

## Trinidad

1. Oh tell me, massa stevedore, how you stow your cargo.

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore.**

Tell me, massa stevedore, how you stow your cargo.

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

**Booch free, me bully boys,  
and burtoned in the archway,  
Booch free, me bully boys,  
and burtoned in the archway.**

2. O Trinidad! O Trinidad! You pretty little harbor.

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore!**

O Trinidad! O Trinidad! You pretty little harbor.

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

3. What will you do with Sunny Dore if ever you should find her?

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore!**

Roll her in the grass, me boys, and all amongst the clover

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

4. Oh say, Mr. Barber, how you shave your customers?

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore!**

Take 'em by their noses, and scrape them on their chinsi-oes!

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

5. Now stretch her luff, she's high enough, the end is just in sight boys,

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore!**

Now stretch her luff, she's high enough, the end is just in sight boys,

6. Hoist her high an' hoist her dry, come rock and roll me over.

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore!**

The ship's all right, the crew is tight, the ol' man's all in clover.

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

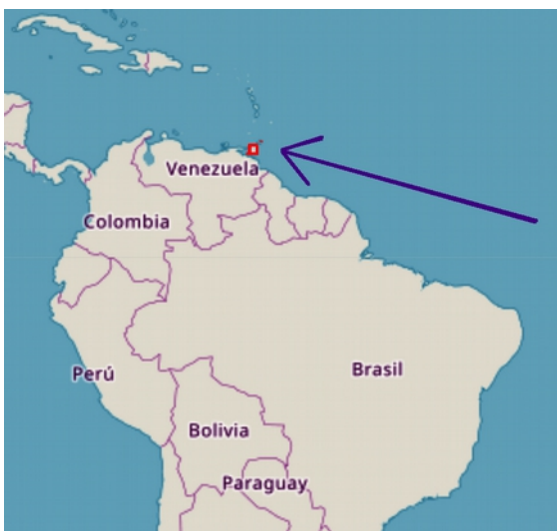
7. Oh tell me, massa stevedore, how you stow your cargo.

**Way, hey, sing Sunny Dore.**

Tell me, massa stevedore, how do you stow your cargo.

**Bound down Trinidad, to look for Sunny Dore.**

**Booch free, me bully boys,  
and burtoned in the archway  
Booch free, me bully boys,  
and burtoned in the archway**



*Trinidad is in the Caribbean, just north of Venezuela!*

Maps from [OpenStreetMap.org](http://OpenStreetMap.org). -  
( See also the pretty, copyrighted map at [worldatlas.com](http://worldatlas.com) )

### Notes:

A **cargo-loading** shanty from Barbados

**Alternative Titles:** Down Trinidad, Trinidad

Recorded by Bob **Walsler**: CD: *When our ship comes home*,

The song is in the James Madison **Carpenter** collection, at the Smithsonian Institution. Carpenter collected it in 1928 from Richard **Warner** of Cardiff (Wales), who in turn heard it sung aboard ship in the 1870's.

**Bob Walsler** has published extensive notes at [bobwalsler.com/recordings/when-our-ship-comes-home/](http://bobwalsler.com/recordings/when-our-ship-comes-home/) writes extensively, and says

James Madison **Carpenter** was an American scholar who wrote his doctoral thesis on sailors' music (*Forecastle Songs and Shanties*, Harvard University, 1929). He travelled Great Britain meeting and recording old sailors. His recordings and papers are now held at the Archive of Folk Culture. In 1928,

**Carpenter's** notes say that it was 'sung in Barbados, Negroes in sugarlog station on S.S. Bananzo.'

### Notes on the words

**Booch** - ? a **boogie** is the widest part of a barrel.

**Booch free** - When the 'boogie is free' the bung is easy to reach as the barrels don't touch each other.

**burton** - Carpenter noted a burton is a block and tackle used in hoisting, particularly among longshoremen.

**archway** - the widest part of a ship

**Embozarth** wrote in [mudcat.org](http://mudcat.org) : "Burton in the archway" had something to do with the way that they stored the barrels in the hold of the ship to prevent them from rolling.

**Madam Gashee** on [mudcat.org](http://mudcat.org), wrote If a cask is stored athwartships (port to starboard not bow to stern!) it is said to be "a-burton". It's not clear if the barrel was to be standing or lying for this position though.



**Stevedores on a New York dock loading barrels of corn syrup onto a barge on the Hudson River, c 1912**

from US National Archives, via [wikimedia commons](#)