

The Schooner Persia's Crew

Original recording migrates between F & F#

As sung by "Square" Jim MacDonald
Port Dover Fisherman,
Recorded at a party circa 1961

D G D Bm A D

How sad and mourn - ful is the tale I now re - late to you. It is

D F#7 G D Em A A7

5 of the schoo - ner Per - sia, her of - fi - cers and crew How she

D F#7 G D Em E6 A

9 sank be - neath the stor - my deep in life to rise no more When the

G D G D G Em D

13 winds and des - o - la - tion sweep, Lake Hur - on's rock bound shore

They left Chicago in the morn
Their songs they did resound (Jim repeats this couplet)
(Their hearts were full of joy and glee,
For they were homeward bound) [The usual 2nd couplet]
They little thought the sword of death
Should meet them on their way
And they, so full of joy and glee
Should in Lake Huron lay.

I did not know those sailors' names
Except for one or two
I did not know those sailors' names
They were a luckless crew
They sank beneath the stormy deep
In life to rise no more
Where the winds and desolation sweep
Lake Huron's rock-bound shore

Dan Sullivan was our first mate's name
A man both bold and brave
As ever was compelled by fate
To fill a sailor's grave
He sank beneath the stormy deep
In life to rise no more
Where the winds and desolation sweep
Lake Huron's rock-bound shore

Oh Dan, Oh Dan, we'll miss you now
Around Oswego town (Jim repeats this couplet)
(Oh, Dan, your many friends will mourn,
your fate upon them frown) [The usual 2nd couplet]
We'll miss the sly glance of your eye
And your hand we'll clasp no more
For in the deep you now do sleep
Far from your own home shore

There's no sisters or no brothers there
To kiss away their tears
No father or no mother there
To fill their hearts with cheer
They sank beneath the stormy deep
In life to rise no more
Where the winds and desolation sweep
Lake Huron's rock-bound shore

Around Presque Isle those seagulls squeal
Their funeral notes they sound (Jim repeats this couplet)
But this is not to be revealed
Until the judgement day
And the angels search the water though
And they'll bring forth the commander
And the gallant Persia's crew

[Jim has conflated two verses into his final verse]