Red-Haired Mary

While going to the fair of Dingle one fine morning last July,
Going down the road before me a red-haired girl I chanced to spy.

I rode up to her and said, "my lady, my donkey, he will carry two" -
"Well, seeing as you have a donkey, to the Dingle fair I'll ride with you".

Now, when we reached the town of Dingle, I took her hand to say "goodbye",
When a tinker-man stepped up beside me, and he belted me in my left eye!

"Keep your hands off red-haired Mary! Her and I will soon be wed!
We'll see the priest this very morning; tonight we'll lie in a married bed!"

Now I was feeling kind of peevish, and my poor, old eye was sad and sore,
And I gently tapped him with my hobnails, and he flew back through Murphy's door.

Chorus
A policeman came around the corner, and he told me I had broke the law,
When the donkey kicked him in the kneecap, and he fell down and broke his jaw.

Chorus
The he went off to find his brother - the biggest man you ever did meet -
And he tapped me gently with his knuckles, and I was minus two front teeth.

Chorus
Now, the red-haired girl, she kept on smiling. "I'll go with you, young man", she said -
"We'll forget the priest this very morning, and tonight we'll lie in Murphy's shed!".

"Keep your hands off red-haired Mary! Her and I will soon be wed!
"We'll forget the priest this very morning, and tonight we'll lie in Murphy's shed!"

Now, through the fair we rode together: my black eye and her red hair,
Smiling gaily at the tinkers, and, by God, we were a handsome pair!

"Keep your hands off red-haired Mary! Her and I will soon be wed!
"We'll forget the priest this very morning, and tonight we'll lie in Murphy's shed!"