

The Drover

*Composed and published by Saul Mendelsohn, Nanango Qld about 1881 after the model of 'True British Sailors'.
Queensland folklorist Bob Michell did extensive research and corresponded with Mendelsohn's descendants to verify this.*

D **A7** **D**

Fare - - well and a - - dieu to you Bris - bane lad ____ ies.

A7 **Em** **A7**

Fare - well and a - - dieu to the girls of Too - - wong;

D **Em** **A7** **D**

We have sold all our cat - - tle and can - not now lin - ger.

D **A7** **D**

But trust we shall see you once more ____ be - fore long.

We'll rant and we'll roar like true Queensland drovers
We'll rant and we'll roar as onward we push.
Until we return to the Old Cattle Station,
For it's flamin' dry going in the old Queensland bush.

The first camp we make is called the Good Luck,
Caboolture and Kilcoy, then Colinton Hut;
We pull up at Stone-house, Bob Williams's paddock.
And soon the next morning we cross the Black Butt.

On, on, past Taromeo to Yarraman Creek, boys,
It's there we will make a fine camp for the day,
When the water and grass are both plenty and good, boys.
The life of the drover is merry and gay.

The camp is all snug and supper is over,
We lounge round the fire enjoying a smoke.
While yarning of Home, or the life of a drover.
Till all join in chorus to 'Grandfather's Clock.'

Next night through Nanango the jolly old township,
'Good day to you, lads' with a hearty shake hands
'Come on, this is my shout! Well here's to your next trip.
And we hope you will step in tonight at our dance!'

Oh, the girls look so pretty –the sight is entrancing.
Bewitching and graceful they join in the fun.
Of waltz, polka, first set, and all other dancing.
To the old concertina of Jack Smith, the Don.

Though far I have travelled through Russia and Finns-Land,
Have met the famed damsels of Poland and Spain:
More lovely and fair are the darlings of Queensland,
You may search the wide world for their equals in vain.

Now drink to our lasses in right hearty fashion,
Come sing the loud chorus – sing farewell to all;
And when we return from the Old Cattle Station,
We'll always be pleased to give you a call.