Song Book

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November 28, 2021

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1 The Songs

Aikendrum



Ken ya who a Whig can fight **Aikendrum**, **Aikendrum**Ken ya who a Whig can fight **Aikendrum**He can fight the hero bright? With his heels and armor light And the wind of heav'nly might **Aikendrum**, **Aikendrum**Is not Rowley in the right? **Aikendrum**

Did ya hear of Sunderland **Aikendrum**, **Aikendrum**Did ya hear of Sunderland **Aikendrum**That man of high command who has swor to clear the land He is vanished from our strand
Or the eel has ta'en the sand **Aikendrum**

Donald's running around and 'round **Aikendrum**, **Aikendrum**Donald's running around and 'round **Aikendrum**But the cheif cannot be found and the Dutchmen they are drowned And the King Jamie he is crowned
But the dogs will get a 'stound **Aikendrum**

We have heard of Whigs galore Aikendrum, Aikendrum
We have heard of Whigs galore Aikendrum
We have searched the country o'er with cannons and claymore
But still they are before
We may seek forever more Aikendrum

Ken ya who to gain a Whig **Aikendrum**, **Aikendrum**Ken ya who to gain a Whig **Aikendrum**Look jolly blithe and big, take his ain blest side a prig
And the poor worm eaten Whig
For opposition's sake we will win **Aikendrum**

The Banks of Newfoundland

Ye ramblin boys of Liverpool, ye sailormen beware
When you go 'board a Yankee Packet ship no dungaree jumpers wear
But hav yourself a monkey coat, and keep it close to hand
For there blow some cold Norwesters on the Banks of Newfoundland
We'll scrape her and we'll scrub her, with holystone and sand
And we'll say farewell to the virgin rocks on the Banks of Newfoundland

We had one Lynch from Ballynahinch, Spud Murphy and Mike Moore 'Twas in the winter of Sevently Three, those sea boys suffered sore They Pawned their gear in Liverpool, they sold it out of hand Not thinking on them cold nor winds on the Banks of Newfoundland

We had a lady fair aboard, Kate Connor was her name To her I'd promised marriage, and on me she had her claim She tore her flannel petticoat to make mittens for my hands For she could not see her true love freeze on the Banks of Newfoundland

I dreamed a dream the other night, and I thought I was at home Along side me my own true love, and she in Marlebone A jug of ale upon my knee, and a glass in my hand But when I awoke my heart was broke on the Banks of Newfoundland

Barrett's Privateers

Oh the year was seventeen seventy eight
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now
When a letter of mark came from the king
to the scummiest vessel I'd ever seen
God damn them all, I was told
We'd cruise the seas for American gold
We'd fire no guns, shed no tears
Now I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier
The last of Barrett's Privateers

Oh, Elcid Barrett cried the town For twenty brave men, all fishermen who would make for him the Antelope's crew

Oh, the Antelope sloop was a sickening sight She'd a list to port and sails in rags And a cook in the scuppers with the staggers and jags

On the king's birthday we put to sea It was ninety one days to Montego Bay We were pumping like madmen all the way

On the ninety sixth day we sailed again When a bloody great Yankee hove in sight With our cracked four pounders we made to fight

Oh, the Yankee lay low down with gold She was broad and fat and loose in stays But to catch her took the Antelope two whole days

At length we stood two cables away Our cracked four punders made and awful din But with one fat ball the yank stove us in

Oh, the Antelope shook and pitched on her side Barrett was smashed like a bowl of eggs And the main truck carried off both me legs

So here I lay in my twenty third year Well it's been six years since I sailed away And I just made Halifax yesterday

The Blacksmith



A Blacksmith courted me, nine months and better He fairly one my heart, wrote me a letter With his hammer in his hand he looked quite clever And if I was with my love, I'd live forever

But where has my love gone, with his cheeks like roses And his good black billycock on, all decked 'round with primroses I'm afraid the scorching sun will shine, and burn his beauty And if I was with my love, I'd do my duty

Strange news has come to town, strange news is carried Strange news flies up and down, that my love is married I wish them both much joy, though they can't hear me And may God reward him well for the slighting of me

Don't you remember when you lay beside me? And you said you'd marry me, and not deny me If I said I'd marry you, it was only for to try you So bring your witness love, and I'll not deny you

But witness have I none, save God almighty
And may he reward you well for the slighting of me
Her lips grew pale and wan, it made her poor heart to tremble
To think she'd loved the one, and he proved deceitful

Bold McShane



My name is McShane from the plains of Kildare A farmer I was until the last year Till I took a notion oh via promotion Went over to England the harvest the shear

Rum toora la rum toora laddie Rum toora la musha rum toora lay

I parted with money so blithe and so jolly Picked up a stick for a staff in me hand And to keep myself cheery for fear I'd get weary I sang Paddywhack as I went on my way.

I landed at Dumbarton on a fine summers evening
Me bundle and staff I held them in me hands
There were some of them laughing and some of them chaffin'
More of them trying to stick Paddy away.

I went into a woman to ask her for lodgings She said "Me young man, now don't look so dull! For I will tell you where you will get lodgings With a woman who lives next door to The Black Bull."

