

## Santianna

*Antonio Lopez de Santa Aña, far from “gaining the day” as this pump or capstan shanty suggests, was defeated by General Taylor at Buena Vista in February 1847, in one of the decisive battles of the war between Mexico and the United States. Many British sailors deserted their ships to join Santa Aña's army, and perhaps it was affection for the Mexican seaports that made the shanty singers reverse the run of history in their songs.*

Oh, Santianna gained the day  
*Hooray Santianna*  
And General Taylor ran away  
*All on the plains of Mexico*

Yes General Taylor ran away  
He ran away at Monterey

He was a haughty general  
A rorty torty general

Chorus  
*So heave her up and away we go*  
*Hooray Santianna*  
*Heave her up and away we go*  
*All on the plains of Mexico*

Santianna had a wooden leg  
He used it as a cribbage peg

Them pretty girls I do adore  
Their shining eyes and long black hair

Them Liverpool girls don't use no combs  
They brush their hair with a kipper's back bone

Chorus

<more>

When I was young and in me prime  
I had them pretty girls two at a time

Why did those pretty girls love me so?  
'Cos I did not tell them all I know

But now I'm old and withered and bent  
I regret the happy hours I spent

Chorus