

## The Brown Chest

The musical score for "The Brown Chest" is written in D Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two main sections, A and B. Section A is an 8-measure phrase that is repeated. Section B is a 2-measure phrase, also repeated. The score includes chord symbols (D, A7, G) and measure numbers (4, 7, 11, 14, 17). First and second endings are indicated with '1.' and '2.' above the staff.

"The Brown Chest", in Gaelic "*An Comhra Donn*" or "*An Cofra Donn*" is also known as "The Brown Casket", "*Ó Murchú's Hornpipe*", "O'Connor Donn's" or "The Star of Bethlehem" is an Irish hornpipe in D Major. The parts are played AABB.

It is melodically similar (in the 'A' part) to "Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine", "The Centenary March", "Caledonian March" as well as the English "Durham Rangers" family of tunes.

The Chieftains have recorded tune twice, first as "*An Comhra Donn*" on their eponymous 1963 album and again in 1991 under the title "*Ó Murchú's Hornpipe*".

It was printed in Breathnach's **CRÉ 1** (1963), Carlin's **English Concertina** (1977), Sullivan's **Session Tunes, vol. 3**, Taylor's **Music for the Sets: Blue Book** (1995), Valley's **Companion to Irish Traditional Music** (1999) (as "Humours of Tullycreen") and Valley's **Learn to Play the Fiddle with Armagh Pipers Club**.

It was recorded by Martin Hayes on **Martin Hayes** (1993)(as "The Brown Coffin") and The Chieftains on **An Irish Evening** (1991)(as "*Ó Murchú's Hornpipe*").