

I'm the Man That Built the Bridges

Tom Paxton

I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
Oiled all the cars
And I laid down the cornerstone
For this great land of ours
I cleared the rocks and timber from the wild New England shore
And I laboured long and hard to make it grow
I fought the savage Indian and I raised a family
I built the first log cabins and I raised a family

Told King George and all his Redcoats where to go
I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
Oiled all the cars
And I laid down the cornerstone
For this great land of ours
I'm the boy that drove the wagons when the people headed west
Dug canals and pulled the barges on their way
I built and ran the factories, cut the timber for your homes
Drove the oxen when I cut and baled the hay
I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
And oiled all the cars
And I laid down the cornerstone
For this great land of ours
I built the old sod shanties and I raised the prairie towns
And I made the railroad run from sea to sea
I raised and drove the cattle to feed a growing land
And the mining towns are there because of me
I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
And oiled all the cars
And I laid down the cornerstone
For this great land of ours
Well, I stoked the mighty furnaces and rolled the flamin' steel
I operated oil rigs and wells
And when the country needed them, I built the planes and tanks
To send the tyrants down to fry in hell
I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
Oiled all the cars
And I laid down the cornerstone

For this great land of ours
Well, my face may not be pretty and my clothes are not the best
And there ain't no big shots in my family tree
But if you're wonderin' who it was that made this country great
You don't have to look no further, it was me
I'm the man that built the bridges
I'm the man that laid the track
I'm the man that built this country
With my shoulders and my back
I'm the man that built the power dams
And oiled all the cars
I laid down the cornerstone
For this great land of ours