

Lochrell

Strathspey

The musical notation for Lochrell Strathspey consists of three staves of music in treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature, which changes to 6/8. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The second staff continues the melody with another triplet in the first measure and a repeat sign at the end. The third staff concludes the piece with a final cadence.

Lochrell: This is more generally known as “Lady Carmichael of Castlecraig”, but “Lochrell” was what my teacher called it when I was a boy. It is a tune beautiful in its symmetry, and the first piping strathspey I ever learned. Castlecraig is in the Borders, south west of Dolphinton.

Lonach Lasses

Polka

The musical notation for Lonach Lasses Polka consists of four staves of music in treble clef, 2/4 time signature. The first staff includes first and second endings. The second staff continues the melody with another first and second ending. The third staff features a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a first and second ending.

Lonach Lasses: This is Robert Meldrum’s “take” on the “Jenny Lind Polka” a favourite Victorian dance tune; this shows pipers’ willingness to adapt popular tunes from other idioms, sometimes, as here, rather attractively.