

# Wellerman

D a d Capo 1

strum across

New Zealand Sea Shanty 19th c

There once was a ship that put to sea and the name of the ship was the - Bil - ly 'o Tea The

5	0	0	0	0	3	5	5	5	5	5	6	4	4	4	5	5	8	8	5	5	5
											4	4	4	4							
											4	4	4	4							

winds blew up her bow dipped down blow my bul - ly boys blow. (hunh)

0	0	0	3	5	5	5	5	4	3	3	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Soon may the Wel - ler man come to bring us su - gar and tea and rum

6	6	6	5	5	0	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	6	4	4	5	6	8	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	4	4	4	4	4								
8	8	6	7	7	5	5	5	6	4	4	5	6	8	5	5					

One day when the tong-uing is done we'll take our leave and go.

6	6	6	6	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	6	6	7	7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

She'd not been two weeks from shore  
When down on her a right whale bore  
The captain called all hands and swore  
He'd take that whale in tow (hunh)  
Chorus

For forty days or even more  
The line went slack then tight once more  
All boats were lost, there were only four  
But still that whale did go (hunh)  
Chorus

Before the boat had hit the water  
The whale's tail came up and caught her  
All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her  
When she dived down low (hunh)  
Chorus

As far as I've heard, the fight's still on  
The line's not cut, and the whale's not gone  
The Wellerman makes his regular call  
To encourage the captain, crew and all (hunh)  
Chorus

No line was cut, no whale was freed  
The captain's mind was not of greed  
And he belonged to the Whaleman's creed  
She took that ship in tow (hunh)  
Chorus

Dulcimer Arr. S. Stevens '22