

Cape Cod Girls

Hugill calls this South Australia, with the alternative title of The Codfish Shanty, and says it was sung at pumps. Typically 'heave' and 'haul' are not mixed in shanties, the former for capstan and the latter for halyard - but this is not out of place for a pump shanty where some would be heaving the pump handles and others hauling on the 'bell ropes'. Hugill gives quite different verses about girls of different origins that he 'disguised' to obscure crudity. Roud 325.

Well'a Cape Cod girls don't a have no combs
Haul away [hic] haul away
They comb their hair with a cod fish bones
And we're bound away for Australia

Chorus

So heave them up my bully bully boys now
Haul away [hic] haul away
Heave 'er up why don't you make some noise
And we're bound away for Australia

Well'a Cape Cod boys don't a have no sleds
They slide down hills on cod fish heads

{Well'a Cape Cod ladies don't a have no frills
They're as lean and skinny as cod fish gills}

Well'a Cape Cod cats don't a have no tails
They got blown off in a Nor'East gale

Well'a Cape Cod dogs don't a have no bite
They lost it a barking at the Cape Cod light

Well'a Cape Cod mothers don't a bake no pies
They feed their kids on cod fishes eyes