

## **Paddy's Not at Work, Today**

Dear Sir, I write this note to you to tell you of my plight,  
For at the time of writing, I am not a pretty sight.  
My body is all black and blue..my face is deathly grey,  
And I wrote this note to say why Paddy's not at work today.

While working on the fourteenth floor, some bricks I had to  
clear,  
To throw them down from such a height I thought a good idea.  
The foreman wasn't very pleased, that bloody awkward sod,  
And he said I had to take them down the ladders in me hod.

Well, clearing all those bricks by hand, it was so very slow,  
So, I hoisted up a barrel and secured a rope below.  
But in my haste to do the job, I was too blind to see  
That a barrel full of building bricks was heavier than me.

And so when I untied the rope, the barrel fell like lead,  
And clinging tightly to the rope, I started up instead.  
I shot up like a rocket, and to my dismay I found,  
That halfway up I met the bloody barrel coming down.

The barrel broke my shoulder as to the ground it sped.  
And when I reached the top I banged the pulley with my head.  
I held on tightly, numb with shock from this almighty blow...  
While the barrel spilled out half the bricks, fourteen floors  
below.

When the bricks had fallen from the barrel to the floor,  
I then outweighed the barrel and so started down once more.  
Still clinging tightly to the rope, my body racked with pain,  
And halfway down I met the bloody barrel once again.

The force of this collision halfway up the office block  
Caused multiple abrasions and a nasty state of shock.  
Still clinging tightly to the rope, I fell towards the ground,  
And landed on the broken bricks the barrel scattered 'round.

As I *lay* there groanin' on the ground, I thought I'd passed the  
worst,  
But the barrel hit the pulley wheel and then the bottom burst.  
A shower of bricks rained down on me, I hadn't got a hope,  
And as I lay there bleedin' on the ground, I let go the bloody  
rope.

The barrel then being heavier, it started down once more,  
And landed right across me as I lay upon the floor,  
It broke three ribs, and my left arm, and I can only say....  
That I hope you understand why Paddy's not at work today.