

Smith's Reel

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. A boxed letter 'A' is positioned above the first measure. Chord symbols 'D' and 'A7' are placed above the staff at various points.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'D', 'A7', and 'D' are placed above the staff.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'A7', 'D', and 'D' are placed above the staff. A first ending bracket labeled '1.' spans the final two measures.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'A7', 'D', 'D', and 'G' are placed above the staff. A second ending bracket labeled '2.' spans the first two measures.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'D', 'G', and 'D' are placed above the staff.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'G', 'A7', 'G', and 'D' are placed above the staff. A first ending bracket labeled '1.' spans the final two measures.

Musical staff 7: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a sequence of eighth notes. Chord symbols 'A7' and 'D' are placed above the staff. A second ending bracket labeled '2.' spans the first two measures.

"Smith's Reel", also known as "Belle of Lexington", "Belle Election" (John Patterson's title), "The Hauling Home", "Kitty's Wedding", "Mrs. Smith's Reel" or "Smith's Delight" is an American and Canadian breakdown or reel in cut or 2/4 time in D Major. The parts are played AABB. This is a widely disseminated tune in North America, probably originating from its printing in Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883). It is heard in a variety of styles from swing to Maritime. It is well-known among Irish musicians as the hornpipe "Kitty's Wedding" one of the most popular in the repertoire, however, an Irish provenance is doubtful. Irish versions date only back to O'Neill's **Music of Ireland** (1903) and there are several melodies in the O'Neill collections that derive from American printed sources.

Seattle musician Vivian Williams discovered "Smith's Reel" in George Saunders' **New and Scientific Self-Instructing School for the Violin**, a tutor first published in Providence, R.I., in 1847 (reprinted by Oliver Ditson in the 1850's). Saunders claimed to be a "Professor of Music and Dancing" on the frontspiece. In that volume Saunders claims to have composed it himself. Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883), from Boston publisher Elias Howe's company, includes the melody under the title "Smith's Delight". It is not known whether the title refers to a person named Smith, or to a blacksmith (however, Saunderson's title is simply "Smith's Reel", not "The Smith's Reel"). It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), R.P. Christeson's **Old Time Fiddlers Repertory, vol. 1** (1973), Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940), Davis' **The Devil's Box**, vol. 30, No. 2, Summer 1996, Howe's **Musician's Omnibus** (1864), Miller & Perron's **New England Fiddler's Repertoire** (1983), Perlman's **The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island** (1996), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883) and Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002).

It was recorded by Norman Solomon on **Texas Fiddle Favorites, Fiddle Fever** (1981), Sumner and McReynolds on **Old Friends**, Johnnie Lee Wills on **Tulsa Swing**.