

Night They Drove Old Dixie Down

Robbie Robertson

Am C F Am
Virgil Cain is the name and I served on the Danville train
C Am F Am
Till Stoneman's cavalry came and tore up the tracks again
F C Am F
In the winter of sixty-five, we were hungry, just barely alive
Am F C Am D D
By May the tenth, Richmond had fell, it was a time I remember all so well

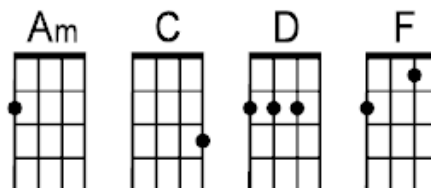
C F C Am
The night they drove old Dixie down, and all the bells were ringing
C F C Am
The night they drove old Dixie down, and all the people were singing, they went
C Am D F F
Na na na na na, na na na na na na na na

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

<Chorus>

Am C F Am
Like my father before me, I will work the land
C Am F Am
And like my brother above me, who took a rebel stand
F C Am F
He was just eighteen, proud and brave, but a Yankee laid him in his grave
Am F
I swear by the mud below my feet
C Am D D
You can't raise a Cain back up when he's in defeat

Joan Baez had not seen printed copy of the song by *The Band* and she got some of the words wrong in her popular version. In recent concerts, she sings the original words given here.



<Chorus>