



RIGHTS OF MAN

I speak in candour one night in slumber
My mind did wander near to Athlone
The center-station of this Irish nation
When a congregation unto me was shown
Beyond my counting upon a mountain
Near to a fountain that clearly run
It felt to tremble I'll not dissemble
As they assembled for the rights of man
All clad in green there I thought I seen
A virtuous Queen that was grave & old
Saying children dear now do not fear
But come & hear what I will unfold
This fertile country near seven centuries
Since Strongbow's entry upon our land
Has been kept under wretched woes unnumbered
And always plundered of the rights of man
My cause you chided you so derided
When divided alas you know
All in disorder round Erin's border
Strife grief & murder has left you low
Let each communion detest disunion
In love & union join hand in hand
And believe old Grania that proud Britannia
No more shall rob you of the rights of man
Then I thought the crowd all spoke so loud
And straightway vowed to take her advice
Thy seen'd deluged & all united
Not to be frightened but to rejoice
Her hazy so pleasing she play'd amazing
I still kept gazing but could not understand
She sang most enchanting & most endearing
In words most soothing to the rights of man
Through the azure sky I then did spy
A man for to fly & for to descend
And straightway came down upon the ground
Where Erin round had her besom fiends
His dazzling mitre & cross was brighter
Than stars by night or mid-day sun
In accents rare then I do declare
He prayed success for the rights of man
When prayer was ended he chided
His land to lend it in for his cause
He says I'll lead you & he said you
And still persuade you to Christian laws
When in affliction or sad restriction
My benediction with uplifted hand
I'll explain it you shall obtain it
And surely gain it with the rights of man
For their inspection & clear direction
And grant discretion the three leaved plant
He elevated & consecrated
And this repeated do not recant
But still look to it & still review it
Not none gubner it—it is three in one
To prove its duty in that community
That holds lanky the rights of man
He straightway blessed & then caressed
But still implored them to persevere
When a rustling wind that seemed quite nigh
Whistled through the liquid air
Then Grania flutted & these words uttered
I'll break your fathers in for it's long
Away be it with bade them adieu
Saying I'll be true to the rights of man
When the population or congregation
In canticles agreed to part
Sook hands like brothers & kissed each other
While free saluted another once I wish
They separated all animated
All rejoiced at what went on
As day was breaking & poor Sibyl's waking
Still he tries to the rights of man