

JOHN MITCHEL

**I AM A TRUE-BORN IRISHMAN
JOHN MITCHEL IS MY NAME
TO FREE MY OWN BRAVE COUNTRYMEN
FROM NEWRY TOWN I CAME
I STRUGGLED HARD BOTH DAY AND NIGHT
TO FREE MY NATIVE LAND
FOR WHICH I WAS TRANSPORTED
AS YOU MAY UNDERSTAND**

**WHEN FIRST I JOINED MY COUNTRYMEN
IT WAS IN FORTY-TWO
AND WHAT THEN FOLLOWED AFTER
I'LL QUICKLY TELL TO YOU
I RAISED THE STANDARD OF REPEAL
AND GLORIED IN THE DEED
AND VOWED TO HEAVEN I'D NEVER REST
TILL IRELAND IT WAS FREED**

**WHILE HERE IN PRISON CLOSE CONFINED
AWAITING THE TRIAL DAY
MY LOVING WIFE SHE CAME TO ME
AND THESE BRAVE WORDS DID SAY
"OH JOHN MY DEAR, KEEP UP YOUR HEART
AND DAUNTED DO NOT BE
IT'S BETTER TO DIE FOR IRELAND'S RIGHT
THAN LIVE IN SLAVERY! "**

**WHEN I RECEIVED MY SENTENCE
IT WAS ON A FOREIGN GROUND
WHERE HUNDREDS OF MY COUNTRYMEN
WERE ALL ASSEMBLED ROUND
MY LIBERTY WAS OFFERED ME
IF I WOULD FORSAKE THEIR CAUSE
BUT I'D RATHER DIE TEN THOUSAND DEATHS
THAN FORSAKE MY IRISH BOYS!**

**FAREWELL MY TRUE-BORN IRISHMEN
FAREWELL MY COUNTRY SMALL
BUT LEAVING MY DEAR BABES BEHIND
THAT GRIEVES ME MOST OF ALL:
THERE'S ONE REQUEST I ASK OF YOU
WHEN YOUR LIBERTY YOU GAIN:
REMEMBER MITCHEL FAR AWAY
A CONVICT BOUND IN CHAINS!**