

# **I Hear America Singing**

I hear America singing, the varied carols  
I hear.

Those of mechanics, each one singing his  
as it should be blithe and strong.

The carpenter singing his as he measures  
his plank or beam.

The mason singing his as he makes ready  
for work, or leaves off work.

The boatman singing what belongs to him  
on his boat, the deckhand singing on the  
steamboat deck.

The shoemaker singing as he sits on his  
bench, the hatter singing as he stands.

Singing with open mouths their strong  
melodious songs.

*Walt Whitman*