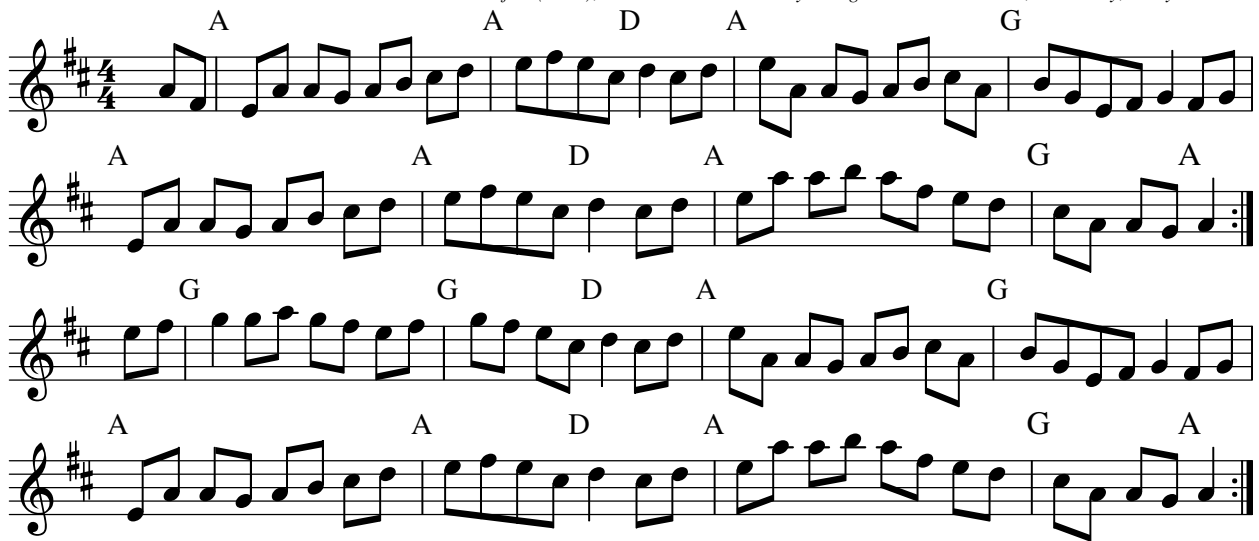


# The Red Haired Boy (A mixolydian)

traditional Irish and Bluegrass Reel, a.k.a.: Little Beggarman, a.k.a.: Jolly Beggarman  
also Song Air for 'Little Beggarman'  
transcribed and arranged by Frank Weber

