

Bill the Bullocky

In an article called Gundagai's Dog by JG Castleton in 1938 he says the words were sighted on a matchbox holder and dated 1859. Set to an Irish rebel tune and given a rollicking chorus to rollick by Dave Johnson.

Verse

Musical notation for the Verse of 'Bill the Bullocky'. It consists of two staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff has four measures with chords G, C, G, and C. The second staff has four measures with chords G, C, G, and C. The lyrics are: 'As I came down through Con-roy's Gap, I heard a maid-en cry, "There goes old Bill the Bull-ock-y, he's bound for Gun-dag-ai!"'

Chorus

Musical notation for the Chorus of 'Bill the Bullocky'. It consists of two staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff has four measures with chords G and D7. The second staff has four measures with chords G, D7, G, and G. The lyrics are: 'With a heave on the yoke and a heave on the chains and the crack of the whip a - - gain and a - gain.'

'A better bullock-driver never cracked more honest crust;
A kinder-hearted driver never dragged a whip through dust.'

With Spark and Charlie in the lead and on the pole old Ball,
Who bent his back, nor cared a damn if the others pulled at all.

His team got bogged at Five-Mile Creek; Bill lashed and cried and swore,
'If Nobby don't haul us out of this I'll speak to him no more!'

So Nobby strained, and broke the yoke, and poked out Baldy's eye,
And the dog sat on the tucker-box five miles from Gundagai.

Come all you bullock-drivers, and listen to my rhyme,
And if ever you go a-carrying, don't bind yourselves to time.

For I'm on the Sydney Road, my boys, my fortune for to try,
And I'm loaded for a storekeeper, in the town of Gundagai.