

The Munster Buttermilk

The musical score for "The Munster Buttermilk" is presented in three sections, A, B, and C, each on a separate staff. The key signature is D Major (one sharp) and the time signature is 6/8. Section A (measures 1-8) begins with a D chord and ends with an A7 chord. Section B (measures 9-16) begins with a Bm chord and ends with a D chord. Section C (measures 17-24) begins with a G chord and ends with a D chord. Each section starts with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

"The Munster Buttermilk", in Gaelic "*An Bhláthach Mhuimhneach*" or "*Barr na Feirste*", also known as "Behind the Haystack", "Box the Monkey", "Christmas Day in the Morning", "Squeeze Your Thighs" or "Take Her or Leave Her" is an Irish jig in D Major. The parts are played ABCC (Moylan), ABCDE (Breathnach) or AABBBCC (Brody, Kennedy, Kerr).

The title appears in a list of tunes in his repertoire brought by Philip Goodman, the last professional and traditional piper in Farney, Louth, to the *Feis Ceoil* in Belfast in. As "Box the Monkey" it appears in the mid-19th century music manuscript collection of another uilleann piper, Anglican cleric Phillip Goodman of County Cork.

It was printed in Breathnach's *CRÉ II* (1976), Brody's *Fiddler's Fakebook* (1983), Kennedy's *Jigs & Quicksteps, Trips & Humours* (1997), Kerr's *Merry Melodies vol. 1* (1880's), Levey's *First Collection of the Dance Music of Ireland* (1858), Moylan's *Johnny O'Leary of Sliabh Luachra* (1994) and Taylor's *Music for the Sets: Blue Book* (1995).

It was recorded by Percy Scott (Montreal, 1920, as 2nd tune in "Jig Medley"), Moloy, Brady, and Peoples and Boys of the Lough on *Live at Passim* (1974).