

Eki Dumah!

(Halyard Shanty)

Kay, kay kay kay!
Eki dumah!
Kay, kay kay kay!
Eki dumah!
Somerset a-kill a coolie man
Eki dumah!
Somerset a-kill a Bosun's mate
Eki dumah!
Somerset a-kill a wirefall
Eki dumah!
Somerset a-kill a coolie man
Eki dumah!



Other verses:

Sailorman no likee Bosun's Mate
Bosun's Mate no likee Head Serang
Head Serang no like Number One
Number One no likee coolie man

Hugill writes: "In this example the words 'Eki dumah!' are probably a corruption of the Hindustani expression 'Ek dom', i.e. one man."

musicalion
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speech. In order to enunciate a consonant in full, it is considered that an accompanying short vowel sound need follow it. So the singers of this song or Hugill must have heard the over-enunciated song-pronunciation of the words and assumed them to have phonemic value. Of course, when we read the text now, the mis-spelling prompts us to OVER pronounce these letters, as long vowels.

Type: Sheet music

Title: [Eki Dumah! \(Halyard Shanty\)](#)

Composer: [Unknown Anonymus](#)

Period: Shanty

Theme: .miscellaneous

Series: Traditional

Difficulty: Leicht bis mittel

Arrangement group: Voice solo with choir a cappella

Arrangement: Solo>x+Choir>X

Orchestration: Voice choir>X = undetermined voice in a(1), Voice solo>x = undetermined voice range(1)

Eki Dumah! - from the Caribbean comes this special Halyard Shanty. Linguistically, a mixture of Pidgin English and Hindustani. It probably goes back to the large community of Indian immigrants who of course also brought their culture into the great melting pot.