

Serenaders' Quadrilles No. 4 Boat Mans Dance

C.W. Bennett Manuscript
Chord suggestions by Ian Bell

G D G D G D A D G D G D G D A D D

D D A D D D D A D G G

D D G G D A D G D G D

G D A D G D G D G D A D

My gut feeling about this is that he wrote the key signature wrong and that it should have a C# in it as well. I've left it as written, though.

The Boatman Dance was a hugely popular minstrel show song, credited to Dan Emmett, 1843. It has never completely disappeared out of the fiddle/banjo repertoire since then. It is presented here as a four part tune. The first three parts match the usual lyrics of the song. (There are several more verses)

The boatman dance, the boatman sing
The boatman up to everything
When the boatman comes ashore
He spends his money then he works for more

Chorus:
Dance boatman Dance
Dance boatman dance
Dance all night till the broad daylight
And go home with the gals in the morning

Refrain:
Hi low the boatmen row
Up and down the river the Ohio
Hi low the boatmen row
Up and down the river the Ohio