

Cock of the North

Musical score for "Cock of the North" in G major (two sharps) and 6/8 time. The score consists of six staves of music with guitar chord annotations (A, D, E7) and measure numbers (5, 10, 15, 20).

Staff 1: Measures 1-4. Chords: A, D, A, E7.

Staff 2: Measures 5-8. Chords: A, D, A, E7. First ending (1A) and second ending (2A) are indicated.

Staff 3: Measures 9-14. Chords: A, D, A, D, A, E7, A, D.

Staff 4: Measures 15-18. Chords: A, D, A, A, A, D, A, D.

Staff 5: Measures 19-22. Chords: A, E7, A, D, A, E7.

Staff 6: Measure 23. Chord: A.

"Cock of the North", also known as "Auntie Mary" (Ireland, Newfoundland), "Joan's Placket (Is Torn)" (England) or "Jumping John" is a Scottish, English and Canadian jig in 6/8 March and Morris dance tune. It is known in Canada in Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. It is played in A Major (Hunter, Johnson, Kennedy, Miller & Perron, Perlman, Raven) or G Major (Bayard, Bullen, Kerr, Sweet, Wade).

The "Cock o' the North" was an honorary title of the (fifth and last) Duke of Gordon, who held sway over the northern part of the Scottish Highlands. David Murray, in **Music of the Scottish Regiments** (Edinburgh, 1994), writes: "While most of the great magnates of the Highland had a Gaelic patronymic, the Duke of Gordon's was 'The Cock of the North', for although he owned vast estates in the Highlands, Gaelic was not widely spoken in Aberdeenshire, where his influence was the strongest".

Chappell alleges the earliest reference to the tune (under the title "Joan's Placket") is in an entry in Pepys' diary for June 1667. Bayard (1981) and Kidson (1915) both trace the tune to the 17th century, where they find the titles for this tune were "Jumping John/Joan" and "Joan's Placket (Is Torn)".

It was published by Oswald (vol. 10) c. 1758, by Feuillet in **Recueil de Contredanses** (1706) in Paris.

It was printed in Bacon's **A Handbook of Morris Dances** (1974), Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle** (1981), Hunter's **The Fiddle Music of Scotland** (1988), Jarman's **The Cornhuskers Book of Old Time Fiddlin' Tunes** (1938), Jarman's **Old Time Dance Tunes** (1951), Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 7: Michigan Tunes** (1986–87), Kennedy's **Fiddler's Tune-Book, vol. 2** (1954), Kerr's **Merry Melodies, vol. 2**, McDonald's **The Gesto Collection of Highland Music** (1895), Miller & Perron's **New England Fiddler's Repertoire** (1983), Moffat's **Dance Music of the North** (1908), Perlman's **The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island** (1996), Raven's **English Country Dance Tunes** (1984), Ross's **Army Manual of Bagpipe Tunes, book 1** (1934), Sweet's **Fifer's Delight** (1964/1981) and Wade's **Mally's North West Morris Book** (1988).

It was recorded by Seamus Ennis, Pádraig O'Keeffe, Boys of the Lough, Pady Maloney and others.