

# KETTLE DRUM

Source : Playford, 1651

**Type:** circle pour 4 *clockwise*-numbered couples  
(see note 1).

**Music: AA** (4 measures)  
**BB** (8 measures) - **3 times.**

<b>The Dance</b>	
<b>Structure: Introduction + Part I, II, III.</b>	
<b>AA</b>	First introduction : All take a double towards the centre and back (repeat)
<b>BB</b> <b>Part I</b>	Right hand star half way for women. The same for men. Partners make a right hand turn. Men go home with a left and star half way, followed by women and left hand turn between partners. (note 2)
<b>AA</b>	Second introduction: <i>siding</i> .
<b>BB</b> <b>Part II</b>	First B part is danced by couples numbered 2 and 3 : Second couple takes a double step in, then falls back another double <i>while</i> third couple goes in and faces second couple; These dancers cross right shoulder, third couple goes back to its original place with an outside curve ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> couple does the same with a smaller curve, each man holding his partner by the right hand ( <i>double cast</i> ) ; The second time, same thing for couples n°4 and n°1 (see note 3).
<b>AA</b>	Third introduction: <i>arming</i> .
<b>BB</b> <b>Part III</b>	All men turn their partner both hands, moving inside the circle (it is a pivot swing, with the impetus given by the partner's weight) All bow to their partner and turn in to their <i>corner</i> to give the corner person a kiss; Second time: all men swing their corner both hands and turn out to their partner, give their partner a kiss (see note 4).

Dance published in the Dancing Master from 1651 to 1690.  
Cecil Sharp does not describe it.

## Notes :

1. There is no numbering of the couples in the original text and the same applies for all 13 circles described by Playford in the first edition (5 circles for *as many as will*, 5 circles for 8 dancers including « *Kettle Drum* » and 3 circles for 6 dancers). My choice is modeled on squares for 8 dancers: three such are found and each time Playford mentions a

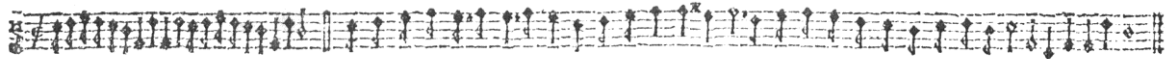
clockwise numbering. In any case the second part is so vague as to require a numbering of some kind.

2. The description really calls for a **complete** right star and a **complete** left hand star, but there is hardly enough time for these.
3. The second part is difficult to fit into just 8 bars with a coherent whole. The solution I put forward takes some of the elements into account but there may be other ways.
  - It starts with the second couple and ends with the first couple, both mentioned. I chose to interpret «*the next couple*» coming to face the second as couple n°3. When the movement is repeated, «*the other couple*» is then couple n°4, starting before couple n°1 and dancing with them.
  - My choice of interpretation was called for by the mention *casting* in the end. In my version, the dancers opposite cross right shoulder, no hand; each couple goes through the other one's place and comes back to its own with a *double cast*.
4. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> part the half turn "in" then "out" answers the indication «*break off your hands inward*» and «*break off your hands outward*» but perhaps it is only applied to the two-hand turns. I added a bow/curtsey.



Kettle Drum

A round Dance for eight



**Meete all, and back again** That We. meete, giving their right hands, men meete, giving their right hands, then turne every man his owne Wo. by the right hand, then men the left hands, We. their left hands, then turne every Wo. her owne man by the left hand.

**Sides all, back again** That The 2. Cu. meete and fall back, then the next Cu. meete, and take each others Wo. by the right hand, and fall into the Co. places, then the other Cu. meete and fall back, and the first Cu. the like, then leade in, taking the We. by the right hand, and cast off to your places.

**Armes all** That again All joyne both hands with your We. swing with your hands all inward, then breake off your hands inward, then turn back to back, and kisse the Co. Wo. twice, then swing with the Co. We. all outwards, then breake off your hands outwards, then turne kissing every one his owne Wo. turne and fo end.