

## John Henry

Doc Watson

John Henry was a steel-driven man  
Drove steel all over the land  
And he said, "Fool I let that old steam drill beat me down  
I'll die with my hammer in my hand, Lord, Lord  
I'll die with my hammer in my hand"

Now the man that played that old steam drill  
He pilot mighty fine  
But John Henry drove down fourteen feet  
While that steam drill only made it nine, Lord, Lord  
Steam drill only made it nine

John Henry's captain he said, "I'm on a rock"  
He said, "I think this tunnel's falling in"  
Then John Henry smiled at his captain and he said  
"Now boss that's my hammer sucking wind, Lord, Lord  
Boss, that's my hammer sucking wind"

John Henry he had a sweet little woman  
Her name was Polly Anne  
And while John he was sick and he laid down on his bed  
Little Polly drove that steel like a man, Lord, Lord  
Polly drove that steel like a man

John Henry hammered in the mountainside  
Till his hammer caught on fire  
And that last word that poor John Henry said  
"Give me a cool drink of water 'fore I die, Lord, Lord  
Cool drink of water 'fore I die"

They took John Henry to the graveyard  
Six feet under the sand  
And every time a freight train would come a'rollin by  
They say, "Yonder lies a steel-driven man, Lord, Lord  
Yonder lies a steel-driven man"