

# SUTTER'S MILL

by Dan Fogelberg

G Em C G  
In the spring of forty-seven  
Em C G  
So the story it is told  
Em C G Em  
Old John Sutter went to the Mill site  
Am7 D7 G  
Found a piece of shinin' gold.  
  
Em C G  
Well, he took it to the city  
Em C G  
Where the word like wildfire spread  
Em C G Em  
Old John Sutter soon came to wishin'  
Am7 D7 Em  
He'd left that stone in the river bed.

C G  
Oh, they came like herds of locusts  
C G Em  
Every woman, child and man  
C G Em  
In their lumberin' conestogas  
Am7 D7 Em  
They left their track upon the land.

## REFRAIN:

C G  
Some would fail and some would prosper  
C G Em  
Some would die and some would kill  
C G Em  
Some would beg the Lord for their deliverance  
Am7 D7 G  
Some would curse John Sutter's Mill

Em C G  
Well, they came from New York City  
Em C G  
And they came from Alabam'

Em C G Em  
With their dream of findin' fortune  
Am7 D7 G  
In this wild unsettled land.  
  
Em C G  
Well, some fell prey to hostile arrows  
Em C G  
As they tried to cross the plains  
Em C G Em  
And some were lost in the Rocky Mountains  
Am7 D7 Em  
With their hands froze to the reins.

## (REFRAIN)

Em C G  
Some pushed on to California  
Em C G  
Others stopped to take their rest  
Em C G Em  
And by the spring of eighteen-sixty  
Am7 D7 G  
They had opened up the west.

Em C G  
And then the railroad came behind them  
Em C G  
And the land was plowed and tame  
Em C G Em  
When old John Sutter went to meet his Maker  
Am7 D7 Em  
With not one penny to his name.

## (REFRAIN)

Am7 D7 G Em  
Some would curse John Sutter's Mill  
Am7 D7 G  
Some men's thirst are never filled