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Pianist on the Recordings: Laura Ward

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FIRST SET

Song Origins, Copland Sources and Texts

The Boatmen's Dance (Minstrel Song - 1843)

Published in Boston in 1843 as an "original banjo melody" by Old Dan. D. Emmett, who later composed "Dixie." Source from the Harris Collection of American Poetry and Plays at Brown University.

Refrain

High row the boatmen row, floatin' down the river, the Ohio. (the refrain repeats the two lines above)

The boatmen dance, the boatmen sing, the boatmen up to ev'rything
And when the boatmen gets on shore he spends his cash and works for more Then dance the boatmen dance,
O dance the boatmen dance
O dance all night 'til the broad daylight
And go home with the gals in the mornin'.

Refrain

I went on board the other day to see what the boatmen had to say There I let my passion loose, an' they cram me in the calaboose Then dance the boatmen dance, O dance the boatmen dance O dance all night 'til the broad daylight And go home with the gals in the mornin'.

Refrain

The boatman is a thrifty man
There's none can do as the boatman can
I never see a pretty gal in my life
But that she was a boatman's wife
Then dance the boatmen dance,
O dance the boatmen dance
O dance all night 'til the broad daylight
And go home with the gals in the mornin'.

Refrain

The Dodger (Campaign Song)

As sung by Mrs. Emma Dusenberry of Mena, Arkansas, who learned it in the 1880s. Supposedly used in the Cleveland-Blaine presidential campaign. Published by John A. and Alan Lomax in *Our Singing Country*.

Yes the candidate's a dodger, yes a well known dodger, Yes the candidate's a dodger, yes and I'm a dodger too He'll meet you and treat you and ask you for your vote But look out boys he's a dodgin' for a note

Refrain:

Yes we're all dodgin', a-dodgin', dodgin', dodgin' Yes we're all dodgin' out a way through the world.

Yes the preacher he's a dodger yes a well known dodger Yes the preacher he's a dodger yes and I'm a dodger too He'll preach you a gospel and tell you of your crimes But look out boys he's a dodgin' for your dimes

Refrain

Yes the lover he's a dodger, yes a well known dodger Yes the lover he's a dodger, yes and I'm a dodger too He'll hug you and kiss you and call you his bride But look out girls he's a tellin' you a lie

Refrain

Long Time Ago (Ballad)

Issued in 1837 by George Pope Morris, who adapted the words, and Charles Edward Horn, who arranged the music from an anonymous, original minstrel tune. Source from the Harris Collection at Brown University.

On the lake where droop'd the willow Long time ago Where the rock threw back the billow Brighter than snow.

Dwelt a maid beloved and cherish'd By high and low But the autumn leaf she perish'd Long time ago.

Rock and tree and flowing water Long time ago Bird and bee and blossom taught her Love's spell to know

While to my fond words she listen'd Murmuring low Tenderly her blue eyes glisten'd Long time ago.

Simple Gifts (Shaker Song)

A favorite song of the Shaker sect, from the period 1837–47. The melody and words were quoted by Edward D. Andrews in his book of Shaker rituals, songs and dances, entitled *The Gift to Be Simple*.

Tis the gift to be simple 'tis the gift to be free 'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be And when we find ourselves in the place just right 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight. When true simplicity is gained To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed To turn, turn will be our delight 'Till by turning, turning we come round right.

I Bought Me a Cat (Children's Song)

A children's nonsense song. This version was sung to the composer by the American playwright Lynn Riggs, who learned it during his boyhood in Oklahoma.

I bought me a cat My cat pleased me I fed my cat under yonder tree My cat says fiddle eye fee

THE BOATMEN'S DANCE

(Minstrel Song-1843)

Arranged by AARON COPLAND Adapted and arranged for trumpet by Bryan Stanley



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THE BOATMEN'S DANCE

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Trumpet in Bb

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FIRST SET

The Boatmen's Dance
The Dodger
Long Time Ago
Simple Gifts
I Bought Me a Cat

SECOND SET

The Little Horses
Zion's Walls
The Golden Willow Tree
At the River
Ching-a-ring Chaw

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