The Rocky Road to Dublin

In the merry month of May, from me home I started: kissed the girls of Clay and left them broken-hearted,
Saluted Father Dear, kissed me darlin’ mother, drank a pint of beer me grief and tears to smother,
Then, off to reap the corn and leave where I was born. I cut a stout blackthorn to banish ghost and goblin.
In me pair of brogues, I rattled o’er the bogs and frightened all the dogs on the rocky road to Dublin.

A haon, a dó, a trí! Hunt the hare and turn her
Down the rocky road and all the way to Dublin.
Whack fol-lol-de-ra!

In Mullingar that night I rested limbs so weary; started by daylight, next morning light and airy;
Took a drop o’ the pure to keep my heart from sinking—that’s an Irishman’s cure, whene’er he’s on for drinking!
To see the lassies smile, laughing all the while, at my curious style, ‘twould set your heart a-bubblin’!
Asked if I was hired, the wages I required, ‘till I was almost tired of the rocky road to Dublin.

In Dublin next arrived: I thought it such a pity to be so soon deprived a view of that fine city.
Then I took a stroll among the quality. Me bundle it was stole in a neat locality!
Something crossed me mind; then I looked behind: no bundle could I find upon me stick a-wobblin’!
Asking for the rogue, they said me Connacht brogue wasn’t much in vogue on the rocky road to Dublin.

From there I got away, me spirits never failing: landed on the quay, just as the ship was sailing.
Captain at me roared: said that no room had he; when I jumped aboard, a cabin found for Paddy
Down among the pigs. I played some funny rigs—danced some hearty jigs, the water round me bubblin’.
Off to Holyhead, I wished meself was dead, or, better far instead, on the rocky road to Dublin.

The boys of Liverpool, when we safely landed, called meself a fool—I could no longer stand it!
Blood began to boil; temper I was losin’! Poor old Erin’s isle they began abusin’!
“Hurrah my soul!” says I—shillelagh I let fly! Some Galway boys were by; they saw I was a hobble in.
With a loud Hurrah, they joined in the affray; we quickly cleared the way for the rocky road to Dublin.