

Sugar in the Hold

1. I wish I was in Mobile Bay,
Screwing cotton all of the day.
But I'm stowing sugar in this hold below,
Below, below, below.

**'Low, 'low, below, below ?
Stowing sugar in the hold below ...
'Low, 'low, below, below ?
Stowing sugar in the hold below.**

2. The J.M. White., she's a new boat
Stem to stern she's mighty fine,
The fastest boat on the Orleans line
Stowing sugar in the hold below.

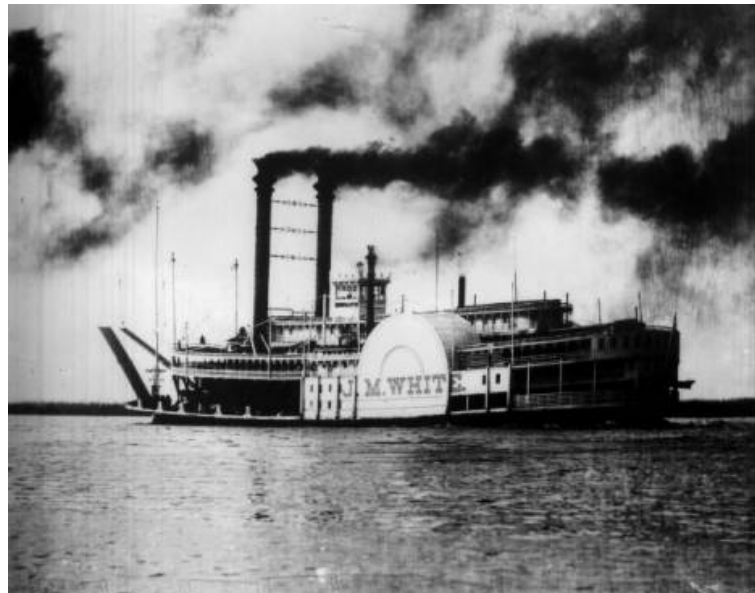
'Low, 'low ...

3. The engineer blows on his trumpet,
He says "We got bad news.
We can't raise fire for the steamin' crew."
Stowing sugar in the hold below.

'Low, 'low...

4. The captain stands on the quarter deck
Scratchin' 'way at his old neck
And he says, "Throw that stow in the
starboard deck!"
Stowing sugar in the hold below.

**'Low, 'low, below, below
Stowing sugar in the hold below ...
'Low, 'low, below, below
Stowing sugar in the hold below.**



Howard, James E (photographer): *J.M. White, 1878-1886*
Howard Steamboat Museum Collection, University of Louisville.
<http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/ref/collection/howard/id/1345>

Notes:

A **cargo-loading** shanty, originally from the Mississippi steamships, used on the Mississippi in the 1800s.

Alternative Titles: Stowin' sugar, Sugar in the hold, Sugar in the hold below,

This version: CD: *No other life*, by [Hanging Johnny](#).

The J M White / Orleans line

The J.M. White (1878-1886) was a side-wheel packet with wood hull (312.7 x 47.9 x 11.5 feet), built at Howard Shipyard, Indiana, for Captain J M White (1823-1880).

Owned by Greenville & New Orleans Packet Co. [the **Orleans Line**] and operated on the lower Mississippi River until she burned at Blue Store Landing, St. Maurice Plantation, Louisiana on December 13, 1886.

She was the ultimate "floating palace" and the shipyard's crowning achievement. Her large main cabin (233 x 19 x 13 feet) was lined with rosewood and walnut burl inlaid panels and lit by seven sixteen-burner gold gilt chandeliers.
[\[digital.library.louisville.edu/\]](http://digital.library.louisville.edu/)

See photographs at
steamboats.com/museum/jmwhite.html

Blows on his trumpet - shouts through his trumpet