

# THE SHY MER-CHANT OR JACK'S SERENADE TO GENNY

## *4 Couple Set (2 couples side by side facing 2 couples side by side) - Jig*

### **1st Figure - "The Leadings"**

- A1      1 - 4    All lead partner by the inside hand towards the opposite couple and cast back to places away from partner, men to the left, ladies to the right.  
          5 - 8    All Circle Left half way round with the opposite couple and fall back into opposite places.
- A2      1 - 8    As in A1, but Circle Right instead of Left and fall back into original places.
- B1      1 - 8    All Turn Partners once round with both hands; then all 8 Circle Left in one big ring half way round.  
          9 - 16   All Turn Corners once round counter-clockwise with both hands; then all 8 Circle Right half way round back to original places.

### **2nd Figure - "The Tracings"**

- A3      1 - 8    All Side-by-Side right shoulder to right shoulder with partner and cast to the left back to places; all change places with partner passing left shoulder, then men doing a quarter tum to the right, ladies the same to the left, all move backwards across the set passing opposite left shoulder.
- A4      1 - 8    All Side-by-Side left shoulder to left shoulder with opposite and cast to the right back to places: all change places with opposite passing right shoulder, then men doing a quarter tum to the left, ladies the same to the right, all move backwards up or down the set into original places passing partners right shoulder.
- B2      1 - 8    All Straight Hey with the opposite couple across the ends of the set, the men starting the hey by passing each other left shoulder in the middle before passing the opposite lady right shoulder, bringing them into the hey. It will help if, while the men are crossing in the middle, the ladies move a little to their left.  
          9 - 16   Continue smoothly into Straight Heys up and down the sides of the dance, passing partner right shoulder to begin with. All finish in original places facing partner. (The last change of the first hey will be passing partner right shoulder. By making this a three-quarter Gipsy with partner, the second hey up and down the set at right angles to the first will be started automatically.)

### **3rd Figure - "The Turnings"**

- A5      1 - 8    All Right Hand Turn half way round with partner, Turn Single to the left into a Right Hand Star with opposite couple which goes half way round; releasing hands, the men move on one place going outside the ladies who, turning to their right and passing their partners right shoulder, go back one place up or down the middle of the set.
- A6      1 - 8    All Left Hand Turn half way round with opposite, Turn Single to the Right into a Left Hand Star with the opposite couple going half way round; release hands and, as before, the men move on one place on the outside while the ladies, turning to their left, go back one place across the set passing their opposites left shoulder. All should now be in original places.
- B3      1 - 8    All four ladies Right Hand Star once round; immediately after, all four men Left Hand Star once round, keeping left hands joined at the end.  
          9 - 16   Taking inside hands with partner, make a Double (Texas) Star and go round counter-clockwise once. Finish by honouring partners in X formation.

NOTE: This dance should be very lyrical in character and not too fast. The names of the figures are those used for the figures of a series of dances known to have been danced in the village of Llangadfan, Montgomeryshire (now Powys), in the late 18th century and derived from a manuscript in the National Library of Wales in

Aberystwyth. Notice that the 1st figure is based on movements where inside hands are taken, the 2nd on movements in which hands are not given at all and the 3rd on those in which hands are joined either left in left, or right in right.