So I went to this woman and asked her for lodgings She instantly showed me to a bed in a room And I being so tired and worn out from walking I threw myself down on me bed in the room.

But a lump of a Tinker lay up in the corner He swore 'pon his soul sure he'd kill all was there Says I "Me bold Tinker, give over your braggin', I'm bold McShane from the plains of Kildare!"

But he tried for to hit me a punch in the stomach I instantly fetched him a one in the throat And he tumbled heels over his head in the corner And put all his head in an old rusty pot.

He lay on the floor like a sheep he was bleeding I swore 'pon my soul sure I'd cut off his life But I lifted him up and sent down for to Megan Me and the Tinker we ended the strife.

Dirty Old Town

Ewan McColl



I found my love by the gas works croft
Dreamed a dream by the old canal
I kissed my girl by the factory wall
Dirty old town
Dirty old town

Clouds are drifting across the moon Cats are prowling on their beat Out springs a girl from the streets at night

I heard a siren from the docks
Saw a train set the night on fire
I smelled the spring on the smoky wind

I'm gonna make me a big sharp axe Shining steel tempered in the fire I'll cut you down like an old dead tree

I found my love by the gas works wall Dreamed a dream by the old canal I kissed my girl by the factory wall

Farewell and Adieu

Farewell and adieu to you Spanish ladies
Farewell and adieu to you ladies of Spain
For we've recieved orders to sail for New England
And we hope in a short time to see you again

We'll rant and we'll roar like a true Yankee whaleman We'll rant and we'll roar on dack and below Until we sight Gayhead off old Martha's Vinyard And straight through the channel to New Bedford we'll go

I've been a ship's cook, and I've been a rigger I can dance, I can sing, I can walk the jib boom I can handle a harpoon, I cuts a fine figure Whenever I gets in a ship's standing room

I went to a dance one night in old Tomby's
There were plenty of girls as fine as you'd wish
And one fat old thing she was chewing tobacco
Just like a young kitten a-chewing fresh fish

So let every man take of his full bumper So let every man take of his full glass We'll sing and be jolly and drown melancholy And drink a good health to each true hearted lass

Felix the Soldier



Well they took away me brouges and they robbed me of my spade Put me in the Army and a soldier of me made But I could not beat the drum and I could not play the flute So they put me in the Army and they taught me how to shoot

Then they put me on a ship and they sent me home again With all the Army's training after battle strife and then Well we headed for the down and we landed at the keys Me mother came to see me and these words did say to me Oh Felix were you drunk, and Felix were you mad oh what has become of the fine two legs you had?

Well I bid my spade adieu, for I could not dig the bog But I can play my fiddle and I can drink my grog I've learned to smoke a pipe, and I can fire a gun To the devil with the fighting I am glad this war is done Go to Sea Once More



At once I landed in Liverpool, I went upon a spree Me money at last, I spent it fast, got drunk as drunk could be And when me money was all gone, 'twas then that I wanted more But a man must be blind to make up his mind to go to sea once more

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more
But a man must be blind to make up his mind to go to sea once more

I spent the night with Angelie, too drunk to roll in bed Me watch new, and me money too, in the morning with them she'd fled And as I wandered the streets of town, oh how them whores did roar Why there goes Jack Sprat, the poor sailor lad, he must go to sea once more

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more Why there goes Jack Sprat, the poor sailor lad, he must go to sea once more As I went walking down London road, I met with rapper Brown I asked him if he'd take me in, he looked at me with a frown He said last time you was paid off, with me you've chalked no score But I'll give yas a chance, and I'll take your advance, and I'll send you to sea once more

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more
But I'll give yas a chance, and I'll take your advance, and I'll send you
to sea once more

He shipped me aboards of a whaling barque, that was bound for them arctic seas Where there's ice and snow, and them cold winds blow, why Jamakee rum would freeze

And hardest to bear, I'd no hard weather gear, for I'd spent all me money ashore Why 'twas then that I wished that I was dead, and could go to sea no more.

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more Why 'twas then that I wished that I was dead, and could go to sea no more.

Some days we was catching whales me boys and some days we was catching none With a twenty foot oar in your hand you roll the whole day long And when them shades of night come you rest on your weary oar Why your back is so weak, that you never would seek a berth at sea once more

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more Why your back is so weak, that you never would seek a berth at sea once more

So come all you hard weather sailing men, and listen to me song When you get back from them long trips, I'll have you not go wrong Take my advice, drink no strong drink, and go sleeping with no whore But get married instead, and have all night in, and go to sea no more

Once more, once more, to go to sea once more But get married instead, and have all night in, and go to sea no more Hangin' Johnny

They calls me Hangin' Johnny **Away Boys Away** They says I hangs for money **So hang boys hang**

