

Comely Jane Downing

The image shows a musical score for the Irish reel "Comely Jane Downing". The score is written in G Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It is divided into two sections, A and B. Section A consists of two staves of music, and Section B consists of two staves of music. The music is written in treble clef. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, D7, and G. The melody is a simple, rhythmic tune with a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

"Comely Jane Downing", in Gaelic "*Sineid Alain Ni Dounaig*" or "**Sineid Datamail m Duibnaig**" also known as "Larry Bourn", "Lord Seymour's Reel", "Lord Summer's Reel", "Seymour's Fancy", "Squeeze Me Softly", "Tady's Wattle", "Tory Burn Lasses" or "Torry Burn Lasses" is an Irish reel in G Major. The parts are played AB.

'Comely' Jane Downing was the daughter of the neighboring farmer of the O'Neill homestead at Trailibane, County Cork. Her father was Francis O'Neill's flute instructor.

R.M. Levey's hornpipe "Tady's Wattle" is a related tune and perhaps a precursor, however, the ultimate source for the tune is a volume of English country dances, Preston's **Twenty Four Dances for the Year 1793**, where an almost exact version was printed as "Seymour's Fancy".

There is no source attribution for the tune in O'Neill's **Music of Ireland** (1903) and it is not known where O'Neill might have learned it.

County Leitrim fiddler and piper Stephen Grier (c. 1824-1894) entered the reel as "Lord Seymour's Reel" in Book 2 of his c. 1883 music manuscript collection.

"Haul Away the Hawser" is a North West England version.

It appears as "The Goroum" in Petrie's **Collection of Irish Music** (1902).

It was printed in Krassen's **O'Neill's Music of Ireland** (1976), O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903), O'Neill's **Dance Music of Ireland: 1001 Gems** (1907).

It was recorded by The Baltimore Consort on **The Mad Buckgoat: Ancient Music Of Ireland**, The Boat Band on **A Trip To The Lakes: Traditional Cumbrian Tunes**, Duncan Dyker And Friends on **Collectors' Items** Lakeland Fiddlers on **Fiddles In The Cowshed**, Ian MacDougall on **From Foot Cape** and Dagger Gordon and Colin Gordon on **Like Father, Like Son**.