

BOG OF MONRUE

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I'LL GIVE YOU A TOAST TO DAYS LONG GONE BY
WHEN WE WORKED HARD AND LABORED WITHOUT WHIMPER OR SIGH
AS WE CHATTED AND SANG THE WHOLE DAY THROUGH
SAVING THE TURF ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

WE WENDED OUR WAY ON A BRIGHT SUMMER'S MORN
WITH THE SPARKLE OF DEW ON GRASS AND YOUNG CORN
CEANNABHAIN, HEATHER, AND MYRTLE TO VIEW
ENCHANTING THE SCENE ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

SO ALL WERE AS BUSY AS BEES IN THE HIVE
FROM CUTTING TO FOOTING, ALL WORKED WITH GREAT DRIVE
THE WHITE-SHIRTED MEN, AND THE LASSIES THERE TOO
THERE WAS NO "WORK-TO-RULE" ON THE BOG OF MONRUE!

THE SKILL OF THE SLANESMAN I COULD NE'ER UNDERSTAND
THE SOD SPED FROM HIS SLEAN WITH A RHYTHM SO GRAND
I PILED THEM ON BARROWS - 'T WAS HARD WORK TO DO
AND WHEELED THEM FAR OUT ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

THE MEAL AROUND MIDDAY WAS EATEN WITH ZEST
THE DINERS ALL SEATED ON HEATHER TO REST
WHILE THE SONG OF THE SKYLARK SOUNDED SWEET IN THE BLUE
OF THE CLEAR BALMY AIR O'ER THE BOG OF MONRUE

AND AFTER THEIR DINNER, THE FOLK WOULD COMMUNE
YOU'D HEAR SONGS AND STORIES, AND MAYBE A TUNE
OR A LAD AND A LASSIE WOULD STEAL OUT OF VIEW
FOR A BIT OF ROMANCE ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

AND IT'S OFTEN WE'D WALK TO THE RIVER NEARBY
TO WATCH THE TROUT RISING TO CATCH THEM A FLY
OR WE'D STROLL THROUGH THE HEATHER, WHERE IT'S WELL THAT WE KNEW
THAT WE'D FIND A GROUSE NEST ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

AND EVEN IN WINTER, THIS BOG HAD ALLURE
THE HARE WE OFT HUNTED O'ER THE FAR-STRETCHING MOOR
WHILE THE CALL OF THE CURLEW, LIKE A LONESOME ADIEU
WOULD FILL YOU WITH AWE ON THE BOG OF MONRUE

YOU MAY BOAST OF YOUR SWISS SPAS AND HEALTH CENTERS GRAND
AND YOUR FINE MEDICATION OF HIGH-SOUNDING BRAND
BUT FOR ANIMATION AND PEACE OF MIND TRUE
YOU WON'T FIND THE LIKE OF THE BOG OF MONRUE!