

# The Praties are Dug and the Frost is All Over

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed section marker 'A'. The second staff includes first and second endings. The third staff begins with a boxed section marker 'B'. The fourth staff includes a boxed section marker 'C'. The fifth, sixth, and seventh staves continue the melody with various chords.

Chords: D, A7, G, D, A7, G, D, A7, D, G, D, A7, D, G, D, A7, D.

Section Markers: A, B, C.

First Ending: 1. G D

Second Ending: 2. G D

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"Praties Are Dug and the Frost is All Over", also known as "The American Dwarf", "The Frost is All Gone", "The Frost is All Over", "Hey to the Camp", "Lisdoonvarna", "Mist of Clonmel", "On a Monday Morning", "Owl Creek", "Praties in the Bag" or "What would I do if the Kettle Boiled Over?" is an Irish jig also known in America in southwestern Pa. and New York in D Major. The parts are played AABB (Kerr), AABC (Bayard, Cole). The B part (and the C part if present) are reminiscent of the B part of "Gary Owen".

The title is taken from the first line of one of several songs written to the tune.

"Praties" are potatoes.

Bayard (1981) traces this tune's earliest printings back to the country dance tune "The Masque", which appeared with dance directions in Playford's **Dancing Master, 7th Edition** (1686). "(When) the Praties Are Dug and the Frost Is All Over" and "Hey to the Camp" were later versions. The latter was published by John Young in his **Dancing Master, 13th ed.** (1707), although they have remained popular for some two hundred years.

The melody first appears in Irish collections in the work of George Petrie (1790-1866), who collected it from a County Armagh source in the mid-19th century. Sound recordings begin with the trio of Chicago piper Tom Ennis, fiddler Tom Quigley, and piano player John Muller, who recorded the jig in New York in 1923. The jig was mentioned as having commonly been played at Orange County, New York country dances in the 1930's (Lettie Osborn, New York Folklore Quarterly). Cape Breton fiddler Colin Boyd recorded the tune as "Rafferty's Jig".

It was printed in Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle** (1981) (appears as an untitled "Cotillion"), Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940), Haverty's **One Hundred Irish Airs vol. 2** (1858), Kerr's **Merry Melodies, vol. 2** (c. 1880's), R.M. Levey's **First Collection of the Dance Music of Ireland** (1858) and Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883).

It was recorded by Frankie Gavin on **Fierce Traditional** (2001).