

Paddy Lay Back

Pawl = A metal finger that clicks into notches on the barrel of a winch or capstan to prevent roll-back (ratchet).

Crapoos = Crapaud = French for toad. Flipper = hand.

'Twas a cold and dreary morning in December, *December*
And all of me money, it was spent, *Spent, spent*
Where it went to, Lord, I can't remember, *Remember*
So down to the shipping office went, *Went, went!*

Chorus

Paddy lay back, *Paddy lay back!*
Take in yer slack, *Take in yer slack*
Take a turn around the capstan, Heave a pawl! *Heave a pawl boys*
'bout ship's stations, boys, be 'andy, *Be 'andy!*
We're bound for Valperaiser 'round the Horn!

That day there was a great demand for sailors, *sailors*
Fer colonies, fer 'Frisco and fer France. *France, France*
So I shipped aboard a Limey ship, the Hotspur, *The 'otspur*
Got paralytic drunk on my advance. *Vance Vance*

Chorus

I woke up in the mornin' sick an' sore, *sorwa*
An' knew that I was outward bound again; *bound again*
When I heard a voice a-bawlin' at the door, *the door*
"Lay aft, men, an' answer to yer names." *Name name*

Chorus

<more>

'Twas on the quarterdeck that first I saw 'em. *Saw 'em*
Such an ugly bunch I niver seen before, *sin before*
For there wuz a bum an' stiff from every quarter, *quarter*
An' it made me poor ol' heart feel sick an' sore. *Sore sore*
Chorus

There was Spaniards an' Dutchmen an' Rooshians, *Rooshians*
An' Johnny Crapoos just across from France. *France France*
An' most of 'em could speak no word of English, *of English*
But answered to the name of 'Month's Advance!' *vance vance*
Chorus

Well I wished that I was up the Jolly Sailor *Sailor*
Along with Irish Kate a-drinkin' beer, *beer beer*
An' then I thought what jolly chaps are sailors, *are sailors*
An' with a flipper wiped away a tear. *Boo Hoo*
Chorus