

# Botany Bay

This song appeared in the musical drama Little Jack Sheppard in Melbourne in 1886. Ron Edwards claimed that a fellow researcher had found most of the lines in earlier street broadsides.

Farewell to old England for ever,  
Sing-ing too-rally-oo-rally-ay,

Farewell to the well-known Old Bail-ey,  
Sing-ing too-rally-oo-rally-ay,

Where I used to cut such a swell. Sing-ing  
For we're bound for Botany Bay.

There's the Captain as is our commander,  
There's the bosun and all the ship's crew;  
There's the first and the second class passengers,  
Knows what we poor convicts goes through.

'Tain't leaving old England we cares about  
'Tain't cause we mis-spells what we knows  
But because all we light-fingered gentry  
Hops around with a log on our toes.

For seven long years I'm transported,  
For seven long years and a day,  
For meeting a cove in an alleyway,  
And taking his ticket away.

Oh, had I the wings of a turtle dove,  
I'd soar on my pinions so high;  
Slap bang to the arms of my Polly love,  
And in her sweet presence I'd die.

Now, all my young dookies and duchesses,  
Take warning from what I've to say—  
Mind all is your own as you touchesses,  
Or you'll join us in Botany Bay,