The Rising of the Moon

"Oh, then tell me Sean O' Farrell, tell me why you hurry so?"

"Hush, me buchall, hush and listen," and his cheeks were all a-glow.

"I bear orders from the captain, get you ready quick and soon,
For the pikes must be together by the rising of the moon.

By the rising of the moon, by the rising of the moon,
And the pikes must be together by the rising of the moon.

(repeat last line of verse)

"Oh then tell me Sean O' Farrell, where the gathering is to be."
"In the old spot by the river, right well known to you and me.
One more word for signal token, whistle up the marching tune
With your pike upon your shoulder, by the rising of the moon."

Chorus

Out from many a mudwall cabin eyes were watching through the night,
Many a manly heart was throbbing for the blessed warning light,
Murmurs passed along the valley like the banshee's lonely croon,
And a thousand blades were flashing at the rising of the moon.

Chorus

There beside the singing river that dark mass of men were seen
Far above the shining weapons hung their own beloved green.
"Death to every foe and traitor, forward strike the marching tune,
And, Hurrah, my boys for freedom, 'tis the rising of the moon."

Chorus