

## July IMDA Tune of the Month By Amy Shaw

I hope you had as much fun as I did at last month's Minnesota Irish Music Weekend, sponsored by the Center for Irish Music. This column features a tune taught by fiddler Jesse Smith as part of his Tunes from Michael Coleman workshop at MIM. By coincidence, fiddler Devin Shepherd also played this tune during the fantastic MIM concert. I took that as a sign that I should use it as the tune of the month!

The Jackson in question was a gentleman piper from Co. Limerick, Walker "Piper" Jackson, who composed the tune around 1775. According to Breandán Breathnach, the "brush" in the title refers to the tail of an unfortunate fox. This tune also exists in two-part and three-part versions. Jesse's four-part setting is pretty close to the one recorded by the legendary Michael Coleman in 1921. (You can hear Coleman's rendition on Gael Linn's 1994 compilation, *Michael Coleman: 1891-1945*.) Jesse played several variations, a few of which I've tried to show here.

Sadly, MIM 2012 already seems like a long time ago. To quote John O'Connor at Custy's Music, we'll "chew the cud of reminiscence and 2013 will come." Usual disclaimer: Any transcription errors are my own. The notation here is not meant to be a substitute for listening. It is simply an aid to learning the tune.

### Jackson's Morning Brush

1)

1 2

2) 3)

4) 1 2

1 2

#### Variations

1) - 1st Bar, 2nd x, with pickup 2) 3) 4)

Rhythm: jig

Source: Jesse Smith (fiddle), 16 June 2012