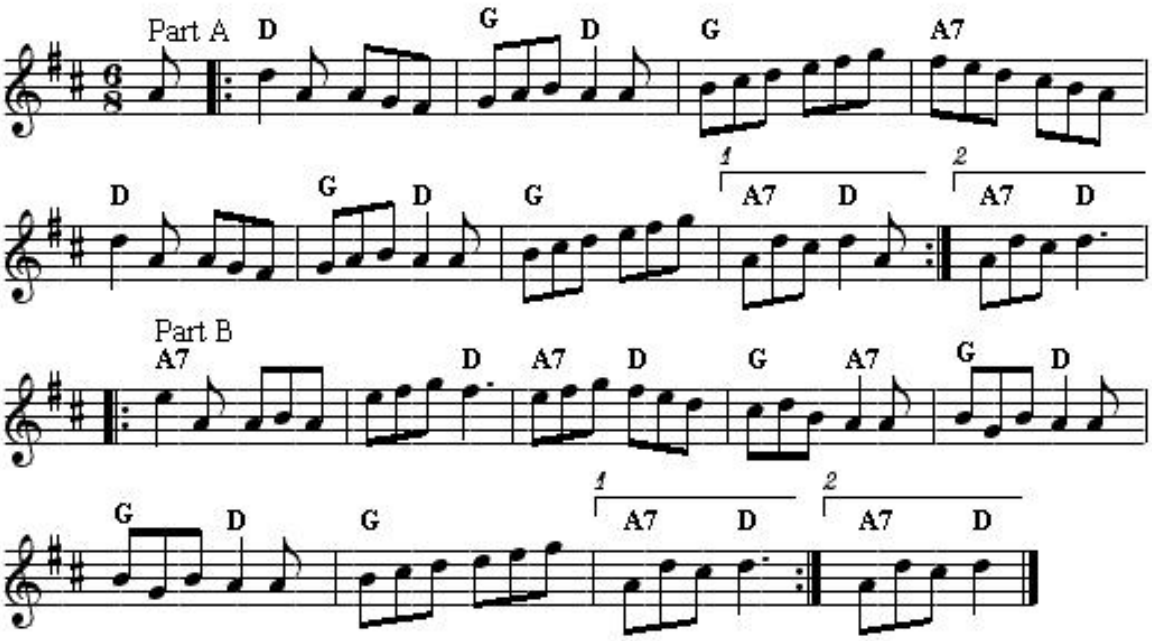
The Moon and Seven Stars



The tune under this title dates to around 1750, although as "Seven Stars" it may be somewhat older. It was entered under the "Moon and Seven Stars" title into the 1795-c. 1815 music manuscript commonplace book of musician Luther Kingsley of Mansfield, Connecticut, and the c. 1815 music manuscript of Cumbrian musician Matthew Betham. New Hampshire contra dance musician Randy Miller gives that it was an old fife tune in America where it was called "The Moon and Seven Stars," a title he suggests was influenced by freemasonry. Northumbrian musician and woodcut artist Joseph Crawhill (1821-1896) also entered it into his 1872 music manuscript collection.
It has been recorded by Threepenny Bit and others.
I learned this at our Monday night jam.