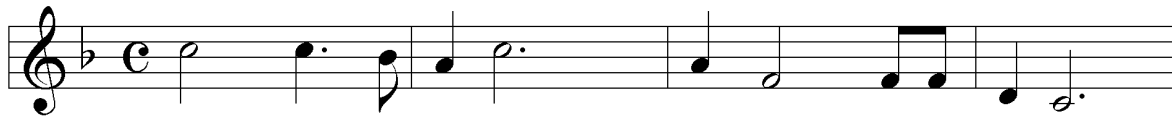


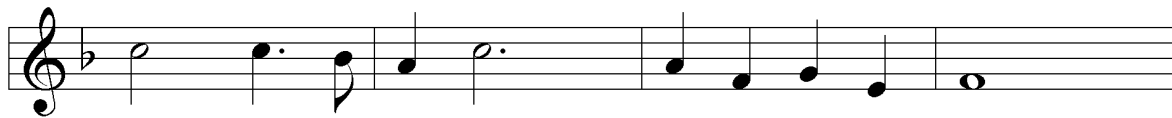
GOIN' DOWN TO CAIRO

This is a singing game adapted from Illinois Ozarks versions to a tune popular with old time fiddlers. It's a mixer (you get a new partner each time through) and can be used with any number of people. A great warm up for a group, it's quick to teach and easy and fun to do!

Be sure to mention that Cairo is pronounced "Kay-row".



Goin' down to Cai - ro, good - bye and a good-bye.



Goin' down to Cai - ro, good - bye Li - za Jane.



Black them boots and make them shine, good - bye and a goodbye.



Black them boots and make them shine, good - bye Li - za Jane.

**Oh, how I love her, and ain't that a shame!
Oh, how I love her, goodbye Liza Jane!**

**I ain't got time to kiss you now, I'm sorry, I'm sorry!
I ain't got time to kiss you now, goodbye Liza Jane!**

Form a big circle, everyone standing beside a partner (gender not important).

1st verse (*Goin' down to Cairo...*): Everybody join hands in a circle and circle left.

2nd verse (*Black them boots...*): Give right hand to your partner, pull past, give left to the next, pull past and so on (grand right and left).

3rd verse (*Oh, how...*): Swing a new partner (wherever you are - extras go into the center to find a new partner).

4th verse (*I ain't got time...*): Promenade your new partner (dance two by two counterclockwise around the circle holding hands in a skaters' hold).

Traditionally, partners would be boy/girl: each boy with a girl on his right, but it works just fine without bothering. In the original, you grand right and left back to your partner (has to be a small circle), but I like it as a mixer.

References: McIntosh, David S. *Folk Songs and Singing Games of the Illinois Ozarks*. Carbondale & Edwardsville: Southern Illinois University Press, 1974, pp.68-72.; Botkin, Benjamin A. *The American Play Party Song*. New York: Frederick Ungar Publishing Co. 1937, 1963, pp.237-242.