

# The Shantyboy's Alphabet

Based on the singing of Emerson Woodcock  
Recorded by Edith Fowke - Peterborough, Ontario 1958  
Chord suggestions by Ian Bell



G D G C D

A is for ax - es which all of you know and B's for the boys that can use them al - so

G C G G D G

9 C is for chop-ping we first do be - gin and D's for the dan-ger we oft-times are in. So

G Chorus: D G C D

17 mer - ry so mer - ry so mer - ry are we, no mor - tal on earth is as hap - py as we

G C G G D G

25 Hi der - ry ho der - ry hi der - ry down Give the shan-ty boys whis-ky and no-thing goes wrong.

E is for echo that makes the woods ring  
F is for foreman, the boss of our gang  
G is the grindstone we grind the axe on  
And H is for handle so smoothly worn.

I is for iron - we mark all our pine  
J is for jolly boys all in a line  
K's for the keen edge our axes do keep  
And L's for the lice that keep us from our sleep

M is for moss, we chink up our camps  
And N's for the needle we mend our old pants  
O's for the owl that howls all the night  
And P is the pine that we fall in daylight

Q is for quarreling, we do not allow  
R is for river our logs they do plow  
S is for sleighs so stout and so strong  
T is for teams to haul them along

U is the use that we put our teams to  
And V is the valley we run our logs through  
W is for woods that we leave in the spring  
And now you have heard all that I have to sing