

McNamara's Band

Shamus O'Connor (music)
John J. Stamford (lyrics), 1889



Oh my [C] name is McNamara I'm the leader of the band
And [F] though we're small in [C] number we're the [G] best band in the land
[C] I am the conductor and I always like to play
With [F] all the good [C] musicians you [G] here about [C] today.

When the [C] drums go bang and the cymbals clang and the horns all blaze away
Mc[F]Carthy puffs the [C] old bassoon and [G] Doyle the pipes will play
[C] Hennessey, Tenancy tootles the flute me word it's something grand
A [F] credit to old [C] Ireland boys is [G] McNamara's [C] band.

[C] [F] [G] [C] [C] [F] [G] [C]

When[C]ever an election's on we play on either side
The [F] way we play those [C] fine old aires, fill [G] Irish hearts with pride
If [C] old Tom Moore was living now he'd make you understand
And [F] say there's nothing finer than old [G] MacNamara's [C] band.

When the [C] drums go bang and the cymbals clang and the horns all blaze away
Mc[F]Carthy puffs the [C] old bassoon and [G] Doyle the pipes will play
[C] Hennessey, Tenancy tootles the flute me word it's something grand
A [F] credit to old [C] Ireland boys is [G] McNamara's [C] band.

[C] [F] [G] [C] [C] [F] [G] [C]

We [C] play at wakes and weddings and at every county ball
And [F] at the great man's [C] funeral we [G] played the march in Soul
When the [C] Prince of Wales to Ireland came he shook me by the hand
And [F] said there's nothing [C] finer than old [G] MacNamaras[C] band.

When the [C] drums go bang and the cymbals clang and the horns all blaze away
Mc[F]Carthy puffs the [C] old bassoon and [G] Doyle the pipes will play
[C] Hennessey, Tenancy tootles the flute me word it's something grand
A [F] credit to old [C] Ireland boys is [G] McNamara's [C] band.

[C] [F] [G] [C] [C] [F] [G] [C]