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The Hope of Ireland.

Passes the night of thy bondage, Banba?
Dying, was Patrick's vision true?
Breaks the roselight of thy long lost freedom?
Comes the deep joy of thy hope anew?

Many the hearts for thy freeing, Banba,
Quenched in the stillness forevermore;
Many the souls that bless thee, Mother,
Pray for thy weal from Death's dark shore.

Answers Banba: "The faith I cherished
" Guided me safe 'mid ruin and bale—
" Come when it may the hour of my crowning,
" Thine be the merit, God of the Gael!"

HUBERT O'MEARA.

Banba—A Gaelic name for Ireland.