

# WABASH CANNONBALL

Traditional Old-Time and Bluegrass Song; **DATE:** 1800's; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Norman and Nancy Blake; Kimble Family; Doc Watson; **NOTES:** Wabash Cannonball first appeared in print in 1904 copyrighted by William Kindt and based on "Great Rock Island Route." Meade references an earlier version by J.A. Roff in 1882. Made popular by the Carter Family in 1930's it first became a hit in 1938 for Roy Acuff (Vocalion 4466). The Wabash Cannonball Trail runs on the two lines originally established by the Wabash Railroad. The southwestern leg was built in 1855, running from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Toledo, Ohio, making it one of the oldest rail lines in northwest Ohio.

From the great Atlantic Ocean to the wide Pacific shore from the green and rolling mountains to the South lands by the door She's mighty tall and handsome She's known quite well by all She's the regular combination called the Wabash Cannonball.

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**G** From the great Atlantic ocean to the wide Pacific shore  
**D** From the green and rolling mountains to the south lands by the door  
**C** She's mighty tall and handsome and she's known quite well by all  
**D** She's the regular combination called the Wabash Cannonball.

Listen to the jingle, the rumble and the roar  
 As she glides along the woodland through the hills and by the shore  
 Hear the mighty rush of the engine, hear the lonesome hobos call  
 You're traveling through the jungles on the Wabash Cannonball.

Our eastern states are dandy, so the people always say  
 From New York to St. Louis with Chicago by the way  
 From the hills of Minnesota where the rippling waters fall  
 No changes can be taken on the Wabash Cannonball.

Now here's to Daddy Claxton, may his name forever stand  
 And always be remembered through the courts throughout the land  
 His earthly race is over, now the curtains round him fall  
 We'll carry him home to victory on the Wabash Cannonball.