

## Seeger Pete "Captain Kidd"

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## CAPTAIN KIDD

My name is Captain Kidd, as I sailed, as I sailed My name is Captian Kidd, as I sailed My name is Captian Kidd, God's laws I did forbid And most wickedly I did, as I sailed, as I sailed Oh, my parents taught me well, as I sailed, as I sailed My parents taught me well, as I sailed My parents taught me well to shun the gates of Hell But against them I rebelled, as I sailed, as I sailed Well, I murdered William Moore, as I sailed, as I sailed I murdered William Moore, as I sailed I murdered William Moore and I left him in his gore Forty leagues from shore, as I sailed, as I sailed And being cruel still, as I sailed, as I sailed And being cruel still, as I sailed And being cruel still the gunner I did kill And his precious blood did spill, as I sailed, as I sailed Well, my repentance lasted not, as I sailed, as I sailed My repentance lasted not, as I sailed My repentance lasted not, my vows I soon forgot

Damnation was my lot, as I sailed, as I sailed

To execution dock I must go, I must go

To execution dock I must go

To execution dock, lay my head upon the block

And no more the laws I'll mock, as I sail, as I sail

The reputation for cruelty and viciousness generally assigned to

Captain Kidd, probably the most famous of all pirates, is largely

the result of the ballad maker's art. Actually, it would appear

that William Kidd (1645?-1701) was the victim of a frame-up. He

was hanged, guilty or not, near London on May 23, 1701.

The tune, and particularly the verse pattern, of this song has

been used for other songs, such as: "Samuel Hall", "The Pirates

They Grow Small", and the American hymn, "Wonderous Love." This

version comes from Peter Seeger, who learned it in London from

Steve Benbow.

NOTE: Most versions have "My name is Robert Kidd etc." Nobody

seems to know where the "Robert" came from. RG

Recorded on "Golden Ring", FSI-16, 1964

@sailor @pirate @death

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## ===DOCUMENT BOUNDARY

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