

# Adieu to Erin

The musical score for 'Adieu to Erin' is written on five staves of music in treble clef. The piece features a complex, changing time signature: it begins in 2/4, changes to 3/4, then 2/4, then 3/4, then 2/4, then 3/4, then 2/4, then 3/4, then 2/4, and finally ends in 2/4. The melody is simple and lyrical, with a final cadence. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Fare - well, dear Er-in, I — now must leave you, Where here I've spent  
man-y a hap-py day, With lads and lass-ies and spark - ling glass-es, And  
now I'm bound for A - mer - i - ca. Fare - well, dear Er-in, I now — must leave  
you, And cross the seas to a for-ign clime, A - way from friends and  
kind re - la-tions, And — the a-ged par - rents I leave be - hind.

Farewell, green fields and sweet, lovely valleys,  
Where me and my true love so oft did roam,  
Where I fondly told her I ne'er would leave her  
As we walked through a shady grove.  
The crops are failing, the times are changing  
Which causes thousands to go away.  
Wait patiently until next season  
And we'll both sail over to America.

Note: The night before we left Nova Scotia there was a little gathering of neighbors and friends at our house and songs were sung as usual, everyone trying to appear cheerful. Mother was asked to sing this song, but before she finished it, her voice broke and she had to leave the room. I never heard her sing it again. It is evidently an old family song, as the words which I did not know were supplied by my cousin.