

Dear Frank,

I enclose the neat notes from the Muses' Coupes in York, and also the notes from Rosedale. Would you let me have them back with any comments you care to make. Incidentally, I have written to the Muses' C to say thank you.

We had an excellent holiday in Dentdale, with excursions into Wensleydale, Ribblesdale & Langstrothdale. Very profitable from the dancing point of view, too. I would rather not send you my neat notes, because I doubt if I could reconstruct them again from my field notes. should they go astray in the post But brief summary as follows.

① Wyresdale. We went to Dolphenholve on our way to Dentdale, arrived at lunchtime, saw nobody about, so drove on up the dale looking for a spot to eat our lunch. Met bloke of about 70 walking down road with hedging knife over shoulder - first person we saw in Wyresdale. Stopped and asked him about dance. Had seen it often - his wife's uncle was James Winder, from whom C# collected it. Further, his wife still had the manuscript for which C# collected & transcribed the tune! Had lunch, went back & talked to bloke, also visited an old lady of 79 in the dale. Went back on the Sunday, visited bloke & wife and extracted MS on Eban. Went back also on our way home, met an 81 year old, & a 69 year old. The latter had actually done Green-sleeves - quite often - & gave good description of dance. We have

~~MS in collection of fiddle music, older than C# indicated (ca 1820)~~

yet to see two old ladies from the dale, ^{now} in Preston, & a man of 70 in the dale who was also a regular performer.

But \approx so far everything agrees with your view. No one had heard dance called "Morris", nor was it associated with any seasonal festival. Just a bit of a look for

parties & weddings, like barn dance & frog dance (Cobbler's Hornpipe).

MS is a interesting collection of fiddle music ca 1834, older than C# indicated. The same people also had another MS of 1822, less interesting, and a fascinating arithmetic notebook in MS ~~of~~ of about the same date. These, too, I borrowed. I hope to get a microfilm of the 1834 ~~notebook~~ MS.

(ii) Dentdale. Main point of interest was dancing at the fair in Dent at Whitinside (penny a dance). The local fiddler held dancing classes every two or three years - this was in his spare time. Have now seen most of the older people

Unusual dances in repertoire ca 1900 were

Square-8 (\approx Westmorland Square-8, but without shuffle-off).

Swinging-6 (= Meeting-6 of Dales Book = Sylph)

Turn-off (\approx Galopade)

Cottagers (RH & LH star, waltz on to next couple).

3-Reel (Threesome. Done by men only, with rare exceptions. Centre man cuts to the two others in turn, then reel of 3, a new man comes into centre)

Highland Fling (as at Rosedale, non-progressive)

Ninepins.

Also barn dance, & solo step-dancing.

I think the solo step-dancing & the stepping in the 3-reel are now extinct in this dale.

(iii) Langstrothdale (upper end of Wharfedale). Saw only 2 people, at Oughtershaw, ~~but they~~ ~~were marvellous sources~~. One is George Turnbull, one of Leta Douglas's sources, and the other Peter Beresford. Both aged 79. G.T. was pianist & P.B. fiddler in a dance band.

P.B.'s brother, another fiddler, died week before we visited them. G.T. is now not too reliable, but P.B. was a marvellous source.

Main point of interest was Pace-egging at Xmas-time, with the proceeds blown on a supper & ball, to which all the contributors were invited. No 'teacher', but an old farmer at Oughtershaw had the young lads and girls into his house in the evening & put them through the dances.

Unusual dances in repertoire ca 1900 were

Square - 8 (= bars 1-32 of Let's Douglas's dance, plus circle - 8 (to left only) and set 4
swung partners)

Swinging - 6 (as in Dentdale)

Turn-off - 6 (As in Dales book, but doubtful about the promenade). Still done)

6 - Reel (= Turn-off - 6 ?)

3 - Reel (as in Dentdale)

4 - Reel (Bit vague)

Highland Fling

Buttered Peas (As you danced at Kettlewell. Still done in ordinary dances at Oughtershaw)

Kendal Ghyll (Reordering of Dales book version, bars 1-8, then #17-32, then 9-16. Non-
progressive).

Huntsman's Chorus (Somewhat similar to Dales book, but better suited to music). Still done.)

Pop goes the Weasel (More or less standard C.D. with 'jopping')

Buy a broom. (Odd thing $\textcircled{1}$ $\textcircled{2}$ $\textcircled{3}$ $\textcircled{4}$. C1 set 4 cross over, set 4 cross back, $\textcircled{1}$ swung, C2 the
same)

Bonnets so Blue (May be recoverable on a further visit). I didn't get it).

Irish Washerwoman (Something like Buy a broom). I couldn't get it exactly)

STEAMBOAT (Belonged to a earlier generation. Gone for good).

Also brush dance, Frog dance, & solo step-dancing. I have an address in Ribblesdale
for the last, & am still hopeful.

(iv) Hawes. Only 2 people seen. Part-time dancing teacher, dancing at fair as in
Dent, and dancing round bon-fire on Nov 5th (with tar-barel ceremony). Pease-egging
at Xmas with dance to follow.

Unusual dances in repertoire

Square - 8 (As in Langstrothdale)

Sylph (= Swinging - 6)

Turn-off - 6

3 - Reel

6 - Reel.

Much step-dancing in pubs.

I am suspicious of Leta Douglas's Square-8 [she admits it is the combination of different versions, but omits to say how different. The Langstrothdale - Hawes version is Fig II of Quadrilles. The rest of Leta Douglas's is essentially Fig III of Lances plus Fig IV of Quadrilles]. I am also suspicious of her Kendal Ghyll, for Fred Falshaw, from whom she got it, was almost a contemporary of G.T. & P.B. & was a buddy of theirs.

Of Leta Douglas's sources, Fred Falshaw, Sam Stables, Pheneas Hanson, & Tom Robinson are all dead.