

The Tablature for Diatonic Cittern from the
Robert Edwards Commonplace Book,
circa 1650, Dundee, Scotland

Reintabulated by Rob MacKillop using Fronimo v.3, April, 2006

Dedicated to the cittern discussion group, initiated by Doc Rossi:
<http://www.mail-archive.com/cittern%40cs.dartmouth.edu/>

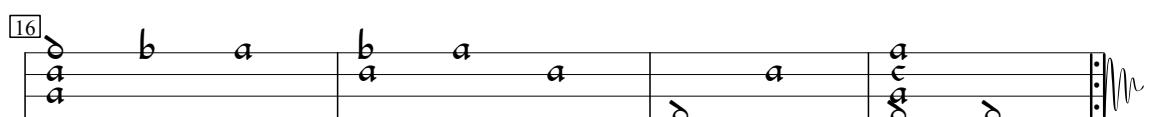
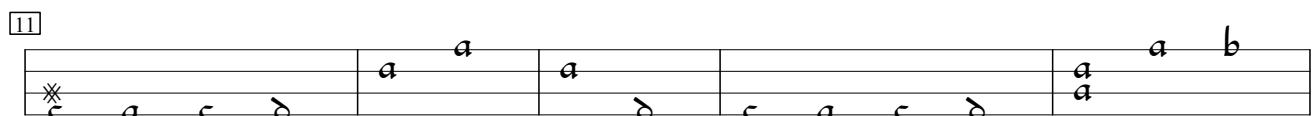
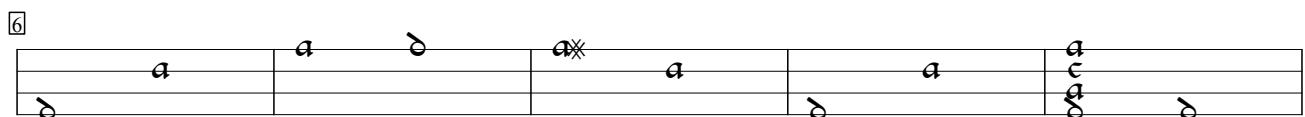
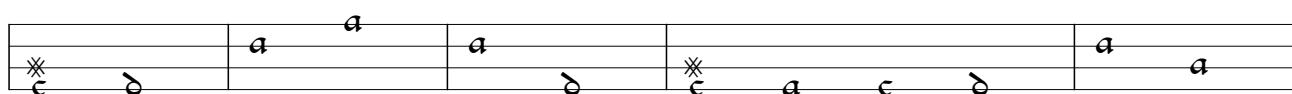
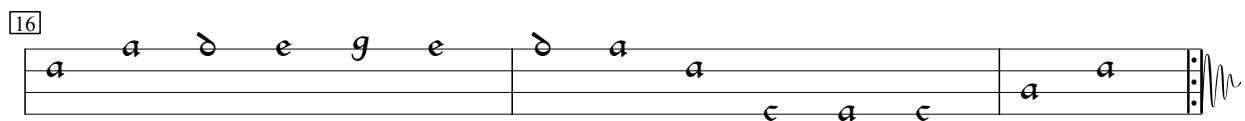
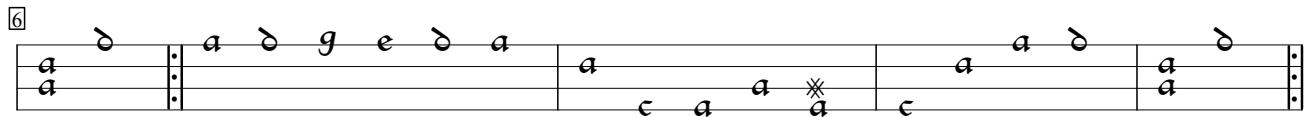
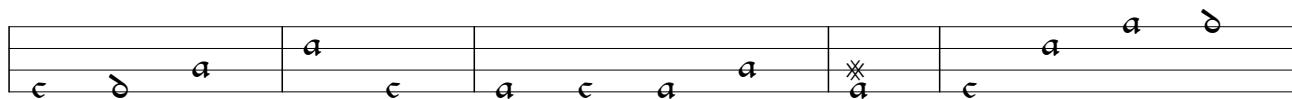
I have merely set down the original tablature in an easy to read format, without any editing whatsoever. The tablature contains many mistakes and no time signals, and requires players of imagination and flair to make the most of this beautiful repertoire.

