

# Singers' Workshop

*Rosaleen writes:*

No one responded to my request for the author/origin of "Papa m'a donné un mari" in the last issue. So here is a new puzzle, and I hope I'll have better luck this time! It is only the origin of the tune that I do not know; the words are by the Irish poet Padraic Colum, although I'm not sure whether or not the poem is part of a longer work. I learned this song from the same informant, Sylvia, at Keele University in the U.K. The beautiful tune is sung an octave lower than transcribed, although I remember Sylvia using a capo on the third fret. A few years ago, when Dave and I had just finished hiking the Pennine Way, we struck across the Cheviot Hills towards the Northumbrian coast. As we crested the last ridge the North Sea suddenly came into view, with the Holy Isle of Lindisfarne shimmering in the distance, and I thought of this song.

## (Song from) The King of Ireland's Sons

Padraic Colum  
Anon

Emin Amin C

I put the fast 'nings on my boat, For a

Amin C Emin Amin C

year and for a day, And I went where the

F C G C

row - ans grow, and where the moor - hens play.

Emin Amin C

[Last two lines] The swall - ow soon to leave ground sang 'Glu -

Amin F C

ee, glu - ee, glu - ee.....

As I stepped over the stepping stones I dipped my feet in the ford;  
And I came at last where the swineherd lives, the youth without a sword.

A swallow sang upon his perch, "Gluee, gluee, gluee...  
The wonder of all wondering, the wonder of the sea".

The swallow, soon to leave ground, sang, "Gluee, gluee, gluee..."