

Haste To The Wedding

Possible sets with:

Father O'Flynn, The German Beau, Leslie's, The Connaughtman's Rambles, The Irish Washerwoman, Haste to the Wedding/I Buried My Wife and Danced on Her Grave

Haste to the Wedding was notated in 1778 in the personal notebook of a Boston fiddler who had been an officer in the Continental Army. The tunes from his notebook were retrieved and published by music scholar Kate van Winkle Keller. His version of Haste is almost note for note what we play today. The fiddler's name was..! George Bush.*

Haste to the Wedding (Rural Felicity) - Original Lyrics

The tune came from an operetta - The Elopement (1767)

Come haste to the wedding ye friends and ye neighbors,
The lovers their bliss can no longer delay.
Forget all your sorrows your cares and your labors,
And let every heart beat with rapture today.
Come, come one and all, attend to my call,
And revel in pleasures that never can cloy.
Come see rural felicity,
Which love and innocence ever enjoy.

Let Envy, Let Pride, Let Hate & Ambition,
Still Crowd to, & beat at the breast of the Great,
To Such Wretched Passions we Give no admission,
But Leave them alone to the wise ones of State,
We Boast of No wealth, but Contentment & Health,
In mirth & in friends, our moments employ
Come See &c.

With Reason we taste of Each Heart Stirring pleasure,
With Reason we Drink of the full flowing Bowl,
Are Jocund & Gay, But 'tis all within measure,
For fatal excess will enslave the free Soul,
Then Come at our bidding to this Happy wedding,
No Care Shall obtrude here, our Bliss to annoy,
Come See &c.

Collected from Eunice Carew's songbook, 1790

**Fiddle Tunes From the American Revolution: A Collection of Minuets, Country Dances, Marches, Airs, and Song Tunes From the Personal Notebook of an Officer in George Washington's Army with Historical Background on Each Tune by Kate Van Winkle Keller (1992).*

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trad. USA - FF Version

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Playing Notes:

- none