

The Merry Andrew

Am Em D C G

7 D C D C G Am

12 Em D C G Am

The tune and steps for this modern dance were written by Majorie Heffer & William Porter in 1932, published in a collection called Maggot Pie.

Just to confuse matters, an entirely different dance and tune were published by John Playford in the Complete Dancing Master under the name of Jack Pudding or The Merry Andrew.

A Merry Andrew was a name describing a jester or clown, and also refers to a commedia-like character who assisted a mountebank. One of the jobs of the Merry Andrew was to distract an audience when they began to weary of a performance, by some slapstick-like antic, often involving puddings (one such example cited in the area of tricks is swallowing many yards of black-pudding-- thus the connection with the name Jack Pudding).