

couplet 1: NOW THAT THE FISHING IS OVER
NOW THAT THE BOATS ARE ALL GONE
NOW THAT THE QUAYS ARE DESERTED
THERE'S TALK AS TO WHAT CAN BE DONE
FOR ONCE WE HAD HERRING APLENTY
ONCE WE HAD COD BY THE SCORE
ONCE WE HAD FISH LANDINGS DAILY
JUST AS IN THE FISHERMAN'S SONG

refrein: **FAIR STOOD THE WIND, FOR THE OLD FISHING GROUND
AS WE HOISTED OUR SAILS ONCE MORE OUTWARD BOUND
TO HUNT FOR THE HERRING WHEREVER THEY BE
AND TAKE WHAT WE COULD FROM THE BOUNTIFUL SEA
AND HOME, ONCE AGAIN WITH THE SWIFT FLOWING TIDE
WITH THE HARBOUR LIGHTS BURNING ALL ON THE PORT SIDE
OUR CATCH IN THE HOLD, OUR DAY'S ;LABOUR THROUGH
A SHARE FOR THE SKIPPER, THE BOAT AND THE CREW**

couplet 2: FAREWELL TO THE SHOALS OF HERRING
FAREWELL TO THE LONG BUSY DAY
FAREWELL TO THE ONES WHO REMEMBER
HOW TO FISH IN THE OLD FASHIONED WAY
FOR NOWADAYS MEN OF ALL NATIONS
ALL GATHER TO CATCH THE SEAS DRY
AND THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT CONSERVATION
AS THEY STAND BACK AND WATCH THE SEAS DIE

>> refrein

couplet 3: FAREWELL TO THE FAR DISTANT WATERS
FAREWELL TO THE NIGHTS AND THE STORM
FAREWELL TO THE NIGHTS IN THE MINCHES
WE'RE ASHORE AND WE'LL NEVER RETURN
FOR NOW THAT THE FISHING IS OVER
NOW THAT THE BOATS ARE ALL GONE
NOW THAT THE QUAYS ARE DESERTED
THERE'S ONLY THE ECHOING SOUND

>> refrein

De Noord Minch en de Zuid Minch zijn de namen van zeedelen tussen Schotland en de Hebriden. De naam komt ook voor in de shanty The Mingulay Boat Song.

