**THE WAR OF 1812**

**War of 1812! War of 1812! War of 1812! War of 1812!**

**In 1812 do you know the score, for the second time we fought a war,**

**Some were against, and some were for, we had land, but we wanted more.**

**Jefferson tried to keep the peace, “France and England you must cease,**

**You must allow our ships to go, or we will pass an embargo”.**

**Old Great Britain did rule the sea, ignoring our neutrality,**

**Stopping our ships, impressment, kidnapped sailors is what it meant.**

**War Hawk demands freedom of the seas, War Hawk no more neutrality,**

**War Hawk we’ll seize Canada, War Hawk we’ll take Florida.**

**Madison was now President, leading our small government,**

**Our navy had just 16 ships, and it was no match for the British.**

**Even so they declared war, fighting against the British once more,**

**Invade Canada was goal number one, easier said than it was done.**

**We had a good Captain on Lake Erie, Oliver Hazard Perry,**

**His famous quote made him a star, “We have met the enemy and they are ours”.**

**War Hawk, we’ll stop the seizure of our ships,**

**War Hawk, we’ll fight the Indians out west,**

**War Hawk, show the strength of the U.S.,**

**War Hawk, said we’re the best.**

**The British sailed up the Chesapeake, would this cause U.S. defeat,**

**To our Capital the Red Coats came, setting the White House up in flames.**

**The British bombed Fort McHenry, witnessed by Francis Scott Key,**

**The soldiers stood up strong and brave, at dawns light the flag still waved.**

**Support for the war was running thin, in many parts of New England,**

**Then all at once a peace treaty, then Jackson’s victory at New Orleans.**

**War Hawk, we won in New Orleans**

**War Hawk, more pride in our country**

**War Hawk, we signed the Treaty of Ghent,**

**War Hawk, felt the message had been sent,**

**The treaty brought an end to the war. The United States was at peace once more,**

**Americans felt more unity, pride grew in this great country.**

**Some said ‘well nothing has changed, our borders still remain the same’,**

**Others said ‘well we now expect, that Europe will treat us with more respect’.**

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