Rebels Raid

Traditional

There are several old fiddle tunes that go by the name Rebel Raid, or Rebels Raid; this one is from Kentucky fiddler William H. Stepp (1875-1947), recorded by Alan and Elizabeth Lomax in the same session that produced Stepp's version of Bonapartes Retreat, used later as a theme by Aaron Copland in the ballet "Rodeo." To me, the high part is very close to Katy Hill, another great old G tune. Some believe that the title refers to Confederate cavalry General John Hunt Morgan's last raid into Kentucky in June, 1864. Morgan's line of retreat from his defeat at Cynthiana would have taken him just a few miles from Stepp's town of Salyersville in Magoffin County.