

# MY WILD IRISH ROSE

1899

Chauncey Olcott was a native of Buffalo (some say Providence) and one of the most celebrated artists and composers of his day. He performed as a blackface minstrel and sang tenor in light opera in America and England. He earned his greatest renown as an interpreter of Irish songs in the American musical theater.

One of the most enduring of close harmony songs, "My Wild Irish Rose" is loved and enjoyed by almost everyone. It's sure to be sung wherever harmonizers gather to sing a few of the old songs.

By **CHAUNCEY OLCOTT**  
(1858-1932)

*VERSE:*

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. The first system includes a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass clef, and a vocal line. The piano part has a tempo marking of 8. The vocal line is numbered 1 through 4. The lyrics for the first system are: "You may sing of your ros - es which by oth - er names would". The second system continues the piano accompaniment and vocal line, numbered 5 through 8. The lyrics for the second system are: "smell just as sweet - ly they say; they say; But I".

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9 10 11 12

know that my Rose would nev - er con - sent to have

Musical notation for measures 9-12, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

13 14 15 16

that sweet name tak - en a - way. Her

Musical notation for measures 13-16, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

17 18 19 20 21

glanc - es are shy when - e'er I pass by the bow - er where

Musical notation for measures 17-21, including treble and bass staves with lyrics. A piano marking (p) is present in the bass staff at measure 18.

22 23 24 25 26

my true love grows; And my one wish has been that some

Musical notation for measures 22-26, including treble and bass staves with lyrics. A dynamic marking (b) is present in the bass staff at measure 23.

27 28 29 30

day I may win the heart of my wild I - rish

Musical notation for measures 27-30, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

my Rose. CHORUS:

31 32 33 34 35

Rose. my Rose. My wild I - rish Rose, I - rish

Rose,

36 37 38 39 40

Rose, the sweet - est flow'r that grows; You may

41 42 43 44 45

search ev - 'ry - where, but none can com - pare with my wild

46 47 48 49 50

I - rish Rose. My wild I - rish

Rose, I - rish Rose.

51 52 53 54 55

Rose, the dear - est flow'r that grows;

56 57 58 59

And some - day for my sake, she may let me

60 61 62 (b) 63 64

take the bloom from my wild I - rish Rose;

TAG:

65 66 67 68

The bloom from my wild I - rish Rose. wild I - rish Rose.

*Additional verse:*

If you listen I'll sing you a sweet little song,  
 Of a flower that's now drooped and dead;  
 Yet dearer to me, yes, than all of its mates,  
 Though each holds aloft its proud head.

'Twas given to me by a girl that I know,  
 Since we've met, faith, I've known no repose;  
 She is dearer by far than the world's brightest star,  
 And I call her my wild Irish Rose.