

The Overlander I

The words were published as early as 1894 in 'The Queenslander' and the tune is 'And Ye Shall Walk in Silk Attire' from Scotch Quadrilles c1820. Many tunes from published sheet music for the quadrilles became absorbed into the general music fabric.

Verse

There's a trade you all know well; And it's bring - ing cat - tle o - ver
On - ev - ry track, to the Gulf and back, men know the Queens-land drov - er

Chorus

So it's pass the bill - y round, boys, don't let the pint pot stand there,
For to - night we drink the health of ev - 'ry o - ver - land - er.

Well, I come from northern plains where the girls and grass are scanty,
Where the creeks run dry or ten feet high and it's either drought or plenty!

There are men from every land, from Spain and France and Flanders,
They're a well-mixed pack, both white and black, the Queensland overlanders.

When we've earned a spree in town, we live like pigs in clover;
And the whole damn cheque pours down the neck of many a Queensland drover.

As I pass along the road, the children raise my dander,
Shouting "Mother dear, take in the clothes, here comes an overlander,"

But I'm bound for home once more, on a prad that's quite a goer,
I'll find me a job with a crawling mob on the banks of the Maranoa.