

## **PUSH BOATS**

This Mississippi River song speaks of the hard life spent by the boatmen who piloted pushboats. These narrow craft traveled downstream, being steered by a long pole, pushed against the bank. This was a very labor intensive occupation. There were long hours of slow going, and songs like this made the time seem to pass a little more quickly.

### **PUSH BOAT**

**G**

WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT

**G**

FROM CATTLESBURG TO PIKE,

**Am** **C**

I 'M WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT,

**Em** **C**

FOR OLD MAN JEFFERY'S IKE. X2

WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT FOR FIFTY CENTS A DAY;

BUY A DRESS FOR CYNTHIE JANE, AND THROW THE REST AWAY. X2

WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT, WATER'S MIGHTY SLACK;

TAKING SORGHUM 'LASSES DOWN AND BRINGING SUGAR BACK. X2

GOING DOWN BIG SANDY WITH PETE AND LAZY SAM;

WHEN I GET TO CATTLESBURG, I 'LL BUY MYSELF A DRAM. X2

I WISH I HAD A NICKEL, I WISH I HAD A DIME;

I 'D SPEND IT ALL ON CYNTHIE JANE AND DRESS HER MIGHTY FINE. X2

THE WEATHER'S MIGHTY HOT, BOYS, BLISTERS ON MY FEET;

WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT TO BUY MY BREAD AND MEAT. X2

WORKING ON A PUSH BOAT, WORKING IN THE RAIN;

WHEN I GET TO CATTLESBURG, HELLO, CYNTHIE JANE! X2