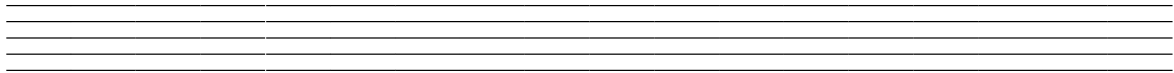


The Hero of the Drum

The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock



Poem by George Washington Bungay
Music by Michael Pratt, ASCAP



Robert Henry Hendershot

Words by
George Washington Bungay, 1867

The Hero of the Drum

The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock

Duration: 4:30

Music by
Michael Pratt

Allegro Marziale ♩=120

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

mp

The drum - mer with his drum

The drum - mer with his drum

mp

mp

Allegro Marziale ♩=120

3 4 5

f *ff*

shout - ing "Come! he - roes, come!

shout - ing "Come! he - roes, come!

shout - ing "Come! he - roes, come!

shout - ing "Come! he - roes, come!

shout - ing "Come! he - roes, come!

Sn. Dm.

f *ff*

6 7 8 9 10 11

f *ff* *subito mf*

The Hero of the Drum

S
A
T
B
Sn. Dm.
Pno.

S
A
T
B
Sn. Dm.
Pno.

For - ward march, nigh - er, high - er!
For - ward march, nigh - er, high - er!
For - ward march, nigh - er, high - er!
For - ward march, nigh - er, high - er!

The Hero of the Drum

by George W. Bungay

THE drummer with his drum
 Shouting "Come! heroes, come!
 Forward march, nigher, higher!
 When the veterans turned pale,
 And the bullets fell like hail,
 In that hurricane of fire
 Beat his drum,
 Shouting "Come!
 Come! come! come!"
 And the fife,
 In the strife,
 Joined the drum, drum, drum--
 And the fifer with his fife and the drummer with his drum,
 Were heard above the strife and the bursting of the bomb.
 The bursting of the bomb,
 Bomb, bomb, bomb.
 Clouds of smoke hung like a pall
 Over tent and dome and hall;
 Hot shot and blazing bomb
 Cut down our volunteers
 Swept off our engineers;
 But the drummer beat his drum,
 And he beat
 "No retreat!"
 With his drum:
 Through the fire,
 Hotter, nigher,
 Throbbled the drum, drum, drum,
 In that hurricane of flame and the thunder of the bomb,
 Braid the laurel wreath of fame for the hero of the drum!
 The hero of the drum,
 Drum, drum, drum.
 Where the Rappahannock runs,
 The sulphur-throated guns,
 Poured out iron hail and fire;
 But the heroes in the boats
 Heeded not the sulphur throats,
 For they looked up higher, higher,
 While the drum,
 Never dumb,
 Beat, beat, beat,
 Till the oars
 Touched the shores,
 And the fleet feet, feet,
 Of the soldiers on the shore, with the bayonet and gun,
 Thought the drum could beat no more, made the dastard rebels run.
 The dastard rebels run,
 Run, run, run.

Bungay, George, W. In Dodge, William Sumner. Robert Henry Hendershot; or,
 The Brave Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock. Chicago: Church and Goodman, 1867, pp. 156-158.

About **The Hero of the Drum**

Robert Henry Hendershot, known as "the Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock," served as a drummer boy for the Eighth Michigan. Robert's regiment was stationed near the Seventh Michigan during the Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia. On December 11, 1862, the Seventh was trying to cross the Rappahannock River under fire. Robert answered a call for volunteers and ran to help push the boats. He had crossed the river when a shell fragment hit his drum and broke it into pieces, so he picked up a musket. He encountered a Confederate soldier and, taking him as prisoner, brought him back to the Seventh Michigan. The story of a boy capturing a man made him a hero. Robert survived the war and toured the nation putting on drumming performances and telling of his experiences. Many poems were written about him; *The Hero of the Drum* is one of those poems.

This poem originally appeared in Robert Henry Hendershot; or, *The Brave Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock*, written by William Sumner Dodge and published by Church and Goodman (Chicago, 1867, pp. 156-158).

About **George Washington Bungay**

George Washington Bungay, journalist, born in Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk, England, 28 November, 1826. He came to this country at an early age, was educated in New York city, and engaged in journalism. From 1873 till 1887 he was employed in the New York custom-house. He was a well-known lecturer, has contributed to the press, was literary editor of the "Metropolitan," a weekly journal in New York, and was the author of "Offhand Takings, or Crayon Sketches" (New York, 1854); "Traits of Representative Men" (1882); "Pen Portraits of Illustrious Abstainers," published by the National temperance society (1884); and "The Creeds of the Bells," a poem.

About **Michael Pratt**

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, TheCroswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.