Homestead Strike

As sung by
Winifred Bundy
07-23-1946 Madison, WI

Oh, the trouble down at Homestead, it came about this way,
When a grasping corporation had the audacity to say:
“You must give up your income and forswear your liberty,
And we’ll offer you a glorious chance to die in slavery.”

The man who fights for honor, none can blame him.
May good luck attend him where he roams.
No son of his will ever live to shame him,
When liberty and honor rule the homes.

Transcription and lyrics from the Helene Stratman-Thomas Collection.
Critical Commentary

Transcriptions by Peters, p. 183, and HST.

HST notes:
In the Professional Papers series:
Sung by Winifred Bundy, age 62, Madison, 1946.

This portion of an early labor song tells of the strike at Homestead, Pennsylvania in 1892. Miss Bundy learned it as a young girl from an older brother. The complete song may be found in Korson’s Coal Dust on the Fiddle.

Sources:
Tune fairly different.
Sing Out! Vol. 25, no. 5 (Jan-Feb. 1977).

K.G.