

Untitled Strathspey No. 1

C.W. Bennett Manuscript
Chord suggestions by Ian Bell

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Strathspeys are not usually written out like this (with all the rests) but this is how it appears in the manuscript. It does give a pretty good indication of the "Scotch snap".

The first part of this tune is very much like "Duncan Davidson's" (Kerrs Merry Melodies For The Violin) aka "Four Provinces Fling". (a hornpipe in thesession.org)

One other place I have encountered a version of the first part this tune as as the melody for a song by Toronto poet John Imrie for his song "Canada's Defenders", written in 1885 after the Northwest Rebellion.

Home again our volunteers
Home again 'mid ringing cheers
Vanishing our anxious fears
Canada's defenders
From the scenes of strife and war
From the rifle-pits afar
True as steel or Polar star
Canada's defenders

The first of three verses from:

Sacred Songs, Sonnets, and Miscellaneous Poems by John Imrie. This book has no music it was published with a tune in one of Imrie's periodicals (he was also a printer)