

Patrick Street

"The Humours Of The King Of Ballyhooley"

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I'll tell yez how it was with me if to listen yez are willin'
'Twas in yon house behind yon hill where I had lately
been distillin'
I slung a keg upon me back and started out for daylight
cooly
Good customers I did not lack and I sold it all in
Ballyhooley

I thought it wiser to delay me homeward way for fear of
Peelers
And in that way I spent the day dinin' with the whiskey
dealers
But as the shades of night came down and I had got
me money duly
I bid goodnight to all was there and I started home
from Ballyhooley

My heart was light with the Mountain Dew that I had
brewed among the heather
And on me way I chanced to spy a lad and lassie walk
together
Her neck was like the mountain snow with cheeks like
roses blossomed newly
She'd a voice like music soft and low she was the
flower of Ballyhooley

This young man quickly left her side he it was afraid of
me that he was
And still the lassie did not hide it was in love with me
that she was
Then quickly up beside her came says I fair maid I love
you truly
And if your parents give consent will you be my bride in
Ballyhooley

I have a house behind yon hill two fine greyhonds and
a ferret
Besides I have a little still the drop it makes with you I'll
share it
And I have got a feather bed with sheets and blankets
purchased newly

Besides I have a ring to wed if you'll be mine in
Ballyhooley

Her cherry cheeks they grew more red during the time
that we were talkin'
And still she hung her little head and viewed the
ground where we were walkin'
She says young man if you're content and if you say
you love me truly
And if me parents give consent I'll be your bride in
Ballyhooley

I asked her name she said it was Jane and that her
second name was Cooley
And then I asked her when we'd wed she said the
sooner wed the better
So I went and asked her parents glad if they were
content to let me get her
They said they were they wished us luck we started out
for Father Dooley
And at the hour of twelve o'clock he tied the knot in
Ballyhooley

The Weddin' that we had that day the people comin'
uninvited
The piper played for every squad Jane she sang and I
recited
The poteen flowed like a waterfall that from the still
had just come newly
And in that way we gaily spent our honeymoon in
Ballyhooley

The Weddin' presents that we got none of them was
mean or shabby
And me Auntie Dot she bought some cloth to make the
dresses for the baby
Invitations then went round to friends that we had just
made newly
A lighter heart could not be found that mine that night
in Ballyhooley

It's fifteen years now since we wed still in every way
we're thrivin'
Me Jane she is a dandy yet though down the hill of life
she's drivin'
The family has increased in store fifteen daughters all
unruly
Bonny Jane she is me Queen and I'm the king of
Ballyhooley.

