

Vs/4/3

14, LATHAM ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE.

25.9.31.

My dear Ys.

The other day we were trying a lot of
country dances at Ardishaig, and found the Nut as
described in Book I a hard (if not impossible) nut to
crack. Mary's Shuman says it has also baffled the
great Frost Greenfields.

I enclose a description of it as danced at the
Kilberry hall, where you must have participated in it,
together with a criticism of the book style.

Mary Leary declares that she is going to
teach it to her W.R.I. people as I showed it, and
she calls it 'The Kilberry Nut'! I don't think there is
much Kilberry about it. So far as I remember it
was produced there by Johnny Mellish.

I'd like very much to know the authority for
the style given in the books. I don't urge that our
style is right, but I venture to think that some mistake

has been made in the book. The man is in the wrong position to go down the middle, and he has no business manoeuvring in the "Ladies only" during the balancing in line.

While on this subject, why does the Country dance Society lay down that in a 16 some the man or woman in the centre for the second time must go to the nearest ~~corner~~ ^{corner}, and not to the right? The nearest ~~corner~~ ^{corner} works all right, but it means that the man or lady ~~of that corner~~ ^{of that corner} dances first in the reel of three figure twice running, which is inartistic. Similarly it should be laid

Notes

down, for the same reason, that in the D some, a man or woman in the middle should go the second time ^{in the middle} to the right.

If you really want to get the 16 some correct it should be laid down that the two men in the middle

together should take arms as follows:

Inside men right arm first time, left arm second time
Outside men left arm first time, right arm second time, if to nearest corner, left arm second time if to couple on the right

couple on the right

Thus + thus only is a man in the middle

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swung correctly in front of the lady to whom he is
to dance first in the reel of three.

However as originally invented, and this was done
well within my ball room lifetime, the 16 some was
danced (1) second time to the right (2) men swing right
arm first & left arm second. So why not lay it
down, as it was invented - faulty though the inventors
may have been?

Yours ever

Archibald Campbell

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