

Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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Paddy on the Railway

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Paddy on the railway
Pickin up stanes;
Alang cam an engine
And brak Paddy's banes.

"O!" said Paddy,
"That's no fair."
"O!" said the engineman,
"Ye shudna hae been there."

SC (1948), 121 (no. 198), from Glasgow, and very similar in Those Dusty Bluebells (1965), 7, a skipping rhyme from Cumnock. Gullen (1950), 17 (no. 40, among countings-out), has "by came an engine", "'Well,' said the engine-driver, `you shouldn't be there.'" Note says "An older user of this rhyme protests that it was the engine that spoke"--as in Rodger, Lang Strang (1948), 11 [at the railway/ "Weel," said the engine, "you've no business there"]. A Dublin version: Behan Streets of Song no. 9.

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