

should separate the indicated note from the next note. (For more information on this term see p. 274 in Chapter 20.) Try the B cut with and without articulation and see what you think. It can be played both ways, but I think you'll find that articulating the cut B makes the fingering sequence a bit easier to execute as well as making the cut B more distinct.

Figure 7-16. A version of the slip jig *The Boys of Ballisodare* that makes use of examples of every class of cuts.

① Track 17

CUTTING AND TONGUING (OR THROATING) AT THE SAME TIME

A cut is usually used to give special emphasis to a note. As an articulation, the cut seems to command more attention than a tongue or throat articulation. Perhaps this is because of the pitched element of the cut.

It follows that tonguing or throating *and* cutting a note will give that note still more emphasis. Be careful when you try this—good timing is critical. Know that when you cut and tongue or throat at the same time, your cutting finger needs to be in the air, not still on the instrument, at the instant that you tongue or throat. If you cut slightly after you tongue or throat you will hear the cut an instant late and the result will be some kind of double articulation.

*A word of caution here:* If you do not have a good handle on the accurate timing of your cuts, tonguing or throating them may hide that fact from you. For example, if you tend to cut late, as many novices do, you will hear (if you are *not* tonguing or throating, and if you are paying attention) the start of the parent note and *then* the cut. These two things should coincide.

If your cut is late, the problem will be especially apparent when you are approaching the cut note from a pitch above or below. If you are tonguing or throating that same cut, however, you are momentarily stopping the sound and introducing another rhythmic factor into the equation. That can obscure your perception of what you are actually doing. Stated another way, if you tend to cut slightly late and that late lift of the cutting finger happens during the brief silence introduced by tonguing/throating, you will not know it.