

Sweeney's Buttermilk

Musical score for "Sweeney's Buttermilk" in B minor, 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves of music. The first staff is marked with a box 'A' and contains the first measure of the A section. The second staff continues the A section. The third staff is marked with a box 'B' and contains the first measure of the B section. The fourth staff continues the B section and includes a first ending bracket. The fifth staff contains a second ending bracket. Chord symbols (Bm, F#m, E7) are placed above the notes. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

"Sweeney's Buttermilk", also known as "Charlie Lennon's Reel", "Buttermilk Mary", "Charlie's Buttermilk Mary", "Brendan McGlinchey's" or "Scarce o' Tatties" is an Irish Reel in (whole or cut time) and A Dorian, B Minor or B Dorian. The parts are played AABB. This is a modern composition by fiddler Brendan McGlinchey (1940 - 2020) (though sometimes mistakenly attributed to Charlie Lennon). The story goes that McGlinchey was attending a musical event and found accommodations in the caravan of a man named Sweeney, with whom he shared his stay. Sweeney, like McGlinchey, was quite fond of buttermilk.

The tune is usually played in the key of B Minor/B Dorian.

It appears in Bulmer & Sharpley's collection **Music from Ireland, vol. 4** (1976) (as "Charlie Lennon's" sourced to Lennon as at the time the tune's title was unknown).

It was printed in Taylor's **Through the Half-door** (1992).

It was recorded by Touchstone on **The New Land** (1982), The Chieftains on **9** (1979), Brendan Mulvihill & Donna Long on **The Morning Dew** (1992), Vinnie Kilduff on **The Boys from the Blue Hill** (1990), Seamus & Kevin Glackin on *Na Saighneáin/Northern Lights* (1988), Silly Wizard on **Golden, Golden** (1984) and **So Many Partings** (1979), Shaskeen on **Atlantic Breeze** (1988) and Kevin Burke on **Sweeney's Dream** (c. 1970's).