

# The Richmond Cotillion

The musical score for "The Richmond Cotillion" is written in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above a 'D' chord. The second staff ends with a 'Fine' marking above a 'D' chord. The third staff begins with a boxed letter 'B' above an 'A' chord. The fourth staff ends with a 'DC.al Fine' marking above an 'A' chord. Chords are indicated by letters (D, A7, E7) above the notes.

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"The Richmond Cotillion", also known as "Corn Huskin' Sally", "Green Mountain Polka", "Hanging Around the Kitchen (Till the Cook Comes Home)", "Jackson's Breakdown", "Little Boss", "Oh Aunt Jenny", "Oh Dear Mammy", "Old Richmond", "Pin a Rose on Me", "Plaza Polka", "Redman's Reel", "*Le Reel de Richmond*", "Richmond Polka", "Robert E. Lee Swing", "Run them Coons in the Ground", "Sally there's a Bug on Me" and "Stonewall Jackson" is an old-time breakdown or reel in D Major ('A' part) & A Major ('B' part). The parts are played AB (Silberberg), AABB (most versions) or AAB B' (Songer).

This is a tune that is genuinely in two keys with the A part in in D major and the B part in A major. The rising sequence that ends the B part makes it feel more like an ending to repeat the A part one last time.

The title may have derived from "Richmond Polka" which is said to have been printed in the 1850's. The tune's original title may have been simply "Richmond" or "Richmond Polka" and that the 'cotillion' became appended by its appearance on some of the Gennett stencil labels of Da Costa Woltz's 1920's recording which read "Richmond" Cotillion meaning the dance form.

Emmett Lundy's tune, also known as "Richmond Cotillion", recorded for the Library of Congress in 1941, is unrelated to this tune and other "Richmond" melodies.

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Christeson's **Old Time Fiddlers Repertory, vol. 1** (1973), Ford's **Traditional Music in America** (1940) (appears as "Redman's Reel"), Leftwich's **Old-Time Fiddle, Round Peak Style** (2011), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002), Songer's **Portland Collection** (1997) and Spadaro's **10 Cents a Dance** (1980).

The Montreal fiddle and guitar duo *Joyeux Montréalais* recorded the tune in 1934 as "*Le Reel de Richmond*".

It was also recorded by Delaware Water Gap on **Fox Hollow String Band Festival**, Frank Neal and His Boys (1927) (A pseudonym for Da Costa Woltz's Southern Broadcasters), Da Costa Woltz's Southern Broadcasters on **Da Costa Woltz's Southern Broadcasters: 1927 Recordings**, Mike Seegar on **Old Time Country Music** (1962), Tommy Jarrell on **Joke on the Puppy** (1976) and John Engle, John Herrmann and Meredith McIntosh on **Chicken Train** (2012).