

All For Me Grog



Chorus:

Well it's all for me grog, me jolly jolly grog
 It's all for me beer and tobacco
 For I spent all me tin with the lassies drinking gin
 Now across the western ocean I must wander

Alternate Chorus:

Well it's all for me grog, me jolly jolly grog
 It's all for me beer and tobacco
 I spent all me loot in a house of ill repute
 And I think I'll have to go back there tomorrow.

1. Where are me boots, me noggin', noggin' boots?
 They're all gone for beer and tobacco
 For the heels they are worn out and the toes are kicked about
 And the soles are looking out for better weather

Chorus

2. Where is me shirt, my noggin', noggin' shirt?
 It's all gone for beer and tobacco
 For the collar is all worn, and the sleeves they are all torn
 And the tail is looking out for better weather

Chorus

3. Where is me bed, me noggin' noggin bed
 It's all gone for beer and tobacco
 Well I lent it to a whore and now the sheets are all tore
 And the springs are looking out for better whether.

Chorus

4. Where is me wench, me noggin' noggin' wench
 She's all gone for beer and tobacco
 Well her body's all worn out and her tits is knocked about
 And her ass is looking out for better weather.

Chorus

5. I'm sick in me head and I haven't been to bed
 Since first I came ashore with me plunder
 I see centipedes and snakes and I'm full of pains and aches
 And I think I'll make a push for over yonder.

Chorus

This song is not a shanty, but it is a sea song.

When the British got control of Jamaica, what had been the sailor's daily ration of a gallon of beer a day was switched to a half pint of rum daily per man with considerable savings of storage space. However, some sailors would hoard their rum ration for several days, then drink it all at once. As a result of the ensuing drunkenness and disciplinary problems, it was decreed that this half-pint should be mixed with a quart of water and issued in two servings, one before noon and the other after work.

For the ships under his command Admiral Edward Vernon ordered lime or lemon juice to be added to the mixture, to mask the water's foulness. Vernon habitually wore a cloak made of Grogram (a mixture of silk and wool) and was known by his men as 'Old Grog': and his name was soon attached to the daily watered rum ration. It was served as a ration in the US Navy until 1862 and in the Royal Navy until 1970.