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## GENERAL NOTES FOR O'NEILL COLLECTION ABC FILES

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### Notes:

#### # FINAL MEASURES

"Coda" or "fine" measures are provided to end a tune that otherwise would just keep going. Contents of these measures are suggestions only - if you come up with another way of accomplishing the same task, go for it!

#### # AMBIGUOUS TUNES:

Many of the tunes in this volume are no longer played as the key signatures suggest (if they ever were, even back in 1907). A tune might have two sharps (D) as its key signature but in practice be played with all C's natural; a tune might have three sharps (A) as its key signature but be played with no sharps, or only C and F sharp, or only F sharp.

An good example of an "ambiguous" tune is the reel "Flowers of Limerick": key of G but some F's not otherwise marked are played as F natural instead of sharp - which ones? All of them or only some of them?

Trying to figure out how these tunes should be played is largely a combination of guesswork, experience, and personal taste. A 2-sharp tune with a lot of accented C's is probably going to be played with those C's natural instead of sharp, so I've used "Dmix" in the K: field. A three-sharp tune might not sound right played as a straight A tune; if the C's and F's remain sharp, then it's "Amix"; if only the F's remain sharp, then

it's "Ador" (dorian).

If you want to experiment with different sounds, you can restore a tune to its original (source) key by removing "mix" or "dor" in the K: field. If the results are not to your liking, just put "mix" or "dor" back where you found them!

#### # A-B-A TUNES

A-B-A (or AA-BB-A) indicates that the tune in question is played with a return to the first part (the equivalent of the segno-DC or DS indication in the source).

Unfortunately ABC doesn't recognize instructions like DC, DS, etc., so the playback won't sound the way the tune appears. A rule of thumb for an unfamiliar tune is that the A2 part (= second A in A-B-A) is played without repeats. If there are 2 endings, the second one is used, and any final notes will be adjusted to fill the measure to the appropriate number of beats.

Examples: |BCd e2| will become |Bcd e3| in a jig, and |ABcd e2| will become |ABcd e4| in a reel or hornpipe.

Some tunes need a "fine" (FEE-nay) or "coda" measure to end correctly. Again ABC doesn't handle these in a helpful way, so a file containing them may sound very strange on playback.

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