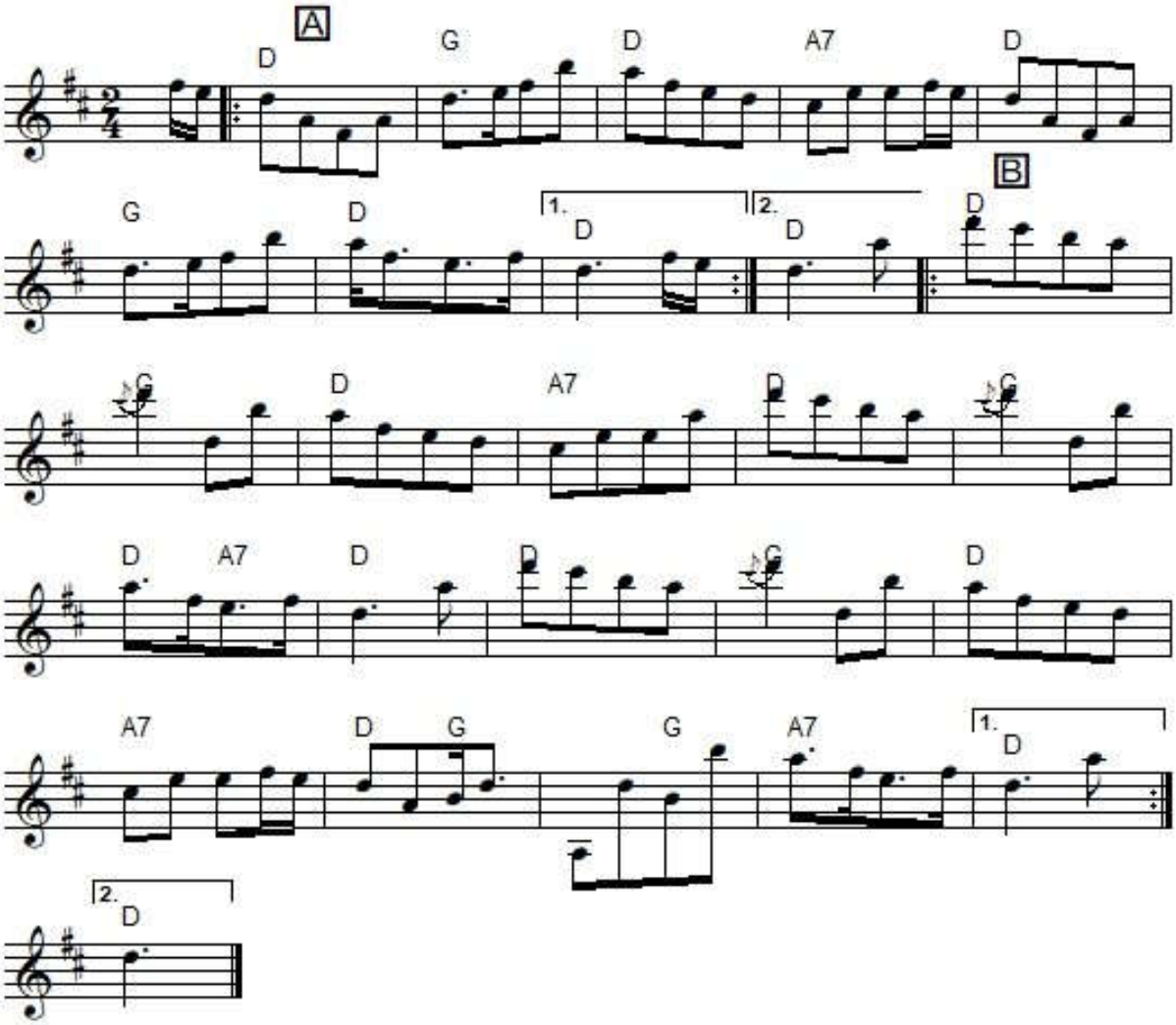
Lady Shaftsbury's Stathspey



"Lady Shaftsbury Strathspey", also known as "Lady Shaftsbury Reel", "Lady Shaftsbury's Delight", "Greenend Park" or "Kelly's Goat" is a Scottish Slow Strathspey and Country Dance in E Flat Major (Gow, Howe, MacDonald, Stewart-Robertson), B Flat Major (Wilson), A Major (Kennedy) or D Major (Aird). The parts are played AB (Surenne), AAB (most versions).

The composition is credited to Edinburgh publisher, teacher, composer, fiddler and bandleader Nathaniel Gow as "Lady Shaftesbury's Strathspey," printed in his **Third Collection** (1792), however, John Glen finds that it was first published by Malcolm MacDonald, who printed it in his **Second Collection** of 1789 under the title "Greenend Park". McDonald was the bass player in Gow's band at the time and probably heard him playing the tune, perhaps not realizing it was composed by him. Glen (1895), however, believes it was Gow who stole the tune. It was published as a country dance called "Lady Shaftsbury's Delight" in London publisher Preston's **Twenty-Four Country Dances for the Year 1793**.

Poet Robert Burns employed a modification of the tune for his song "Here's to thy health, my bonny lass", printed in the Scot's Musical Museum. Burns called the tune "Loggan Burn" (or "Laggan Burn"), but the name appears to be idiosyncratic to that publication, as no such tune title has been found elsewhere.

"Lady Shaftsbury's Strathspey" was set in the key of D major and included in the music manuscript book of Cumbrian musician John Rook (1840, p. 196). The melody surfaced in America as a fife air called "Kelly's Goat" (Bayard, 1981), but was included under the "Lady Shaftsbury" title in the music copybook manuscript of William Patten or around 1800 (probably from Philadelphia). Howe prints the tune in a reel-time setting.

It was printed in Aird's **Selection of Scotch, English, Irish and Foreign Airs, vol. 5** (1797), Carlin's **The Gow Collection** (1986), Gow's **Third Collection of Niel Gow's Reels** (1792), Howe's **1000 Jigs and Reels** (c. 1867), Kennedy's **Traditional Dance Music of Britain and Ireland: Reels and Rants** (1997), MacDonald's **The Skye Collection** (1887), Preston's **Twenty-Four Country Dances for the Year** (1793), Stewart-Robertson's **The Athole Collection** (1884), Surenne's **Dance Music of Scotland** (1852), Tracy's **Selection of the Present Favorite Country Dances** (1795), Wilson's **Companion to the Ballroom** (1816) (identified as "Old Scotch").