The Mary Jane Waltz Midnight Waltz

Australia, NSW, Limerick



Rhythm: Waltz

Book: Brad Tate, Down and Outback, Popinjay Publications, 1988, p77

Source: collected from Stan Treacy, Limerick, NSW collected by Brad Tate and Dave de Hugard Notes: This tune also collected in Australia by:

- John Meredith, from Tom Chapman, Mudgee, as "Sally's Flat Waltz",

- see J Meredith, R Covell, P Brown, Folk Songs of Australia Vol 2, UNSW Press, 1987, p240

History: "This tune, 'The Mary Jane Waltz' was mistakenly given the title 'Midnight Waltz' by Brad Tate in his 1988 publication, 'Down and Outback'. I was present with Brad on the occasion and recorded the whole session. What happened was this: Stan had just finished playing a waltz and while he was taking a breath to go on to another tune, Brad asked Stan what that tune was? Stan not comprehending the context of the question went on to say the name of the tune he was about to play. He said. "The Midnight Waltz" and then went on to play it. Brad unfortunately misunderstood what had happened and went on to call the earlier tune 'The Midnight Waltz' and so this is how 'The Mary Jane Waltz' appeared as 'Midnight Waltz' in Brad's 'Down and Outback'. It is worth knowing that the two tunes that Stan played, 78 record collection. They were recorded in 1930 and 1929 respectively by the Kessinger brothers (The Old Fashioned Boys') and the Stripling brothers. These were popular tunes and were widely distributed among traditional players."

-- Dave de Hugard, Feb 2017