PIPERS ASH REEL

As danced by Yorkshire Chandelier at Sidmouth 1979. Danced in two sets of 8.

Hands: 2 short sticks, one in each hand, normally held in middle, horizontally over shoulders at ear level.

Steps: normally walk, polka and springs (capers). Start left foot.

Processional: came on stage in 2 columns, met head on, turned 90 deg & went forward in 4's

Walk: 4 bar phrase, 2 steps to a bar.1,2/3,4/5,6/ spring, spring//. The springs are like low capers. The hands are swung down on step 5 and up on step 6 so that they are up for the springs.

Swing down well behind body - a full swing down and up.

1. Walk-Up: move up 4b, retire 2b and last 2b on the spot. Step as described.

2. Step : 2b polka on spot facing up, 4b polka on spot facing in, 2b polka on spot face down 3. Walk-Down: as 1. other way

4. Step : 2b polka on spot facing down, 4b on spot polka facing in and 2b polka to face alternately up and down > < > <

5. Reel of 4 along: reel of 4 as normal, passing first person by right shoulder and next by left. Walk sequence so that the 2 springs are to the 2nd person met in each sequence. Reel right round to starting place - 16 bars.

6.Step : 2b polka on spot in the up and down directions of start of reel, 2b polka facing in to opposite, 2b polka moving forward into one line down middle of 8 right shoulders to opposite, so facing alternate directions like half gip, 2b polka on spot turning up and down, alternate directions ready for a reel of 8.

7. Reel of 8: danced as reel of 4 but twice as many passings so take 32 bars.

8. Step : 2b polks in the up & down facing position as at start of reel of 8,2b polks turn on spot to face back to dancer's starting position,2b polks out to place and 2b turn up to face up ir lines of four. Last 4 bars flow into each other as dancers were to top. In 4's the line of 4 will be in order 1,3,2,4.

9. Walk-Up in 4's: as 1. for stepping

10. Step : 4b polks on spot facing up, 4b polks on spot facing across (along current lines of 4) in alternate directions

11. Reel of 4 across: as 5. 16 bars in all.

12. Step : 4b polka on spot facing alternate directions as at start of reels, 4b polka on spot facing down.

13. Walk-Down in 4's: as 9.

facing down, 4b facing alternate directions ready for reels of 4 as at end of 10.

15.Reels : as 11.

16. Step : 4b step on spot facing alternate directions, 4 bars polka facing up and end right foot in air and both hands up.

It is apparent that the dance could be more symmetrical in structure with other reels of 4 along and perhaps reel of 8 across.