Take three walking steps forward, starting with right foot and pause.
Point left toe diagonally forward to left; touch left toe to in front of right toe.
Starting with left foot, take three walking steps backwards and hop on left foot.
Three walking steps forward starting with right foot; hop on right foot swinging left foot over right.
As Bar 5, starting with left foot.
Four step-hops forward, starting with right foot and swinging free leg over on each hop.

Repeat at pleasure.

ESMERALDA

Kismet Record 144B (4 bar introduction)

This is another dance that enjoyed over 50 years of popularity in the latter part of the last century; the tune used in this recording has the quaintest old-fashioned feeling that I'm sure you'll fall in love with it . . . and the dance is simple and effective . . . Originally in the pre-Civil War era it was danced as two slide steps plus two polka steps; sometime between then and the Gay Nineties a version became popular in the New Jersey resorts, which at that time were the playgrounds of New York's Society (yes, the capital S Society) with four slides and four polka steps. This is the number recorded here.

Formation:

Couples in waltz position (closed).

The dance:

(Description for man, lady dances counterpart.) Starting with left foot, revolve clockwise with four smooth polka steps, at the same time progressing counterclockwise around room. Take 4 draw steps to man's left (step to left on left foot, draw right foot up to left; repeat 4 times). Repeat all starting with right foot. Repeat at pleasure.

ANOTHER VERSION, of somewhat later origin (this may have been one of the ancestors of the Peabody), substitutes the following for the draw steps: partners stand side by side, (man faces CCW, lady on his right) hands joined. 4 walking steps forward, turning on 5th to face CW, (this leaves man with lady on his left); 3 walking step backwards. Both walking and polka steps start with man's left foot.