

Patty on the Turnpike

Traditional

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2/4

6

11

16

21

26

Chords: C, F, G7, H

Extra beat, see notes

3/4

2/4

G7 C Extra beat, see notes

31

36

G7

1. C 2. C

This tune comes from Fiddlin' Cowan Powers (1877-1953) and Family, of Russell County, Virginia. The family band recorded it for the Victor Talking Machine Company in New York City, in August, 1924, during their first professional recording session. It bears a closer resemblance to another tune, Wagoner, also generally played by fiddlers in the key of C major, than it does to the Paddy on the Turnpike, a tune in A mixolydian.

The B part of this tune is crooked, in that it has one extra beat, which is not easy to feel. I have taken a little bit of liberty with the fiddle melody at that spot, in order to put it across on the banjo. In general, I relied a lot on a wonderful rendition by fiddler Jason Cade, on his Hogey Eyed Man CD, as the melody on the 1924 Powers Family recording was indistinct to my ear in some places.