

# High Barbaree

Informant/Performer:  
Stanton H. King

Source:  
Stanton H. King  
*King's Book of Chanties*  
Boston, Mass.: Oliver Ditson Co., 1918

Quietly

There were two loft - y ships from old Eng - land came,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sail'd we;  
one was the *Prince of Lu - ther*, and the oth - er *Prince of Wales*,  
Cruis - ing down a - long the coast of the High Bar - ba - ree.

2. "Aloft, there, aloft!" our jolly boatswain cries,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
"Look ahead, look astern, look aweather and alee,  
Look along down the coast of the High Barbaree."
3. "There's nought upon the stern, there's nought upon the lee,"  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
"But there's a lofty ship to windward, and she's sailing fast and free,  
Sailing down along the coast of the High Barbaree."
4. "Oh, hail her, oh, hail her," our gallant captain cried,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
"Are you a man-o-war or a privateer?" said he,  
"Cruising down along the coast of the High Barbaree?"
5. "Oh, I am not a man-o-war nor privateer," said he,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
"But I'm a salt-sea pirate a-looking for me fee,"  
Cruising down along the coast of the High Barbaree."
6. Oh 'twas broadside to broadside a long time we lay,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
Until the *Prince of Luther* shot the pirate's mast away,  
Cruising down along the coast of the High Barbaree.
7. "Quarter, O quarter," those pirates then did cry,  
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we;  
But the quarter that we gave them - we sunk them in the sea,  
Cruising down along the coast of the High Barbaree.

## Background Information

From the collection of Stanton H. King,  
official U.S. Government chanty-man:  
a sailor of clipper ship days.