Moreton Bay

One Sunday morning as I went walking By Brisbane waters I chanced to stray I heard a convict his fate bewailing As on the sunny river bank I lay I am a native from Erin's island But banished now from my native shore They stole me from my aged parents And from the maiden I do adore

I've been a prisoner at Port Macquarie At Norfolk Island and Emu Plains At Castle Hill and at cursed Toongabbie At all these settlements I've been in chains But of all places of condemnation And penal stations in New South Wales To Moreton Bay I have found no equal Excessive tyranny each day prevails

For three long years I was beastly treated And heavy irons on my legs I wore My back from flogging was lacerated And oft times painted with my crimson gore And many a man from downright starvation Lies mouldering now underneath the clay And Captain Logan he had us mangled All at the triangles of Moreton Bay

Like the Egyptians and ancient Hebrews
We were oppressed under Logan's yoke
Till a native black lying there in ambush
Did deal this tyrant his mortal stroke
My fellow prisoners be exhilarated
That all such monsters such a death may find
And when from bondage we are liberated
Our former sufferings will fade from mind