

# The Hills Of Mayo

B Major (TTBB + Piano)

Migrant workers from North Mayo journeyed to Scotland to pick potatoes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These were the Spalpeens and Tattie Hokers.

This was almost exclusively a Mayo and Donegal migration with a few recorded from Galway. Many were from Achill and according to local folklore it had been prophesised that the first and last trains would carry the bodies of dead people. The first train, in 1894 carried those of 32 tattie hokers who drowned in Clew Bay on their way to Scotland when the boat they were in capsized. In 1937 the railway, which had shut down, was reopened to carry the bodies of those burned in the Kirkintollach bothy fire, which focused attention on Peadar O'Donnell's campaign on behalf of the migrant workers and led to a government inquiry at the time.

Often these men travelled on to England to pick beet. Sometimes their families travelled with them. In other cases their wives and children were left at home. The men returned for a month in the spring to sow what land they had. These journeys were unique to Mayo and the West of Donegal and were also a unique form of migration.

Lyrics by: David Loring

Composed by: David Loring

1  $\text{♩} = 85$  *mf* 2 3 4

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Baritone *mf* SOLO

Bass *mf*

Piano *p*

I've trav - elled round this world a - lone seen mountains, valleys,

5 6 7 8

T1. 8

T2. 8

Bar. ALL

B. 8

Pno. *mf*

vill - as, homes but none can match the hearth of home; so

but none can match the hearth of home.

9 10 11 12

T1. *f* melody on Tenor 1 line *mf*

T2. *f* *mf*

Bar. *f* *mf*

B. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf*

lead me to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

lead me. hills of May-o hills of home. Guard - ians of our

13 14 *f* 15 16 *mf* 17

T1. 8 west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

T2. 8 west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

Bar. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

B. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

Pno. *f* *mf*

18 19 20

T1. 8 Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those

T2. 8 Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those

Bar. Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those

B. Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those

Pno.

21 22 23

T1. 8 Scot - tish fields All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly

T2. 8 Scot - tish fields. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly

Bar. Scot - ish fields. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly

B. Scot - ish fields. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly

Pno.

24 25 26 *f* 27

T1. 8 of my dear-est Mar-y that I left be-hind; Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees,

T2. 8 of my dear-est Mar-y that I left be-hind; Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees,

Bar. of my Mar-y that I left be-hind; Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees,

B. of my Mar-y that I left be-hind; Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees,

Pno.

28 *mf* 29 30 31

T1. 8 pick - ing those po - ta - toes. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet

T2. 8 pick - ing those po - ta - toes. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet

Bar. *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet

B. *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet

Pno.

32 33 34 *f* 35

T1. 8 in the Lin - coln fields. Hills of May - o, hills of home.

T2. 8 in the Lin - coln fields. Hills of May - o, hills of home.

Bar. *f* in the Lin - coln fields. Hills of May - o, hills of home.

B. *f* in the Lin - coln fields. Hills of May - o, hills of home.

Pno.

36 *mf* 37 38 *f* 39

T1. *mf* *f*  
 Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more

T2. *mf* *f*  
 Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more

Bar. *mf* *f*  
 Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more

B. *mf* *f*  
 Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more

Pno. *mf* *f*

40 *mf* 41 42 *mp* 43

T1. *mf* *mp*  
 from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and next door neighbours

T2. *mf* *mp*  
 from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and next door neighbours

Bar. *mf* *mp*  
 from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and next door neighbours

B. *mf* *mp*  
 from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and next door neighbours

Pno. *mf* *mp*

44 45 46 47

T1. 8 per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man, heart was sad-dened

T2. 8 per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man, heart was sad-dened

Bar. per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man, heart was sad-dened

B. per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man, heart was sad-dened

Pno.

48 49 50 *mf* 51

T1. 8 by the Kirk-in - til - loch\_ both - y fire. Ten men died, trapped in - side,

T2. 8 by the Kirk-in - til - loch\_ both - y fire. Ten men died, trapped in - side,

Bar. by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten men died, trapped in - side,

B. by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten died trapped inside

Pno.

52 53 54

*f* *mf* *f* *mf*

T1. 8 Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

T2. 8 Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

Bar. Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

B. Duggan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

Pno. *mf*

55 56 57

T1. 8 Dub - lin town to lay in peace in the ground; in the

T2. 8 Dub - lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the

Bar. Dub - lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the

B. Dub - lin town to lay in the ground, in the

Pno.



58 *f* 59 60 *mf* 61

T1. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

T2. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Bar. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

B. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Pno. *f* *mf*

62 *f* 63 64 *mf* 65

T1. Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

T2. Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

Bar. Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. I've

B. Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. I've

Pno. *f* *mf*

66 67 68 69

T1.

T2.

Bar.

B.

Pno.

70 71 72 73 *f*

T1.

T2.

Bar.

B.

Pno.

74 75 76 *mf* 77

T1. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

T2. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Bar. hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

B. hills of May-o hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Pno. *f* *mf*

78 *f* ritardando...to end 79 80 *mf* 81

T1. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

T2. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

Bar. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

B. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

Pno. *f* *mf* *p*

82 83 84 85  $\text{♩} = 50$

T1. *f* *ff*

T2. *f* *ff*

Bar. *f* *ff*

B. *f* *ff*

Pno. *f* *ff*

Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.

Shel - ter us for ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm.