

## Fire Marengo

1. Lift him up and carry him along

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

Put him down where he belong

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

2. Ease him down and let him lay

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

Screw him in and there he'll stay

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

3. Stow him in his hole below

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

Stay he must and there he'll go

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

4. When I get back to Liverpool Town,

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

I'll pass the line to little Sally Brown.

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

5. I'll haul her high and I'll haul her low.

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

I'll bust her blocks and make her go.

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

6. Sally, she's a pretty little craft,

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

Cut sharp to the fore with a rounded aft.

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

7. Screw the cotton, screw him down.

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

Let's get the hell from Hilo Town

**Fire Marengo, fire away.**

The Dreadnoughts sing this on [YouTube](#) .

### Notes

Alternative names: Fire Marengo, Fire Maringo

This version: Keith Kendrick of Three Sheets to the Wind

Hugill, Stan, *Shanties from the Seven Seas* (in the Introduction, p16)

"Doerflinger seems to think that for Fire Maringo is of Negro origin, but I feel that Ireland is like as not its birthplace. The Word Maringo is the clue. This quaint word is found in many Irish folk-

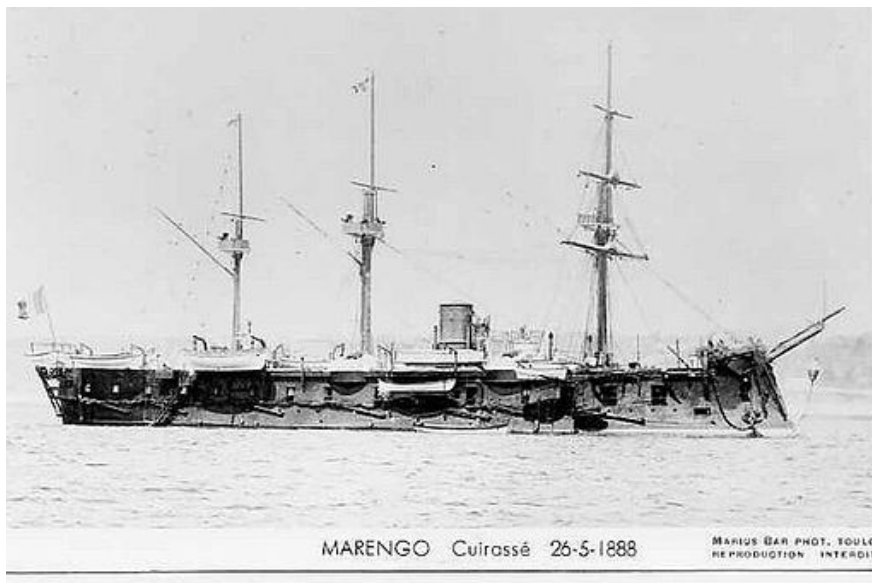
songs, such as the following:

As I was going along the road,  
As I was going out walking,  
I heard a Lassie in the shade;  
To a young man it she was talking.  
Ch: With a maringo do-a-day,  
With a maringo do-a-daddy oh

The tune of Fire Maringo has been lost."

References

<http://www.afolksongaday.com/?p=1325>



French ship *Marengo* photographed by Marius Bar in 1888, via [commons.wikimedia.org](https://commons.wikimedia.org). named after the battleground in Northern Italy where Napoleon defeated the Austrian army in June 1800.