THE HIGHLANDMAN'S UMBRELLA (Scotland)

SOURCE:

This dance was devised by Mrs. Anna Holden of the Birmingham Branch for a commemorative book published by the Glasgow Branch to honor the Diamond Jubilee of the Society and its first Branch (Glasgow). Mrs. Holden is a well traveled teacher having taught in the U.S., Canada, So. Africa and in Europe, as well as annually teaching at the Summer School at St. Andrews. In her "free"time she is a civil magistrate in Birmingham.

"The Highlandman's Umbrella," a well known landmark in Glasgow, covers the street that runs out of Central Station. Since it was built, it has been a common gathering place, as a landmark for anyone wanting directions. Traditionally the Highlanders gathered there to shelter whilst awaiting trains back out to the countryside and exchanged the latest news with family and friends. The music was written for this dance by Beryl S. Johnston, who has composed numerous signature and second tunes for the Society's dances.

MUSIC:

Ready ... And!, TAC003 (TACSound); Reel (4x32 bars)

FORMATION:

Dancers are arranged in a square (quadrille) set and are numbered CW with 1st cpl at the top (back to music), 2nd cpl to 1st's L facing 4th cpl to 1st's R. 3rd cpl is at the bottom facing 1st cpl (and the music). The dance is repeated 3 times, ea cpl progressing 1 place CW at the end of ea 32 bars.

STYLE:

Skip change of Step is used throughout unless a setting step (q.v.) is indicated. Hop on L as R extends fwd, step R fwd, close L to R heel, step R fwd. (Repeat L, 1 skip change of step per bar.)

Pas de basque is used when setting is indicated in which case 2 steps are required (bars 3&4, 7&8, 11&12, 15&16). Step R with R, close L to R instep, step R in place as L is extended diag L fwd (repeat L).

Promenade Hold: Ptnrs adjacent holding R hand in R over L hand in L.

 $\frac{\text{Cast}}{270}$: To turn the long way in 1 direction to go in the other, e.g. turn instead of 90.

Slip step; Step to L with L close R, rpt 2 per bar (usually 8 steps in 4 bars & then 8 back starting with R ft).

FIGURES:

Hands Round and Back: All join hands in a circle & dance 8 slip steps to the L (4 bars) & 8 back to the R (4 bars).

METER:	PATTERN
Meas.	Introduction: 1 bar chord to begin during which all 4 cpls bow or curtsey to their opp across the square.
	FIGURE I. (Women's Progress)
1- 4	All in promenade hold advance twd the cntr & retire
5-8	W cast R and dance round 1 place CW
	FIGURE II. (Men's Progress)
9-12	All rpt bars 1-4 with new ptnrs
13-16	M cast L and dance round 1 place CCW
	FIGURE III. (Find Your Partner)
17-18	All set to new ptnr Coufin ned

THE HIGHLANDMAN'S UMBRELLA (cont'd.)

-19-20	1st and 3rd M (now on the sides of the set) change places, crossing giving L hands in passing
21-22	2nd and 4th M (now at the top and bottom of the set) change places, crossing giving L hands in passing
23-24	All set to orig ptnr
	FIGURE IV. (Hands Round and Back)
25-28	Circle 8 hands round to the L (using 8 slip steps)
29-32	and back to the R.
	REPEAT FROM YOUR NEW POSITION.
	CUES: All advance & retire; W cast R Repeat; M cast L All set, 1M3M cross L; 2M4M repeat, all set

Presented by Elinor Mackenzie Vandegrift Notes edited by Richard Goss IDYLLWILD WORKSHOP, 1986

Circle 8