

An idea of the raggedly miscellaneous clothing worn by colonial soldiers is expressed in this sly song. The "wretchedly deceitful" way in which some soldiers went about improving their wardrobes is outlined in the exchange between the girls and the boys.

Recorded on Command Records by The Robert De Cormier Folk Singers, album #RS33-884 "Heritage".

**Preview Only**  
**Legal Use Requires Purchase**

# SOLDIER, SOLDIER, WON'T YOU MARRY ME?

For Four-Part Chorus of Mixed Voices, a cappella

Performance time: approx. 2:07

EARLY AMERICAN SONG  
Adapted and Arranged by  
ROBERT DeCORMIER

Moderate tempo

SOPRANO *mp* Sol - dier, won't you mar-ry me

ALTO *mf* O sol - dier, sol - dier, won't you mar-ry me With your

TENOR *mf* Hum hum hum hum

BASS *mf* Hum hum hum hum

PIANO (for rehearsal only)

Moderate tempo

5 With your mus - ket, fife and drum?

mus - ket, fife and drum?

hum hum. Oh no, sweet maid, I can - not mar - ry thee, For I

hum hum. Oh no, sweet maid, I can - not mar - ry thee,

5

9

Then off she went

Then off she went

8 have no { coat } to put on. to her

I have no { coat } to put on. to her

9

13

She got him a { coat } She

She got him a { coat } She

8 grand - fa - ther's chest, of the ver - y, ver - y best; She

grand - fa - ther's chest, of the ver - y, ver - y best; She

13

16 *legato*  
 got him a {coat pair} of the ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put {it them} on. *mf*  
 got him a {coat pair} of the ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put {it them} on. O  
 got him a {coat pair} of the ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put {it them} on.  
 got him a {coat pair} of the ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put {it them} on.

16 *legato*  
 got him a {coat pair} of the ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put {it them} on.

20 *mp*  
 Sol - dier, won't you mar - ry me With your mus - ket, fife and  
 sol - dier, sol - dier, won't you mar - ry me With your mus - ket, fife and drum? *mf*  
 Hum hum hum hum. Oh *mf*  
 Hum hum hum hum. Oh *mf*

20  
 Hum hum hum hum. Oh

24

drum?

no, sweet maid, I can-not mar-ry thee, For I have no { hat } to put on. { boots }

no, sweet maid, I can-not mar-ry thee, I have no { hat } to put on. { boots }

28

Then up she went to her grand - fa - ther's chest to

Then up she went to her grand - fa - ther's chest to

Up she went to

on. Up she went to

31

get him a { hat\_ pair\_ } She got\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the  
 get him a { hat\_ pair\_ } She got\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the  
 get\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the ver - y, ver - y best. She got\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the  
 get\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the ver - y, ver - y best, She got\_ him a { hat\_ pair\_ } of the

31

Piano accompaniment for measures 31-33, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).

34

ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put { it } on. *mp* Sol - dier,  
 ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put { it } on. *mf* O sol - dier, sol - dier,  
 ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put { it } on. *mp* Hum  
 ver - y, ver - y best, And the sol - dier put { it } on. *mp* Hum

34

Piano accompaniment for measures 34-36, continuing the key signature of two sharps.

38

won't you mar-ry me \_\_\_\_\_ With your mus-ket, fife and drum?

won't you mar-ry me With your mus - ket, fife and drum?

hum hum hum. Oh no, sweet maid, I

mf

mf

38

hum hum hum. Oh no, sweet maid, I

42

*rit.* Slower

A - men.

A - men.

can-not mar-ry thee, For I've a wife at home.

*rit.* *f* SOLO *tutti*

can-not mar-ry thee, For I've a wife and five chil-dren at home.

42

Slower

*rit.*

