

06 Battle of Bourassa - Mr Elmer

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 on the twen - ty - third, my boys, we lan - ded at Al - giers.

<p>1 On the fourteenth day of February for Cadiz we set our sail; kind fortune it did favour us with a sweet and pleasant gale. Straightway from proud Gibraltar our gallant fleet did wear, and on the twenty-third, my boys, we landed at Algiers.</p>	<p>'O cursèd is my fate, my boys. Is this the wretched day that Briton shall deplore the loss, and Spaniard go astray?'</p>
<p>2 Our General then explained to us the hardships we should bear; resolved that British courage should conquer every care. Over hills and lofty mountains our army marched along, and though our army it was small, our courage it was strong.</p>	<p>6 'Now to the right-about, my boys, and give them three loud cheers. Extend your files, my Rifle boys, and keep your right flank clear; and look to Cape Trafalgar where Nelson fell before; our fame will soon triumphant ring; that Britain rules the shore.</p>
<p>3 The next place we arrivèd at, it was at Urick town, and, waiting for the Spaniards, in Convents we lay down. And when they did arrive then we marched both night and day, advancing on the French, my boys, to show them British play.</p>	<p>7 So we advancèd in our lines, fresh glories for to gain, despising every danger, while thousands they lay slain. 'Well done, my boys!' our General cried, 'Our number is but small; but most of all it grieves my heart to see my heroes fall.'</p>
<p>4 Gallant Graham was our General; not knowing their design, resolved that British courage should not be far behind. We advancèd through a wood obscure, not dreading any snare; the enemy lay in numbers and closed us in the rear.</p>	<p>8 The smoke and fire convulsed the air and thunder ruled the sky, as we advancèd on their lines and causèd them to fly. Three Generals they left behind and guns and Eagles too, while Britons proudly did advance and boldly did pursue,</p>
<p>5 Some watchful man espied our foes and to our General flew, which wounded deep his tender heart and tears of sorrow drew.</p>	<p>9 Here's a health to British seamen that plough the raging main; as we know well, our wooden walls our country does sustain. If ever we be threatened by any foreign power we'll show them British valour as our fathers did before.</p>