

Shoes and Stockings

The musical score for "Shoes and Stockings" is written in G Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed 'A' and a repeat sign. The second staff ends with a first ending bracket. The third staff begins with a second ending bracket and a boxed 'B'. The fourth and fifth staves contain the final musical phrases, with the fifth staff having first and second ending brackets. Chord symbols G, C, D7, and G are placed above the notes throughout the score.

"Shoes and Stockings" is an American reel in 4/4 or cut time and G Major. The parts are played AB (Silberberg) or AABB (Songer).

This is another tune from Henry Reed as collected by Alan Jabbour. Henry Reed said that "Shoes and Stockings" was a tune from his elderly mentor Quince Dillon, a fifer in both the Mexican War and the Civil War. Quince also was an accomplished fiddler. Quince's unit, the 166th Virginia Militia, was eventually incorporated into the 59th Virginia Infantry, which along with other Confederate units, was captured at the Battle of Roanoke Island, North Carolina on February 8, 1862. As the story goes, the Yankee commander of the prison where Dillon was imprisoned held a fiddle contest. The prize was that the fiddler who played the best original composition would be set free. Quince Dillon played a tune he composed on the spot and won the contest!

The tune shares some phrases with "The Twin Sisters" (English version). I don't know if there is any real connection.

It was printed in Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002), Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021) and Songer's **Portland Collection** (1997). It was recorded by Jabbour, Bradley and Thompson on **Sandy's Fancy** (1981) and Alan Jabbour, James Ree and Bertram Levy on **A Henry Reed Reunion** (2002).