Paddy Lay Back

'Twas a cold and windy morning in December

December

All of me money, it was spent,

Spent, spent

And where the hell it went, I can't remember

Remember

So down to the shipping office I went

Went, went!

Chorus

Paddy lay back,

Paddy lay back!

Take in the slack,

Take in the slack

Take a turn around the capstan, Heave a pawl!

About ship's stations, boys, be handy

Be handy!

We're bound for Valipariso 'round the Horn!

That day there was a great demand for sailors,

For sailors

For the colonies, and for 'Frisco and for France.

France! France!

So I joined a limey barque, they call the Hotspur,

The Hotspur

An' got paralytic drunk on my advance.

'Vance! 'Vance!

Chorus

'Twas on the quarterdeck where I first saw 'em.

Saw 'em!

Such an ugly bunch I never seen before,

'Fore! 'Fore!

The captain had shipped a Shanghai'd crew of Dutchmen

Of Dutchmen

An' it made me poor ol' heart feel sick and sore.

Sore! Sore!

Chorus

I asked the mate a-which a-watch was mine-O,

Mine-O

Says he, ``I'll soon see which watch is which,''

Which!! Which!!

An' he blowed me down an' kicked me hard a stern-O,

Stern-O

Callin' me a lousy, dirty son o' a bitch.

Bitch!! Bitch!!

Chorus

I quickly made me mind up that I'd leave 'er, Leave 'er.

I'd leave the beggar an' git a job ashore;

Shore!! Shore!!

I swum across the Bay an' went an' left 'er, Left 'er.

An' in the English Bar I found a whore.

Whore!! Whore!!

Chorus

But Jimmy the Crimp he knew a thing or two, sir, **Two**, sir.

An' and quickly I was outward bound again;

Again! Again!

On a Limey to the Chinchas for guanner,

Guanner.

An' soon wuz I a-roarin' this refrain.

'Frain! 'Frain!

Chorus

So here we are once again at sea, boys,

Sea, boys.

The same of garbage all o'er again.

Again! Again!

Oh, won't stamp the caps'n round an' make some noise, boys,

Noise, boys.

An' join with me in singin' the ol' refrain.

'Frain! 'Frain!

Chorus