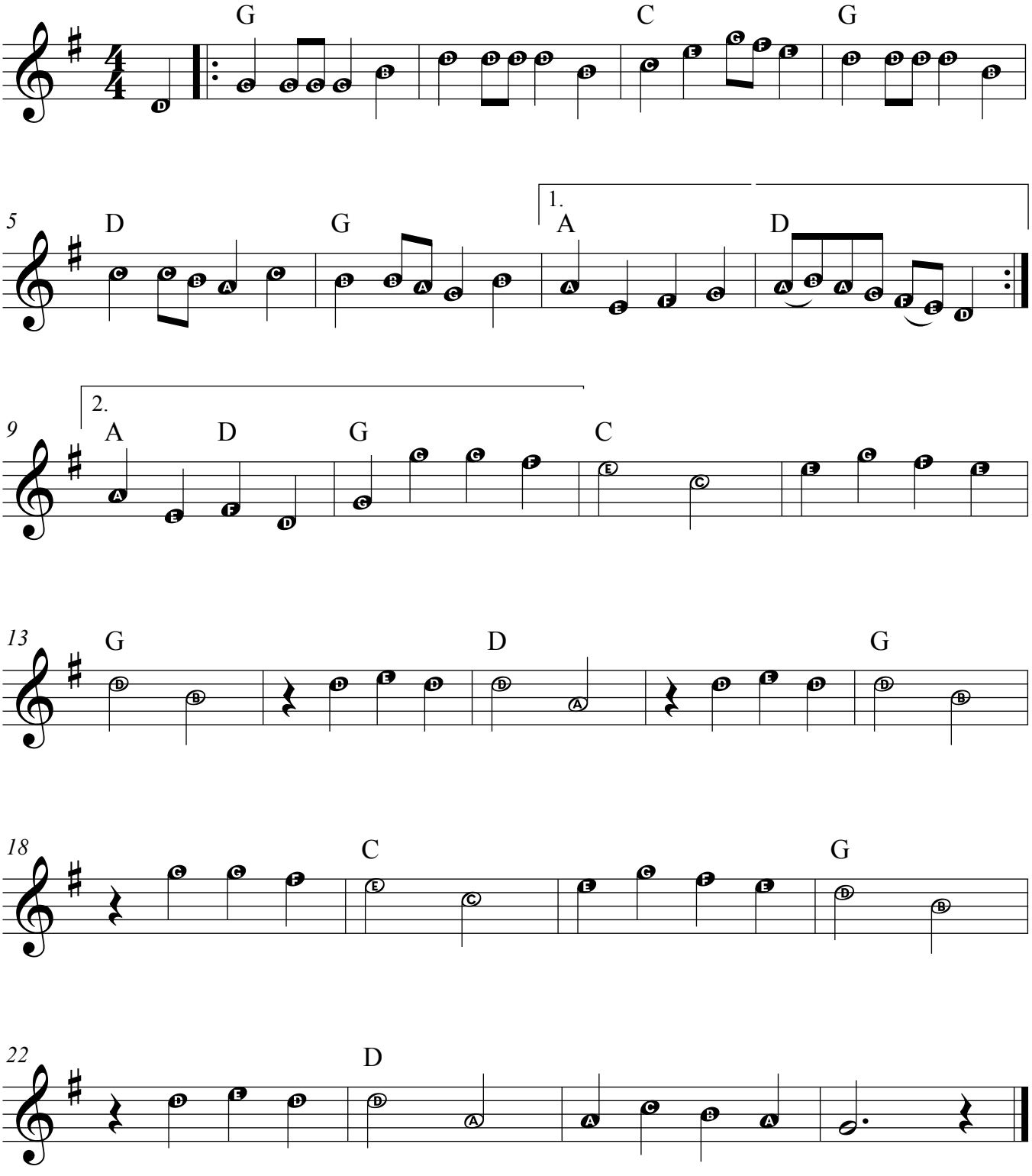
Red Wing

Red Wing" is a popular song and fiddle tune to this day. Adapted from the melody "The Happy Farmer, Returning From Work" from the late 1800′s, it was written in 1907 with music by Kerry Mills and lyrics by Thurland Chattaway. The song tells of a young Indian maid's loss of her sweetheart who has died in battle. In 1940 Woody Guthrie adapted the melody of Red Wing for his song "Union Maid" when he had been asked to write a union song from a woman's point of view. It is fun to look up lyrics for these tunes!