

ORCHESTRA EXPRESSIONS" SERIES

Botany Bay

Australian Traditional
Arranged by Sandra Dackow

INSTRUMENTATION

- I Conductor
- 8 Ist Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- I Piano Accompaniment (Rehearsal Only)



This beautiful traditional Australian melody is a perfect way to introduce a waltz style to your beginning string orchestra. Your students will enjoy the opportunity to play and sing! Correlated with *Orchestra Expressions*, Book I, this piece is a great selection for any concert.

PROGRAM NOTES

Botany Bay is the name of the bay outside the settlement of Sydney on the east coast of Australia. It also referred to a convict settlement to which prisoners from the British Isles were resettled during the I8th and I9th centuries. "Farewell to Old England Forever" was sung by the convicts who were "transported" to the continent of Australia, one of the wildest and far-flung outposts in the British Empire. The convicts worked to lay down the infrastructure of what was to become one of the great nations of the world. Once a sentence had been worked off, many convicts were given land and a chance to build lives and businesses for themselves. Many Australians today proudly claim ancestors who arrived at the continent under dubious circumstances, but actually contributed to its settlement and the growth of a new country that now everyone seems to want to visit! How cool is that?!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob PhillipsBelwin/Pop String Editor



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This very easy arrangement (all first position, no extended fingerings) shares the well-known theme with all sections. While the melody should be played on the string with a lot of bow, those playing the rhythmic accompaniments (down beats, off beats, cadential bass-line licks) should instead play with shorter strokes, at the frog and off the string; this will keep the piece moving even though the tempo is not fast. After everyone becomes familiar with the tune and its chorus (which actually both use the same music), the violins and violas can be divided in the final shout "chrous" so that half play and the other half sing—or perhaps some students will be comfortable learning to do both together. The words appear in the violin and viola parts. The final four bars should represent a tearful "Farewell to Old England." Suggested tempor J = 108. There are a wide range of possible tempi for this piece, all of which can be justified.

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