



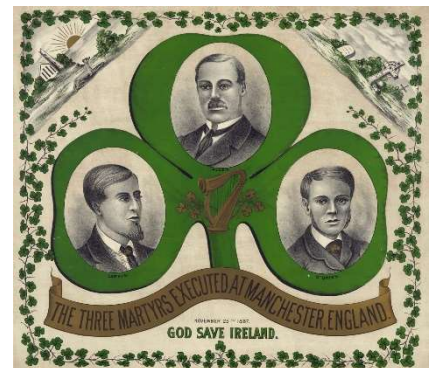
God Save Ireland

March

Traditional

God Save Ireland

On September 18, 1867, a group of 20–30 men effected the escape of two Fenian prisoners by ambushing the carriage transporting them to Belle Vue Gaol in Manchester. An attempt to shoot the lock off the carriage door caused the death of a police guard. Five were tried on 29 October, convicted and sentenced to death. One of the five, Edward O’Meagher Condon, concluded his speech from the dock with the words "God Save Ireland", a motto taken up by supporters in the public gallery. One was acquitted on appeal and Condon was commuted. The other three, Michael Larkin, William Phillip Allen, and Michael O’Brien, were hanged on 23 November 1867 and dubbed the “Manchester Martyrs.” The song was set to the well-known tune of "Tramp! Tramp! Tramp!" a popular pro-Union song of the American Civil War.



The 'Manchester Martyrs' hanged in 1867, shouted "God Save Ireland" during their trials.

