Bullgine Run

'Bullgine' was derisive shipboard slang for a steam engine on the quayside. Sailors didn't like them much. This is a rollicking halliard shanty. The Margaret Evans was a London packet ship and one of the first to guarantee delivery of its mail packets across the Atlantic in a specified amount of time. She was 899 tons, built 1846 in New York. She continued sailing into the 1860s.

Oh, the smartest clipper that you can find
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
Is the Margaret Evans of the Black Cross Line
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

Chorus
To my hey rig jig in a low back car,
Ah-hey, ah-ho are you most done?
With Liza Lee all on my knee,
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

Oh the Margaret Evans of the Black Cross Line
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
She's never a day behind her time
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

Oh the times are hard and the wages low
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
Oh it can't get worse, so we're bound to go
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

{Oh the winds were foul and the work was hard
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
From the Liverpool docks to the Brooklyn yard
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.}

Oh we're outward bound for New York town
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
Them bowry girls we'll waltz around
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

Oh when we get back to Liverpool town
Ah-hey, ah-ho, are you most done?
I'll stand you whiskies all around
Clear away the track and let the bullgine run.

MARGARET EVANS

MARGARET EVANS WAS A VESSEL OF 899 / 1,000 TONS BUILT BY WESTERVELT & MACKAY OF NEW YORK IN 1846 AND OWNED BY E E MORGAN

SHE MADE A VOYAGE FROM LONDON TO NEW YORK 23RD MARCH 1847 WITH CAPTAIN EDWARD TINKER IN COMMAND

SHE MADE A VOYAGE FROM LONDON TO NEW YORK APRIL 19TH 1854 WITH CAPTAIN PRATT IN COMMAND

SHE WAS CHARTERED BY PILKINGTON & WILSON IN 1854

IN 1860 SHE WAS OWNED BY THE BLACK X LINE ? SHE SEEMS TO BE FLYING THEIR HOUSE FLAG IN THE ABOVE PICTURE