Robert Edwards was a kirk minister for the parish of The Murroes, just north of Dundee (my home town) on the East Coast of Scotland. He was also a member of the Dundee town council. The only other surviving Scottish cittern manuscript also belonged to a minister of the Kirk. This might strike some as odd, yet the Wedderburn Brothers of Dundee had recently printed 'The Guid and Godlie Ballads', putting new words, reflecting the message of the Reformed Kirk, to common folk tunes. This book was as popular in Scotland as the Bible. It 'legitimised' folk music and set the foundation stone for traditional music to become the national music of Scotland.

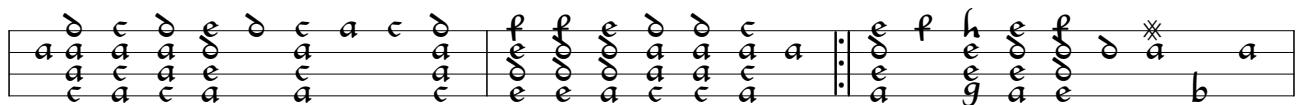
Rob MacKillop, Edinburgh, 29th April, 2006

Laydie Louthians Little

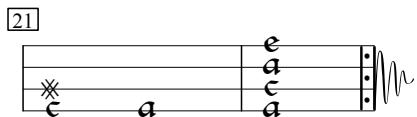
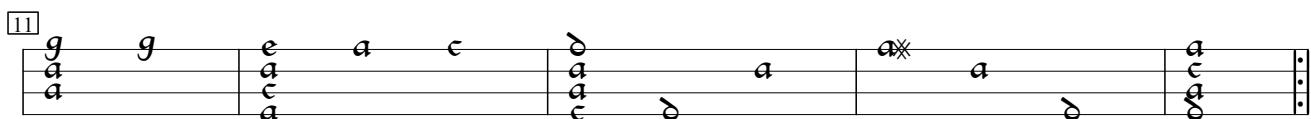
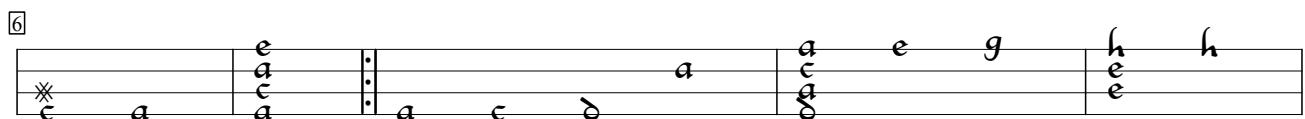
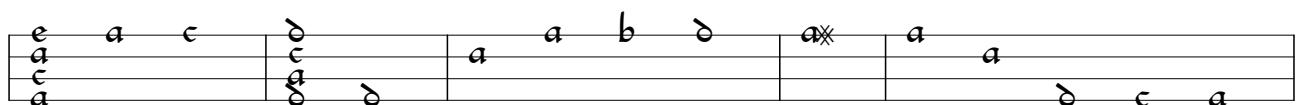
Robert Edwards Commonplace Book



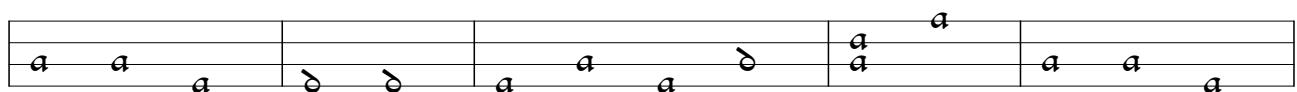
Come sweet love let sorow ceasse



Joy to the person of my love



Sweet smyling katie loves me



[6]

Guitar tab for measure 6. The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[11]

Guitar tab for measure 11. The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[16]

Guitar tab for measure 16. The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[21]

Guitar tab for measure 21. The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 3rd string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 2nd string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 1st string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The tab ends with a fermata and a wavy line.

