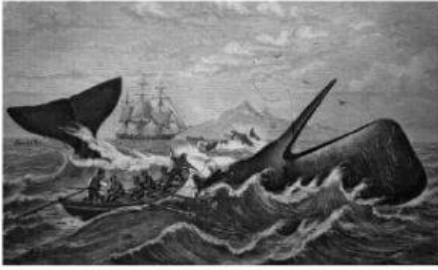


Wellerman Song – Sea Shanty



Captain's	forty	regular	winds
water	once	whale	done

There _____ was a ship that put to sea
The name of the ship was the Billy of Tea
The _____ blew up, her bow dipped down
O blow, my bully boys, blow

Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
One day, when the tonguing is _____
We'll take our leave and go

She had not been two weeks from shore
When down on her a right _____ bore
The captain called all hands and swore
He'd take that whale in tow

Soon may

Before the boat had hit the _____
The whale's tail came up and caught her
All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her
When she dived down low

Soon may

No line was cut, no whale was freed
The _____ mind was not of greed
And he belonged to the whaleman's creed
She took that ship in tow

Soon

For _____ days, or even more
The line went slack, then tight once more
All boats were lost, there were only four
But still that whale did go

Soon

As far as I've heard, the fight's still on
The line's not cut and the whale's not gone
The Wellerman makes his _____ call
To encourage the Captain, crew, and all

Soon ...

Soon

Note: "Soon May the Wellerman Come", also known as "Wellerman" is a well-known whaling song. The song's lyrics describe a whaling ship called the "Billy o' Tea" and its hunt for a right whale. The song describes how the ship's crew hope for a "wellerman" (an employee of the Weller brothers, who owned ships that brought provisions to New Zealand whalers) to arrive and bring them supplies of luxuries, with the chorus stating "soon may the wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum." The workers at these bay-whaling stations (shore whalers) were not paid wages, they were paid in slops (ready made clothing), spirits and tobacco." "Tonguing" in this context refers to the practice of cutting strips of whale blubber to render into oil.