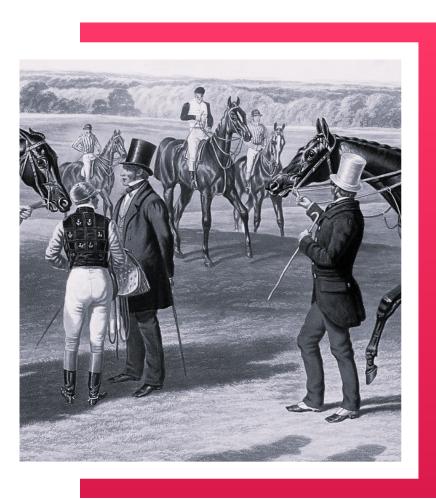


# From Rags to Races Six lively and fun quartets

VARIOUS COMPOSERS ARR. HUGH LEVEY





## **CLARINET QUARTET**

**SCORE & PARTS** 

### From Rags to Races: 6 lively and fun quartets

#### **VARIOUS COMPOSERS**

#### **CONTENTS**

- 1. Il Est Bel et Bon Pierre Passereau (Renaissance)
- 2. Scarecrow Rag Will B. Morrison (Early 20th century rag)
- 3. Sour Grapes Rag Will B. Morrison (Early 20th century rag)
- 4. Scaramouche Charles Godard (Late 19th century 'Galop')
- 5. Blaydon Races -Traditional English (Mid 19th century folk song)
- 6. Jingle Bells James Pierpoint (Sleigh Ride Christmas song)



Cover images: (1) Horse Racing drawing, English c.1850, Unknown author, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons, (2) Clarinet, Yamaha Corporation, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

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#### Il est Bel et Bon - Pierre Passereau

Pierre Passereau (14??-1547) was a French composer of Chansons during the Renaissance period. Chansons were secular songs which often spoke of nature, but could also be bawdy. *Il est Bel at Bon* is a great example of lively Renaissance polyphony with each voice entering quickly after another, in imitation. The words are sung by two women who are comparing the virtues of their husbands. One tells the other that her husband looks after the chickens while she has some fun. As with many Chansons, the words and music emulate the sounds of animals. In the last line, you can hear the chickens clucking away as they are being fed by her husband. Another interpretation might be that it is the sound of the women gossiping. Duration - 1 minute, 30 seconds

#### Scarecrow Rag - Will B. Morrison

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#### Sour Grapes Rag - Will B. Morrison

Sour Grapes Rag was published a year later than Scarecrow Rag by his own publishing company, in Indianapolis. This rag follows the same thematic structure as Scarecrow Rag: AA BB A CC B, which is close to being the classic rag structure. The B section is notable for some unusual offbeats in the left hand (bass clarinet in this arrangement). Rags often roll along without much light and shade, but the opening of the Trio section of Sour Grapes (C) is especially light and delicate. It deserves to be better known. This arrangement for Clarinet Quartet remains faithful to the original piano version, but some minor errors in the original published rag have been corrected, and it has been transposed down a tone to suit clarinets. *Duration: 3 minutes* 

#### Scaramouche - Charles Godard

Charles Godard was one of the pseudonyms of the prolific, but little known, German composer Franz Behr (1837 to 1898). He also wrote under the names of G. Bachmann, Francesco d'Orso, Charles Morley, and his own name. Behr's compositions were mostly salon pieces for piano; many of which were published as sheet-music during his life-time and some also as piano rolls. Although woodwindly.com has been unable to find a complete list of his works, Behr's opus numbers exceeded 500. "Scaramouche—Galop brillant (Carnaval No.6)" appears in N. Simrock's "Favourite Duets for Pianoforte Volume 1" of 1914, under the name of Charles Godard. The collection indicates that Simrock first published Godard's Scaramouche in 1893. Duration: 2 minutes 15 seconds.

#### Blaydon Races—Traditional from Northern England

The small town of Blaydon lies a few miles west of Newcastle in the north east of England and would have been fairly rural in the 19th Century when it became the scene of a famous annual horse race, immortalised in the words of this song. It tells the tale of a group of men and women on a boozy day trip to the races from Newcastle or 9th June 1862 and the mishaps they had along the way; a wheel flying off the bus, someone getting a broken nose, and torrential rain that made everything muddy. The words were written by local music-hall performer and song-writer deordic Ridley in the same year. Although the story was not based on a specific series of real events, it paints the scene of what race day was like, with all its fun, jollity and mishaps. Blaydon Races has become a local 'national anthem' for the people of north east England, especially around the city of Newcastle and the town of Gateshead. Locals sing this song on many occasions, including the soccer matches of Newcastle United Football Club. It is also the Regimental Song of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Duration—2 minutes 45 seconds to 3 minutes

#### Jingle Bells - James Pierpeir

The ever popular Jingle Bells was written by James Pierpoint in 1857 with the title, "The One Horse Open Sleigh". It was not written as a Christmas Song, but it became associated with the festive season during the 1860s and 70s, and is now a firm Christmas favourite. Although attributed to Pierpoint, some authors suggest that little of the work was original. This simple and effective arrangement was created for a Scottish disabled children's charity, to help support their Christmas celebrations during the challenging year of 2020. The 'Saturday Café Clubs' is based in Glasgow: Charity registration number SC046501. Please include this dedication if you record or perform this arrangement please. Thank you. Duration: 1'35"

# Il est Bel et Bon (He is Handsome & Good)

Pierre Passereau (?-1547) Arr. HughLevey





## Scarecrow Rag

W. B. Morrison (arr. Hugh Levey)





## Sour Grapes Rag

Will B. Morrison (arr. Hugh Levey)





# Scaramouche - Galop Brillant

Charles Godard (arr. Hugh Levey) Vivace Con Brio Bb Clarinet Bb Clarinet Bb Clarinet B♭ Bass Clarinet



## **Blaydon Races**

Lyrics: Geordie Ridley

Traditional (arr. Hugh Levey)





# Jingle Bells

James Pierpoint arr. Hugh Levey



