

# The Hawk

James Hill

The image shows a musical score for the tune "The Hawk" by James Hill. It is written in E Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into two parts, A and B. Part A consists of two staves of music. Part B consists of three staves of music. The score includes treble clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 4/4. Chord symbols (D, A7, G) are placed above the notes. The score includes repeat signs, first and second endings, and a triplet of eighth notes in the first ending of Part B.

"The Hawk", also known as "The Bells of St. Louis" is a Scottish and English hornpipe in E Major. The parts are played AABB.

An early 19th century hornpipe composed by James Hill (c. 1811-1853, Gateshead, Northumberland, near Newcastle), in all probability named after a Tyneside pub called The Hawk, on the Bottle Bank, Gateshead, where Hill made his living for a time as a fiddler (Hill also wrote a tune for the Bottle Bank, where he lived). Hill, who named some of his tunes after various local pubs (and who was himself a publican for a while), was born in Dundee, Scotland. "The Hawk" is one of the more celebrated tunes from a composer known for his hornpipes (although this tune is often heard played as a reel). Hill also composed "The Hawk" and "The Newcastle Hornpipe" both in this collection.

The Irish group De Danann recorded the tune as a reel entitled "The Bells of St. Louis" on their album **Mist Covered Mountain**. Alistair Anderson played the tune in the key of G (Hill wrote it in 'E'), and Shetland versions are in D major. Irish versions are in both 'D' and 'E' and tend to be played as reels. It was printed in Bain's 50 Fiddle Solos (1989),

Banalari's **Celtic Encyclopedia** (1999), Cranford's **Winston Fitzgerald** (1997), Dixon's **The Lads Like Beer** (1987), Hunter's **Fiddle Music of Scotland** (1988), Köhler's **Violin Repository, Book Second** (1881-1885), Miller's **Fiddler's Throne** (2004) and Northumbrian Pipers' Society's **The Fiddle Music of James Hill** (2005).

It was recorded by Florence Burns on **Scottish Traditional Fiddle Music** (1978) and Alistair Anderson (with fiddler Aly Bain) on **Alistair Anderson Plays the English Concertina** (1972).