

Mrs. McGrath

Words & music: Traditional

G C G D (pause & hold)
“Now, Mrs. McGrath,” the sergeant said
G D G D (pause & hold)
“Would you like to make a soldier out of your son Ted?”
G C G D
With a scarlet coat and a big cocked hat
G D G D
Oh! Mrs. McGrath, wouldn’t you like that?”

REFRAIN: C G
Wi’ me too-rye-ah, fol-the-diddle-dah
D G D
Too-rye, ooh-rye, ooh-rye-ah
C G
Wi’ me too-rye-ah, fol-the-diddle-dah
D G C G (pause & hold)
Too-rye, ooh-rye, ooh-rye-ah

G C G D (pause & hold)
So, Mrs. McGrath lived by the sea shore
G D G D (pause & hold)
For the space of seven long years or more
G C G D
’Til she spied a ship sail into the bay
G D G D
“’Tis my son Ted! — will ye clear the way?”

REFRAIN

G C G D (pause & hold)
“Oh, Captain, sir, where have you been?”
G D G D (pause & hold)
Have you been sailing on the Mediterreen?
G C G D
Oh, have you any tidings of my son Ted —
G D G D
Is the poor boy living or is he dead?”

REFRAIN

G C G D (pause & hold)
Then up steps Ted without any legs
G D G D (pause & hold)
And in their place two wooden pegs
G C G D
She kissed him a dozen times or two
G D G D
Cryin’ “Glory be to God, sure it couldn’t be you!”

REFRAIN

G C G D (pause & hold)
“Oh, was ye drunk or was ye blind
G D G D (pause & hold)
When you left your two fine legs behind?
G C G D
Or was it walkin’ upon the say*
G D G D
Wore your two fine legs from the knees away?”

* [i.e. ‘sea’]

REFRAIN

G C G D (*pause & hold*)
 "No, I was not drunk nor was I blind
G D G D (*pause & hold*)
 When I left my two fine legs behind.
G C G D
 But a cannon-ball on the fifth of May
G D G D
 Tore my two fine legs from my knees away."

REFRAIN

G C G D (*pause & hold*)
 All foreign wars I do proclaim
G D G D (*pause & hold*)
 Between Don John and the King of Spain
G C G D
 I surely hope they'll rue the time
G D G D
 That they swept the legs from a child o' mine!

REFRAIN

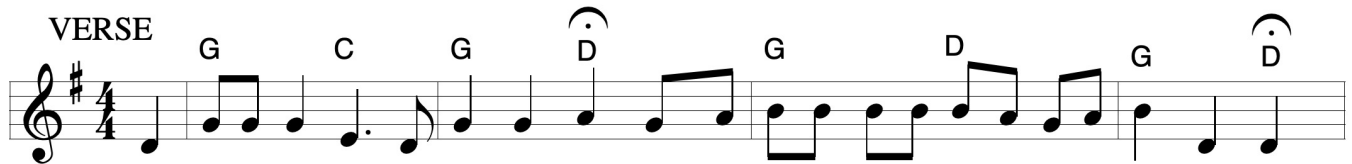
G C G D (*pause & hold*)
 And if I had ye back again
G D G D (*pause & hold*)
 I'd never let you go to fight the King of Spain
G C G D
 I'd rather have me Ted as he used to be
G D G D
 Than the King of France and his whole navy!

REFRAIN: **C G**
 Wi' me too-rye-ah, fol-the-diddle-dah
D G D
 Too-rye, ooh-rye, ooh-rye-ah
C G
 Wi' me too-rye-ah, fol-the-diddle-dah
D G C G
 Too-rye, ooh-rye, ooh-rye-ah

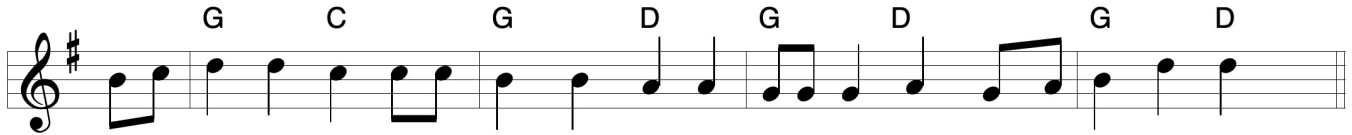
Mrs. McGrath

Traditional

VERSE



1. "Now, Mrs. Mc-Grath" the ser-gent said, "Would you like to make a sold-ier out of your son Ted?"



With a scar-let coat and a big cocked hat, Oh! Mrs. Mc-Grath, would-n't you like that?

REFRAIN



Wi' me too-rye-ah, fol-the-did-dle-dah, Too-rye, ooh-rye,— ooh-rye-ah, Wi' me



too-rye ah, fol-the-did-dle-dah, Too-rye, ooh-rye,— ooh-rye-ah!

2. So, Mrs. McGrath lived by the sea shore
For the space of seven long years or more
'Til she spied a ship sail into the bay
"Tis my son Ted! – will ye clear the way?"

REFRAIN

3. "Oh, Captain, sir, where have you been?
Have you been sailing on the Mediterreen?
Oh, have you any tidings of my son Ted –
Is the poor boy living or is he dead?"

REFRAIN

4. Then up steps Ted without any legs
And in their place two wooden pegs
She kissed him a dozen times or two
Cryin' "Glory be to God, sure it couldn't be you!"

REFRAIN

5. "Oh, was ye drunk or was ye blind
When you left your two fine legs behind?
Or was it walkin' upon the say*
Wore your two fine legs from your knees away?"

REFRAIN

(*i.e. 'sea')

6. "No, I wasn't drunk nor was I blind
When I left my two fine legs behind.
But a cannon-ball on the fifth of May
Tore my two fine legs from my knees away."

REFRAIN

7. All foreign wars I do proclaim
Between Don John and the King of Spain
I surely hope they'll rue the day
That they swept the legs from a child o' mine!

REFRAIN

8. And if I had ye back again
I'd never let you go to fight the King of Spain
I'd rather have me Ted as he used to be
Than the King of France and his whole navy!

REFRAIN