They says I hang for money But 'cause hangin' is so funny

They says I hangs me granny I strung her up so canny

They says I hangs me mother Me sisters and me brother

They says I hangs me Pappy Because it made me happy

A rope, a beam, a ladder I'd hangs ya's all together

They calls me Hangin' Johnny But I ain't hangs nobody

Haul Away Joe

Louis was the king of France, before the revolution

Way haul away, we'll haul away Joe

Then he got his head cut off, and it spoiled his constitution

Way haul away, we'll haul away Joe

Way haul away, we'll haul for better weather

Way haul away, we'll haul away Joe

When I was a little boy, me mother often told me That if I did not kiss the girls, me lips would grow all moldy

First I had a Spanish girl, but damn it she was lazy She wouldn't cook, she wouldn't clean, she damn near drove me crazy

Then I had an Irish girl, her name was Katy Flannagan She stole me boots, she stole me clothes, she took me plates and panakin

Then I had a Frenchie girl, she took things free and easy Now I have an English girl, and sure she is a daisy

Sit and listen while I tell you 'bout me darlin' Nancy She's taughtly rigged, and clipper built, she's just me style and fancy

Henry Joy

An Ulsterman I am proud to be From the Antrim glens I come Although I have laboured by the sea I have followed fife and drum I've heard the martial tramp of men I've seen them fight and die Ah! Lads, I well remember when I followed Henry Joy

I pulled my boat in from the sea
And I hid my sails away
I hung my nets upon a tree
And I scanned the moonlit bay
All the boys were out, and the red coats too
I kissed my wife good-bye
And through the shade of the greenwood glade
I followed Henry Joy

It was for Ireland's cause we fought
For home and sire, we bled
Though our hearts were true, and our numbers were few
And ten to one lay dead
And many a lassie mourned her lad
And mother mourned her boy
For the youth was strong in the daring throng
That followed Henry Joy

In Belfast town they built a tree
And the redcoats mustered there
I saw him come as the sound of a drum
Rolled out on the barrack square
He kissed his sister and went aloft
He bade his last good-bye
He turned and died, My God, I cired
They have murdered Henry Joy

High Barbaree

There were two lofty ships from Old England came

Blow high, blow low and so sailed we

One was the Prince Luther and the other Pince of Whales

Cruising down along the coast of the High Barbaree

Aloft there aloft our jolly bos'n cried Look ahead look astern look to weather and a-lee

There's naught upon our stern sir and naught upon our lee But there's a lofty ship to wind'rd and she's sailin' fast and free

O hail her, O hail her our gallant captain cried Are you a man o' war or a privateer cried he

I am not a man o' war nor a privateer cried he But I am a jolly pirate out a sailing for my fee

For broadside to broadside a long time we lay Until the Prince Luther shot the pirate's mast away

Oh quarter oh quarter the pirates they did cry But the quarter that we gave them was to sink them in the sea

In Praise of Alcohol

Of vintage wine I am a lover To drink deep would be my delight if not for the bleak hangover I'd get loaded every night

I'd whoop it up with song and laughter Whoop it up with song an laughter Whoop it up with song an laughter If it were not for the morning after

Although to soberness I'm given It is a thought I've often thunk The nearest that is Earth to Heaven Is to get sublimely drunk

Is to achieve divine elation
To achieve divine elation
To achieve divine elation
By means of generous libation

But although wine cups claim their payment And as the price is often paid If we could know what morning gray meant We never would get soused again

Rather than buy a hobnailed liver Rather than buy a hobnailed liver Rather than buy a hobnailed liver I'm sure that we'd abstain forever

But though I love the glow of liquor As joyfully I drink it up Hoping that until life's last flicker With praise I'll raise the ruby cup

So let me like a jolly monk
So let me like a jolly monk
So let me like a jolly monk
Proceed to get sublimely drunk

Jack Tar

So come all you ladies gay who delights is sailor's joy Listen while I sing to you a song When Jack Tar he comes ashore with his gold and silver store There's no one can get rid of it so soon

The first thing Jack requires is a fiddler to his hand Likewise the best liquor of every kind And a pretty girl likewise with two dark and rolling eyes And Jacky he is suited to his mind

The landlady she comes in dressed all in her Sunday best She looks like some bright and morning star She's ready to wait on him when she finds he's plenty of tin Chalk him down to the one behind the bar

His wages were soon gone and his friends they are all flown And the flash girls, they departed for another And the landlady, she cried pay your score and get outside Your cargo's gone and you've hit stormy weather

Now Jack all in his rage he threw bottles at her head And likewise all the glasses he let fly And the poor girl in her fright called the watchman of the night Saying take this young sailor lad away

Now Jack did understand that a ship lay wanting hands And to her he went straight down With a sweet and pleasant gale he unfurled his lofty sail And bid adieu to the flash girls of the town

So he laid her on a tack like a cutter or smack As she rolled from the lee to the weather And he kept a full on eye close to the wind as she would lie We were bound for black wall and stormy weather

Jolly Roving Tar

Ships may came and ship may go As long as the sea does roll
Each sailor lad just like his dad He loves the flowing bowl
And a trip ashore he does adore With a girl that's plump and round
But when the money's all gone it's the same old song Get up Jack John sit down

Come along, Come along you jolly brave boys there's lots of grog in the jar And when the money's all gone it's the same old song get up Jack John sit down

