

New Broom

The musical score for "New Broom" is written in G Major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above it. The first two staves contain the first section, with chords G, C, G, and D7 indicated above the notes. The first staff has a repeat sign with a double bar line. The second staff has a first ending bracket over the final two measures. The third staff begins with a boxed letter 'B' above it and a second ending bracket over the first two measures. The fourth and fifth staves continue the second section, with chords D7, G, C, G, C, and G indicated above the notes. The fifth staff has a first ending bracket over the first two measures and a second ending bracket over the next two measures.

"New Broom", also known as "Democrats a-Rising" is an American reel in G Major. The parts are played AB (Silberberg) or AA'BB' (Devil's Box, Phillips).

Charles Wolfe (1991) thinks the title might be associated with an old African-American banjo song, perhaps of minstrel origins, called "Sweep dat Kittle Wid a Bran' New Broom".

Kentucky fiddler Jim Bowles (1903 -1993) called the tune "Democrats a-Rising", associating the title "New Broom" with the political analogy of a new administration 'sweeping' out the old. After Republicans Coolidge, Harding and, especially, Hoover it seemed apparent that the next president would be a Democrat.

It was recorded for Okeh Records on June 11, 1930, in San Antonio, Texas by the Texas group The Fox Chasers as the B side behind "Red Wing".

It was printed in **Devil's Box**, vol. 27, No. 4, Winter 1993 (by Stephen F. Davis), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002) and Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021).

It was recorded by Dick Barrett on **Album Number 1/Fiddling with Dick Barrett** (1971), The Fox Chasers (78 RPM) (1930), Byron Berline on **Rounder Fiddle** (1990) and on **Dad's Favorites** (1977) and Gary Lee Moore on **Uncle Pig**.