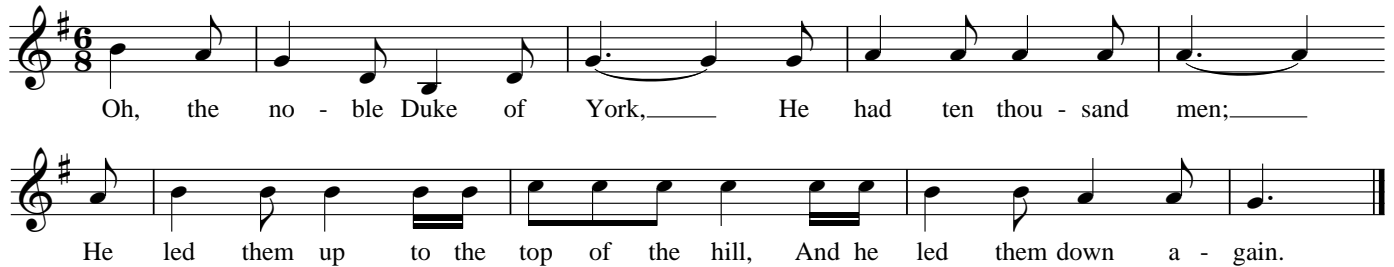


The Noble Duke of York

Source:
Richard Chase
Old Songs and Singing Games
New York: Dover, 1972



2. Now when they were up, they were up,
And when they were down, they were down,
But when they were only halfway up
They were neither up nor down.
3. Oh, a-hunting we will go,
A-hunting we will go,
We'll catch a little fox and put him in a box,
And then we'll let him go.

Game Directions

For 5 or 6 couples in a line, with a space of 6 feet left open between the boys' file and the girls' file.

Verse 1: First couple walks 8 counts down the middle and 8 counts back, with inside hands joined each time. They turn back on the word "men."

Verse 2: First couple (partners facing each other) joins hands straight across (girl's right hand in boy's left and her left in his right) and skips, turning clockwise, down the middle to the bottom place, where they make an arch. In doing this be sure to use the whole 16 counts of the verse. And you must be careful not to turn counter-clockwise! This is "widdershins," and if you ever do anything widdershins you are almost sure to have some bad luck!

Verse 3: All the other couples now take crossed hands (R in R and L in L) and facing the top, follow the top couple who turn short to their left ("First couple cast off to the left, all follow"), skip down below the arch, returning up the middle under it to places again with, now, a new top couple.

Repeat until each couple has been at the top.

When the last couple has done its figure and made its arch at the bottom, the original first couple makes an arch next to this last one immediately passing after under it, and each of the other couples makes an arch the same way after passing under all the other arches. Sing verse 3 for these ending arches.