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### MARGUERITE WILSON & NINA G. BARLOW

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THE FIRST POSITION



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By

MARGUERITE WILSON



With Numerous Illustrations by Nina G. Barlow





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1904

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## CONTENTS

																				-	LGX
INTRODUCTION	٠	٠			٠		٠	•		•	٠				٠		٠	٠	٠		9
POSITIONS AND	M	01	10	NB	÷				٠								٠	•			11
Change		÷				٠			٠	٠										•	14
Slide .	÷																				15
Step .																					16
Leap .																					16
Hop .																					19
Halt .																					19
Salute .											·						٠	٠			19
THE GRAND M	LAI	BCI	B		ě	ě	٠		٠	্ব	è				٠		٠				21
SQUARE DANCE	DK,	0	R	Qt	A	DR	ıL	LE	8,	W	IT	н	C	L	LS						28
<ul> <li>Plain Q</li> </ul>	ua	đr.	ill	e		69	-								76	ò	٠				31
Waltz C	Que	di	ril	les							٠										38
Additional Q																					
Basket	Fig	zu	ré		•	•		•				•		•						10	44
Cheat F																					
Minuet																					
Sociable		-																		-	
Jig Figu																					
Nine-Pi																					
Star Fig			-																		
	10																		-		

### CONTENTS

														AGE
THE LANCERS	•	•	٠	٠	•	٠	•			•	٠			51
Waltz Lancers														
Saratoga Lancers						٠	٠	٠	٠	٠				59
THE CALEDONIANS	٠					٠				ě				63
Waltz Caledonians								٠		÷				68
THE CALLY POLEA QUADRILL	2			•					÷					69
PRINCE IMPERIAL QUADRILLE									٠					77
PARISIAN VARIETIES		٠												84
NATIONAL GUARD QUADRILLE														
Contra Dances														
Virginia Reel														
Pop Goes the Weasel .														
La Tempête		ė	×		٠		٠	٠	٠	٠				100
Spanish Dance	•	9				٠			٠					102
Sicilian Circle	S.			٠	٠									104
ROUND DANCES	٠	٠	•		٠	٠	•							107
Waltz														109
Two Step														
Galop														
Polka														
Three Slide Polks														
Berlin							٠	٠	٠			٠		119
Heel-and-Toe Polka .						٠			٠	*	٠	ě		120
Military Schottische .						÷		٠				2	Ç.	121
Five Step					٠	្ន	ÿ	·		٠	÷	÷	٠	122
Yorke	٠			٠			٠	٠		٠	٠		+	123
Caprice Waltz														124

CONTENTS					7
Christmas Polka		•	٠	270	125
Racket			٠	: :1	126
Highland Schottische	٠	٠			127
THE GERMAN OR COTILLION, 100 FIGURES				1	131
Figures Beginning with one Couple			•	:	135
Figures Beginning with two Couples .					153
Figures Beginning with three Couples				. 1	63
Figures Beginning with four or more Co	ou	ple	28		167
THE MINUET		٠			193
The Quadrille Minuet				1	195
La Pavane				: 21	198
ETIQUETTE OF BALLS AND PARTIES	·	٠		2	203

ζ, |

### INTRODUCTION

This volume does not claim to be an exhaustive treatise on the subject of dancing. It is designed to furnish practical assistance to those who, lacking an opportunity for instruction in this direction, desire to qualify themselves for participation in this most delightful and popular recreation. To this end, obsolete dances have been omitted, as well as certain others, which, though generally taught in dancing academies and valuable enough in themselves, have yet failed to attain that popularity which insures a place on our social programmes. A knowledge of a very few dances is sufficient, at the present time, for all practical purposes. The majority of programmes are made of Waltzes and Two-steps, with an occasional set of Lancers or a Waltz Quadrille thrown in to vary the monotony. The Polka, Schottische, Galop, Yorke and Contra-Dance, though not strictly fashionable at present, are occasionally danced.

Beginners should master, first of all, the positions and steps described on pages 7 to 20, practicing them diligently until change from one to another can be easily and gracefully made.