

(Two versions)
MEILLIONEN O FERIONYDD
 ("Clover of Merioneth")
 (Meelee-ohnen O Very-on-ith)

This longways version of the Welsh dance was first published in 1726. When live music is played, and therefore allowing part B to be repeated as long as needed, then any number of couples may dance. To the Folkraft 45 rpm recording the dance is limited to five couples. The notation is by V. F. Beliajus.

RECORD: Folkraft #1573 B. Folkraft Records, 10 Fenwick St., Newark, NJ 07114.

FORMATION: Five couples, couple behind couple, inside hands joined, outside hands hang at sides.

PATTERN

MEASURES: PART A

Music A1

- 1 Four running steps forward, starting with outside foot.
- 2 Four running steps backward.
- 3-4 Repeat above once again.

Music A2

- 1-2 Face partner, join both hands. Four slides to man's left and return.
- 3-4 Release hands. Four steps away (backward) from each other, four back to partner.

Music A3

- 1-2 Clap own hands, right to partner; own hands, left to partner; own hands, both hands on own chest; both hands to partner, hold.
- 3-4 Repeat above, but starting with left hands.

PART B

- 1 Siding step; pass partner, left shoulders, with four running steps and turn to face.
- 2 Come back with four more steps, passing right shoulders (same track).
- 3 Pass partner left shoulders once again. Now man faces a new woman, while the woman faces a new man, down the set. During the next three measures repeat above figure but in a vertical formation. When the above cycle is completed and couple one begins siding in new location, at the same time 2nd couple will begin siding figure at head of set. This movement continues until all the dancers have completed siding with each couple in set and reversed direction to

regain original position.

When a couple reaches foot of set, do the siding step, horizontally to return to own original lines and continue working up the set to original home places.

This double circle version of Meillionen has been notated by Mae Fraley.

RECORD: *Welsh Dances*. side 2, band 1. Produced by Nate Gerber and Gene Baron. Available from Mrs. Anne Cowie, 102 Longwood Rd., Baltimore, MD 21210.

FORMATION: Sicilian circle, couple facing couple. Inside hands joined with partner.

STEP: Walking steps.



Dawns Flodan Nantgarw ("Nantagarw Garland Dance") being performed near the ruins of Tintern Abbey in Gwent, Wales. Photo by E. T. W. Dennis and Sons Ltd.

PATTERN

MEASURES:

- A1 Couples advance and retire*. Repeat.
- A2 Release hands, slip* sideward away from partner four counts, slip toward partner four counts; face partner, four steps backward away from partner, four steps forward toward partner.
- B Clapping with partner: clap own hands once, right hand with partner, own, left hands with partner, own, cross arms and clap own chest, clap hands with partner, hold one count. Repeat clapping with opposite partner, beginning, own, left, etc. Side right* shoulders and left shoulders. Pass through and on to the next couple, which is the beginning of the A-1 music and beginning of the dance again.

(VFB NOTE*: "advance and retire" means "forward four steps and backward four." "Slip" is a sliding step. "Step right" means "pass right shoulders, then turn around and come back with left shoulder"; it is not a do-si-do.)