

Dear Old Donegal

It seems like only yesterday I sailed from out of Cork
A wanderer from Erin's isle, I landed in New York
There wasn't a soul to greet me there a stranger on your shore
But Irish luck was with me here and riches came galore
And now that I'm going back again to dear old Erin's isle
My friends will meet me on the pier and greet me with a smile
Their faces, sure, I've almost forgot I've been so long away
But me mother will introduce them all and this to me will say:

chorus:

*Shake hands with your Uncle Mike, me boy, And here is your sister, Kate
And there's the girl you used to swing down by the garden gate
Shake hands with all of the neighbors, and kiss the colleens all
You're as welcome as the flowers in May To dear old Donegal*

They'll give a party when I go home they'll come from near and far
They'll line the roads for miles and miles with Irish jaunty cars
The spirits'll flow and we'll be gay we'll fill your hearts with joy
The piper'll play an Irish reel to greet the Yankee boy
We'll dance and sing the whole night long such fun as never seen
The lads'll be decked in corduroy the colleens wearin' green
There'll be thousands there that I never saw I've been so long away
But me mother will introduce them all and this to me will say:

(chorus)

There'll be thousands there that I never saw I've been so long away
But me mother will introduce them all and this to me will say:
Meet Branigan, Fannigan, Milligan, Gilligan, Duffy, McCuffy, Malachy, Mahone,
Rafferty, Lafferty, Donnelly, Connelly, Dooley, O'Hooley, Muldowney, Malone,
Madigan, Cadigan, Lanihan, Flanihan, Fagan, O'Hagan, O'Hoolihan, Flynn,
Shanihan, Manihan, Fogarty, Hogarty, Kelly, O'Kelly, McGuinness, McGuinn.

(chorus)