

**In 1648 John Cuddihy, a shoemaker asked the mayor of Kilkenny to reduce his taxes. He was cessed in the sum of seven shillings and sixpence – in other words he was told that he would have to pay that amount of tax,**

The humble petition of John Quidihy brogemaker

To the worshipful the maior of the citty of  
Kilkenny etc

Most lamentably complaining sheweth unto your worship that where your poore petitioner is both blind ould weake and feeble haveing noething wherewith to ..... himself only what poore releefe of charity his sonn of love doth extend towards his relief, yet neavertheless your poore petitioner is soe dayly opprest that for want of sustenance hee is driven to forgoe house and hom, and your petitioner is now much more to augment his greafe, he is cest in this leavy of 500 th in the sum of 7 shillings 6 pence sterling having not wherewith to pay the same in the universal world.

That it may therefore please your worship for God's sake to take comisseration upon your poore petitioner and to prescribe ..... course for his ..... releefe and he well ever pray ...