

DUMBARTON DRUMS

A dance in mescolanze formation, two couples facing two others in small lines of four, either around the room in a circle (lines radiating from the center) or in long columns in the center of the hall.

Record: LS 171 (cued)/ 172 (music only)

Music: "Dumbarton Drums"

The arrangement is the simplest version of a very popular dance called "La Tempete," widely danced in America and the British Isles since early in the 19th century. In Ireland it is called "The Siege of Ennis."

A1 (16 counts)

EVERYBODY FORWARD AND BACK

The facing lines of four, holding hands in the line, go fwd four steps twd each other, and back four steps to place again.

RIGHT COUPLE IN FRONT, SASHAY OVER

Retain the hand of your partner, but separate from the other couple in line with you. Moving as a couple, the couple on the R-hand lane of the line sashays (slides) in front of the L-hand couple and to the L, while the L-hand couple sashays (slides) behind the R-hand couple and to the R, exchanging places. The sashay is done with six sliding steps to the side (slide-close, slide-close, etc.) And then, on counts 7 and 8, "stamp, stamp-stamp." Make the three little stamps sharp and brisk but not too noisy. And right on the drum beats in the music.

A2 (16 counts)

WITH THE MUSIC, FORWARD AND BACK

In this new pos, repeat the four steps fwd and four steps back.

RIGHT COUPLE IN FRONT, SASHAY BACK

Repeat the sashay and "stamp, stamp-stamp" back to place, this time with the new R-hand couple in front.

B1 (16 counts)

WITH THE OPPOSITE COUPLE RIGHT HAND STAR

Each couple does a R-hand star with the opposite, exactly once around.

LEFT HAND BACK

L-hand star back in 8 counts.

B2 (16 counts)

COME BACK TO PLACE, THEN FORWARD AND BACK

Couples step quickly back into their original positions in the lines of four, then take three steps fwd and four steps back.

ARCH TO THE HEAD, DIVE TO THE FOOT

The lines of four pass through each other in the following fashion: couples moving twd the head of the hall from the foot, make arches, and those moving twd the foot from the head, pass under these arches. (The original lines are now standing back to back.)

The next sequence begins:

(Bow) FORWARD AND BACK

You will have a little too much time for the arch and dive in the 8 counts of the preceding phrase, so, on the last two counts

after you have passed through, turn to your partner with a brief bow, then face the opposite couple. Then fwd four counts and back four counts as you begin the pattern again. (Some callers have the dancers pass under two arches, turning at the ends of the column, so that no couples will stand out during the dance.)

When you reach the foot or the head of the contra line (column), go right through the routine as if an opposite line were there (do a two-hand star with your partner when the stars are called) until you come to the "arch and dive." While the others are passing through with the arch and dive, reverse your direction, either by wheeling as a couple or doing a frontier twirl, bow, when the others bow, and be ready to go fwd and back with the on-coming new line.

Alternatively, at the end, the two couples can face each other and perform all of the figures, passing through when the "arch and dive" action is called to begin the dance at the other end of the line from where they were in the beginning.

To cue this dance:

Intro: , Everybody forward and back,
1-8 , Right couple in front sashay over,
9-16 , With the music forward and back,
17-24 , Right couple in front sashay back,
25-32 , With the opposite couple right hand star,
33-40 , Left hand back,
41-48 , Forward and back,
49-56 , Arch to the head dive to the foot,
57-64 Bow, Forward and back,