The Black Velvet Band

As I was walking down Broadway, not intending to stay very long
I met with a frolicking maiden as she came skipping along.

A watch she pulled from her pocket, and slipped it right into my hand
On the very first day that I met her, bad luck to the black velvet band.

Her eyes they shone like diamonds
You'd think she was queen of the land
With her hair thrown over her shoulders
Tied up with a black velvet band.

Twas in the town of Tralee, an apprentice to trade I was bound
With a-plenty of bright amusement to see the days go round.

Till misfortune and trouble came over me that caused me to stray from the land
Far away from me friends and relations to follow the black velvet band.

Her eyes they shone etc

Before the judge and the jury, the both of us had to appear

And a gentleman swore to the jewellery, the case against us was clear.

For seven years transportation over to Van Dieman's land

Far away from me friends and relations to follow the black velvet band.

Her eyes they shone etc

Now all you brave young Irish lads, a warning take by me
Beware of the pretty young maidens that are skipping around in Tralee
They'll give you rye whiskey and porter until you're unable to stand
And before you have time to leave them you're bound for Van Dieman's land.

Her eyes they shone etc