

1 I am an humble soldier
fare from my friends and home
mid signs of war and hard ships
I constantly must roam
with many officers over me
and then I must obey
and do just what they tell me
for fifty cents a day

2 I enlisted in the army
to help my countrys cause
because I loved it dearly
and would sustain its laws
I felt a free mans duty
his country to obey
I came not as a hireling
for fifty cts a day

3 I enlisted as a patriot
A free man and a man
to do a soldiers duty
as best a soldier can
I hope to fight the Rebels
I hate this long delay

I came to help my country
no for fifty cents a day

4 I now must yield to hardships
I'm cold in storm or in rain
perchance with scanty rations
nor even then complain
the right of seeking comfort
long since I have signed a way
my life I'm slowly losing
for fifty cents a day.

5 Who sent the soldiers to the field
to try his willing hand
with promises so plentiful
of treatments like a man
twas ~~those~~ who ~~in~~ who in two days
received a larger pay
than does the soldier in two months
at fifty cts a day

6 who promised to the soldiers
his wrongs should be redressed
tyranny or officer
should dare his right oppress
alas the sword ~~and~~^{may} smite him

or kick round as he may
he find his only ~~neglect~~ redress
Is fifty cents a day

7 Who promised to the soldier
If sickness should appear
good doctors and kind nurses
was ready and near
to aid him in his feebleness
as quick as though his pay
was ten times as much
as fifty cents a day

8 'Twas those who wore the shoulder straps
with haughty air of grace
who look upon the soldier
below the negro race
who thinks the soldier's duty
if only to obey
his lordship and be contented
with fifty cents a day

9 how oft we seen the soldier
near tottering to the ground
seek vainly for assistance

when it could not be found
when told he was not ailing
to go and take his way
one week would end his suffering
and his fifty cents a day

10 how many of the officers
would be here where they are
I ~~is~~ forced to live like soldiers
and take a soldiers fare
how few would take the treatments
Even with there liberal pay
let alone the poor pitifance
of fifty cents a day

11 Cheer up my gallant soldier
be cheer but gay and smile
we'll do the fighting now
and the voting after a while
and then we'll show oppressors
that they may feel dis may
who treated us like serives
at fifty cents a day

Composed by S & J Jewett
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Of the 1st Regt