

Irish Lamentation

King James' March to Limerick, Lochaber no more

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4. Chord symbols above are G, Am, D, G, C. The second staff starts at measure 7 with notes G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4. Chord symbols above are D, G, G, C, D, G. The third staff starts at measure 14 with notes G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4. Chord symbols above are C, D, F, C. The fourth staff starts at measure 19 with notes G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4, A4, B4, G4. Chord symbols above are G, D, Em, C, D, G. The piece ends with a double bar line.

This tune has a very complicated history. The first published version was in 1676 as "An Irish Tune" written by Myles O'Reilly. It was highly modified and republished in 1692 under the title *King James' March to Ireland*. It is a Jacobean tune lamenting the defeat of the Irish-Jacobean forces at the siege of Limerick in 1691. The resulting Treaty of Limerick ushered in the Protestant Ascendancy that dominated Ireland until 1916. The tune made its way to Scotland, where it was published in 1724 as the song *Lochaber no More*, whereafter it entered the Scottish psyche. It also turns up in 1724 under the title...Hautboy. It was first published as a dance as *Irish Lamentation* in John Walsh's1735, and continued to be published through the 17th and 18th Centuries. As a Pipe tune, "its playing to the Highland regiments abroad had such a profound adverse effect on the morale of the men that eventually it had to be banned".