The Wellerman   New Zealand, 1860's – Author Unknown

Am   Dm   Am

There once was a ship that put to sea, and the name of that ship was the Billy o' Tea

                                      Dm   Am

The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down. Blow, me bully boys, blow (Huh!)

CHORUS

F   C   Dm   Am

Soon may the Wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum

F   C   Dm   Am

One day, when the tonguin' is done, we'll take our leave and go

[Verse 2]

   Am   Dm   Am

She had not been two weeks from shore, when down on her a right whale bore

                                        Dm   Am

The captain called all hands and swore, he'd take that whale in tow (Hah!)

CHORUS

F   C   Dm   Am

Soon may the Wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum

F   C   Dm   Am

One day, when the tonguin' is done, we'll take our leave and go

[Verse 3]

F   C   Dm   Am

Before the boat had hit the water, the whale's tail came up and caught her

                                      Dm   Am

All hands to the side harpooned and fought her, when she dived down below (Huh!)

CHORUS

F   C   Dm   Am

Soon may the Wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum

F   C   Dm   Am

One day, when the tonguin' is done, we'll take our leave and go

The Wellerman

New Zealand, 1860's – Author Unknown

[Verse 4]

F   C   Dm   Am

No line was cut, no whale was freed, the Captain's mind was not on greed.

                                                     Dm   Am

But he belonged to the whaleman's creed. She took that ship in tow (Huh!)

CHORUS

F   C   Dm   Am

Soon may the Wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum

F   C   Dm   Am

One day, when the tonguin' is done, we'll take our leave and go

[Verse 5]

    F   C   Dm   Am

For forty days, or even more, the line went slack, then tight once more

                                                     Dm   Am

All boats were lost, there were only four, but still that whale did go

CHORUS

F   C   Dm   Am

Soon may the Wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum

F   C   Dm   Am

One day, when the tonguin' is done, we'll take our leave and go

[Verse 6]

    F   C   Dm   Am

As far as I've heard, the fight's still on. The line's not cut and the whale's not gone

                                                    Dm   Am

The Wellerman makes its regular call, to encourage the Captain, crew, and all

REPEAT CHORUS TWICE