

## Unknown

### "Cumberlands Crew"

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The Cumberland's Crew

Now then, shipmates, come gather and join in my ditty  
Of a terrible battle that's happened of late  
When each Union tar shed a tear of sad pity  
When he heard of the once-gallant Cumberland's fate.

O, the eighth day of March told a terrible story  
And many brave tars to this world bid adieu,  
Our flag it was wrapped in a mantle of glory  
By the heroic deeds of the Cumberland's crew.

On the ill-fated day, about ten in the morning,  
The sky it was clear and bright shone the sun.  
The drums of the Cumberland sounded a warning  
That told every seaman to stand by his gun.

Then an ironclad frigate down on us came bearing,  
And high in the air the Rebel flag flew.  
The pennant of treason she proudly was wearing,  
Determined to conquer the Cumberland's crew.

Then up spoke our captain with stern resolution,  
Saying, "Boys, of this monster, now, don't be afraid  
(dismayed)  
We've sworn to maintain our beloved Constitution,  
And to die for our country we are not afraid!"

Our noble ship fired, our guns dreadfully thundered;  
Our shot on the Rebel like hail we did pour.  
The people on shore gazed, struck with terror and  
wonder,  
As our shot struck her side and glanced harmlessly  
o'er.

Now, the pride of our Navy can never be daunted,  
Though the dead and the wounded our decks they did  
straw  
"We'll die at our quarters or conquer victorious: "  
Was answered in cheers by the Cumberland's crew.

"We've fought for the Union, our cause it is glorious.  
To the Star Spangled Banner we'll ever prove true.  
We'll be wept for by Columbia's brave sons and fair  
daughters  
And never forgotten," sang the Cumberland's crew.

From Shanteymen and Shanty Boys, Doerflinger

Note: The Cumberland was the first (and last) victim of  
the  
Confederate ironclad Merrimac (renamed Virginia).  
The battle  
occurred on March 8, 1862, the day before the  
Merrimac was sunk  
by the North's armored Monitor.

@navy @battle @Civil @war @sailor  
filename[ CUMBCREW  
play.exe CUMBCREW  
RG  
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