

Barretts Privateers

Oh, the year was 1778

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

Well a letter of marque came from the king
To the scummiest vessel I'd ever seen

God damn them all!

I was told we'd sail the seas for American gold

We'd fire no gun, shed no tear

Well I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier

The last of Barrett's Privateers

Oh, Elcid Barrett cried the town

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

For twenty brave men all fishermen who
Would make up for the Antelope's crew

ch

Now the Antelope she was a sickening sight

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

She'd a list to the port and her sails in rags
And the cook in scuppers with the shakes and the jags

ch

And on the King's birthday we sailed away

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

We were 97 days from Montego Bay
We were pumping like madmen all the way

ch

And on the 98th day we sailed again

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

With a big fat American hove in sight
Our cracked four pounders made to fight

ch

Well that Yankee she lay low with gold

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

She was big and fat and loose at the stays
And to catch her took us three whole days

ch

When at last we stood two cables away

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

Well our cracked four-pounders made an awful din
But an American ball came staved us in

ch

Now the Antelope shook and she pitched on her side

How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!

Well, Barrett was smashed like a bowl of eggs
And the main truck took off both my legs

ch

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So here I lay in my 23rd year
How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now!
Well it's been 6 years since we sailed away
And I just made Halifax yesterday

God damn them all!
I was told we'd sail the seas for American gold
We'd fire no gun, shed no tear
Well I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier
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I was told we'd sail the seas for American gold
We'd fire no gun, shed no tear
Well I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier
And you'll never find a better man far or near
I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier
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