SONG TITLE : Henry Keable’s Mother

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C Em Am C Am G

They have sent my boy to a foreign land so far across the sea

My husband has been hoisted, so what becomes of me?

They tell me this is justice for the crime that was committed

But I am the one who is punished the most and deserving to be pitied

Dm G C F

I begged them not to go that night but they would not pay me heed

Dm G C

I feared it would end badly and it ended so indeed

Now I’ll never watch my bonny baby grow into a man

And no more take him in my arms for the rest of my life’s span

CHORUS:

F G C F

Oh, to hold him to my breast and comfort him from fears

Dm G C

To gaze into his pretty blue eyes and kiss away his tears

F G C F

The mother who has lost her child has the saddest tale to tell

Dm G C

When they banished him to Botany Bay they banished me to hell

I take some little comfort from the fact that he’s alive

He was young and strong and healthy, and fitted to survive

They say there was a baby and a father he’s become

My eyes grow damp to think I’ll never know the little one

I look up at the moon at night and imagine somewhere he

Is gazing at that self-same moon and looking back at me

I pray he’ll make a good life, he has a loving heart

But still I ache from sorrow that mine is torn apart