



For the Republican

LINES

Composed after witnessing the departure of the 97th Regiment, Col. Guss, from Camp Wayne, West Chester, November 16, 1861.

The last farewell is spoken, they have bid
a long adieu
To the friends who still will love them, and
their memories keep in view;
From home enjoyments severed, and from
ties that bind the heart,
That band of patriot freemen have been
called upon to part.
Those fathers, husbands, brothers, in man-
hood's vigorous prime,
Obeyed their country's summons to aid a
cause divine;
And youthful sons are with them, fond
parents hope and pride,
Who go to share the dangers of battle by
their side.
Sad was the final parting from those noble
spirits brave,
Who go a nation's honor from rebellion's
power to save;

While hearts oppressed with sorrow, and
eyes made dim by tears,
Revealed fond kindred's anguish and sad
foreboding fears.
They go free institutions to save from that
vile band
Who would destroy the Union of this great
and glorious land,
Bequeathed by sires to sons they deemed
as worthy of the trust,
And warn'd to guard with pious care when
they lay in the dust.
Then, freemen, go! resolved to guard your
country's rights and name,
The blood of murdered Ellsworth calls to
vindicate her fame.
The noble Lyon gave his life and wealth
unto the cause,
And gifted Baker bravely fell, defending
rights and laws!
While other spirits, true and tried in free-
dom's cause, as brave,
Have yielded up a patriot's life, and fill the
soldiers grave.
Their memories, by devoted friends, will
ever cherished be,
As will the cause in which they fell, the
Union of the free.
Go, noble men, from Chester's hills, and
vales of Delaware,
Forth in your pride and strength, to meet
the direful god of war;
Be faithful to your country's cause, and to
yourselves be true;
A government's approving eye is kindly
turned to you.
You represent a district fam'd for wealth
and loyal men,
Who prospered 'neath the smiles of peace,
yet nobly doth sustain

A government so wisely formed, just and
beneficent,
And freely offered wealth and life to aid in
its defence.
Your noble leader, brave and true, your
welfare doth attend,
Which proves your loved commander a
kind and generous friend;
Upon our country's future page inscribed
his name will be,
And may you emulate his worth and tried
fidelity.
Where duty calls on him to lead, there also
will you go,
With him to guide undauntedly will meet
the rebel foe;
And should he fall while leading on to
death or victory,
You will avenge his loss, and mourn with
heartfelt sympathy.
Then, freemen, go! aid to restore again the
once proud name
Your country bore ere war's turmoil arose
to dim her fame;
Let not rebellion's foemen dare that Union
to destroy,
So long the patriot's pride and hope, and
exile's source of joy.
And should you not return to cheer those
sorrowing friends again,
Affection's ties and friendship's bonds,
stern death may rend in twain,
Yet in their faithful hearts enshrine your
mem'ries will endure,
Their grief consoled to know you fell our
Union to secure.

Go noble men, and bear aloft the
Keystone's banner far,
To proudly wave o'er southern climes and
meet the tide of war.
Let no dishonor ever stain its beauteous
azure field,
And never to those craven foes that glori-
ous banner yield!
When peace returns again to bless this now
distracted land,
And freemen to their homes return a weary,
war-worn band,
Friends will receive with joy and pride
those patriot soldiers brave,
Who perilled life, and wealth, and ease, a
nation's rights to save!

H. L.

