

# The Drunken Idiot

**Tune:** *The Idiot*, by Stan Rogers **Lyrics:** *John Barleycorn*, by Jon Berger **Set:** 4 dancers; 21" (short) sticks; skipping (single steps) **Source:** Bassett Street Hounds / Karin Howe & Mike Miller **Chorus:** B(H)-F(L) in pairs, B(H), F(L) in square; 4x **Figures:** once to yourself/rounds, linear hey/[square hey](#), linear bombast/[square bombast](#)

## Detailed Description

A detailed [description of the dance](#) can be found on the Bassett Street Hounds website.

## Tune


- [dances:border:1\\_john\\_barleycorn.abc](#)
- [dances:border:1\\_john\\_barleycorn.mid](#)
- [dances:border:1\\_john\\_barleycorn.pdf](#)

# John Barleycorn (The Drunken Idiot)

*tune by Stan Rogers  
words by Jon Berger*

♩ = 132

A




1. John Bar - ley - corn to the sea has gone in a ship both stout and  
2. John Bar - ley - corn's to the court - ing gone all dressed in fine ar -  
3. John Bar - ley - corn's to the hang - man gone and the rea - son I'll un -

4



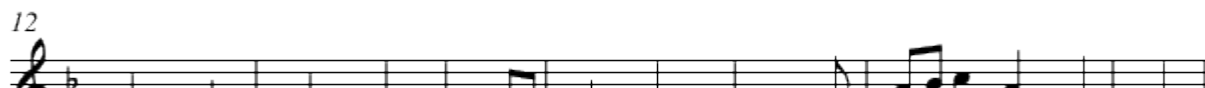
new, the thirst to slake of Cap - tain Drake and all his loy - al  
ray, in pew - ter clad from toe to head to win a la - dy  
fold: 'Tis for rob - bing hon - est Eng - lish - men of their sil - ver and their

8



crew. To ven - ture brave o'er wind and wave, the Span - iard for to  
gay. The po - e - try that he dec - laims will stand him in good  
gold. In a grave un - known by cross nor stone John Bar - ley will be

12



halt, and though he die of Span - ish grape, he'll live as Eng - lish malt.  
stead, for the la - dies fair do all de - clare they love it more than bread.  
lain, 'til the rain - y days have gone their ways and he ris - es up a - gain.

16 B



So we'll cut him down and we'll bind him round and we'll serve him worse than

20



that, for we'll grind his bones be - tween two stones and we'll bung him in a

24



vat. Then we'll drink his health in nut - brown ale, and we'll raise our glas - ses

28



high, for be - fore that he can live a - gain John Bar - ley - corn must die!

X:1

T:John Barleycorn

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T:(The Drunken Idiot)
H:Dance composed by the Hounds in the style of Red Stags
C:tune by Stan Rogers
C:words by Jon Berger
M:4/4
L:1/4
Q:1/4=132
K:F major
%%partsfont Times-Bold 16.0
%%MIDI channel 1
%%MIDI control 7 100      % volume = 100
%%MIDI program 41         % General MIDI violin
%%MIDI transpose 0
%%MIDI gchordoff
P:A
FG | Acc B/A/ | G/F/ GAC | DFFE | D3 C | DFF E/D/ | C F F>G | A/B/ cBA | G3
F/G/ | Acc B/A/ | G/F/ GAC | DFFE | D3 C | DFF E/D/ | CF F>G | A/B/ cAG | F2
||
w: 1.~John_ | Bar-ley-corn to the | sea_ has gone in~a | ship both stout and |
new, the | thirst to slake of_ | Cap-tain Drake and | all_ his loy-al | crew.
To_ | ven-ture brave o'er_ | wind_ and wave, the | Span-iard for to | halt,
and | though he die of_ | Span-ish grape, he'll | live_ as Eng-lish malt. ||
w:2.~John_ Bar-ley-corn's to the | court--ing gone all | dressed in fine ar- |
ray, in | pew-ter clad from_ | toe to head to | win_ a la-dy | gay. The | po-
e-try that_ | he_ dec-laims will | stand him in good | stead, for~the | la-
dies fair do_ | all de-clare they | love_ it more than | bread.
w:3.~John_ | Bar-ley-corn's to the | hang--man gone and~the | rea-son I'll un-
| fold: 'Tis~for | rob-bing hon-est_ | Eng-lish-men of~their | sil--ver and
their | gold. In a | grave un-known by_ | cross_ nor stone John | Bar-ley
will be | lain, 'til~the | rain-y days have_ | gone their ways~and he | ris--
es up a-gain.
P:B
FF |\
w:So we'll |
%%setbarnb 18
ddd c/B/ | ccc>B | A/G/ FFG | A3 F | ddd c/B/ | cc c>B | A/G/ FBA | G3 F/G/ |
Acc B/A/ | G/F/ GAC | DFFE | D3 C | DFF E/D/ | CF F>G | A/B/ cAG | F2 ||
w: cut him down and we'll | bind him round~and we'll | serve_ him worse than |
that, for~we'll | grind his bones be-- | tween two stones and~we'll | bung_
him in a | vat. Then we'll | drink his health in_ | nut--brown ale, and~we'll
| raise our glas-ses | high, for~be- | fore that he can_ | live a-gain John |
Bar--ley-corn must die!

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