must part;
Though you're my pride I'll gladly give
And still my aching heart.
The Nation's voice is calling loud
For you, not me, to-day,
So go, my boy, and bravely fight
For the dear old U.S.A."

2.

One year has passed by swiftly, and the father, bent and white,
Steps from his cheerless fireside out into the shades of night.
The moon rides high above him, resting in her fleecy bed;
He sees it not, but a battle-field where lie the wounded and dead.
He looks at many faces, Ah! there is the one he seeks,
His sacrifice -- who died among the fray.
He knelt beside his only boy, his head bent low in prayer --
"For Country and for Flag I gave" -- and once more did softly say:-

Chorus

"My Country and Flag come first, my boy,
Etc., Etc."

JUN 22 1916

My Country and Flag Come First

Music by
William A. Meeder

Words by
Miss Rita Senechal

VOICE

I've just a little story of a
one year he passed by swift and he

father old and gray who sits amid the twilight gazing at the sun's last ray; His face
bent and white like from his cheeks

Thought are not up or it or the garden's shade of night, they're far away with a boyal from who fight for his country;
Those who sleep a son him resting in an fancy bed, or see is not - but a battle field where he wounded and



rights. 'Tis just a short while, yet how long it seems
 dies. No! No! looks as many faces al! here is the

been a way will he re- turn - er - gain - No
 one he se, his sac - ri - fice who died a

one can tell The tear drops
 sing the pray He knelt he -

gluten in his eyes, it was his on - ly true
 'till his on - ly boy, his head bent low in prayer

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 To and his
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Chorus
 a fond fair will
 soft by say
 My Crown by and
 flag come first my

boy, So you and
 I must part;
 Good bye my

pride all
 gladly gave
 Good still
 my asking
 still my
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Heart
The Martins voice is calling

The first system of the handwritten musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line in G major, with lyrics "Heart" and "The Martins voice is calling". The middle staff is the right-hand piano accompaniment, and the bottom staff is the left-hand piano accompaniment. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple harmonic accompaniment.

loud For you not me to day, So go, my

The second system continues the musical piece with lyrics "loud For you not me to day, So go, my". It maintains the same three-staff structure and key signature as the first system.

boy and tran-ly fight for the dear old U. S. a

The third system contains the lyrics "boy and tran-ly fight for the dear old U. S. a". It includes a first ending bracket over the final two measures of the system. The musical notation continues on the three staves.

my
A.

The fourth system begins with the word "my" and a section marked "A.". It features a second ending bracket over the final two measures. The musical notation is spread across the three staves.

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