When Jack gets in he'll spend his tin in some old boarding house They'll welcome him with rum and gin and feed him on pork souce He'll lend and spend, and not offend, until he lies drunk on the ground But when the money's all gone it's the same old song Get up Jack John sit down

He'll take a trip upon a ship to India or Japan In nations there, the ladies fair they love a sailor man He'll go ashore upon a tour and buy some girl a gown But when the money's all gone it's the same old song Get up Jack John sit down

When Jack gets worn and weather beat, too old to roam about In some gin shop they'll let him stop till eight bells calls him out Then he'll raise his eyes up to the sky and say "Boys we're homeward bound" But when the money's all gone it's the same old song Get up Jack John sit down

Larry Marr

In Frisco town there lived a man whose name was Larry Marr And in the days of the Cape Horn trade, Oh he used his big stone jar

In the old Virginia lowlands, lowlands low In the old Virginia lowlands, low

In Larry's place, down on the coast where lived old Larry Marr The Missus and Larry would prime the beer, in the old five gallon jar

Now a hell ship she be short of hands, of full red-blooded tars The Missus and Larry would prime the beer, in the old five gallon jar

Shellbacks and farmers just the same, strolled into Larry Marr's And sailed away, around Cape Horn, helped by the five gallon jar

In Frisco town their names is know, and in the Cape Horn bars And the stuff they sell out to old Jack, in the old five gallon jar

From the Barbary coast stay clear me boys, and from old Larry Marr's Or else damn soon Shanghai'd you'll be, by the old five gallon jar

Shanghai'd away on a skys'l ship around Cape Horn so far Goodbye to all the boys and girl, and to Larry's five gallon jar

The Leaving of Liverpool

Fare thee well to Prince's Landing Stage River Mercy Fare thee well I am bound for California a place I know right well

So fare thee well, my own true love Oh when I return united we will be It's not the leaving of Liverpool that grieves me But my darling when I think of you

I am bound for California by way of stormy Cape Horn I will write to you a letter love when I am homeward bound

I've signed on a yankee clipper ship Davy Crockett is her name Burgess is the captian of her and they say that she's a floating shame

I have sailed with Burgess once before I think I know him well If a man's a sailor he can get along, and if not then he's sure in hell

Farewell to lower Fredrick Steet River Mercy and Park Lane I am bound away for to leave you and never see you again

Man You don't Meet Everyday



My name is Jock Stewart, I'm a crafty young boy And a roving young fellow I have been

So be easy and free when you're drinking with me I'm a man you don't meet everyday

I have acres of land, I have men I command I have always a shilling to spare

So be easy and free when you're drinking with me I'm a man you don't meet everyday

So fill up your glasses with brandy and wine Whatever it costs I will pay

So be easy and free when you're drinking with me I'm a man you don't meet everyday

I went out with my dog, and with him I did shoot All down in the county kildare

So be easy and free when you're drinking with me I'm a man you don't meet everyday

So fill up your glasses with brandy and wine Whatever it costs I will pay

So be easy and free when you're drinking with me I'm a man you don't meet everyday

Mauling Live Oak

One day I was traveling I happened to think My pockets are empty, I can't buy a drink I am an old bummer completely dead broke There's nothing to do but go mauling live oak Derry down, down, down derry down

So I went right away for to meet Captain Swift To see and find out could he give me a lift He looked me all over, from top unto toe He said you're the boy who live oaking must go

He brought out the contract which both of us signed To keep and secure if we both were inclined But the very best wages that he could afford 'Twas only five dollars a month and my board

So I had to get ready without much delay For the schooner was sailing the very next day With two pints of whiskey, a pipe and a spoon Away we set sail for mosquito lagoon

Bluff was the game that we played every night And in it Charles Douglas he took great delight He won my tobacco while others cracked jokes He said you'll get more when you're mauling live oak

Well mauling this live oak, I'll say it's great fun Especially the dry ones that makes the sweat run It'll make your axe handles to glimmer and smoke You need iron handles for mauling live oak

It's mosquitoes by day and it's minges by night The sand fleas and bed bugs they bother me quite And if ever back home, my head I do poke To Hell I'll kick Swift and his God damn live oak

Mingulay Boat Song

Heel ya ho boys, let her go boys Bring her head 'round, into the weather Heel ya ho boys let her go boys Sailing home boys, to Mingulay

What care we though, white the Minch is What care we for the wind or weather Let her go boys, every inch is Sailing homeward to Mingulay

Wives are waiting, by the pier head Or looking seaward, from the heather Pull her 'round boys and we'll anchor E're the sun sets on Mingulay

Ships return now, heavy laden Mother's a holding bearings a crying They'll return though, when the sun sets They'll return to Mingulay

The Old Chariot

Oh a drop of Nelson's blood wouldn't do us any harm A drop of Nelson's blood wouldn't do us any harm A drop of Nelson's blood wouldn't do us any harm And we'll all hang on behind

And we'll roll the old chariot along We'll roll the old chariot along We'll roll the old chariot along And we'll all hang on behind

A nice fat cook wouldn't do us any harm A nice fat cook wouldn't do us any harm A nice fat cook wouldn't do us any harm And we'll all hang on behind

