

The Dubliners

"A Nation Once Again"

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When boyhood's fire was in my blood
I read of ancient freemen,
Of Greece and Rome who bravely stood,
Three hundred men and free men;
And then I thought I ever might see
Our fetters rent in twain,
And Ireland, long a province, be
A Nation once again!

Chorus:

A Nation once again,
A Nation once again,
And Ireland, long a province, be
A Nation once again!

And from that time, through wildest woe,
That hope has shone a far light,
Nor could love's brightest summer glow
Outshine that solemn starlight;
It seemed to watch above my head
In forum, field and fane,
Its angel voice sang round my bed,
A Nation once again! (chorus)

So, as I grew from boy to man,
I bent me to that bidding
My spirit of each selfish plan
And cruel passion ridding;
For, thus I hoped some day to aid,
Oh, can such hope be vain ?
When my dear country shall be made
A Nation once again! (chorus)

[The two last strophes are not always sung by the Dubliners, Luke Kelly]

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