Hawksbury Banks (Maids of Australia)

William 'Paddy' Gaul

Collected by James Madison Carpenter, Royal Alfred, Belvedere, 1928 James Madison Carpenter MSS Collection (JMC/1/5/4/A, JMC/1/1/4/D) Roud 1872



1. On those Hawksbury banks where I played my wild pranks,

Where the birds they were singing and happy and gay,

By a beautiful meadow I sat meself down

Where the birds and the bees they were whistling all round,

In the plains of my happy Australia,

Where ladies are handsome and gay.

2. I had not been sitting there very long,

When a beautiful damsel came strolling along;

She stripped just as naked as naked could be,

She said "This is the dress that sweet nature gave me."

In the plains of my happy Australia,

Where the ladies are handsome and gay.

3. She jumped into the water without fear or dread,

And her beautiful limbs she exceedingly spread;
Her hair hung ringlets down over her back,
She said " See, my young man, how I swim on my back."
In the plains of my happy Australia,
Where the ladies are handsome and gay.

4. Now she hadn't been swimming there very long; "Your assistance,," she cried, "I'm afraid I shall sink." I reached for her hand but she sprang out on the sand, Then I entered the bush of Australia, Where the ladies are handsome and gay.