



Six Irish Airs
(1)

Oh for the swords

OLD IRISH AIR

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

Oh for the swords of former time!
Oh for the men who bore them,
When, arm'd for Right, they stood sublime,
And tyrants crouch'd before them!

When free yet, ere courts began
With honours to enslave him,
The best honours worn by man
Were those which Virtue gave him!

Oh for the swords of former time!
Oh for the men who bore them!
When arm'd with Right, they stood sublime,
And tyrants crouch'd before them!

Oh for the kings who flourished then,
Oh for the pomp that crowned them,
When hearts and hands of freeborn men
Were all the ramparts round them!

When safe built on bosoms true,
The throne was but the centre
Round which Love a circle drew
That Treason durst not enter.

Oh for the kings who flourished then,
Oh for the pomp that crowned them,
When hearts and hands of freeborn men
Were all the ramparts round them!

Thomas Moore (1779-1852)

Oh for the swords

OLD IRISH AIR

C. V. Stanford

Moderato con fuoco

S
Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them, When,

A
Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them, When,

T
Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them, When,

B
Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them, When,

S
arm'd for Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them! When

A
arm'd for Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them! When

T
arm'd for Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them! When

B
arm'd for Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them!

Oh for the swords

5

S free yet, ere courts be - gan With hon - ours to en - slave him, The

A free yet, ere courts be - gan With hon - ours to en - slave him, The

T free yet, ere courts be - gan With hon - ours to en - slave him, The

B When free ere courts be - gan With hon - ours to en - slave him, The

7

S best hon - ours worn by man Were those which Vir - tue gave _____ him!

A best hon - ours worn by man Were those which Vir - tue gave _____ him!

T best hon - ours worn by man Were those which Vir - tue gave _____ him!

B best hon - ours worn by man Were those which Vir - tue gave _____ him!

9

S *ff* Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them! When

A *ff* Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them! When

T *ff* Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them! When

B *ff* Oh for the swords of for - mer time! Oh for the men who bore them! When

Oh for the swords

11

S arm'd with Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them!

A arm'd with Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them!

T arm'd with Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them!

B arm'd with Right, they stood sub - lime, And ty - rants crouch'd be - fore them!

14

S Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

A Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

T Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

B Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

16

S hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them! When

A hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them! When

T hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them! When

B hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them!

Oh for the swords

18

S safe built on bos - oms true, The throne was but the cen - tre Round

A safe built on bos - oms true, The throne was but the cen - tre Round

T safe built on bos - oms true, The throne was but the cen - tre Round

B When built on bos - oms true, The throne was but the cen - tre Round

20

S which Love a cir - cle drew That Trea - son durst not en - ter.

A which Love a cir - cle drew That Trea - son durst not en - ter.

T which Love a cir - cle drew That Trea - son durst not en - ter.

B which Love a cir - cle drew That Trea - son durst not en - ter.

22

S Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

A Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

T Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

B Oh for the kings who flour - ish'd then, Oh for the pomp that crown'd them, When

Oh for the swords

24

S
hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them!

A
hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them!

T
hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them!

B
hearts and hands of free - born men Were all the ram - parts round them!

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