

Le Carillon de Dunkerque

Record available: Methodist World of Fun M-105B (Chimes of Dunkirk)

This is really an old French Branle; it was also popular as a ball-room novelty in this country in the late 19th Century.

Formation. Two concentric circles, the inner circle composed of the men, facing their partners who make up the outer circle which faces in.

The dance. (A) Hands on hips, all stamp; R-L-R. Clap own hands 3 times. Join both hands with partners and turn once around (walking step) Bars 1-8

(B) Join right hands with partners, balance forward and back (twice); join both hands with partner and walk around once more; on releasing hands the men move over to the next girl on their left with whom they repeat the dance Bars 9-16



The Donkey Dance

Record available: same as for the above . . . speed it up!

Here is an example of the changes (some call it adaptation; some degeneration!) in a dance transplanted to a foreign environment; the Jackson Whites (the "Mountain People" of the Ramapo) have danced this version of the "Chimes of Dunkirk" for generations.

Formation. Same as for the Carillon de Dunkerque.

The dance. (A) All clap own hands 3 times. All stamp 3 times (R-L-R). Dos-a-dos with partner. Honor partner (very brief; the man's bow hardly more than a nod) Bars 1-8

(B) All swing partners violently, using a fast buzz step; the swing continues to the end of the strain of music, the men then all moving to the left to repeat the dance with the next girl Bars 9-16