A GUITAR PLAYER'S EASY PATH TO CLAWHAMMER

The tune I first learned in this tuning was Cumberland Gap (see record jacket "Liberty", Kyle Creed [Mountain 504] in which this tuning is described though as if the capo were on the 2nd fret.) Below you will find two tunes, Darling Nelly Grey (in D) and Pastures Of Plenty (in E minor) along with the words for each. There are many songs that can be done in this tuning. Experiment and try some for yourself.

Part of this lesson was given in a banjo workshop at the Philadelphia Folk Song Society's Bluegrass and Old Time Festival (Spring 1980).

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PASTURES OF PLENTY
(Woody Guthrie)

It's a mighty hard road that my poor hands have hoed,
My poor feet have travelled a hot dusty road.
Out of your dust bowl and westward we roll,
Your deserts were hot and your mountains was cold.

I've worked in your orchards of peaches and prunes,
Slept on the ground in the light of the moon,
On the edge of your city you've seen us and then
We come with the dust and we're gone with the wind.

California, Arizona I make all your crops,
And it's north up to Oregon to gather your hops,
Dip the beans from your ground, cut the grapes from your vines,
To set on your table some light sparkling wine.

Green pastures of plenty from the dry desert ground,
From the Grand Coulee Dam where the water runs down,
Every state in this union us migrants have been,
We work in this fight and we'll fight 'til we win.

It's always we ramble that river and I,
All along your green valley I'll work 'til I die,
This land I'll defend with my life if need be,
Cause my pastures of plenty must always be free.

PASTURES OF PLENTY
Arrangement by CARL BARON


Em [Am]  G [C]  Em [Am]

[ ] = Analogous guitar key.
DARLING NELLY GREY

Arrangement by CARL BARON

Chorus