

# Whisky You're the Devil

Verse

4 Chorus 1

8 Chorus 2

11

15

1. Now brave boys, we're on the march  
Off to Portugal and Spain.  
Drums are beating, banners flying  
The Devil at home will come tonight.

**Chorus 1:**

So it's go, fare thee well  
With a too da loo ra loo ra doo de da  
A too ra loo ra loo ra doo de da  
Me rikes fall too ra laddie-o  
There's whisky in the jar!

**Chorus 2:**

Oh, whisky you're the devil  
You're leading me astray  
Over hills and mountains and to  
Amerikay.  
You're sweeter, stronger,  
Descender and spunkier than tay.  
Oh whisky you're my darling drunk or  
sober!

2. The French are fighting boldly,  
Men are dying hot and coldly,  
Give every man his flask of powder  
His firelock on his shoulder.

**Chorus 1**

**Chorus 2**

3. Says the mother "Do not wrong me.  
Don't take me daughter from me,  
For if you do I will torment you,  
When I'm dead my ghost will haunt you.

**Chorus 1**

**Chorus 2**

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In Irish "*Uisge beata is tu an diabal*", is sometimes called "Off to California", "Fireman's Reel", "Possum Up a Gum Stump", "Lexington", "Old Towser", "Whiskey in the Jar", "Buttermilk and Cider", "Gypsy Hornpipe", "Going to California", "Portsmouth Hornpipe" or "Freeman's Reel" although the melody is very different from the widely known melodies. It was printed in O'Neill (Krassen)(1976), O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903) and O'Neill's **Dance Music of Ireland: 1001 Gems** (1907). It has been recorded by The Clancy Brothers, The Pogues and others.