

Richmond Blues

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Key: G Major (one sharp)
Time: 2/4

Staff 1: Measure 1-6. Chords: D, A, A7, D, G.

Staff 2: Measure 7-12. Chords: D, G, A7, D, A7.

Staff 3: Measure 13-18. Chords: D, G, D, A7, D, A7, D, G. Section B starts at measure 16.

Staff 4: Measure 19-24. Chords: D, A7, D, A7, D, G, A7, D.

Staff 5: Measure 25-30. Chords: G, D, G, D, G, A7, D, G, D, A7.

Staff 6: Measure 31-32. Chords: D, G, A7, D.

"Richmond Blues" is also known as "My Love is but a Lassie Yet", "Love Somebody", "Too Young to Marry", "Sweet Sixteen", "Yellow Eyed Cat", "Chinky Pin", "Midnight Serenade", "Fourth of July", "Buffalo Nickel", "Hair in the Butter", "The Farmer Had a Dog", "Ten Nights in a Bar Room", "Lead Out", "Darling Child" or "I'm My Momma's Darling Child" is an American reel. It is not an African-American blues form melody.

The melody somewhat resembles "The Sailor's Hornpipe".

The melody appears under this title in George P. Knauff's **Virginia Reels, volume II** (1839). The title probably commemorates the Richmond Light Infantry Blues, of Richmond, Virginia which were called the Richmond Blues, for short. The unit was formally commissioned in 1789 and like many militia units of the day, functioned as a social society as well as a military unit. The Richmond Blues saw service in several wars, although the elite company was usually absorbed into larger units during wartime (in the Civil War they were with Wise's Brigade).

The melody was originally that of a very popular Scottish air and reel usually appearing as "My Love She's but a Lassie Yet" in the British Isles and often by sources in Canada and the northern U.S. As an old-time dance melody it is popular under the titles "Too Young to Marry" and "Sweet Sixteen" in the southern Piedmont region and elsewhere in the South. Jim Taylor (1995) says the tune (under all of its various titles) was a favorite among military fifers in the Civil War.

It was recorded by Jim Taylor on **The Civil War Collection** (1996).