

**IRISH BALLADS
AND
DRINKING SONGS**

Six Irish Folksongs for Men's Chorus and Piano

arranged by
BRUCE TRINKLEY

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Six Irish Folksongs for Men's Chorus and Piano

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ARRANGER'S NOTE

These Irish folk songs are drawn from four anthologies:

Songs of Ireland by J. L. Hatton and J. L. Molloy, published in 1880

The Minstrelsy of Ireland, 206 Irish Songs, arranged for voice and piano by Alfred Moffat, published in 1897

Irish Country Songs, Volume 2, edited and arranged by Herbert Hughes, published in 1915

Irish Street Ballads, collected by Colm O Lochlainn, published in 1960

The arrangements were written during a residency at Dorland Mountain Arts Colony in Temecula, California in July 1998. *Irish Ballads and Drinking Songs* is dedicated to the Penn State Glee Club in celebration of its 110th anniversary.

GLOSSARY and NOTES

1. *The Rakes of Mallow*, 18th century song. The “Rakes” were the sons of the Protestant gentlemen who frequented the “waters” of Mallow, a town in southern Ireland.
2. The tune to *It Chanced When I Was Walking* was obtained in 1854 from the singing of a Clare peasant; the verses are from an old broadside ballad of about 1780.
3. Thomas Moore (1779-1852), Irish poet whose *Irish Melodies* (1808-1834) were set to traditional Irish tunes.
4. *The Black Horse*, the name of an English military unit in the 18th century.
shuttle, probably referring to a weaving loom; the young man may be a weaver by trade.
Galway, county in west-central Ireland
Armagh, (är-mä´) county and town in southern Northern Ireland
5. *Limerick*, city in southwestern Ireland. The River Shannon flows through the city.
6. *Garryowen*, suburb of Limerick. The name means “Owen's Garden”. The song was probably written in the 1770's and parodies the excesses of the English garrison stationed in Limerick. Moffat refers to “the somewhat riotous state of matters existing there during the latter half of last century”.