

## All for me Grog

**It's all for me grog, me jolly, jolly grog,  
 All gone for beer and tobacco,  
 For I spent all me tin  
 on the lassies drinking gin.  
 And across the Western Ocean I must  
 wander.**

1. I'm sick in the head, I haven't been to bed  
 Since first I came ashore with me plunder.  
 I see centipedes and snakes and I'm full of  
 pains and aches,  
 And I think that I should push out over  
 yonder.

**And it's all for me grog ...**

2. Where is me shirt? Me noggin' noggin'  
 shirt?  
**All gone for beer and tobacco.**  
 For the collar is all worn, and the sleeves they  
 are all torn  
 And the tail is hangin' out for better weather.

3. Where is me hat, Me noggin' noggin' hat?  
**All gone for beer and tobacco.**  
 The crown it is wore out, the brim is knocked  
 about,  
 And me hair is lookin' up for better weather.

### Notes:

Song, also a **capstan** or **halyard** shanty.

**Alternative titles:** All for me grog, My jolly jolly tin,  
 My nobby hat, The noggin boots, Western Ocean.

Collected by **Kidson and Moffat** from a Yorkshire  
 sailor and published in **English Peasant Songs**,  
 1929. A variant collected by **Sharp** in 1904  
 It might be a variant of the folk song **Here's to the  
 Grog**.

This version as sung by **Captain Jesse Schaffer**.

### Notes on the words

**Tobacco** - (pronounced tebacker) was not for  
 smoking, but for chewing. Fire always was the  
 greatest danger on a ship. 'Baccy was chewed and  
 on merchant men, spittoons were provided  
 alongside the wheel for use by the helms-man.  
 Anyone caught spitting on the deck would be  
 flogged.

**Western Ocean** - the North Atlantic Ocean.

**Grog** - any alcoholic drink. Initially rum mixed with  
 water as issued in the Royal Navy. One story is  
 that Grog stands for "Georgius Rex Old Grenada",

4. Where are me boots? Me noggin', noggin'  
 boots?

**All gone for beer and tobacco.**

For the heels they are wore out and the soles  
 are kicked about ,  
 And me toes are lookin' up for better weather.

3. Where is me bed? Me noggin' noggin' bed?

**All gone for beer and tobacco.**

I lent it to a whore and now it's all a-wore,  
 And the springs are lookin' out for better  
 weather.

4. Where is me wench? Me noggin' noggin'  
 wench?

**All gone for beer and tobacco.**

Her lips are all worn out and her front is  
 kicked about,  
 And her arse is lookin' out for better weather.

**It's all for me grog, me jolly, jolly grog  
 All gone for beer and tobacco,  
 For I spent all me tin  
 on the lassies drinking gin,  
 Across the Western Ocean I must  
 wander.**

inscribed on barrels of Grenada rum intended for  
 King George III.

Here's a better story from **Barry Finn**, on  
[mudcat.org](http://mudcat.org)



Vice Admiral Sir Edward  
 Vernon, British hero of  
 the 1739 War of  
 Jenkins's Ear, was  
 nicknamed **Old Grog**  
 because of an  
 impressive program  
 cloak he wore on deck in  
 all weathers....

Half the punishments  
 handed down in the  
 British Navy involved  
 drunkenness. In 1740  
 Old Grog issued an  
 order to curb  
 drunkenness on his  
 ships: that rum be  
 diluted with water, given

out in half-pint rations, 6 hours apart. In anger &  
 protest this mix bears his nickname.

Grog became the ration for the Royal Navy. Rum  
 will not stay long after being watered down, so  
 there'd be no use to try & save up rations.