

# **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!**