

SIDE 2 DASHING WHITE SERGEANT

(Scotland)

Unlike most of the country dances of Scotland, which are done with sets of 4 couples standing in two lines, this delightful dance is a "threesome."

STEPS: SKIP-CHANGE-STEP: The correct interpretation of this step requires the wearing of special shoes and much practice. We suggest that those who wish to use this step refer to the handbooks issued by the Scottish Country Dance Society. For general folk dance purposes, a light polka step may be substituted. The step is a hop-step-together-step; hop-step-together-step. If each step is

done with the toe leading, and the instep of the back foot brought up under the leading heel, it will closely resemble the skip-change-step.

PAS DE BASQUE: Leap to right. Cross left heel over right instep with left toe bearing weight, knee well turned out at a right angle. Step in place on right foot. Leap to left. Cross right heel over left instep with right toe bearing weight and knee well turned out at a right angle. Step in place on left foot.

OPENING FORMATION: Sets of three people facing three—one group facing

EPA-4128-2



clockwise, the other counterclockwise—are arranged like the spokes of a wheel. Groupings of one man and two ladies are preferable, although the opposite is acceptable.

PART 1: All six join hands and slide 8 steps to left and 8 to right. Dancers should finish in two straight lines, with one set of three still facing the other.

PART 2: The man faces right-hand partner. Both "set" to right and left by doing "pas de basque" steps. Then join two hands and turn clockwise in place with 2 more "pas de basque" steps. Finish so that the man now faces his left-hand partner. Repeat the "set" and turn with this lady. The man should finish this figure facing his right-hand lady.

PART 3: This figure is called a "Reel of Three" or "Figure Eight." (See diagram

for path dancers will take.) Each dancer traces the figure 8, using 8 skip-change or polka steps to do so. The figure starts with the man and his right-hand partner passing left shoulders. The left-hand partner waits a moment, and moves to her left in preparation for passing right shoulders in center with the other lady. Dancers continue weaving in a figure 8, passing alternate shoulders until they return to home position. In doing this figure dancers should make wide loops. (It may help to have each dancer practice walking through the figure 8 alone.)

PART 4: Both lines of three move forward and back with 2 "pas de basques" each way. (Beginners may use simple walking steps.) Drop hands, pass right shoulders and move forward to a new set of three, with whom the dance is repeated.