



The wearing of the green

IRISH FOLKSONG

Frederick W. Goodrich
(1866-1942)

Frederick William Goodrich (1866–1942) was born in Norfolk, England, and became a church organist at age 18. He served at several London churches before immigrating to the United States in 1904 as organist at St. David's Episcopal church in Portland, Oregon. He served as organist at St. Mary's Catholic cathedral (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) from 1907 to 1934, then was organist at Grace Memorial Episcopal church until his retirement in 1949. He was a leading figure in the city's musical life. He was organist for the Lewis and Clark fair in 1905 and was a guest organist at the San Francisco world's fair in 1915. He was editor of "The Oregon Catholic Hymnal"; was president of the "Oregon Music Teachers Association"; and wrote an unpublished history of the Portland Symphony Orchestra. His compositions are mostly arrangements and church music.

O Paddy dear, an' did you hear the news that's goin' round?
The shamrock is forbid by law to grow on Irish ground:
Saint Patrick's day no more we'll keep, his colours can't be seen,
For there's a cruel law again' the wearin' o' the green.
I met with Napper Tandy, and he took me by the hand,
And said, "How's poor ould Ireland, and how does she stand?"
She's the most distressful country that ever yet was seen,
They're hanging men and women there for wearin' o' the green.

Oh! if the colour we must wear is England's cruel red,
Sure Ireland's sons will ne'er forget the blood that they have shed.
You may take the shamrock from your hat, and cast it on the sod,
But 'twill take root and flourish still, Tho' under foot 'tis trod.
When law can stop the blades of grass from growing as they grow,
And when the leaves in summertime their verdure cease to show,
Then I will change the colour I wear in my coubeen;
But till that time, please God, I'll stick to wearin' o' the green.

But if at last our colour should be torn from Ireland's heart,
Her sons with shame and sorrow from the dear old toil will part;
I've heard whisper of a country that lies far beyond the say,
Where rich and poor stand equal in the light of freedom's day.
Oh, Erin, must we leave you? driven by the tyrant's hand,
Must we ask a mother's welcome from a strange but happier land?
Where the cruel cross of England's thralldom never shall be seen;
And where, thank God, we'll live and die, still wearin' o' the green.

The wearing of the green

arr. F. W. Goodrich

Moderato

S O Pad - dy dear, an' did you hear the news that's go - in' round? The

A O Pad - dy dear, an' did you hear the news that's go - in' round? The

T O Pad - dy dear, an' did you hear the news that's go - in' round? The

B O Pad - dy dear, an' did you hear the news that's go - in' round? The

5
S sham - rock is for - bid by law to grow on I - rish ground: Saint

A sham - rock is for - bid by law to grow on I - rish ground: Saint

T sham - rock is for - bid by law to grow on I - rish ground: Saint

B sham - rock is for - bid by law to grow on I - rish ground: Saint



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9

S Pa - trick's day no more we'll keep, his co - lours can't be seen, For

A Pa - trick's day no more we'll keep, his co - lours can't be seen, For

T Pa - trick's day no more we'll keep, his co - lours can't be seen, For

B Pa - trick's day no more we'll keep, his co - lours can't be seen, For

13

S there's a cru - el law a - gain' the wear - in' o' the green. I _____

A there's a cru - el law a - gain' the wear - in' o' the green. I _____

T there's a cru - el law a - gain' the wear - in' o' the green. I _____

B there's a cru - el law a - gain' the wear - in' o' the green. I

17

S met with Nap - per Tan - dy, and he took me by the hand, And _____

A met with Nap - per Tan - dy, and he took me by the hand, And

T met with Nap - per Tan - dy, and he took me by the hand, And

B met with Nap - per Tan - dy, and he took me by the hand, And

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21

S said, "How's poor ould Ire - land, and how does she stand?" She's the

A said, "How's poor ould Ire - land, and how does she stand?" She's the

T said, "How's poor ould Ire - land, and how does she stand?" She's the

B said, "How's poor ould Ire - land, and how does she stand?" She's the

25

S most dis - tress - ful coun - try that ev - er yet was seen, They're

A most dis - tress - ful coun - try that ev - er yet was seen, They're

T most dis - tress - ful coun - try that ev - er yet was seen, They're

B most dis - tress - ful coun - try that ev - er yet was seen, They're

29

S hang - ing men and wo - men there for wear - in' o' the green.

A hang - ing men and wo - men there for wear - in' o' the green.

T hang - ing men and wo - men there for wear - in' o' the green.

B hang - ing men and wo - men there for wear - in' o' the green.

