

Fisher's Hornpipe

Musical score for "Fisher's Hornpipe" in D major, 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves form the first line, and the last two staves form the second line. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written in a treble clef. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, G, D, G, D, G, D, A7, D, G, D, G, A7, D, A7, D, A, E7, A, G, D, A7, D.

History

James A. Fishar published this tune in England in 1780, and it has been an American favorite since the late 18th century. Ralph Page found this tune in thirteen Revolutionary War era dance manuscripts, so it must have been very popular. It was played for dances on the Oregon Trail and in pioneer communities, including at the 1862 wedding of Henry Van Asselt and Catherine Elizabeth Jane Maple near Seattle.



"A Cotillion Party of Thirty-Two Persons Dancing on the Stump of the Mammoth Tree." Wood Engraving from "Scenes of Wonder and Curiosity in California" by J. M. Hutchings, 1862