A few nights ashore wouldn't do us any harm A few nights ashore wouldn't do us any harm A few nights ashore wouldn't do us any harm And we'll all hang on behind

A night with the girls wouldn't do us any harm A night with the girls wouldn't do us any harm A night with the girls wouldn't do us any harm And we'll all hang on behind

If the Devil's in the way, then we'll run it over him If the Devil's in the way, then we'll run it over him If the Devil's in the way, then we'll run it over him And we'll all hang on behind

Paddy on the Railway

In eighteen hundred and forty one, I put my corduroy britches on for I heard that there was work to be done, a workin' on the railway

Filla me oo ree oo ree ay, filla me oo ree oo ree aye Filla me oo ree oo ree ay, a workin' on the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty my corduroy britches still were new I didn't know what that I should do to work upon the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty three, I sailed away across the sea I sailed away for Amerikee, a workin' on the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty four, we landed on Columbia's shore I had a pick axe, and nothin' more, for working on the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty five, I found myself more dead than alive I found myself more dead than alive, from workin' on the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty six, I found myself in a hell of a fix I switched my trade to carryin' bricks, from workin' on the railway

Paddy West



As I went walking down London road, I come to Paddy West's house He give me a plate of American hash, and calls it Liverpool scouse He said there's a ship that's wanting hands, and on her you must sign The mate's a bastard, the bosun's worse, but she will suit you fine

Take off your dungaree jacket, and give yourself a rest And we'll think on them cold n'or westers that we had at Paddy West

After I finished the plate me boys, the wind began to blow He sent me up to the attic, the mail royal for to stow But when I get up to the attic, no main royal could I find So I turned around to the window and I furled the window blind

Paddy he piped "All hands on deck, their stations for to man" His wife, she stood in the doorway, with a bucket in her hand Paddy he cried "Now let her rip" and she flung the water our way Saying "Clew up yer 'fore t'gansls boys, she's takin' in the spray"

Since your headed away to the south me boys, to Frisco you are bound Paddy he called for a length of rope and layed on the ground He had us step over and back again and he says to me "that's fine" And if ever they ask was you ever at sea, you can say you've crossed the line

There's only one thing left that you must do before you sail away
Walk around the table, where the bullocks horn does lay
And if ever they ask, was you ever at sea, you can say ten times 'round the Horn
And be'Jesus that you was a sailorman since the day that you was born

Put on your dungaree jacket, and walk up looking your best And tell 'em that you're an old sailorman that's come from Paddy West

Pretty Nancy of Yarmouth

Pretty Nany of Yarmouth she's my joy and delight
I have a love letter I am going to write
It is to inform you what we undergo
While on the salt seas boys where the stormy winds blow

It happened one night, just before it grew dark
Our honorable captain, he showed us the mark
The mark that he showed us it appeared in the sky
And it showed us for sure that the storm it was nigh

It came rattling down upon us and tossed us about 'Twas many a bold seaman with a heart bold and stout To stand shivering and shaking like one in dispair One moment in the ocean, and the next in the air

Oh a ship in distress is a most dismal sight Like an army of soldiers they are going to fight A soldier he can fight my boys to the sound of his gun While a sailor is committed to a watery tomb

Pretty Nancy of Yarmouth, she's me heart's delight She waits for her sailor by day and by night What can she do for him so far from the shore? She can wait for her sailor, what can she do more?

Ranzo Ray

We're outward bound for China On board of a Yankee liner Ranzo, Ranzo, Hurray, Hurray
When we get home to meet you's It's with kisses we will greet you
T'me Hilo m' Ranzo Ray

We're bound for old Gulana? For a load of ripe bannanas And down to Buenos Aires For a load of green canaries

Rio De Janeiro and I ain't got much dinero And the around the horn And we'll see you in the morn'

Then we'll sail to Calio And a dancin' we will go Guzzle gin and sisco? And we'll sail off to Frisco

Then we'll cross to Yokohana To unload this grand piana Then we'll sail down to Samoa To hear old Krakatoa

Then it's back to Monteray And we'll dance away the day Then we'll cross to Mango Tango? And we'll dance the old Fandango

We'll go back to Santa Barbara And dance the old al hombra? Then we'll get ourselves to Boston And won't it be exhaustin'

Rocky Road to Dublin

In the merry month of June from my home I started
Left the girls in Tuam Nearly broken hearted
Saluted Father dear kissed me darlin mother,
Drank a pint a beer, me grief and tears to smother
Then off to reap the corn, leave where I was born
Cut a stout blackthorn, to banish ghost and goblin
Brand new pair of brogues, to rattle over the bogs
And frightening all the dogs On the rocky road to Dublin

One, two, three, four, five Hunt the hare, and turnin' her Down the rocky road and all the way to Dublin Whack fol-lol-dee-dah

In Mullingar last night I rest me limbs so weary
Started by daylight, me spirits blythe and airy
Took a drop of the pure to keep me heart from sinking
That's the Paddy's cure whene'er he's out for drinking
To see the lassies smile, laughing all the while
At me curious style set your hear a bubblin'
Asked me was I hired the wages I required
Till I was almost tired of the rocky road to Dublin

