
"The Banks", also known as "The Banks Hornpipe", "Banks of the River", "Parazotti", "Kinloch's Grand Hornpipe", "Morgan's Hornpipe", "Mrs. Taff" or "Souvenir de Venice" is a Scottish, Canadian and Irish hornpipe in E Flat Major (Scottish versions, primarily) or G Major (Black). The parts are played AAB (Black, Honeyman, Martin): AA'B (Silberberg): AABB (Brody, Hardie, Hunter, O'Malley, Skinner). The B part is 16 measures long.

"Composed by Parazotti" is an ascription often found attached to this tune, sometimes called a 'descriptive hornpipe', or (by Skinner) a 'Classical hornpipe'. It has become a tune by which good fiddlers are judged and, as a virtuoso piece, is played by fiddlers from several different styles and genres.

The tune was inspired by the sights and sounds of a river in flood. The melody appears first in print in 1881 in Köhlers' **Violin Repository (Book 1)** under the title "Mrs. Taff" (whom Hardie explains was a person who resided on the West coast of Scotland and was Parazotti's patron for a time. It is said she was the owner of the house in which Parazotti composed his tune). The piece is similar to the tune "Souvenir De Venice Hornpipe" in Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883). "Souvenir" has also been credited to L. Ostinelli, an Italian who arrived in Boston in the year 1818.

It was printed in Black's **Music's the Very Best Thing** (1996), Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Cranford's **Winston Fitzgerald** (1997), Honeyman's **Strathspey, Reel and Hornpipe Tutor** (1898), Hardie's **Caledonian Companion** (1992), Hunter's **Fiddle Music of Scotland** (1988), Johnson's **A Twenty Year Anniversary Collection** (2003), Martin's **Traditional Scottish Fiddling** (2002), O'Malley's **Luke O'Malley's Collection of Irish Music** (1976), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002) and Skinner's **Harp and Claymore** (1904).

It was recorded by Tom Doucet on **The Down East Star** (1975), Frank Ferrel on **Yankee Dreams: Wicked Good Fiddling from New England** (1991), Jean Carignan on **Old Time Fiddle Tunes** (1968), Andy McGann and Paddy Reynolds on **My Love is in America: The Boston College Irish Fiddle Festival** (1991), Sean McGuire on **Ireland's Champion Traditional Fiddler**, Tom Anderson and Aly Bain on **The Silver Bow**, Joe Cormier on **Scottish Violin Music from Cape Breton Island** (1974), J. Scott Skinner on **The Strathspey King** and Seamus and Manus McGuire on **Humours of Lissadell** (1980).