

Elephants Stairs

Source:

Twenty Four Country Dances for the Year 1727 ...

London. J. Walsh, [J.] Hare, [1726]

Walsh reprinted the dance in *The New Country Dancing Master 3d Book*, [1728], *Twenty Four Country Dances for the Year 1736*, [1735], and *The Third Book of the Compleat Country Dancing-Master*, [1735].

Form: Longways, duple minor

Music: 3/4, AABB

- | | | |
|----|-----|--|
| A1 | 1-8 | 1 st cpl. figure 8 round the standing 2 nd cpl., starting by casting down and finishing by turning out into original place, taking 6 steps to cast down, 6 to cross up, 6 to cast down again, and 6 to cross up and turn out into place. |
| A2 | 1-8 | 2 nd cpl. figure 8 round the standing 1 st cpl., starting by casting up and finishing by turning out into original place, the timing of the movement as in A1. |
| B1 | 1-4 | Men lead through the we. and cast back to place (6 + 6 steps). |
| | 5-8 | 1 st cpl. lead down through 2 nd cpl. and cast back to place (6 + 6 steps). |
| B2 | 1-4 | We. lead through men and cast back to place (6 + 6 steps). |
| | 5-8 | 2 nd cpl. lead up through 1 st cpl., cast back to place and lead up again into 1 st place, as 1 st cpl. cast down, lead back to place and cast down again into 2 nd place (unphrased). |

Note:

In contrast to the measured nature of the rest of the dance, B2 5-8 should be danced with drive, as a continuous movement. 1st cpl. should be able to move effortlessly into the next turn of the dance.

Note on the dance:

The figure is that of the dance *Valiant Jockey* set to a different tune. *Valiant Jockey* was first published by Henry Playford in *The Dancing-Master ... The Ninth Edition*, in 1695.