

Carolán's Receipt
Dr. John Stafford

Composed at the house of his life-long friend, Dr. John Stafford, who attended to O'Carolan during his last illness and who helped bear the harper's coffin at his funeral. O'Carolan had been advised to abstain from drinking, and he endeavored to do this for some six weeks. During this time, Stafford prescribed a liberal dose of whiskey, and the two of them sat up till dawn.

O'Flinn

Flynn, butler for the MacDermott Roe family of Alderford, near Ballyfoarnon, County Roscommon. Mrs. MacDermott Roe was Carolán's first and most steadfast patron, and it is to her house that Carolán went to die. It is reported that Flynn delivered the dying harper's last drink. From his song Quarrel with the Landlady: -- What pity hell's gates are not kept by O'Flinn! So surly a dog would let nobody in. --