

The White Cockade

Part A

Part B

in Gaelic *An Cnota Bán*. A Scottish march. There are a number of different lyrics, including one by Robert Burns but I don't sing any of them and so they are not included here. A cockade was a ribbon in the shape of a rosette used as a decoration on hats, and thus was a convenient vehicle to display the wearer's loyalties in much the same manner as a button or a bumper sticker nowadays. It was used especially as a uniform decoration and to mark irregular troops in the 18th century and various colors represented different loyalties. Jacobite Troops had no formal uniform. The white cockade on a blue bonnet became their emblem. It is said to have originated when Bonnie Prince Charlie picked a wild rose and pinned it to his hat. A white cockade was associated with Jacobite rebels in 1715 and again for Bonnie Prince Charlie's uprising in 1745, in both Scotland and Ireland. It has been printed in O'Neill's **Music of Ireland** and Breandán Breathnach's *Ceol Rince na hÉireann 2*.

Several settings are printed in Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle ...** (1982). It was recorded by The Coppers, The Chieftans and others.