Recordings: Tommy Makem: *Songs of Tommy Makem* (1961); *The Buskers: Irish Folk Festival Live, Volume 1* (1974); Dominig Bouchaud: *Vibrations* (1987); Rawlins Cross: *A Turn of the Wheel* (1989); Shamrock Band: *The First Celtic Folk Night* (1990); Mike Stevens: *Harmonica* (1990); Virginia Company: *Nine Points of Roguery* (1990); Steve Benbow: *Songs of Ireland* (1990); Dalriada Brothers: *Farewell to Ireland* (1991); Brendan Power: *New Irish Harmonica* (1994); Paddy Doran: *Songs of the Travelling People (Compilation 1994)*; Al Petteway, Eric Rigler, Amy White & Bob Read: *Midsummer Moon* (1995); Fiddler's Green: *King Shepherd* (1995); The String Dusters: *Primitive Soul* (1998); Nashville Rhythm Pickers: *Bluegrass Spectacular* (1999); Mary MacNamara: *The Blackberry Blossom* (2000); Squeek Steele: *Old West Saloon Piano* (2000); Tim Lake: *Kentucky Home* (2000); Rawhide: *Not too Strictly* (2000); David Algeo Smith: *Thais to the Irish - Fiddle Tunes from the Street* (2001); Tommy Burroughs: *Hillbilly Speedball* (2001); Éamonn Coyne: *Through the Round Window* (2002); Bottled Spirits: *Bottled Spirits* (2002); John Dunnigan: *Censored* (2002); Gallant Sons of Erin: *No Irish Need Apply* (2003); The O'Neill Brothers: *Here Come the Irish* (2003); Hank Cramer: *Songs of the USS Constellation* (2003); Michael Sexton Céilí Band: *Mad the Dance Vol. 2* (2004); Kennedy's Kitchen: *Kennedy's Kitchen* (2004); Jimmy Phillips: *Rebel Soldier* (2004); This Big String Band: *The Next Small Thing* (2004); Tony Rice: *California Autumn* (2005); Dan Levenson: *Travelling Home* (2005); Eric Thompson: *Flatpicking Guitar Festival* (2005); Mithril: *Live in Concert* (2005); Dan Levenson: *Traveling Home* (2005); Irish Dew: *Šance* (2005); Paul Brock & Enda Scahill: *Humdinger* (2006); Dannelsair: *Rias Medias* (2006); Keltish: *Keltish* (2006); Lisa Furman: *Lucky Girl* (2006); Vince Conaway: *Reprise* (2007); Crooked Stovepipe: *Just in Case* (2007); *Out on the Ocean: Out on the Ocean* (2007); *Hair of the Dog: Donegal* (2007); Edward Huws Jones, Christopher Norton, Frank Mizen & John Bone: *Fiddler Playalong Collection for Viola* (2007); Boogertown Gap: *Old-Time Appalachian Music* (2007); Michael Gaughan: *Comhaltas Live #208-5* (2007); Crystal Ridge: *Out of the Barrel* (2008); Cayouche: *Last Call* (2008); Circled by Hounds: *Howl No Demon Louder* (2008); Charles Wood: *Banjology* (2008); Foster & Allen: *Shades of Ireland* (2008); Caladh Nua: *Happy Days* (2009); Mithril: *Tangled Up* (2009); The Rum Fellows: *Okie Maritime Music* (2009); Tir Nan Og: *After Work* (2009); Arlo Guthrie & Hans-Eckardt Wenzel: *Every 100 Years - Live auf der Wartburg* (2010); The High Kings: *The High Kings* (2010); Denis Colliet: *Trains Go By* (2010); Snyder Family Band: *Comin' on Strong* (2010); John Kane, Ian Simpson, Mike Kerin & Mark Walmsley: *The Fiddle* (2011); Grace O'Malley Quartet: *The Sheep's Dream* (2012); Skullduggers: *Staggers and Jags* (2012); Ants in the Pants: *Early Years* (2012); Garry O'Meara: *Pickin' Time* (2013); Billy Strings & Don Julin: *Rock of Ages* (2013); Five Alive O feat. Sean Reeves: *The Collection* (2013); Emmett Cooke: *Irish Jigs & Airs* (2014); Beards'n'Hats: *Whispers from the Past* (2014); Edward Huws Jones, Alexandra Wood & Frank Mizen: *Jigs, Reels & Hornpipes* (2014); Marc Gunn: *St. Patrick's Day Songs for Kids* (2015); Jordan Woods-Robinson: *Red Haired Boy* (2015); Sanysaidap: *Travarica* (2016); Karen Ryan, Pete Quinn & Andrew MacNamara: *From Camden to Tulla* (2017); The Jordan TW Trio: *Live at Cedarhouse* (2018); Kanako Machida & Brian McGrath: *Jiggin' in Japan* (2019); Mick Albeck & Hamish Dutton (2019); Patina: *Travel Through Time* (2020); Pretend Friend & Friend (2020); Caroline McCaskey & Michael Bevers: *Altstrings Fiddle Method for Violin* (2020); Anna Baksheeva: *Celtic and Blue Grass Tunes* (2020); Dick Fegy: *Flatpicking Guitar Festival (Compilation 2020)*; Fiddleheads: *Fiddleheads* (2020); The Wild Honey Collective: *Vol. 2* (2022); Jamie Stillway & Eric Skye: *Over the Waterfall* (2023); Morrison's Round: *Tiny Things You Leave Behind; and many, many more ....*



1. I am a little beggarman and begging I have been  
For three score or more in this little isle of green  
I'm known from the Liffey down to Segue  
And I'm known by the name of old Johnny Dhu  
Of all the trade's that's going, sure begging is the best  
For when a man is tired, he can sit down and rest  
He can beg for his dinner, he has nothing else to do  
Only cut around the corner with his old rig-a-doo

2. I slept in the barn, down at Caurabawn  
A wet night came on and I slept 'till the dawn  
With holes in the roof and the rain coming through  
And the rats and the cats, they were playing peek-a-boo  
When who did I waken but the woman of the house  
With her white spotty apron and her calico blouse  
She began to frighten and I said "boo"  
Aarah, don't be afraid mam it's only Johnny Dhu"

3. I met a little flaxy-haired girl one day  
"Good morning little flaxy-haired girl" I did say  
"Good morning little beggarman, a how do you do  
With your rags and you tags and you old rig-a-doo"  
I'll buy a pair of leggings, a collar and a tie  
And a nice young lady I'll fetch by and by  
I'll buy a pair of goggles and I'll colour them blue  
And an old fashioned lady I will make her too

4. Over the road with my pack on my back  
Over the fields with my great heavy sack  
With holes in my shoes and my toes peeping through  
Singing skinny-me-rink a doodle o and old Johnny Dhu  
I must be going to bed for it's getting late at night  
The fire's all raked and out goes the light  
So now you've heard the story of my old rig-a-doo  
It's good-bye and God be with you says old Johnny Dhu