In Dublin next arrived I thought it such a pity
To be so soon deprived a view of that fine city
So then I took a stroll all among the quality
Bundle it was stole in a neat locality
Something crossed me mind And when I looked behind
No bundle could I find upon me stick a wobbling
Inquiring after the rogue they said me Connaught brogue
Wasn't much in vogue on the rocky road to Dublin

So then I get away me spirits never failing
Landed on the Quay just as the ship was sailing
Captain at me roared said I've no room Paddy
As I jumped aboard a cabin found for Paddy
Down among the pigs, did some funny rigs
We danced some hearty jigs water 'round me bubbling
Off of Holy Head, wished m'self was dead
Better far instead down the rocky road to Dublin

The boys of Liverpool when we safely landed Called m'self a fool I could no longer stand it Blood began to boil, temper I was loosing Poor old Erin's Isle they began abusing Hurrah me soul says I, a shillelagh I let fly Some Gallway boy were by as I was a hobbling With a loud Hurray they joined me in the fray We quickly cleared the way for the rocky road to Dublin

Rolling Down the River

Once I was a Rigger and I worked like hell Rolling up, rolling down But now I'm sailing with the OCL, to go Rolling down the river Rolling up, rolling down. We all get drunk in Tillbury Town Twenty four hours to turn around and go, Rolling down the River

When first I saw a TEU I wondered where they stowed the crew, to go

Cargo comes in TEUs
A twenty foot box boys filled with booze, to go

There's a Tillbury girl called Kettle Jane She's first on the boil, then off again, to go

She's got a mate called Teapot Anne She gets well brewed just like a man, to go

Down by the dockgates where the work is done You can pick those girls up one by one and go

Well we are the bullies that'll see her through So to hell with the Channel and the TEU, well go

Roving Peddler



I am a jolly peddler and I've roamed this country 'round Until I took a notion to view some other ground With my pack upon my shoulder and my cudgel in my hand I went into New Hampshire to view that happy land

I went into New Hampshire and the girls all jumped for joy Said one girl to another "There's that handsome peddler boy" They invited me to dine with them, they took me by the hand The toast they gave primarily, Success to the peddler man

I went into New Hampshire where the girls they are so neat They're kind in every feature, their kisses are so sweet There's handsome Jane and Molly and fair young Betsy, too Along with one of these fair maids I'll roam the country through

I went into New Hampshire and there among the maids With my bold conversation they seemed but not afraid While such fine things I sold to them they came to understand The humor and good nature of the handsome peddler man

I went into a tavern and there all night I stayed The landlady's fair daughter of me was not afraid She held me and she kissed me, she took me by the hand And shyly told her momma that she loved the peddler man

But early the next morning as I was going away
The landlady's fair daughter these words to me did say
"How can you be so cruel and treat me so unkind
And go onece more a roaming and to leave me here behind"

But I'll leave off my peddling and I'll take to me a wife For with this handsome fair maid I'd gladly spend my life I'll embrace her late and early and do the best I can To make her bless the day she wed the handsome peddler man

Row Bullies Row

From Liverpool to 'Frisco a roving I went
For to stay in the country it was my intent
But girls and strong whiskey, like other damn fools
I soon was transported back to Liverpool
Singing row, row bullies row
Them Liverpool Judies have got us in tow

I shipped out in the Alaska lying out in the bay Waiting for a fair wind to get underway The sailors all drunk and their backs is all sore Their whiskey's all gone and they can't get no more

Along comes the mate with his jacket of blue Looking for work for the sailors to do It's "jib tops'l halyards" he loudly does roar Saying "lay aloft paddy, you son of a whore"

One night off Cape Horn we were crossing the line When I think on it know, sure we had a good time She was diving bows under, the sailors all wet She was doing twelve knots with her main skys'l set

Here's a health to our captain where 'ere he may be He's a friend to all sailors on land or on sea But as for our first mate, that dirty old brute I hope when he dies, straight to Hell he'll skyhoot

And now we'll arrive at the Bramley More Dock Where the fair maids and lasses around us will flock Me whiskey's all gone, and me six quid advance And I think it's high time for to get up and dance

Santa Anna

Santee Anna fought for fame

Heave away Santee Anna

He fought for fame and gained his name

All along the Plains of Mexico

Santee Anna gained the day And General Taylor ran away

Santee Anna fought for gold And the deeds he'd done have oft been told

I thought I heard the old man say He'd give us rum this very day

Santee Anna fought for fame He fought for fame and gained his name

Seaman's Hymn

Come all ye bold seamen wherever your bound And always let Nelson's proud mem'ry go round And pray that the wars, and these tumults may cease For the greatest of gifts is a sweet lasting peace May the Lord put an end to these cruel and old wars And bring peace, and contentment to all our brave tars

Shove Around the Jug

Shove around the jug me boys Chorus around the room We're the boys that fear no noise Although we're far from home

I courted a girl in Albany Likewise in Montreal Another in Phildelphey But the best was in Lewiston Falls

