

Clancy Brothers

"Why Paddys Not At Work Today"

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It's on a Clancy Brothers CD "Live with Robby O'Connell"
or somesuch. The
song is called "Dear Boss."
Dear Boss I write this note to you to tell you of my plight
And at the time of writing I am not a pretty sight
Me body is all black and blue and me face a deadly
gray
And I hope you'll understand why Paddy's not at work
today
I was workin' on the 14th floor; some bricks I had to
clear
And throwin' 'em down from such a height was not a
good idea
The foreman wasn't very pleased, he bein' an awful
sod
And he said I'd have to take them down the ladder in
me hod
Now shiftin' all those bricks by hand it seemed so awful
slow
So I hoisted up a barrel and secured a rope below
But in my haste to do the job I was too blind to see
That a barrel full of buildin' bricks was heaveier than
me
Now when I came down I cut the rope and the barrel fell
like lead
And clinging tightly to the rope I started up instead
I shot up like a rocket and to my dismay I found
That halfway up I met the bloody barrel comin' down
Now the barrel broke me shoulder as to the ground it
sped

And when I reached the top I struck the pulley with me
head
I still clung on though numbed and shocked from this
almighty blow
And the barrel spilled out half the bricks 14 floors
below
Now when the bricks had fallen from the barrel to the
floor
I then outweighed the barrel and I started down once
more
Still clinging tightly to the rope I headed for the ground

And I fell among the broken bricks that were all
scatter'd 'round
As I lay there moaning on the floor sure I thought I'd
passed the worst
Then the barrel struck the pulley wheel and didn't the
bottom burst
A shower of bricks came down on me sure I haven't got
a hope
And as I was losing consciousness... I let go the bloody
rope
Now the barrel it being heavier it started down once
more
And it landed right across me as I lay there on the floor
I broke three ribs and my left arm and I can only say
That I hope you'll understand why Paddy's not at work
today

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