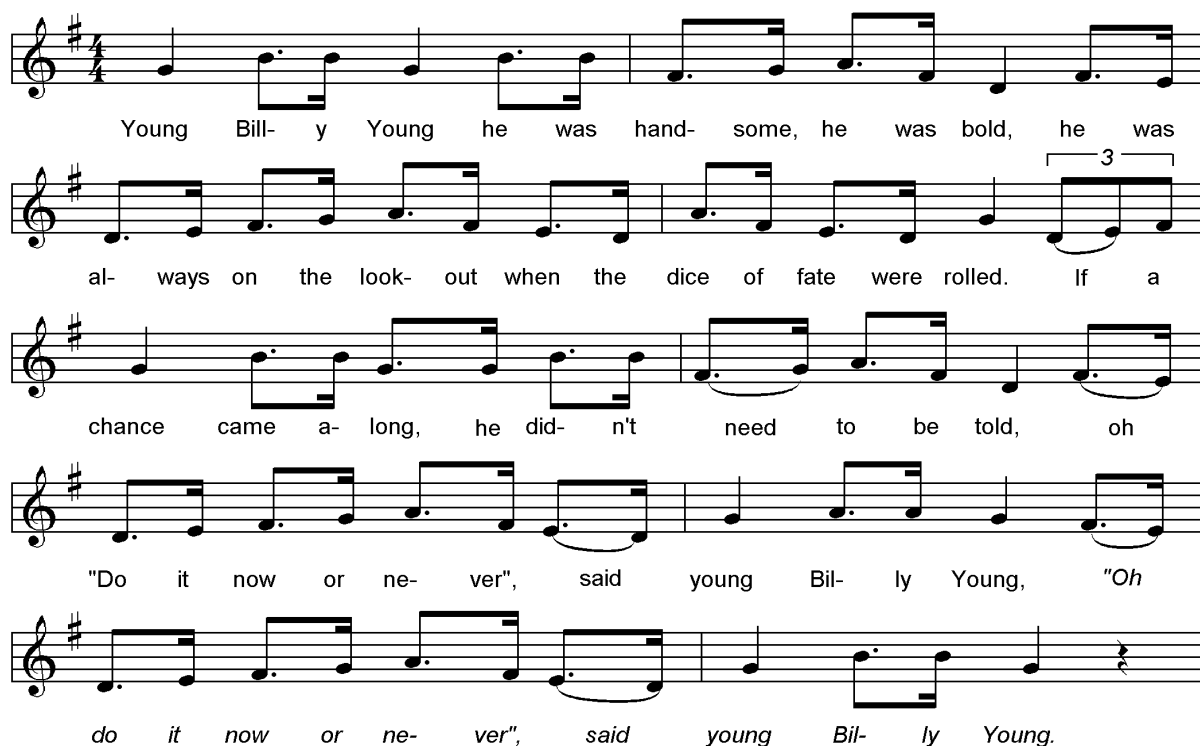


Young Billy Young



Young Bill- y Young he was hand- some, he was bold, he was
al- ways on the look- out when the dice of fate were rolled. If a
chance came a- long, he did- n't need to be told, oh
"Do it now or ne- ver", said young Bil- ly Young, "Oh
do it now or ne- ver", said young Bil- ly Young.

Young Billy Young he was handsome, he was bold,
He was always on the lookout when the dice of fate
were rolled,

If a chance came along, he didn't need to be told;
"It's do it now or never", said young Billy Young.
"Oh do it now or never", said young Billy Young.

Young Billy Young took a ship from the quay,
To cross the mighty ocean to far Americay,
With his hopes for the future he set out to sail the sea,
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young

Young Billy's ship had just left Ireland on the lee,
When a French Man o' War came up and hailed them
haughtily

"If you don't back your sails up we'll sink you in the sea!"
"Oh do it now or never", said young Billy Young
"Oh do it now or never", said young Billy Young

Young Billy Young he was taken back to Brest
Where they put him in a prison ship along with all the
rest,

"I'm getting out of here, it's making me depressed,
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young

A ship into Brest from the Admiralty came,
With words of kings and diplomats a-playing of the game,
"She's sailing homewards and I'd like to do the same,
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young
"Oh, do it now or never", said young Billy Young

So he slid into the water and he swam upon the tide,
The sailors hauled him up upon the frigate's further side,
The Captain said, "I'll take you home to Swansea by and
by."

"Oh do it now or never," said young Billy Young.
"Oh do it now or never," said young Billy Young.

Young Billy Young he was handsome, he was bold,
He was always on the lookout when the dice of fate were
rolled,

If a chance came along, he didn't need to be told;
"It's do it now or never", said young Billy Young.
"Oh do it now or never", said young Billy Young.



Young Billy's adventure took place in 1795, when Britain's almost perpetual war with France was at its most violent. Navies had to be more or less self-funding, so even civilian ships were taken as prizes while crew and passengers would be ransomed or even sold. After getting home, Billy decided to forget about emigrating and followed an amazing career as surveyor, architect and inventor. Under his full name of William Weston Young he was best known as a painter of fine ceramics for the celebrated Swansea and Nant Garw potteries. One of his plates is shown above.