

O'Donnell Abu



Loud- ly the note of the trum - pet is soun - ding; Proud- ly the war cries a -



rise on the gale; Fleet - ly the steed by Lough Swil - ly is boun - ding, To



join the thicksquad- rons on Saim - ear's green vale. On, ev' - ry moun- tain- eer,



Stran - gers to flight or fear, Rush to the stan - dard of daunt - less Red Hugh.



Bon- naugh and Gal- low- glass, Throng from each moun- tain pass. On for old Er - in, "O'



Don - nell A búi!"

"O'Donnell Abu", in Gaelic "*Ó Domhnall Abú*" or "*Ó Domhnaill Abú*" is also known as "The Clan Connell War Song", "Irish National Anthem", "*Marcslua Uí Domhnall Abú*", "*Ó Domhnaill Abú*", "Our Land Shall Be Free", or "Proudly the Note of The Trumpet Is Sounding" is a traditional Irish song. The lyrics were written by Fenian Michael Joseph McCann in 1843. It refers to the Gaelic lord Red Hugh O'Donnell who ruled Tyrconnell in the late sixteenth century, first with the approval of the Crown authorities in Dublin and later in rebellion against them during Tyrone's Rebellion.

The title refers to the Gaelic war cry of "*Abú*", "To victory" which followed a commander's name.

The song is the rallying cry for the O'Donnell clan, called to assemble at a location on the banks of the River Erne. The Bonnaught and Gallowglass were Irish and Scots mercenaries employed by the O'Donnells to guard the mountain passes. They were summoned to join the rest of O'Donnell's forces, who await the arrival of Hugh O'Donnell, Earl of Tyrconnell and the Borderers who protect his lands.

It was printed in Galvin's **Irish Songs of Resistance** (1962), Miller & Perron's **New England Fiddlers Repertoire** (1983), Morrison's **How to Play the Globe Accordion Irish Style** (1931), Mulvihill's **1st Collection** (1986), O'Neill's **O'Neill's Irish Music** (1915), Roche's **Collection of Traditional Irish Music, vol. 2** (1912), Scanlon's **The Violin Made Easy and Attractive** (1923) and Sweet's **Fifer's Delight** (1965/1981).

It was recorded by the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem on **Rising of the Moon** (1956), Patrick Galvin and Al Jeffery on **Irish Rebel Songs, Vol. 2** (1963), Franklin George on **Traditional Music for Banjo, Fiddle and Bagpipes** (1967), Rodney Miller on **New England Chestnuts** (1980) and Frank Ritchie on **The Singing Ulsterman** (196?).