TRAVELS OF AN IRISH TUNE

WHEN THE SETTLERS FROM IRELAND AND SCOTLAND CAME AND SETTLED along the Appalachian Mountains over 200 years ago, they also brought their fiddle music. Many of these tunes are found today in the repertoire of old-time music and are often, pretty much, the same as its ancestor (e.g. Uncle Joe (Mrs. McCloud's Reel) and Soldier With A Wooden Leg (Red Haired Boy or Little Beggarman)).

This month I bring you the long lost cousin of the Irish hornpipe, Boys Of Bluehill. Twin Sisters comes from the playing of Melvin Wine of Copen, West Virginia. On learning this tune for the first time, my friend Mark

Campbell noticed the similarity to Boys Of Bluehill, except that Melvin plays the parts in reverse order. This is another living lesson in the evolution and changes which go on in traditional music.

The banjo setting has so many melody notes that it's probably closer to melodic clawhammer style (known as "clawmatic" in some circles). The phrase with an asterisk, which occurs in the 2nd and 5th measures of the B part, can be played in any of three different ways. I personally prefer the slide, but others may rather use the pull-off on the second string or the roll version in which the index (or middle finger) plays three strings in

uccession.

Please note that in my previous article, "More Klezmer Klawhammer - Af Shabes In Vilna," there are some quarter notes in the note transcription that should be eighth notes (all in Part C): 3rd measure first two notes and 7th measure the first and second as well as the fourth and fifth notes.

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TWIN SISTERS

Transcribed and Banjo Setting by CARL BARON

