

7th June, 1966.

Dr. A. Capell,
Reader in Oceanic Languages,
Department of Anthropology,
University of Sydney,
New South Wales.

Dear Dr. Capell,

I am sending you the New South Wales material as promised. It has been copied from various specimens of music notation found in four different sources. A quaint collection as you will agree.

Spacing of the words has been preserved though not always the hyphens between syllables. You will notice some small differences in the two versions of Field's "Abang" (whatever that may mean).

I hope something of interest may emerge.

Yours sincerely,

Alice M. Moyle
A.I.A.S. Research Fellow.

Song
~~Published~~ material collected in New South Wales

Texts copied from notated songs appearing in the earlier literature.

1. From Bonwick, J. The Daily Life of the Tasmanians. p. 31-2:

Australian Song transcribed by Barren Field, 1825. (In 1825 Mr. Barren Field, of Sydney, published the following song of the N.S.W. natives).

Abang, abang, abang, abang, abang, abang,
Gumbery jah, jingumrelah,
Gumbery jah, jingumrelah,
Abang, abang, abang, abang, etc.

Song of Benelong in England ("The first native song was published by Mr. Edward Jones of London in 1811, in "Musical Curiosities". It was taken from a love song sung by Bennelong and Yammowey on their visit to England at the beginning of this (19th) century").

Barrabula barrama
Manginewey enguna (repeated)
(no translations)

2. Mitchell Library (sheet music)

Song of the women of the Menero Tribe near the Australian Alps.
Arranged with the assistance of several Musical gentlemen for the

Voice and Pianoforte

and most humbly inscribed as the first specimen of

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC

to

Her Most Gracious Majesty

ADELAIDE

QUEEN of Great Britain & Hanover

By Dr. J. Lhotsky, Colonist N.S.Wales

Sydney

Sold by John Innes, Pitt Street.

(Dr. John Lhotsky, M.D., and Botanist, came to Australia in 1834. He made an expedition to S-West Highlands, N.S.W. In 1836 he went to Tasmania. He left Hobart for London in 1838.)

*Kongi kawelgo yuere
Congi kawelgo yuere
Kumagi koko kawelgo kumagi
Kaba komagi koko
Komagi koko kabalgo komagi
Kaba komagi yuere

* "K" + "C" - also Kumagi + Komagi with affixes on

Translation by Dr. Lhotsky: Unprotected race of people

Unprotected are we,
And our children shrink so quickly (sic!)
Unprotected are we.

3. Isaac Nathan (Taken down at Corroboree - Narrinyeri Tribe, 1860.)

Ah..... Way-a-book-a
Ah..... Way-a-book-a (repeated)

(no translation)

4. Reprinted in Wallaschek, Richard (1893). Primitive Music.

Wilkes Exploring Expedition II p. 189.

Corroborry New South Wales

No. 2 Merry dunbar aroa
Merry dunbar aroa
Omangar merry own dunbar run mungar

No. 4 (Obviously copied from Field, see above A.M.M.)

Abang abang abang abang abang abang abang abang a
Gumbery jah jin gun relah
Gumbery jah jin gun relah
Bangabang abang abang abang abang abang abang a

Air de danse (Peron?)

e e Con go Lamba Lamba
e e Congo Lamba (sung b women)
pouhe pouhe pouhe pouhe (simultaneously, by men.)

Corroborry II. Upper Darling River (Meninder) (sic)

Bai-in-di bai-in-di
Bale-ma ba-le-gna on....
Bai-in-di bai-in-di gna-on-ba-le-

(no translations).