"Additional Traditionals"

The basic themes in all of the following songs are mostly very easy for students who have arrived at this point in the book. In fact, students and teachers might look at this material even before completing all of the preceding songs and exercises. The main purpose here is to have fun and also begin to develop greater velocity. Beginner students often get stuck in a "patent tempo" meaning that everything that they play seems to be about the same speed.

The variations contained in all of these songs will be challenging for beginner players. The main challenge will be to get the variations up to the tempo of the basic tune. Don't expect to accomplish this in one quick practice session. It takes time to develop the fingering and picking velocity. Be persistent in your review. Solid efforts will produce results. Poor effort produces poor results. As always, isolate a short section, perhaps 8 measures, and work on that segment until it is perfected. It is best to play some of the song well rather than playing the whole song poorly. The harmonies may not always be the traditional versions. Harmony is an arrangers judgement call.