If you go up Albany
To give the girls a call
They're not at all to be compared
With the girls from Lewiston Falls

I came hear from Ireland When I was just a lad So working these canal boats is The only life I've had

A dollar in the tavern Is very eas'ly spent If I was back in Irelnd I'd have to pay out rent

The drunkards in the tavern The fish is in the sea The cork is in the bottle And the whiskey it's in me

The Well Below the Valley

At the well below the valley O Green grows the lily O Right among the bushes O

A gentleman was passing by He asked for a drink as he got dry At the well below the valley O Green grows the lily O Right among the bushes O

My cup is full unto the brim If I were to stoop I might fall in

If your true love were passing by You'd give him a drink if he were dry

She swore by grass, she swore by corn that her true love had n'ere been born

He said young maid you're swearing wrong For six young children you have born

If you be a man of noble fame You'll tell to me what did happen t' them

There's two of them beside the tree At the well below the valley O Another two beneath the stone At the well below the valley O Another two beside the wall

If you be a man of noble fame You'll tell me what will happen m'self

You'll be seven years a ringing the bell At the well below the valley O You'll be seven years a burnin' in Hell At the well below the valley O But the Lord above will save me soul

Topman and the Aftergaurd

A topman and an aftergaurd we a walkin' out one day Says the topman to the aftergaurd "I mean for the pray for the rights of all sailors, and the wrongs of all man. And whatever I do pray for, you must answer **Amen**

First I'll pray for the bos'n and his little stick Who balls out all hands, and then gives us a lick He strikes many a bold seaman, and kicks him a main May the Devil double, triple damn him Says the aftergaurd **Amen**

Next I'll pray for the purser who gives us to eat Old burgoo, rank butter, and musty horse meat And the weavoly old biscuits, so that he can keep the gain May the Devil double, triple damn him Says the aftergaurd **Amen**

Next I'll pray for them Navy officers who holds back our due We're owed three years wages, and prize money too But it's "No you can't have it yet Jack, try next voyage again" May the Devil double, triple damn them Says the aftergaurd **Amen**

And lastly I'll pray for a jug of good beer
Oh the Lord sends us liquor, our spirits to cheer
And if we find one pot, I'll hope we get ten
May we never, ever want for grog boys
Says the aftergaurd **Amen**

While Cruising 'Round Yarmouth

While cruising 'round Yarmouth one day for a spree I met a fair damsel, the wind blowing free I'm a fast going clipper, my kind sir said she I'm ready for cargo, my hold is quite free Singing Fol-de-rol-laddie-aye-fol-de-rol-day Fol-de-rol-laddie-aye-fol-de-rol-day

What country she comes from I cannot tell which By her appearance I thought she was Dutch Her flag wore it's colors, her masthead was low She was round in the quarter, and bluff in the bow

I gave her the rope, and I took her in tow Yardarm to yardarm a towing we'll go We both towed together till we came to the head We both towed together through Trafagary bay

She took me upstairs, and her tops'l she lowered In a neat little parlor she soon had me mowed She put in her fors'ls her stays'ls and all With her lilly white hand on my reef tackle full

I said pretty fair maid it's time to give oar For 'twix wind at water you've run me ashoal My shot locker's empty, the powder's all spent I can't fire a shot, for it's chocked to the vent

Here's luck to the girl with the black curly locks Here's luck to the girl who ran Jack on the rocks Here's luck to the doctor who eased all his pain He's squared his main yard, he's a cruisin' again

Whiskey in the Jar

As I was a goin' over the far famed Kerry mountains I spied with captain Farrell and his money he was counting I first produced my pistol and I then produced my rapier Saying "Stand and deliver" for he were a bold deceiver Mush-a ring durum do durum di Wack fall the daddy-o, wack fall the daddy-o There's whiskey in the jar

I counted out his money and it made a pretty penny
I put it in me pocket and I took it home to Jenny
She sighed and she swore that she never would deceive me
But the devil's in the women and they never can be easy

I went up to my chamber, all for to take a slumber I dreamt of gold and jewels and for sure 't was no wonder But Jenny stole me charges and she filled them up with water Then sent for captain Farrell to be ready for the slaughter

'Twas early in the morning, just before I rose to travel Up comes a band of footmen and likewise captain Farrell I first produced me pistol for she stole away me rapier I couldn't shoot the water, so a prisoner I was taken

If anyone can aid me 't is my brother in the army
If I can find his station in Cork or in Killarney
And if he'll go with me, we'll go rovin' through Killkenny
And I'm sure he'll treat me better than my own a-sporting Jenny

Now there's some take delight in the carriages a rolling and others take delight in the hurling and the bowling but I take delight in the juice of the barley and courting pretty fair maids in the morning bright and early

Whiskey you're the Devil

Whiskey, you're the devil, you're leadin' me astray
Over hills and mountains and to Americae
You're sweeter, stronger, decenter, you're spunkier than tae
O whiskey, you're my darlin' drunk or sober

Oh, now, brave boys, we're on the march and off to Portugal and Spain The drums are beating, banners flying, the devil ahome will come tonight Love, fare thee well, with me tithery eye the doodelum the da Me tithery eye the doodelum the da, Me rikes fall tour a laddie oh There's whiskey in the jar. Hey!

