

Bold Jack Donahue

C F C
In Dublin town I was brought up, a city of great fame,
G7
My honest friends and parents will tell to you the same,
C
It was for the sake of five hundred pounds
F C
I was sent across the main,
F G7
For seven long years in New South Wales
C
to wear a convict's chain.

Refrain:

C F C
So come all my hearties, we'll roam the mountains high,
G7
Together we will plunder, together we will die,
C
We'll wander through the valleys
F C
and gallop o'er the plains,
F G7 C
And scorn to live in slavery bound down by iron chains.

I'd scarce been there twelve months or more
upon the Australian shore,
When I took to the highway, as I'd oftimes done before,
There was me and Jackie Underwood,
and Webber and Webster too,
These were the true associates of bold Jack Donahue.

Now Donahue was taken, all for a notorious crime,
And sentenced to be hanged upon the gallows tree so high,
But when they came to Sydney gaol, he left them in a stew,
And when they came to call the roll,
they missed bold Donahue.

As Donahue made his escape,
to the bush he went straightway,
The people they were all afraid to travel night or day,
For every week in the newspapers
there was published something new,
Of this brave and dauntless hero, that bold Jack Donahue.

As Donahue was cruising one summer's afternoon,
Little was his notion his death would be so soon,
When a sergeant discharged his carbine,
And called aloud for Donahue to fight or to resign.

"Resign to you ? You cowardly dogs!
Such a thing I'd never do!

"For I'll fight this night with all my might,"
cried bold Jack Donahue,
"I'd rather roam these hills and dales
like a wolf or kangaroo,
"Than work one hour for government,"
said bold Jack Donahue.

He fought six rounds with the horse police
until that fatal ball,
Which pierced his heart and made him start,
caused Donahue to fall,
And as he closed his mournful eyes,
he bade this world adieu,
Saying, "Convicts all, pray for the soul
of bold Jack Donahue."