

JOHNSON GIRLS

Johnson girls is a mighty fine girls,
walk around, honey, walk around
Them Johnson Girls is a mighty fine girls
walk around, honey, walk around

Neat in the waist, they got might fine legs
Neat in the waist, they got might fine legs

Great big legs and a teensy eensy feet
Great big legs and a teensy eensy feet

Beefsteak, beefsteak, make a little gravy
Yo' thing, my thing, make a little baby

They got som'thin under yonder they call Ju'maica jam
Hot as cayenne, but it's good god-damn

Work hard, sweat hard, make a little money
Get on shore, gonna see my honey

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This is a Menhaden fishermen's chantey -- the work was not done while singing, but in the pauses - so after the "walk around..." bits there were long pauses in the music while the work (pulling in the nets, etc.) was done.

This song was gathered from the Northern Neck Chantey Singers, formed exclusively from men who hand hauled the nets prior to the introduction of mechanisation in the 1950's.

You can find out more about them and hear recordings of their singing via the internet. Like the work they once did, they are no more.