

THE NIGHT THEY DROVE OLD DIXIE DOWN

11/11/20 99

by Robbie Robertson

INTRO: G - 4 bars then Em

Em G C Em
Virgil Caine is the name and I served on the Danville train,
G Em C Em
'Til Stoneman's cavalry came and tore up the tracks again.
C G Em C
In the winter of '65, we were hungry, just barely alive
Em C G Em A
By May the tenth, Richmond had fell, it's a time I remember, oh so well.

CHORUS:

G C G Em
The night they drove old Dixie down, and all the bells were ringin'
G C G Em
The night they drove old Dixie down, and all the people were singin' they went
G Em A C
Naa na-na naa na-na, na-naa na-naa na-naa naa na-naa

Instrumental: G - 4 bars then Em (same as Intro)

Em G C Em
Back with my wife in Tennessee, when one day she called to me,
G Em C Em
"Virgil, quick come see, there goes the *Robert E. Lee*."
C Em G Em
Now I don't mind choppin' wood, and I don't care if the money's no good
C Em
You take what you need and you leave the rest,
G Em A
But they should never have taken the very best.

CHORUS (as above)

Instrumental: G - 4 bars then Em (same as Intro)

Em G C Em
Like my father before me, I'm a workin' man,
G Em C Em
And like my brother before me, I took a rebel stand.
C Em
Well, he was just eighteen, proud and brave
G Em
When a Yankee laid him in his grave,
C Em
And I swear by the mud below my feet,
G Em A
You can't raise a Caine back up when he's in defeat.

CHORUS x 2 and last line finish with G/