

Off She Goes

Part A

Part B

"Off She Goes", also known as "The Lancer's Quadrille", "The Lancer's", and "The Launch", "Off She Goes" is of the most popular and long-lived of traditional 6/8 tunes in history. It appeared in print in the Irish **Murphy MS** in 1790. Samuel Bayard doubted it was older than the 1780's. An early printing occurs in the **Calvert Collection** (1799), assembled by musician Thomas Calvert of Kelso, Scotland.

"Off She Goes" was popular throughout the British Isles and North America. One unnamed source gives that in the days of sail it was a tradition for the fiddle player to sit on the deck of the ship playing "Off She Goes" as the ship departed harbor.

It was recorded by Jean Carignan, Alasdair Fraser, Billy McComiskey, Brendan Mulvihill and others.

It has been printed in both O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903) and **Dance Music of Ireland: 1001 Gems** (1907), Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940) and Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle** (1981).

I learned this at our Monday night jam.