

The American Pioneer, the Iron Will that Settled America
By Cain Pence

Covered wagon and loaded gun
Sturdy heart, furrowed brow, into the setting sun

Determined man and strong woman
Nebraska, Utah, California, Oregon

Trail of tears, Rio Grande
Mexican migrant, exiled band

Go forth into the unknown
Master the wilderness, settle a new town

Unafraid to conquer the wild
Proud settler, restless spirit, wandering child

Toil and work, sweat and tears
Determined soul, overcome all fears

Land of outcasts, trail of pariahs
The Promised Land, here a new Messiah

American manifest destiny, Westward Ho!
Faith in the future, blessings we shall know

Pilgrim on ship, native in canoe, wanderer in wagon
Spanish soldier, voyaging Irishman, daring Cajun

No mountain too high, no climb too steep
No winter too cold, no sorrow too deep

Western cowboy with pistol at his hip
Daring Air Force test pilot in a rocket ship

Across hills, into valleys, over fields, ahead to shining sea
Into the blue yonder, upwards to heaven, Onward! We plea

The yearning spirit that led peasants to leave crowded foreign alleys
The iron will that settled America from Ellis Island to Silicon Valley

Carved a mighty nation from raw nature, always stands tall
The American pioneer, throughout history, has overcome all!

Cain Pence is a Minneapolis, Minnesota based writer. Mr. Pence is a graduate of Georgetown University and has travelled extensively throughout all 50 states. He is a lover of the American West and the pioneer spirit that made America great. Mr. Pence's poems have been published in numerous papers and magazines. He can be reached at caino@cainpence.com.