

Give Me A Hut

The Free Selector

Published in A B Paterson's 'Old Bush Songs' with the long title 'Then Give Me a Hut In My Own Native Land' this song celebrates the passing of the Free Selection Act which at least in spirit opened up the land previously held by the squattocracy.

The musical score is written in G major and 6/8 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff starts with a G chord and ends with a D7 chord. The second staff starts with an Am chord and ends with a D7 chord. The third staff starts with a G chord and ends with a D7 chord. The fourth staff starts with an Am chord and ends with a G chord. The lyrics are: 'Ye sons of this coun - try, it's here you be - long. For you I would of - fer a verse of my song To re - jice at the vic - tory John Rob - ert - son's won, Now the Land Bill is passed and the good times have come.'

Chorus:

Then give me a hut in my own native land,
Or a tent in Australia where the tall gum trees stand;
No matter how far in the bush it may be,
If the dear native girl will but share it with me.

No more with our swags through the bush need we roam
Imploring of charity to give us a home,
For the land is unfettered, and we may reside
In a home of our own by some clear waterside.

We will plant our own garden and sow our own field,
And eat of the fruits which industry will yield,
And be independent, as long we have strived,
Tho' those who have ruled us the right long denied.