

## *The GALWAY RACES*

AS I WENT OUT FROM GALWAY TOWN TO SEEK FOR RECREATION  
ON THE SEVENTEENTH OF AUGUST, MY MIND BEING ELEVATED  
THERE WERE MULTITUDES ASSEMBLED WITH THEIR TICKETS AT THE STATION  
MY EYES BEGAN TO DAZZLE AND I'M OFF TO SEE THE RACES!

*WITH YOUR WHACK-FA-THE-DOO, FAL-DE-DIDDLY-IDLE-DAY.*

THERE WERE PASSENGERS FROM LIMERICK AND PASSENGERS FROM NENAGH  
PASSENGERS FROM DUBLIN AND MORE FROM TIPPERARY  
THERE WERE PEOPLE THERE FROM KERRY AND THE BORDERS OF THE NATION  
AND EVEN SOME FROM DERRY COME TO SEE THE GALWAY RACES!

THERE WERE PEOPLE THERE FROM ARAN AND MEMBERS FROM NEW QUAY SHORE  
BOYS FROM CONNEMARA AND CLARE UNMARRIED MAIDENS  
PEOPLE FROM CORK CITY WHO WERE LOYAL, TRUE AND FAITHFUL  
WHO BROUGHT HOME THE FENIAN PRISONERS FROM DYING IN FOREIGN NATIONS

IT'S THERE YOU'LL SEE THE PIPERS AND THE FIDDLERS COMPETING  
THE NIMBLE-FOOTED DANCERS A-TRIPPING OVER THE DAISIES  
THERE WERE OTHERS CRYING CIGARS AND LIGHTS, AND BILLS FOR ALL THE RACES  
WITH THE COLOURS OF THE JOCKEYS AND THE PRICE AND HORSES AGES

IT'S THERE YOU'LL SEE MAGICIANS WITH THEIR THIMBLES AND THEIR GARTERS  
THE SPORTING WHEEL OF FORTUNE WITH THE FOUR AND TWENTY QUARTERS  
THERE WERE OTHERS WITHOUT SCRUPLES PELTING WATTLES AT POOR MAGGIE  
AND HER FATHER WELL CONTENTED TO BE GAWKING AT HIS DAUGHTER!

IT'S THERE YOU'LL SEE THE JOCKEYS AND THEY'RE MOUNTED OUT SO STATELY  
THE PINK, THE BLUE, THE ORANGE AND GREEN, THE EMBLEM OF OUR NATION  
WHEN THE BELL WAS RUNG FOR STARTING, ALL THE HORSES SEEMED IMPATIENT  
I THOUGHT THEY NEVER STOOD ON GROUND THEIR SPEED WAS SO AMAZING

THERE WAS HALF A MILLION PEOPLE THERE FROM ALL DENOMINATIONS  
THE CATHOLIC, THE PROTESTANT, THE JEW AND PRESBYTERIAN  
THERE WAS YET NO ANIMOSITY, NO MATTER WHAT PERSUASION  
BUT TRUTH AND HOSPITALITY INDUCING FRESH ACQUAINTANCE