

One of the Has Beens

Almost identical versions collected by A L Lloyd and by Stewart and Keesing. The tune is "Polly Perkins"

Verse



I'm one of the has beens a shear - er I mean.
I once was a ring - er and I used to shear clean.
I could make the wool roll off eas - y like the soil from the plough
But you may not be lieve me cause I can't do it now.

Chorus



I'm as awk - ward as a new chum and I'm used to the frown
That the boss oft en shows me say - ing keep them blades down.

I've shore with Pat Hogan, Bill Bright and Jack Gunn,
Tommy Leighton, Charlie Fergus and the great roaring Dunn.
They brought from the Lachlan the best they could find
But not one among them could leave me behind.

It's no use complaining I'll never say die
Though the days of fast shearing for me have gone by.
I'll take the world easy shear slowly and clean
And I merely have told you just what I have been.