The wearing of the green

S Oh! — if the co - lour we must wear is Eng - land's cru - el red, Sure

A Oh! — if the co - lour we must wear is Eng - land's cru - el red, Sure

T Oh! — if the co - lour we must wear is Eng - land's cru - el red, Sure

B Oh! — if the co - lour we must wear is Eng - land's cru - el red, Sure

37
S Ire - land's sons will ne'er for - get the blood that they have shed. You may

A Ire - land's sons will ne'er for - get the blood that they have shed. You may

T Ire - land's sons will ne'er for - get the blood that they have shed. You may

B Ire - land's sons will ne'er for - get the blood that they have shed. You may

41
S take the sham - rock from your hat, and cast it on the sod, But

A take the sham - rock from your hat, and cast it on the sod, But

T take the sham - rock from your hat, and cast it on the sod, But

B take the sham - rock from your hat, and cast it on the sod, But

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45

S 'twill take root and flour - ish still, Tho' un - der foot 'tis trod. When —

A 'twill take root and flour - ish still, Tho' un - der foot 'tis trod. When —

T 'twill take root and flour - ish still, Tho' un - der foot 'tis trod. When —

B 'twill take root and flour - ish still, Tho' un - der foot 'tis trod. When

49

S law can stop the blades of grass from grow - ing as they grow, And —

A law can stop the blades of grass from grow - ing as they grow, And

T law can stop the blades — grass from grow - ing as they grow, And

B law can stop the blades of grass from grow - ing as they grow, And

53

S when the leaves in sum - mer - time their ver - due cease to show, Then —

A when the leaves in sum - mer - time their ver - due cease to show, Then —

T when the leaves in sum - mer - time their ver - due cease to show, Then —

B when the leaves in sum - mer - time their ver - due cease to show, — Then —

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57

S I will change the colour I wear in my country; But

A I will change the colour I wear in my country; But

T I will change the colour I wear in my country; But

B I will change the colour I wear in my country; But

61

S till that time, please God, I'll stick to wearing o' the green.

A till that time, please God, I'll stick to wearing o' the green.

T till that time, please God, I'll stick to wearing o' the green.

B till that time, please God, I'll stick to wearing o' the green.

S But— if at last our colour should be torn from Ireland's heart, Her

A But— if at last our colour should be torn from Ireland's heart, Her

T But— if at last our colour should be torn from Ireland's heart, Her

B But— if at last our colour should be torn from Ireland's heart, Her

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69

S sons with shame and sor - row from the dear old toil will part; I've heard

A sons with shame and sor - row from the dear old toil will part; I've heard

T sons with shame and sor - row from the dear old toil will part; I've heard

B sons with shame and sor - row from the dear old toil will part; I've heard

73

S whis - per of a coun - try that lies far be - yond the say, Where

A whis - per of a coun - try that lies far be - yond the say, Where

T whis - per of a coun - try that lies far be - yond the say, Where

B whis - per of a coun - try that lies far be - yond the say, Where

77

S rich and poor stand e - qual in the light of free - dom's day. Oh, —

A rich and poor stand e - qual in the light of free - dom's day. Oh, —

T rich and poor stand e - qual in the light of free - dom's day. Oh, —

B rich and poor stand e - qual in the light of free - dom's day. Oh,

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81

S E - rin, must we leave you, driv - en by the ty - rant's hand? Must we

A E - rin, must we leave you, driv - en by the ty - rant's hand? Must we

T E - rin, must we leave you, driv - en by the ty - rant's hand? Must we

B E - rin, must we leave you, driv - en by the ty - rant's hand? Must we

85

S ask a moth - er's wel - come from a strange but hap - pier land? Where the

A ask a moth - er's wel - come from a strange but hap - pier land? Where the

T ask a moth - er's wel - come from a strange but hap - pier land? Where the

B ask a moth - er's wel - come from a strange but hap - pier land? Where the

89

S cru - el cross of Eng - land's thral - dom nev - er shall be seen; And

A cru - el cross of Eng - land's thral - dom nev - er shall be seen; And

T cru - el cross of Eng - land's thral - dom nev - er shall be seen; And

B cru - el cross of Eng - land's thral - dom nev - er shall be seen; And

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93

S
where, thank God, we'll live and die, still wear - in' o' the green.

A
where, thank God, we'll live and die, still wear - in' o' the green.

T
where, thank God, we'll live and die, still wear - in' o' the green.

B
where, thank God, we'll live and die, still wear - in' o' the green.

J. Fischer & Bro.
(1910)

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