

The British Man-o'-War

As I walked out one morn__ ing, I did in - cline to stray, ___
 (a) (b)

There I be - held a la - - dy fair with her young sail - - or gay: ___
 (a)

"Oh, Su - - san, love - - ly Su ___ san, I soon must leave the shore

For to cross the brin - - y oc - - ean in a Brit - ish man - o' - - war."

Variation (a)

Variations (b)

2. Now Susan fell a-weeping, to the sailor she did say:
 "How can you be so venturesome to throw your life away?
 You know when I am twenty-one I shall receive my store,
 Jolly sailor, do not venture in a British man-o' war."
3. Jolly sailor do not venture to fight the proud Chinese
 For they will prove as [treacherous?] as any Portuguese
 And by [the deadly...?] you might receive a scar
 So turn your inclination from the British man o-war.
4. "Oh, Susan, lovely Susan, the truth to you I'll tell:
 The British flag insulted is; Old England knows it well.
 I may be crowned with laurels but, like some jolly tar,
 I'll face the wars of China in a British man-o' war."
5. "Oh, Susan, lovely Susan, the time will quickly pass,
 We'll go down to the ferry house and take a parting glass.
 My shipmates they are waiting for to row me from the shore,
 For it's for old England's glory in a British man-o'-war."

6. The sailor took his handkerchief and cut it fair in two,
And Susan took her neckerchief, "I'll do the same for you."

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Source: Mr Hacklett, Winchcombe, 5th April 1908, collected by Percy Grainger