

[REDACTED]
Bassett

Southampton

6th January 1960

Dear Tom,

I have just returned from London to find your letter. I will reply at length later, but I must abandon dance for the next few days while I prepare for the beginning of term.

I have started from the other end on social dance. I now have a list (9 pages) of references to social dance in the C.S. manuscripts and I have reel 6 of the microfilm which contains the most valuable references. It will take me a couple of weeks to go through that and then I can tackle the others. There are references to dances in the Butterworth manuscripts in C.S. House and also a file of unsorted references to social dance which I shall go through. A random sample of folk-love books ^{today} produced some interesting marks. In Yorkshire (E) a plate of wedding cake (complete with ~~cake~~ plate) was thrown over the bride - the usual walk to church, games etc also occur. Here's one in the eye for our rude references to dancing on stubble - ~~Scottering~~ ^{ering, Scottering} ... harvest ... six lads who danced round the ricks crossing each other on right and left sides alternately, accompanied by singing. Quoted by F.H. Leather Folk-love of Herefordshire P105 as from Havergal Herefordshire Words and Phrases 1887 p 45. Leather gives a whole set of reels (2 hand, 4 h, 6 h, 8 h) and says that the men 'dance a step dance' to each other!

I understand that Kenneth Gluck may be able to help here.

I understand Pat Tracy is coming to Beuten Manor.

I got a picture of dancing in Shawsbury 1900 or while I was there - only Sir Roger survived.

Beryl is coming for a weekend before Beuten Manor.

Had hoped to see Sean Tester and to go back to Exeter in next two months. I'll ^{write} ~~wright~~ to John Burgess about the Wiltshire dance, and try Michael Bell - better still Eileen Gummell, whom I shall see in Exeter (she has some step dancers up her sleeve), about the Dorset one.

Let me know what step dances you are going to use as training pieces and I'll work them up. I may have to ask you for instructions for some of the new ones you collected recently.

I'll send on the Sam Steel steps soon. I have three steps are Beryl's first three - with slight alteration.

Happy new year

Frank.

P.S. CS collected Swedish Dance from Laver Grinting (?) in 1909.

When was it introduced into London by 'a princess'.

P.P.S. Did you know Hugh made an alphabetic list of dances in collections in CS House up to 1810 ↓ ?