

Drunken Hiccoughs

The musical score for "Drunken Hiccoughs" is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and then a series of quarter notes: C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. Above the first two measures, the chord G is indicated. Above the last two measures, the chord C is indicated. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Above the first measure, G is indicated, and above the last measure, D7 is indicated. The third staff features a series of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Above the first measure, G is indicated. The fourth staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and then a series of quarter notes: C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. Above the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth measures, the chords G, C, D7, G, and G are indicated respectively. The fifth staff continues the melody with quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Above the first measure, C is indicated, and above the second measure, G is indicated. The sixth staff features a series of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Above the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth measures, the chords C, G, D7, G, C, and G are indicated respectively. The seventh and final staff continues the melody with quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Above the first, second, third, and fourth measures, the chords C, D7, and G are indicated respectively. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

"Drunken Hiccoughs", also known as "Drunken Hiccups" or "The Oil City Quickstep", is an American country dance tune (4/4 time) known in Western Pa. in G Major.

The parts are played AB. Both parts have 16 measures with the A part seeming to have two 6 measure strains connected by two slow measures.

Bayard's note:

"This tune is also quite popular in Fayette County (Pa.). Its variants show little change. The title is one of the 'floating' variety, being mentioned in Odum, 'An American Epoch', p. 202, and Carmer, 'Stars Fell on Alabama', p. 276; and found in connection with a quite different air in Ford. The tune's usual title in Pennsylvania is 'The Oil City Quickstep'."

This tune is usually referred to as a "country dance tune" but it sounds like a polka to me and I have classified it as such. There is a slight resemblance of the A part of this tune to "Liberty" but "Liberty" doesn't have the two octave range that "Drunken Hiccoughs" does.

It was collected from Mrs. Sarah Armstrong, (near) Derry, Pennsylvania on November 18, 1943 by Samuel Bayard.

It was printed in Bayard's **Hill Country Tunes** (1944).