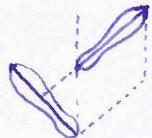


MISS E. B. MCNICOLL, LINTHAUGH, 13 PRESTWICH AVENUE, CULCHETH, NR WARRINGTON.

Mrs McNicoll learnt her dancing from her father, now dead. He was born ca 1864, learnt his dancing in Arbroath, & later taught in Part Glasgow. He was well-known as a professional Highland dancer. He knew the Highland Fling, Sword-dance, Shean-Tribhans, Sailor Hornpipe, Irish Washerwoman, Irish hornpipe (properly), Clog dance (?), and a "trotting dance" called "The Blue-bells of Scotland" performed to the tune of that name (Oh where, tell me where, does my Highland laddie dwell) followed by Annie Lunn.

Mrs McNicoll has been very well taught, & uses the five positions in her dancing, making note-taking easy. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th are as usual, but her 4th position, which is not, explains a number of discrepancies here between various writers. In her 4th position, the foot is at the same time in front of 1st posn & diagonally forward from 3rd position. The knee is then bent, the calf vertical, and the heel well forward. In these notes, "4th" will refer to this position.



Highland Fling.

1st Step. As usual, but with hand up for turn. When the foot is up in front of the leg, it is in 5th aerial.

2nd Step:-

Bar 1. Count 1. Hop on L + point R in 2nd.

Count 2 Hop on L + bring R to 5th near aerial

Count 3 Hop on L + point R in 4th

Count 4 Hop on L + beat R in 5th front aerial twice.

Bar 2 Four backsteps as usual, finishing with R in 5th front aerial.

Repeat in usual manner.

3rd Step:-

Bar 1. Count 1. Hop on L + point R in 4th

Count 2 Hop on L + beat R twice in 5th front aerial

Count 3 Spring on to R, crossed about 6" over L, & bring L to 5th near aerial.

Count 4 Spring on to both feet with L in 5th front position.

Bars 2 and 3, ~ and repeat of bar 1.

Bar 4 Turn as in first step.

Repeat with opposite feet.

4th Step:-

Bar 1. As in 2nd step.

Bar 2. Count 1. Cross R leg over in front of L leg, * put R toe down beside and to the left of L toe, toes touching, and rock over to the left so that the R heel nearly (but not quite) touches the ground. The two Toes must not leave the ground here.

Count 2 Rock back so that the L heel nearly touches the ground.

Counts 3 + 4, ~ and repeat of Count 2. Repeat as usual.

5th Step :-

Bar 1. Count 1 Hop on L + point R in 2nd.

Count 2 Hop on L + bring R to 5th rear aerial

Count 3 Hop on L + point R toe in 4th

Count 4. Hop on L + point R heel in 4th.

Bars 2 and 3 ~ and repeat of bar 1.

Bar 4 Turn as in first step.

Repeat with opposite feet.

6th Step:-

Bar 1. As 1st step.

Bar 2. As bar 1 of 2nd step.

Bar 3 Repeat bar 1.

Bar 4 Turn as in first step.

Repeat with opposite feet.

7th Step.

Bar 1 Count 1. Hop on L + point R in 2nd.

Count 2. Hop on L + bring R to 5th rear aerial } Making $\frac{1}{4}$ turn to L on these two beats.

Counts 3 + 4. Repeat 1 & 2.

Bar 2. Repeat bar 1. [Making one whole turn on the two bars.]

Bar 3. Counts 1 & 2. ~ of bar 1, but with no turn

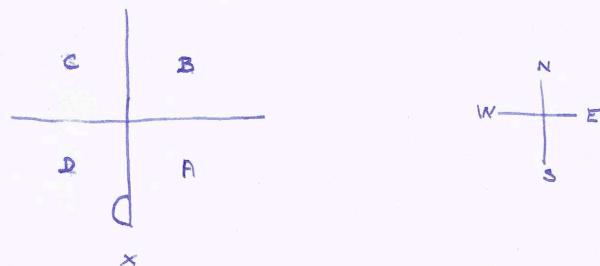
Counts 3 & 4 As 1 and 2 of bar 1, but with no turn.

Bar 4. Four backsteps. Then repeat with opposite feet.

8th Step :- This is the standard one.

Sword Dance.

The step here is a three beat pas de Basque, using 5th position on the 2nd beat, & with no excessive noise on the 3rd beat.



1st Step:-

Bar 1. Pas de Basque in A, facing N.

Bar 2. Pas de Basque in A, facing E

Bar 3. Pas de Basque in A, facing S

Bar 4. Pas de Basque in A, facing W

Bar 5. Pas de Basque in B, facing W

Bar 6. Pas de Basque in A, facing W

Bar 7, 8. Few high cuts in A & B facing W [done over scabbard, not out at point]

Repeat as usual.

2nd Step:- Standard one of no interest.

3rd Step :-

Bar 1. Count 1 Hop on L in D + point R toe in A, facing E

Count 2 Hop on L in D + point R heel in A, facing E

Bar 2 Count 3 Hop on L in D + point R toe in A with toe turned markedly inwards, facing E.

Count 4 Repeat Count 2 [with toe turned out], facing E.

Bars 3 + 4. ~ of bars 1 + 2, still dancing in A + D + facing E.

Bar 5 Count 1 Hop on L in D + point R toe in A, facing N.

Count 2 Hop on L in D + point R heel in A, facing N

Bar 6 Count 1 Hop on R in A = point L toe in 5th (in A), facing N

Count 2 Hop on R in A = point L heel in 5th (in A), facing N.

Bars 7-8. Few jumps across scabbard in A & B, facing N.

Repeat as usual.

4th Step :-

- Bars 1-6 As ours, beginning with two pas de Basque in A & D, facing N.
- Bar 7. Count 1. Hop on R in A & point L in 2nd in D (facing N).
- Count 2. Hop on R in A & point L in B, still facing N.
- Bar 8 Count 3. Spring on to L in A, turning round by right ($\frac{3}{4}$ turn) to face W, bringing R to 5th aerial front.
- Count 4 Spring on to both feet with R in 5th front.

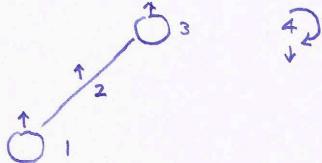
Repeat as usual.

Shean-Tribhais.

Much of this was standard, and I did not note it. The only steps of interest were as follows:-

3rd Step:-

- Bar 1. "1234", hopping on L and ending with R close to L in 5th low aerial.
- Bar 2. Count "and". Pause in that position.
Count "one, two, three" Run forward three steps on toes, R, L, R, diagonally forward to R.
- Bar 3. N of bar 1, finishing with L in 2nd intermediate aerial.
- Bar 4. Count "and one" Hop on R & shake L in 2nd aerial, turning to R.
Count "two" Complete the turn by repeating the last movement
Count "three" Spring into 5th position, L in front.



On bar 1, L arm is up, head looking down, body slightly hunched forward. On bar 2 the head is thrown back as you run & the arms are changed. On bar 3, the R arm is up & head normal. On bar 4, change to both arms up.

Another step is as follows.

- Bar 1. Count 1. Hop on L & point R in 2nd.
Count 2. Hop on L & bring R to 5th rear aerial
Count 3 Hop on L & bring R to 5th front aerial
Count 4 Hop on L & shake R twice in open int.
- Bar 2 Count 5-8 Back & forwards, as in "balance & back"