

A Hundred Years Ago

A hundred years on the Eastern Seaboard

Oh yes oh

A hundred years on the Eastern shore

A hundred years ago

Oh Bully John he's the man for me oh

He's a bully on shore and a bucko at sea

Oh Bully John from Baltimore

I knew him well that son of a whore

Now its up aloft that you shall go

For Mr Mate he said tis so

It's a bottle of rum for ev'ry hand

And a bloody great crate for the shanty man

They told me that a pig could fly

But I don't believe it, it's a bloody great lie

They told me that a cow could fly

And shit on sailors from very very high

Now Sally Brown is the girl for me

She's fair & trim & fancy free

I thought I heard the old man say

Just one more pull & then belay

Described in Terry (1921) as a Halliard or Foresheet shanty. He says that some form of this shanty was known to every British seaman. It is thought to originate from the American clipper crews sailing out of Baltimore.

A short version also appears in Whall (1910)