

Synopsis

A Irish Navvy describes his career during the 1840s

Text

In eighteen hundred and forty-one
Me cord'roy breeches I put on,
Me cord'roy breeches I put on,
To work upon the railway

Chorus: I was wearing corduroy breeches,
 Digging ditches
 Dodging hitches, pulling switches,
 I was working on the railway.

In eighteen hundred and forty-two
From Hartlepool I moved to Crewe,
And found myself a job to do
A-working on the railway

In eighteen hundred and forty-three
I broke me shovel across me knee
And went to work for the company
On the Leeds and Selby Railway

In eighteen hundred and four-four
I landed on the Liverpool shore
My belly was empty, me hands were sore
With working on the railway.

In eighteen hundred and forty-five
When Daniel O'Connel he was alive
When Daniel O'Connel he was alive
And working on the railway.

In eighteen hundred and forty-six
I changed me trade from carrying bricks,
I changed me trade from carrying bricks,
To work upon the railway.

In eighteen hundred and forty-seven
Poor Paddy was thinkin' of going to heaven
Poor Paddy was thinkin' of going to heaven
To work upon the railway.

Glossary:

Daniel O'Connell

Daniel O'Connell (1775 – 1847) Irish political leader and
□ampaigner for Irish independence.**Source of Text:**Raven, John, Victoria's Inferno, ISBN 0950372234
British Library Music Collections X.439/8529**Music.**

In eight - een hun-dred and for - ty - two From Hart - le - pool I
moved to Crewe And found my-self a job to do A - work-ing on the rail - way.
CHORUS
I was wear - ing cor-du-roy breeches, Dig-ging ditch-es, Dodg-ing hit - ches,
Pull - ing switch-es, I was work-ing on the rail - way.

Source of Music: As text**Date:****Printer:****Where Printed:****Author :** Anonymous**Variant Set:** 008 – Paddy Works on the Railway**Notes on the Song and Its Historical Background**

See Variant set 008; Paddy Works on the Railway