

The Adventures of Jack O'Donohoe

Words from the Bradshaw Collection, in Cambridge University Library discovered by Hugh Anderson.
Setting from the singing of 'The Wild Colonial Boy' by Jacko Kevans

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody is simple, using eighth and quarter notes. Chords are indicated by letters above the staff: C, Dm, Am, G, F, and C. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words split across lines. The score is divided into four measures, each starting with a measure number (1, 4, 8, 12).

1 At ___ tend each val - i - ant high - way - man and out - laws of dis - tain,

4 Who choose to live ___ in slav - er - y or wear the brand ___ of chains,

8 At - - ten - tion pay ___ to what I say, be - - lieve me if ___ you do,

12 I ___ will re - late the wretch - ed state of Jack O' - Don - o - - hoe.

This bold undaunted highwayman, as you shall understand,
Was banished for his natural life from Erin's happy land,
In Dublin town, of high renown, where his first breath he drew
The deeds of honour titled valiant Jack O'Donohoe.

When he effected his escape he took to the highway.
Where tyrants dare not walk the road either by night or day
Every morning in the newspaper there was something published new,
Concerning of that hero bold called Jack O'Donohoe.

He had not been twelve months on the Australian shore,
Till he turned on the highway as many did before,
There was McMurragh and Andrew Ward, Warber, and Wellesley too,
Those were the chief associates of brave O'Donohoe.

Says O'Donohoe to his comrades if you prove true to me,
This day we'll fight with all our might and gain our liberty,
We got courage stout and bold and Irishmen so true.
So this day we'll fight for liberty says bold O'Donohoe.

O no cried cowardly Wellesley to that we'll not agree.
Don't you see there's eight or nine of them it's time for us to flee
And if we stay it will be too late and the battle we'll surely rue
Then be gone from me you cowardly dogs cried bold O'Donohoe.

Says the serjeant to O'Donohoe discharge your carabine
Or do you intend to fight with us or on to us resign.
To resign on to such cowardly dogs I never intend to do,
But this day I'll fight for liberty cried Jack O'Donohoe.

Then the serjeant and the corporal their men they did divide,
Some they placed behind him and more then by his side,
The serjeant and the corporal in front they fired to,
Till at length the ball caused the fall of brave O'Donohoe.

Nine rounds he fought with the police until a powder ball,
It struck the heart of O'Donohoe which caused him for to fall
In closing of his sparkling career he bid this world adieu.
Saying good people all pray for the soul of brave Jack O'Donohoe.