

## Darling Nellie Gray

The musical score for "Darling Nellie Gray" is written in D Major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above it and contains a repeat sign. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff has a first and second ending. The fourth staff is marked with a boxed letter 'B' above it and contains a repeat sign. The fifth staff continues the melody. The sixth staff has a first and second ending and ends with a double bar line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, D7, G, D, A7, D, D7, G, D, A7, D, G, D, A7, D, G, D, A7, D, G.

"Darling Nellie Gray", also known as "Nelly Grey" or "Old Nelly Grey" is an American air and dance tune in D Major (sometimes given in B Flat Major or G Major). The parts are played AB, AA'B or AABB.

It is an abolitionist song composed by Benjamin Russell Hanby in 1856, while a student at Otterbein College, Ohio. The popular song became a rallying anthem for the abolitionist movement.

New England dance caller Peter Yarensky remarks that this is often the last called (singing) dance of the evening at many New Hampshire dances, "especially (in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century) the dances of Ralph Page and Duke Miller in the Monadnock region of the state." It is followed by a final waltz.

It was printed in Cazden's **Dances from Woodland** (1945), Jarman's **The Cornhuskers Book of Square Dance Tunes** (1944), Kerr's **Merry Melodies**, vol. 1(1875), Johnson's **The Kitchen Musician's No. 7: Michigan Tunes** (1986-87), Perlman's **The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island** (1996) and Sweet's **Fifer's Delight** (1964/1981).