

Lloyd "Rounding The Horn"

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Rounding the Horn

The gallant frigate, Amphitrite, she lay in Plymouth
Sound,

Blue Peter at the foremast head for she was outward
bound;

We were waiting there for orders to send us far from
home;

Our orders came for Rio, and thence around Cape
Horn.

Next day, we weighed our anchor, boys, and waved
goodbye all
round,

And some of us we knew would never more see
Plymouth Sound;

But still our hearts were light and gay, and when all
was taut and
snug

We foraged out the bumboat grog and each man filled
his mug.

We drank success to Plymouth girls, to Kate and Poll
and Sue,

And arguing o'er their various charms struck up a fight
or two.

Jim Crab he landed Bonny Nodge a clout that made him
snort,

And to this day his nose has got a heavy list to port.

When we arrived at Rio we prepared for heavy gales;

We set up all our rigging, boys, and bent on all new
sails.

From ship to ship they checred us as we did sail along,
And wished us pleasant weather in rounding of Cape
Horn.

While beating off Magellan Strait it blew exceeding
hard;

Whilst shortening sail two gallant tars fell from the
topsail yard.

By angry seas the ropes we threw from their poor
hands were torn

And we were forced to leave them to the sharks that
prowl around

Cape Horn.

When we got round the Horn, my boys, we had some
glorious days
And very soon our killick dropped in Valparaiso Bay.
The pretty girls came down to us; I solemnly declare
They are far before the Plymouth girls with their long
and curly
hair.
They love a jolly sailor when he spends his money free;
They'll laugh and sing and merry, merry be, and have
a jovial
spree.
And when our money is all gone they won't on you
impose,
They are not like the Plymouth girls that'll pawn and sell
your
clothes.
Farewell to Valparaiso, farewell for a while,
Likewise to all the Spanish girls all on the coast of
Chile;
And if ever I live to be paid off I'll sit and sing this song:
"God bless those pretty Spanish girls we left around
Cape Horn."
From Oxford Book of Sea Songs, Palmer
Recorded by Killen, Lloyd
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