Said the mother: "Do not wrong me, don't take my daughter from me For if you do I will torment you, and after death a ghost will haunt you Love, fare thee well, with me tithery eye the doodelum the da Me tithery eye the doodelum the da, Me rikes fall tour a laddie oh There's whiskey in the jar. Hey!

The French are fighting boldly, men dying hot and coldly Gives ev'ry man his flask of powder, his farlock on his shoulder Love, fare thee well, with me tithery eye the doodelum the da Me tithery eye the doodelum the da, Me rikes fall tour a laddie oh There's whiskey in the jar. Hey!

Wild Rover

I've been a wild rover for many a year And I've spent all my money on whiskey and beer But now I'm returning with gold in great store And I never will play the wild rover no more

And it's no, nay, never No, nay, never, no more And I'll play the wild rover No never, no more

I went to an alehouse I used to frequent And I told the landlady my money was spent I asked her for credit. She answered me nay Such a cust'mer as yours I can have any day

I took from my pocket ten sovereigns bright And the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight She said "I have whiskey and wines of the best" And the words that she told me were only in jest.

I went to my parents and confessed what I'd done And I asked them to pardon their prodigal son And when they caressed me, as oft times before I never will play the wild rover no more

Wild Goose Nation

I'm a ramblin' son of the Wild Goose Nation

Haul away, haul away, haul away, hold high

And I left me wife on the big plantation

Haul away, me boys haul away

On the first day out from the Wild Goose Nation I sore did lament and regret me situation

For it's Pat, do this and that and mind yer station Yer a lousy son on the Wild Goose Nation

So I turned around and I give 'em all a pastin' For I am a true son of the Wild Goose Nation

I'm a ramblin' son of the Wild Goose Nation And I'm off to Amerikee to get an education

Wings of a Goney



Oh if I had the wings of a goney boys I'd spread 'em and fly home I'd leave all of Greenland's icy shores, for the right whale here is none Oh the weather's rough and the winds do blow, and there's little comfort here I'd rather be snug in a Deptford pub a-drinking a strong beer

Oh a man must be mad or wanting money bad to go venture catching whales For he may be drowned when the fish turns around or his head smashed in by its' tail

They world seems grand to a young greenhand, and his heart is high when he goes In a very short burst he'd as soon as hear a curse as the cry of "There she blows"

All hands on deck, now for God's sake, move quickly if you can Oh he stumbles on deck, so dizzy and so sick, for his life he don't give a damn High overhead the great flukes spread, and the mate gives the whale the iron And soon the blood, in purple flood, from his spout all comes a-flyin'

Oh these trials we bare for neigh on four years, till our flyin' jib points to home We're supposed for our toil to get a bonus on the oil, and an equal share of the bone So we go to the agent to settle for our debt, and it's there we have cause to repent For we've slaved away four years of our lives, and we've earned about three pounds, ten

The Wreck of the Lady Washington

© Mikki Perry

It was nineteen hundred and ninety one On October the seventeenth day When the gallant ship, The Lady Washington From Pasco sailed away (brave souls), From Pasco sailed away.

The lookout on the foremast peak Teddy Keyes so young and fair He would guide them under The railroad bridge, With only four feet to spare (brave souls), With only four feet to spare.

They were one hundred feet From the railroad bridge When a green light turned to red "Reverse engines, come about", Ted cried out "The bridge is coming down ahead" (brave souls), "The bridge is coming down ahead".

They were doing four knots And the current was swift, That ship just could not stop. Captain Sandy pulled the tiller, And he turned her half around, As the bridge continued to drop (brave souls), As the bridge continued to drop.

As the bridge came down The lookout aloft Tried to push that bridge away. It was a reflex thing And he knew that it was dumb, But he tried it anyway (brave souls), He tried it anyway.

And the bridge came down She was struck broadside, And the mainmast and gaff did crack But she didn't capsize, And no lives were lost, And she'll probably never come back (any more), She'll probably never come back.

The twenty six passengers Aboard that ship were shaken, dazed and pale. They never reached Umatilla that day
But they'll never forget that sail (brave souls)
They'll never forget that sail.

"To lose our mast", the captain said, "It grieves my heart full sore, But to be struck down by a railroad bridge, It grieves me ten times more (brave souls), It grieves me ten times more."

Oh Pasco is a dreadful place it's a land that's seldom green, Where the dust storms blow, and the trains come and go, But the tall ships are seldom seen (brave souls). The tall ships are seldom seen.

You are my Sunshine

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine You make me happy when skies are grey You'll never know dear, how much I love you Please don't take my sunshine away

The other night dear, as I lay sleeping I dreamed I held you in my arms But when I woke dear, I was mistaken And I hung my head down, and cried

You told me once dear, that you loved me That nothing else could come between But you've gone and left me for another And you've shattered all of my dreams

I'll always love you and make you happy If you'll only say the same But if you leave me for another You'll regret it all someday