My Comrade And Playmate - song lyrics

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MY COMRADE AND PLAYMATE.
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Words and Music by Chas. F. Vann.

It pierced my heart to see my comrade fall:
We were boys together in the days gone by;
And now, far from home or loved one's fond caress,
He was breathing out his life without a murmur or a sigh;
But as I gently called his name and over him did bend,
He smiled and gazed into my eyes and grasped me by the hand;
And he faintly whisper'd, "Tell my friends, should you live the battle through,
I died for home and for my friends, and for my native land."

Refrain.
I ne'er shall forget him, my comrade and playmate:
We marched many miles in the ranks side by side;
I shared all his pleasures, and he shared my sorrows,
Yet he was a friend both true and tried.

At first it seemed as though it could not he
My friend who played with me upon the green
Was dead, and alas! I now was left alone,
And I hope and pray a sadder sight will ne'er again be seen,
But as I closed his eyes and placed his arms across his breast,
I took away from round his neck a little golden hand;
It was given by his loving wife, left sobbing all alone.
While he fought for home and for his friends, and for his native land.- Ref.