

# PATRIOTIC SONGS

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## INTRODUCTION

The following are five patriotic songs celebrating the victory at the Battle of St. George's Caye on September 10, 1798. It is reproduced from documents sourced from the Belize Archives and Records Services #SL02, December 2007.

## THE SONGS

### 1. TRIBUTE TO THE BAYMEN

Words and Music by

Jesus Chuchin Acosta

We are marching today and proudly sing,  
That we are celebrating our day.  
May the victory of the Baymen never, never fade,  
As we march and cheer them today.

*Cho.*

*Hurrah, Hurrah, Hip Hip Hurrah*

*As we hail them and greet them today.*

*The Baymen did fight a noble noble fight*

*At the Battle of old St. George's Caye.*

May the glory of the Baymen never fade,  
As we march and wave our flags today.  
The Tenth Day of September, when history was made,  
O Belize our home sweet home.

## 2. BAYMEN'S GLORY

Words by Vidal Montejo

Music by Elswith Betson

I love to tell a story of this land  
I know so well; it is the Baymen's Glory  
That makes me proud to tell:  
It is the Baymen's Glory  
That makes me proud to tell.

How brave they fought to conquer  
On that September day,  
That every son and daughter  
Might all be proud to tell.  
That every son and daughter  
Might all be proud to tell.

It is the Baymen's courage  
That makes this land my own;  
I'm proud of such a heritage  
And glad to make it known;  
I'm proud of such a heritage  
And glad to make it known.

## 3. LAND OF THE FREE

Words and Music by

Samuel A. Haynes

O land of the free by the Carib Sea,  
Our manhood we pledge to thy liberty.  
No tyrants here linger, despots must flee,  
This tranquil haven of democracy,  
The blood of our sires, which hollows the sod.  
Brought freedom from slavery oppression's rod.  
By the might of truth and the grace of God,  
No longer shall we be hewers of wood.

*Cho.*

*Arise ye sons of the Baymen's clan,  
Put on your armours, clear the land.  
Drive back the tyrants let despots flee.  
Land of the free by the Carib Sea.*

Nature has blessed thee with wealth untold,  
O'er mountains and valleys where prairies roll,  
Our fathers the Baymen, valiant and bold,  
Drove back the invaders this heritage told.  
From proud Rio Hondo to old Sarstoon  
Through coral isles over blue lagoon  
Keep watch with the angels, the stars and moon  
For freedom comes tomorrow's noon.

#### **4. THE TENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER**

It was the tenth day of September,  
In ninety-eight Anno Domini,  
When our fore-fathers won the glorious fight  
At old St. George's Caye.

Then hail them, cheer them,  
Let our grateful loyal hearts not fail them,  
As we march and sing and shout in merry glee  
The battle of St. George's Caye.

Hip Hip Hurray! Hip Hip Hurray

*Repeat:* It was the tenth day.....

#### **5. HOMELAND BY THE SEA**

**Words** by Edward P. Yorke

**Music** by Phillip C. Campbell

God's goodness gave this land to me,  
To honor and to love.  
O'er all this earth there's none so free,  
Say those who leave this cove.  
This noble spot makes me rejoice  
So rich and rare it be,  
This fruitful land this blessed choice  
My homeland by the sea.

Home of my fathers true and brave  
Land of my earliest days.

Love of my heart whose worth I raise,  
Teach me to sing thy praise.  
To thee I yield my maiden love,  
Entire and pure and true,  
Devoted as the stars above,  
I serve and honor you.

God's goodness gave this land to me,  
To honor and to love.  
O'er all this earth there's none so free,  
Through every nook I rove,  
Our hearts are small and I rejoice,  
The lot has come to me,  
In a fair ground this fairies' choice  
My homeland by the sea.