

The Aboyne Dress

The "Aboyne Dress" was designed by the Lord Lyon of Arms and the late Miss Jeannie Hendry, champion dancer, based on researches by the Lord Lyon in 1952.

The dress should not be too "regimental" - it should comply with the essentials and should be attractive. It was introduced at Aboyne to replace the Sword Dance, which is a male dance.

Flora Macdonald Fancy

(Time 6/8)

Flora Macdonald's Fancy is a dance dating from the 18th century. After the defeat at Culloden, Inverness-shire on 16th April 1746 (the last battle fought in Britain) had ended the Jacobite rising (1745-46), Flora Macdonald aided the escape of Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) by bringing him, disguised as her maid, safely to the island of Skye. Captured ten days later, she was released in 1747. She married a few years later and after living in America for a time with her husband (also a Macdonald) she eventually died on Skye in 1790 leaving many descendants to hand down the story and she is buried at Kilmuir on the island. Her husband died two years later.

Scottish Lilt

(Time 9/8)

Scottish Lilt was composed after 1746 in Perthshire.

Miss Forbes

(Time 2/4)

Most songs and poems about departure for pastures new are written from the perspective of men emigrating. This one, however, is about a young lady who, despite the efforts of her beau, goes away from the town of Banff in Moray. The song was written by John Hamilton (1761-1814) and carried on a business as a music-seller in Edinburgh.