

EDINCHIP,  
LOCHEARNHEAD,  
PERTSHIRE.

STATION, BALQUHIDDER.

14 April 1935

Dear Mr. Stewart

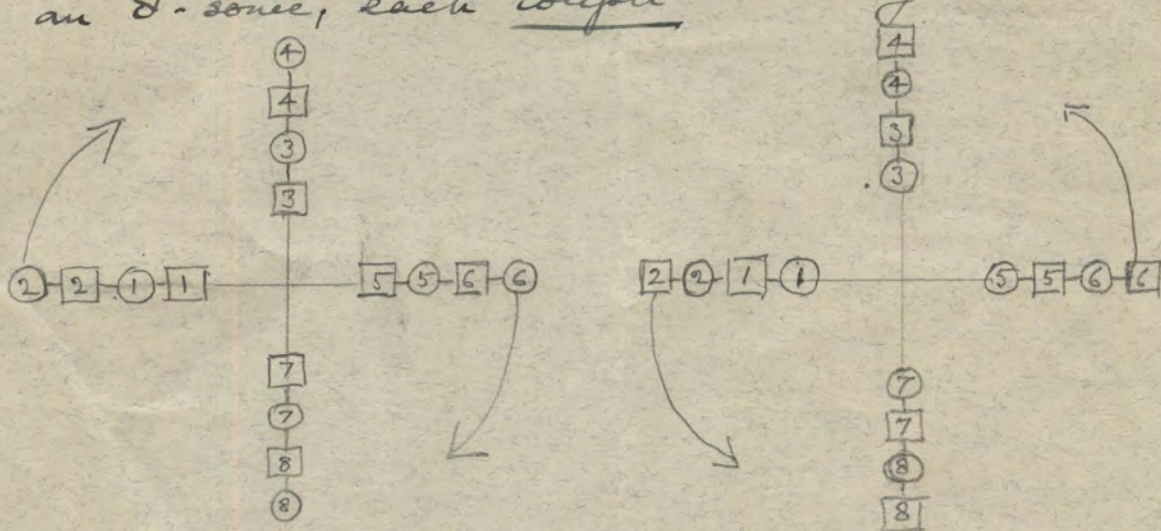
In your letter of 18th March  
you asked for General Stewart's Reel from  
a collection by Ross 1789. I cannot find  
a book of that date but one of 1869 by Ross  
which contains the tune. This I am sending.

When we were in Denmark a few years  
ago staying with my wife's uncle who was  
then Minister at Copenhagen I came across  
a book comprising several issues bound  
together. I made a copy of the contents  
which I enclose. You may know the originals  
but if not I dare say Sir Thomas Hobler would  
lend the book.

While on the subject of Scottish dances I  
would like to make a suggestion. I believe  
the object of the S.C.D.S. is to get the dances  
in their original form. The Sixteenome  
as published in Book VI (and as now  
danced) is not in its original purity.

I am old enough to remember when it  
first started practically. Then one only  
saw one or two 16-somes in an evening  
and those who got up sets were careful  
only to get people who really knew  
the dance. The wheel was done as in

an 8-some, each couple turning about.



So you get the above formation.

Then more people took to the 16-some but seemed to get muddled about turning about, and someone called out "Oh, go right round" which is now the practice. This always means an untidy scramble as there is not time for the outside couple to do it neatly. I am sure you will readily appreciate how much neater the original form was, and this would be especially noticeable for Exhibition or Competitive Festival dancing.

Could not the S.C.D.S. books and teaching be amended?

Yrs sincerely  
 Harold Macpherson  
 of Glasgow.