The Isle of Rea

Guitar tab for the beginning of "The Isle of Rea". The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[6]

Guitar tab for measure 6 of "The Isle of Rea". The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[11]

Guitar tab for measure 11 of "The Isle of Rea". The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[16]

Guitar tab for measure 16 of "The Isle of Rea". The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[21]

Guitar tab for measure 21 of "The Isle of Rea". The 6th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 5th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets. The 4th string has notes at the 12th and 7th frets.

[26]

Amyntas on a Summers day

[5]

Ruhat if a day

[5]

[9]

[13]

Bonie Jean Lindsay

Fingerstyle guitar tab showing six measures of music. The notes are represented by letters above the strings: 'a' for A, 'c' for C, 'd' for D, 'e' for E, and 'g' for G. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 7. The notes are 'd', 'a', 'd', 'a', 'c', 'a', 'd', 'a', 'c'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 13. The notes are 'a', 'c', 'd', 'd', 'c', 'a', 'd', 'g', 'e', 'd'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 19. The notes are 'd', 'd', 'c', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'c', 'c', 'a', 'c', 'a', 'a'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 25. The notes are 'c', 'a', 'c', 'a*', 'a', 'c', 'c', 'c', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 31. The notes are 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a', 'a'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Fingerstyle guitar tab for measure 37. The notes are 'e', 'e', 'd', 'c', 'a'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

Over the mountainees

Fingerstyle guitar tab for the ending. The notes are 'k', 'h', 'e', 'k', 'h', 'g*', 'e*', 'd', 'd', 'c', 'd'. The tab shows a repeating pattern of chords and single notes.

[6]

[11]

Till I be lulled beyond the

[6]

[11]

[16]

Shoe round me in hir aprone

[6]

[11]

[16]

The Saraband

[7]

[13]

[19]

Hey The day davis

[7]

[13]

[19]

[25]

[31]

Goe where thou wille goe

[6]

[11]

[16]

[21]

Wille thou be gone

Guitar tablature for the first section of the song. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: d, a, e*, g, b, e, g, h, a*. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Guitar tablature for the second section of the song. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: d, e, g, e*, g, a, a, d, e, g, e*, d, d. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

The king's posie

Guitar tablature for the beginning of the song. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: a, c, d, a, c, a, c, b, a, b, d, e, d, e, g, h, g. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Guitar tablature for the middle section of the song. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: e*, d, d, a, h, g, a, a, e*, d, a, a, a*, a, a, a, d. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Guitar tablature for the end of the song. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: a, c, a*, a, c, d, a, d, a, a, d, a, a, a, d. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Buckingham's branle

Guitar tablature for the first section of the branle. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: e, e, d, c, a, e, a, c, a, c, d, e, e, d, c, a. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Guitar tablature for the middle section of the branle. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: e, a, c, a, a, a, d, c, a, a, a, a, c, d. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Guitar tablature for the end of the branle. The strings are numbered 1 (top) to 6 (bottom). The notes are represented by letters: a, a, d, c, a, a, a, a, c, d. The tab shows a repeating pattern of measures.

Sueit smiling Katie in a different key

[6]

[11]

[16]

[21]

The buffins

[6]

[11]

[16]

Guitar tab for measure 16. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

put on your sark on monenday

Guitar tab for measure 17. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

[8]

Guitar tab for measure 8. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

[15]

Guitar tab for measure 15. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

[22]

Guitar tab for measure 22. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

John come kisse me noue

Guitar tab for measure 1. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

[6]

Guitar tab for measure 6. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.

[11]

Guitar tab for measure 11. The pattern consists of two eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pair, repeated three times. The notes are positioned on the 6th string.