

Erin's Lovely Home

1. When _ I was young and in my prime, my age was twen - ty one.
Then I be - came a ser - vant un - - to some gen - tle - - man.
I served him true and hon - est as it is ver - y well known.
But _ cru - ell - - y they ban - ished me from - - Er - in's love - ly home.

2. Yo, the reason why they banished me, I mean to let you hear.
It is true I loved his daughter. She lov-ed me so dear.
She had a handsome fortune but riches I had none
That's the reason why they banished me from Erin's lovely home.
3. Down in her father's garden all in the month of June,
When a-picking of sweet flowers all in their youthful bloom.
She said "My dearest William, if with me you will roam
We will bid adieu to all our friends and Erin's lovely home."
4. That very night I gave consent that along with her I'd go.
And to leave her father's dwelling place, which proved my overthrow.
The night invite, the moon shone bright. Together we set alone
And a-thinking we got safe away from Erin's lovely home.
5. But it's of a sad misfortune, I mean for to let you hear.
In the course of three hours after, her father did appear.
He marched us back to home in the country where I roam.
And there I was transported from Erin's lovely home.
6. Yo, when my sentence passed on me, it grieved me right full sore,
And a-parting from my own true love, it grieved me ten times more.
Here's a seven links unto my chain, and every link's a year
Before I can return again to the arms of my dear.
7. Just before the rout it came to jail for to take us all away
My true love she got ready our passage for to pay.
Five thousand pounds she counted down, saying "This shall be your own
Until you do return again to Erin's lovely home."

Notes: The words on the recording are very indistinct, and so words have been supplied from a Dorset version.

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