

SKIBBEREEN

**"OH FATHER DEAR, I OFTEN HEAR YOU SPEAK OF ERIN'S ISLE
HER LOFTY SCENES, HER VALLEYS GREEN, HER MOUNTAINS RUDE AND WILD
THEY SAY IT IS A LOVELY LAND WHEREIN A PRINCE MIGHT DWELL
THE WHY DID YOU ABANDON IT? - THE REASON TO ME TELL!"**

**"OH SON, I LOVED OUR NATIVE LAND WITH ENERGY AND PRIDE
BUT A BLIGHT CAME OVER ALL OUR CROPS - OUR SHEEP AND CATTLE DIED
THE RENT AND TAXES WERE TO PAY AND I COULD NOT THEM REDEEM
AND THAT'S THE CRUEL REASON THAT I LEFT OLD SKIBBEREEN!"**

**"IT'S WELL THAT I REMEMBER THAT BLEAK DECEMBER DAY
THE LANDLORD AND HIS BAILIFFS CAME TO DRIVE US ALL AWAY.
THEY SET MY ROOF ON FIRE WITH THEIR CURSED ENGLISH SPLEEN
AND THAT'S ANOTHER REASON WHY I LEFT OLD SKIBBEREEN!"**

**"YOUR MOTHER TOO - GOD REST HER SOUL - LAY ON THE SNOWY GROUND,
SHE FAINTED IN HER ANGUISH SEEING THE DESOLATION ROUND
SHE NEVER SPOKE BUT PASSED AWAY FROM LIFE TO IMMORTAL DREAM
AND NOW SHE LIES IN THE COLD COLD GROUND
NEAR THE ABBEY OF SKIBBEREEN!"**

**"IT'S WELL THAT I REMEMBER TOO THE YEAR OF FORTY-EIGHT
WHEN I AROSE WITH ENGLAND'S FOES TO FIGHT AGAINST OUR FATE
THEY HUNTED US TO THE MOUNTAINS THEN, AS TRAITORS TO THE QUEEN
AND THAT'S ANOTHER REASON WHY I LEFT OLD SKIBBEREEN!"**

**"OH FATHER DEAR - THE DAY WILL COME WHEN IN ANSWER TO THE CALL
EACH IRISHMAN BOTH YOUNG AND OLD WILL RALLY, ONE AND ALL
I'LL BE THE MAN TO LEAD THE VAN BENEATH OUR FLAG OF GREEN
AND LOUD AND HIGH WE'LL RAISE THE CRY - REVENGE FOR SKIBBEREEN!"**