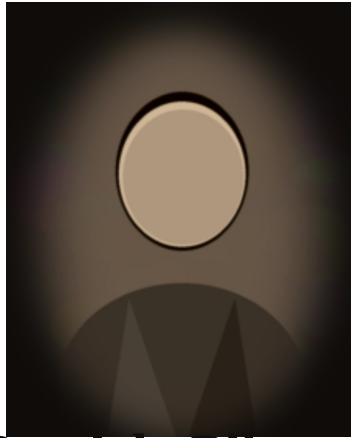




Patrick Gilmore

December 25, 1829 - September 24, 1892

St. Louis, Missouri

Patrick Gilmore - Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore - Irish-born American bandmaster whose Civil War-era arranging helped popularize "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," died in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 24, 1892. He was sixty-two. Born December 25, 1829, in County Galway, Ireland, he emigrated to Boston, built famous brass bands, and became a showman of peace jubilees as well as a wartime musician who understood that morale often traveled on a melody.

He led ensembles that filled parks and exposition halls, staged colossal concerts with armies of singers and cannons for punctuation, and treated band music as civic spectacle rather than background noise. Attribution debates still surround the Johnny lyric, yet Gilmore's name remains welded to the tune's American life - the hopeful march that outlived the camps that first needed it.

St. Louis was a touring stop when illness took him; Boston and New York had been the longer professional homes. He died far from Galway, having already made brass-band America sound bigger than a parade block.

He died in St. Louis on September 24, 1892. Memorial Day bands still find the old march without sheet music.

Gilmore's gift was public music - turning military brass into shared civilian hope. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 24 remembers the Galway bandmaster who gave America a homecoming song it still hums.

Services

Died in St. Louis, Missouri, September 24, 1892. Irish-American bandmaster; associated with When Johnny

Comes Marching Home; Boston bandleader and jubilee organizer.

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