

# The Rabbit Shearing

Collected by Ron Edwards from Sybella Lowe of Yeoval NSW. The words were in a book of newspaper cuttings from the Mudgee area c1918; here set to 'Bill Edwards' Schottische' by Dave Johnson 2018

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a 2/4 time signature. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord markings (C, F, G7) are placed above the staff at the beginning of each line of music.

There was dust and an - i - ma - tion at the bus - y Bun - neigh sta - tion,  
And full of noise and tur - moil was the spac - ious shear - ing shed.  
For now the end was near - ing of the sta - tion's big - gest shear - ing,  
And Bun - neigh was world fam - ous for the rab - bits that it bred.

The shearers shore with vigour, with their tallies growing bigger;  
They had put through more than forty thousand bunnies since the morn.  
The rabbit-dogs were yelping loud, and every hand was helping,  
To get the fur of twenty million, long - wool rabbits shorn.

A shearer paused in wonder, and he spat and said, "By thunder,  
What sort of mongrel rabbit is this bloke I've got to shear?  
I know all breeds of rabbit, but I don't know where to grab it.  
In all my life I never saw a rabbit look so queer!"

His mate, a very old man, remarked, "Why, I've been told, man,  
That mobs of these here animals this station used to keep;  
They say they used to rear them, and then blokes would come and shear them;  
My father said they used to call the silly beggars 'sheep!'"