

MLNDEN ROSE

THE CROSS AND PILLORY REELS

Steps : skip, carrying two sticks, most of time swung alternately.

Tune : Ninety Five

Source: Plymouth Stick Dance as danced by Plymouth Maids at Tavistock 30.1.82, shortened.

Title : Named after a lane in Alton, this dance is a trial, test and retribution.

Formation : for 8 dancers in two files of 4.

- 1 - cast out from the top and everyone follow, into a circle, following up after the bottom dancer immediately, to make a proper ring rather than a flat ellipse. 8 skips brings the top pair about half way up the set.
- 2 - cast out again from the top, but come in more at the bottom to come up into single file, 8 skips.
- 3 - up in single file, left file in front of right and mark time till all are in line, 4 skips,  
Odds only, turn to their left to face other way, and continue to mark time, 4 skips.
- 4 - Reel of 8 all the way round, start passing left shoulder, and then right, going alternately. At the end of the set each dancer passes left to get to the end, turns on the spot to face back on 2 skips without passing anyone, and then passes the next dancer approaching by the left again. The turn at the end should be to the right, so that the dancer does as it were an extra loop, but usually it is done to the left. Dancers must remember to wait before coming into the reel again. Each passing takes 1 bar, 2 skips. On each passing the dancer hold up the outside arm in the passing, up at 45 degree slope. The reel takes 16 bars, 32 skips, but is across the music phrase because of the 4 bars taken by move 3, but it comes right with the 4 bars of move 5.
- 5 - All half turn and face out to starting place and skip out, 4 skips and then turn to face down and up ready for move 6, marking time with 4 skips.
- 6 - 1st and 3rd pairs face down, 2nd & 4th face up at start. Reels of 4 on the side, passing first with right shoulder and then in the centre with the left. In this reel passing at the end is by the right, passing in the middle is by the left, the turn at the end is always to the right. The reel takes 8 bars, 16 skips. End all facing up. The left hand file have difficulty in going into move 7.
- 7 - Cast in twos twice, like move 1 but 1st and 2nd, 3rd and 4th on each side dance little circles for the two of them, 8 skips plus, the turns are out, left file to left, right file to right, and lead straight into move 8.
- 8 - Reels of 4 across the set. Started by 1st and 3rd pairs in the centre, passing right shoulder first, and all passing left at ends and turning to left to come back, fall out at end and face up, and if music left, mark time.
- 9 - As 1, 2 & 3, leading off in single file.

NOTE - every reel is different