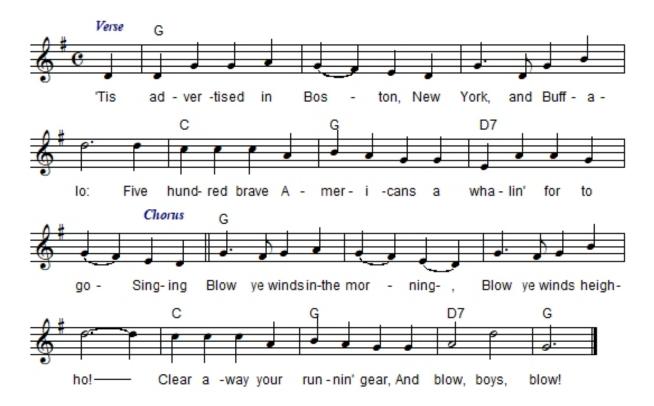
Blow Ye Winds in the Morning



 Tis advertised in Boston, New York, and Buffalo: Five hundred brave Americans a-whalin' for to go.

Chorus:

Singing Blow ye winds in the morning, Blow ye winds, heigh-ho!
Clear away your runnin' gear,
And blow, boys, blow!

- They send you to New Bedford, That famous whaling port, And give you to some land sharks To board and fit you out.
- 3. They send you to a boardin' house, There for a time to dwell; The thieves there they are thicker Than the other side of Hell.
- They tell you of the clipper ships
 A-runnin' in and out,
 And say you'll take five hundred sperm
 Before you're six months out.

- 5. And now we're out to sea, my boys, The wind comes on to blow; One-half the watch is sick on deck, The other half below.
- 6. The skipper's on the quarterdeck A-squintin' at the sails, When up aloft the lookout spots A mighty school of whales.
- 7. Then lower down the boats, my boys, And after him we'll travel, But if you get too near his tail, He'll kick you to the Devil.
- 8. When we've caught a whale, my boys, We'll bring 'im alongside,
 Then over with our blubber-hooks
 And rob him of his hide.
- When we get home, our ship made fast, When we get through our sailin', A brimming glass around we'll pass, And damn this blubber whalin'.

This is possibly the most well-known of the songs relating to the New England whaling trade. It was not a worksong or shanty, but was sung when the sailors were off duty in the forecastle, on deck or ashore in a pub. The song contains an interesting description of recruiting and working as a sailor on board a whaler. Like most fo'c'sle songs, there is no call and response structure, just a normal verse and chorus.

The tune is very easy to sing and was popular with a lot of folk song revival groups in the 1950s and 60s. It was recorded by Pete Seeger, Burl Ives, The Kingston Trio and many others. I think I first learned it from the Kingston Trio recording on their **At Large** album of 1959 (the same album that contained "Charley on the MTA").

It was printed in Hugel's Shanties from the Seven Seas (1994).