

REYNARD the FOX

ON THE FIRST DAY OF MARCH IN THE YEAR OF NINETY-THREE
THE FIRST RECREATION WAS IN THIS COUNT(E)RY
-THE KING'S COUNTY GENTLEMEN OVER HILLS FIELDS AND ROCKS
THEY ALL SET OUT SO JOYFULLY IN SEARCH OF THE FOX

*TALLY-HO, HARK AWAY
TALLY-HO, HARK AWAY
TALLY-HO, HARK AWAY ME BOYS
AWAY, HARK AWAY!*

WHEN REYNARD WAS FIRST SPOTTED, HE FACED TULLAMORE
WITH ARKLOW AND WICKLOW BEHIND HIM ON THE SHORE
WE KEPT HIS BRUSH IN VIEW EVERY YARD OF THE WAY
AND IT'S STRAIGHT HE MADE HIS COURSE
THROUGH THE STREETS OF ROSCREA

BUT REYNARD, SLY REYNARD, HE KEPT US THERE THAT NIGHT
AND WE SWORE THAT WE'D WATCH FOR HIM UNTIL THE MORNING LIGHT
AND NEXT MORNING EARLY, THE [AIR] [HILLS] DID RESOUND
WITH THE SWEET SCENT OF HORSES AND THE SWEET CRY OF HOUNDS

WHEN REYNARD WAS STARTED, HE RACED TO THE HOLLOW
WHERE NONE BUT THE FOOTMEN AND HOUNDS COULD THEY FOLLOW
THE GENTLEMEN ALL CRIED "WATCH HIM! WATCH HIM! OH WHAT WILL WE DO?
IF THE ROCKS DO NOT STOP HIM HE'LL CROSS INTO KILLALOE!"

WHEN REYNARD WAS CAPTURED, HIS WISHES TO FULFILL
WE SENT FOR PEN AND PAPER AND HE SOON MADE OUT HIS WILL
AND WHAT HE MADE MENTION OF, WE FOUND IT WAS NO PRANK
FOR HE LEFT US ALL A CHECK ON THE NATIONAL BANK!

"TO YOU MR REYNOLDS, I LEAVE MY WHOLE ESTATE
AND TO YOU MR WHELAN, MY MONEY AND MY PLATE
AND TO YOU, BOLD O'SULLIVAN, MY WHIP AND SPURS AND CAP
FOR YOU JUMPED THE HEDGE AND DITCHES AND NE'ER LOOKED FOR A GAP!"