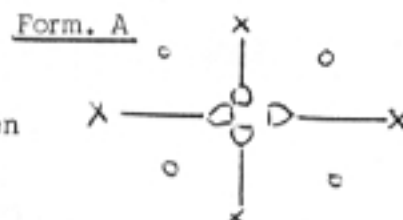


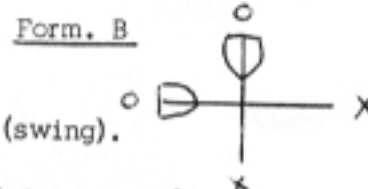
DANSE DES BALLAIS

This dance like many other French-Canadian dances exists with few versions. This one has been taught by Mr. Guy Thomas to the Canada's National Folk Company "LES FEUX-FOLLETS." He collected les ballais from an old from an old dancer in Lac St-Jean. The Scottish sword dance might be the origin. "Ballais" means broom.

Formation: A. Four cpls in circle: M(X) put his broom in front of him. W(O) stand and dance between two brooms. The first cpl is back to the music.



B. Two cpls in circle. W are in front of their ptr.



Position: Close social dance for Pas-de-pivot (swing).

Record: The music for this dance does not exist on record. Any good French-Canadian jig can be used. I suggest Le Reel du Voyageur, Folkways FG-3531A, Band 1. I am recording a few LP's especially for dances. It will be available soon.

STEPS: A. Pas-de-basque Canadien

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct</u>	
1	&	R ft to the R (twd the ctr)
	&	L ft in front of R ft
	1	R ft in place
	&	Pause
2	-	Same with L ft, and repeat meas. 1.
3	&	R ft to the R
	1	L ft touch in front of R ft (the other side of the lateral broom)
	&	L ft to the L
	2	R ft touch in front of L ft (the other side of the lateral broom)
4	-	Same as meas. 1 bkwd

Continued...

LA DANSE DES BALLAIS (Cont)

B. Gigue-Simple ou Pas-du-Berceau (cradle)

- 1 & R toe touch the floor and go
 up in front.
 & R ft touch the floor and come
 back but stay in the air
 1 R ft close to L ft
 & Pause
2 - Same with L ft

C. Pas-de-Transition (basic or change step)

- 1 Gigue-simple with R ft (without
 step between 2 steps)
 Pause
 L toe touch the floor near R ft.
2 - Same with L ft

D. Pas-de-Cote or Enchainement de Gigue-Simple

- 1 Gigue-simple with R and L ft
 (without stop between steps)
 Pause
2 - Point L toe twice in the back of
 R (with a small up)
 Step on L ft in the back of R
 Gigue-simple with R
 Small up on L
 Step on R close to L

E. Pas-de-Pivot (swing, R ft inside)F. Pas-de-Scottiche

- 1 Step with R and up on it
 Step with L and up on it
2 Step R, L, R, and up on it.

GENERAL PLAN

First Part (4 cpls)	Fig.	I	Passe-Ballais
		II	Circuler
		III	En Avant Double
		IV	Circuler
		V	En Avant Double
		VI	En Avant Double
		VII	Transition

continued.

LA DANSE DES BALAIS (Cont)

<u>Second Part</u>	<u>Fig.</u>	I	En Avant Simple
(2 cpls)		II	Circuler
		III	En Avant Simple
		IV	Circuler
		V	En Avant Double
		VI	Circuler
		VII	En Avant Double

EXPLANATION

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
	<u>I</u>	<u>Passe-Ballais</u>
1		M hold one end of the broom with R hand. Step in place on L, R, L. Up on L ft and Pass it over the broom by the inside.
2		Same beginning with R ft.
3-8		Same for 6 more times. The last step (last 2 cts) is done like this: Step on R, L while putting the broom down. L ft is free to start Fig. II.
	<u>II</u>	<u>Circuler</u>
1-4		Twd L till the next broom, 2 D. steps, starting with L.
5		C. step on place (R become free).
6-7		D. step to the R.
8		C. step in place (R is free).
	<u>III</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		2 A. steps.
	<u>IV</u>	<u>Circuler</u>
1-4		2 D. steps to the R.
5-8		With 4 C. steps, turn to your R (CCW).
	<u>V</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		Fig. III again. At the end, W stay in the ctr facing her ptr.
	<u>VI</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		Fig. III in this new pos. At the end, M pick up the broom (on the last 2 cts).
	<u>VII</u>	<u>Transition</u>
1-6		Cpl 1 swing with cpl 2, and cpl 3 with cpl 4 (cpl 3 become cpl 1 also).

Continued...

LA DANSE DES BALAIS (Cont)

Second Part:

- I En Avant Simple
 1-4 Cpl 1 does Fig. III of the 1st part.
 Cpl 2 does 4 C. steps in place.
 5-8 Same thing with reverse cpls.
- II Circuler
 1-4 2 D. steps to the R.
 5-8 2 C. steps turning R (CCW) 2 turns.
- III En Avant Simple and IV Circuler
 1-8 and Same as Figs. I and II.
 1-8
- V En Avant Double
 1-8 Same as Fig. III of the 1st part.
- VI Circuler
 1-8 4 F. steps to the L (all hands are joined) for 2 turns.
- VII En Avant Double
 1-8 Same as Fig. III of the 1st part.

Presented by Michel St-Louis