

Dry and Dusty

The musical score for "Dry and Dusty" is presented in five staves of music. The key signature is G major (one sharp) and the time signature is 2/2. The score is divided into two main sections, A and B. Section A consists of two staves of music, each with a repeat sign. Section B consists of two staves of music, each with first and second endings. The score includes various chords (D, A7) and triplets (3).

"Dry and Dusty", known in some places as "Bonaparte's Charge" or "Piney Ridge", is an American reel in cut time and D Major. It is played in DDad, ADad or Standard fiddle tunings. The parts are played AB (Silberberg) or AABB (Christeson, Phillips, Reiner & Anick). It is known in Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Kentucky.

"Dry and Dusty" is on Charlie Walden's list of '100 essential Missouri fiddle tunes'.

The tune was recorded for the Library of Congress from Ozarks Mountain fiddlers in the early 1940's by musicologist/folklorist Vance Randolph.

Ken Perlman relates that whenever an Ozark fiddler wanted a drink while playing for a dance he played this tune as a cue that he was feeling "Dry and Dusty".

I used the A part from an Oklahoma version and the B part from a version printed in Phillips.

The banjo tablature is by John Letscher who says that it is an amalgam of many versions lately influenced by Brittany Haas.

It was printed in Christeson's **Old Time Fiddlers Repertory vol. 1** (1973), Levenson's **Old Time Festival Tunes for Clawhammer Banjo** (2006), Reiner & Anick's **Old Time Fiddling Across America** (1989), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002) and Thede's **The Fiddle Book** (1967).

It was recorded by Lonnie Robertson (Mo.), c. 1965-66, Morrison Twin Brothers String Band (Ark.) on **Echoes of the Ozarks** (orig. rec. 1930), Benny Thomasson on **Country Fiddling from the Big State**, Leftwich & Higginbotham on **No One to Bring Home Tonight** (1984), Dan Gellert & Shoofly on **Forked Deer** (1986) and Bob Carlin & John Hartford on **The Fun of Open Discussion**.