

## **Ballad Of Thomas Kiely**

**In early 1900's America**

**A girl was born called Alice**

**In the place where Mary gave birth to her**

**Was hidden some malice**

**This place was Massachusetts**

**And the hospital said Alice had downs syndrome**

**And to her father Thomas Kiely**

**They said she couldn't go home**

**They wanted to put her in an institution**

**For the mentally impaired**

**But when he heard this news**

**He was not despaired**

**They wanted to put her there**

**For her whole life**

**But good Thomas knew**

**She would not suffer that strife**

**He was a man from Ireland, County Waterford**

**He could be stern as a pine**

**So he told the people at that place**

**She belongs to me, I love her and she's mine**

**He said: I'm taking her back to Ireland**

**If you don't give her to me to have here**

**And with those words he spoke**

**He caught them by the ear**

**Stone hearts are faint**

**And can easily be pushed around  
That is why Thomas Kiely  
Was right to stand his ground  
Little Alice spent her days  
At home with Mom and Dad  
Sisters and brothers were there too  
And the times they were glad  
They sang songs together  
Often with Alice holding fathers hand  
This was a family  
Living upon their land**