

# Whup Jamboree

Em G D7 Em D7

5 Em G D7 Em D Em Chorus

9 Em G D7 Em D7

13 Em G D7 Em D Em

## Chorus:

Whup jamboree, whup jamboree,  
 Oh, a long-tailed black man comin' up behind!  
 Whup jamboree, whup jamboree,  
 Come an' get your oats, me son!

1. The pilot he looked out ahead,  
 The hands on the chain and the heavin' of the lead,  
 And the old man roared to wake the dead,  
 Come and get your oats, me son!

## Chorus

2. For now Cape Clear it is in sight  
 We'll be off Holyhead by tomorrow night,  
 And set our course for the ol' Rock Light,  
 Come and get your oats, me son!

## Chorus

3. And my boys we're off Holyhead;  
 No more salt beef, no more weevily bread.  
 One man in the chains for to heave the lead,  
 Come and get your oats, me son!

## Chorus

4. Oh, now we see the Lizard light,  
 Soon, me boys, we'll heave in sight,  
 We'll soon be abreast of the Isle Of Wight,  
 Come and get your oats, me son!

## Chorus

5. Now we're round the Fort Perch Rock,  
All hammocks lashed and chests all locked.  
We'll haul her into the Waterloo Dock,  
Come and get your oats, me son!  
**Chorus**
6. Now when we get to the Liverpool docks,  
Those Liverpool girls come round in flocks,  
With short-legged drawers and long tailed frocks,  
Come and get your oats, me son!  
**Chorus**
7. Well, then we'll walk doon Limelight way,  
And all the girls will spend our pay,  
We'll not see more `til another day,  
Come and get your oats, me son!  
**Chorus**

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The melody is very similar to the fife tune of the same name, and both date allegedly to the mid-19th century. It may be a chantey or perhaps just a sea song. Going by the succession of place names, it describes the end of a sea voyage as the ship passes the tip of Ireland, then heading through the Irish Sea around the northwestern tip of Wales to Liverpool.

Clear Island or Cape Clear Island (officially known by its Irish name: *Cléire*) lies south-west of County Cork in Ireland. It is the southernmost inhabited part of Ireland.

Holyhead is the largest town in the county of Isle of Anglesey in Wales. It is a major Sea port serving Ireland.

Fort Perch Rock is a former defense installation situated at the mouth of Liverpool Bay in New Brighton. It was built in the 1820s to defend the Port of Liverpool.

The "long tail" refers to the braided ponytail worn by 19th century sailors. The line is sometimes sung as "long tailed sailor man".

I think my knowledge of this song goes all the way back to the Chad Mitchell Trio in the early 1960s.