

Red And Gold
Fairport Convention

[Chorus]

C G F G C
Red and Gold are royal colours
Am F G
Peasant colours are green and brown
C F C Am
Green is the corn in the brown earth when it s growing
F C G C
Red and gold when the harvest is cut down

[Verse]

Dm F G
Through Cropredy in Oxfordshire, the Cherwell takes its course
C F G
And the willows weep into its waters clear
C F G C
My name it is Will Tims, it s here that I was born
F G C
Raised in faith, my King and god to fear

[Verse]

Dm F G
In sixteen forty-four, the King in Oxford Town did dwell
C F G
Though we d heard that Cromwell s army was nearby
C F G C
It did not occur to me that little Cropredy
F G C
Could be witness to the meeting of both sides

[Verse]

Dm F G
On June the 29th that year, I was about my work
C F G
Cutting hedges in a meadow by the stream
C F G C
My blade slipped, I cut my hand, my own dear blood did flow
F G C
Upon the brown earth and the corn still green

[Verse]

Dm F G
Now it did distress me so to watch my own blood flow
C F G
And quickly soak into the greedy ground
C F G C
In red and gold my colours swam and sweat broke on my brow

F **G** **C**
Faint, I knew that I must lay me down

[Chorus]

C **G** **F** **G** **C**
Red and Gold are royal colours
 Am **F** **G**
Peasant colours are green and brown
C **F** **C** **Am**
Green is the corn in the brown earth when it s growing
F **C** **G** **C**
Red and gold when the harvest is cut down

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
At first I thought the thundering was just inside my head
 C **F** **G**
So I raised myself above the hedge to see
 C **F** **G** **C**
And I watched as in a dream, as the armies fought downstream
 F **G** **C**
The Battle for the Bridge at Cropredy

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
Now the King s men fought in red and gold, though Cromwell s men were plainer
 C **F** **G**
The blood they spilled was coloured just the same
 C **F** **G** **C**
Through the hedgerow s fragile cover, I saw brother killing brother
 F **G** **C**
And all of this was done in Jesus name

[Chorus]

G **F** **G** **C**
Red and Gold are royal colours
 Am **F** **G**
Peasant colours are green and brown
C **F** **C** **Am**
Green is the corn in the brown earth when it s growing
F **C** **G** **C**
Red and gold when the harvest is cut down

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
All that day and all the next, the battle it was raging
 C **F** **G**
Though when darkness came, I slipped away
 C **F** **G** **C**
But the crying of the dying kept me wakeful and just lying
 F **G** **C**
In my bed until the dawning of the day

[Bridge]

G **C**
And the dreams I had were red and gold
 F **C** **G**
And the little stream became a flood
 C **F** **C** **Am**
From all my brothers killing one another
 F **C** **G** **C**
Till waking, I realised, it was all my own dear blood

[Instrumental]

C **F** **G** **C** **Am** **F** **G**
C **F** **C** **Am** **F** **C** **G** **C**

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
Some were buried in the church and some just where they fell
 C **F** **G**
With no markers to declare their place of rest
 C **F** **G** **C**
But the poppies they do grow where they were never sown
 F **G** **C**
And to my mind they do declare it best

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
And each year when the green corn once again turns into gold
 C **F** **G**
And the poppies in the field again remind me
 C **F** **G** **C**
Like the scar upon my hand and the blood spilled on this land
 F **G** **C**
And the hungry earth so eager to confine me

[Chorus]

G **F** **G** **C**
For red and gold they are the colours
 Am **F** **G**
One is blood and one is power
 C **F** **C** **Am**
Though I may find my rest in Cropredy church
 F **C** **G** **C**
In golden fields forever, will spring the poppy flower

[Verse]

Dm **F** **G**
By Cropredy the Cherwell is still bidden to keep flowing
 C **F** **G**
And the willows by its side still gently weep
 C **F** **G** **C**
But still in restless dreams by this most peaceful stream
 F **G** **C**
The poppies wake me from my rightful sleep

[Bridge]

G
C
 And the dreams I have are red and gold

F C G

And the little stream becomes a flood

C F C Am

From all my brothers killing one another

F C G C

Till waking, I realise, it s all my own dear blood

[Outro]

C F G C Am F G

C F C Am F C G C

C F G C Am F G C