

Continental Harmony,

CONTAINING,

A Number of ANTHEMS, FUGES, and CHORUSSES, in feveral PARTS.

NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.

COMPOSED BY WILLIAM BILLINGS,

AUTHOR of various Music Books.

Pfalm 1xxxvii. 7. As well the Singers as the Players on inftruments shall be there. Pfalm 1xviii. 25. The Singers went before, the Players on inftruments followed after, amongst them were the Damsels. Luke xix. 40. I tell you that if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. Rev. xix. 3. And again they faid Alleluia.

Come let us fing unto the Lord, And praife his name with one accord, In this defign one chorus raife; From east to west his praise proclaim, From pole to pole extol his fame, The sky shall echo back his praise.

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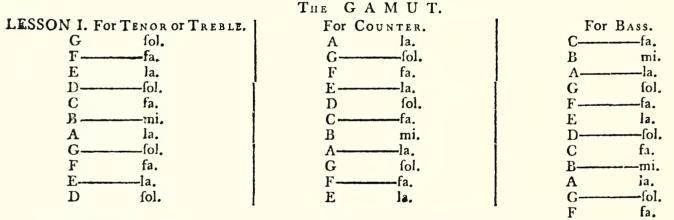
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Mufical Characters.



(4) To the feveral TEACHERS of MUSIC, in this and the adjacent States.
My BRETHREN,

I HAVE drawn up the rules of practical music, as concise as the nature of the thing would admit, and have inferted them in courfe, as they should be taught; I recommend it to you to teach after the manner they are inferted; it being the best method I have yet found, from long experience.



Observe, that from E to F, and from B to C, are half notes ascending, and from F to E, and from C to B, defcending; fo that an octave confist of five whole, and two half notes. Likewise be very careful to make a proper diffinction between the found of B mi, and C fa; for many fingers, who have not curious ears, are apt to firike B mi, as high as C fa, in fharp keyed tunes, which ruins the composition.

L E S S O N 11. On TRANSPOSITION. The natural place for mi is in B; but if B be flat, mi is in E; if B and E be flat mi is in A; if B E and A be

flat, mi is in D; if B E A and D be flat, mi is in G. If F be fharp, mi is in F; if F and C be fharp, mi is in C; if if F C and G be fharp, mi is in G; if F C G and D be fharp, mi is in D. And when you have found mi in any of these variations, the notes above are fa, sol, la, fa sol, la, and then comes mi again; and the notes below mi, are la, sol, fa, la, fol, fa, and then comes mi again.

LESSON III. ON CLIFFS.

The bass cliff is always fixed on the upper line but one; it gives the line it stands upon the name of F. The tenor cliff is fixed in my work on the lowest line but one; it gives the line it stands upon the name of G; and if it be removed to any other line, it removes G with it. The counter cliff stands upon the middle line, in my work, but if it is removed to any other line, it gives the line it stands upon the name of C. The treble cliff is fixed on the lower line but one, and gives the line it stands upon the name of G. This cliff is never removed, but stands fixed an octave above the tenor.

N. B. According to these cliffs, a note on the middle line in the tenor, is a fixth above a note on the middle line of the bass; a note on the middle line of the treble, is a thirteenth above the middle line of the bass, and an eighth above the middle line of the tenor; a note on the middle line of the counter, is a seventh above the middle line of the bass, and one note above the middle line of the tenor, and a seventh below the middle line of the treble.

To find the octave to any found, add feven to it, viz. The octave to a third, is a tenth, and the octave to a fourth, is an eleventh, &c. &c.

LESSON IV. On CHARACTERS. For the Notes, Refls and other Characters, fee page 3.

THE names of the fix musical notes now in use, and how they are proportioned from each other, together with their respective refts.

1ft. The Semibreve, which is the longest note now in use, though formerly the shortest; this note when set in the adagio mood, is to be sounded four seconds, or as long as sour vibrations of the pendulum, which is $39\frac{2}{10}$ inches long. This is the measure note, and guideth all the rest; it is in shape something like the letter O.

2d. The Minum is but half the length of the femibreve, having a tail to it.

3d. The Crotchet is but half the length of the minum, having a black head.

4th. The Quaver is but half the length of the crotchet, having the tail turned up at the end, except there are two or three, or more together, and then one stroke ferves to tie them all.

5th. The Semiquaver is but half the length of the quaver, having the tail turned up with two flrokes. 6th.

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6th. The Demifemiquaver is but half the length of the femiquaver, having the tail turned up with three ftrokes; this is the flortest note now in use.

A Reft is a note of filence, which fignifies that you must reft, or keep filence as long as you would be founding one of the notes it is intended to represent. The reft which is fet to the femibreve should be called a bar reft, because it is used to fill an empty bar in all moods of time.

A Prick of Perfection is not well named in my opinion, becaufe a note may be perfect without it ; a Point of Addition is the beft name ; becaufe it adds one third to the time of any note ; for a pointed femibreve contains three minums, a pointed minum contains three crotchets, a pointed crotchet contains three quavers, a pointed quaver contains three femiquavers, and a pointed femiquaver contains three demifemiquavers.

L E S S O N V. On the fecond Leffon of CHARACTERS.

1st. A Flat ferves to fink a note half a tone lower than it was before, and flats fet at the beginning ferve to flat all notes that are inferted on that line or space, unless contradicted by an accidental sharp or natural. Likewise they are used to drive mi, from one place to another.

2. A Sharp ferves to raife a note half a tone higher than it was before, and fharps fet at the beginning of the flaff ferve to fharp all notes which occur on that line or fpace, unlefs contradicted by an accidental flat or natural. They are also used to draw mi from one place to another.

3d. A Repeat is to direct the performer, that fuch a part is to be repeated over again, that is, you mult look back to the first repeat, and perform all the notes that are between the two repeats over again; it is also used in canons to direct the following parts to fall in at such notes as it is placed over.

4th. A Slur is in form like a bow, drawn over, or under the heads of two, three, or more notes, when they are to be fung to but one fyllable.

5th. A Bar is to divide the time in mufic, according to the mood in which the tune is fct; it is alfo used to direct the performers in beating time; for the hand must be always falling in the first part of a bar, and rising in the last part, both in common and triple time; it is also intended to shew where the accents fall, which are always in the first and third part of the bar, in common time, and in the first part of the bar in triple time.

6th. A Direct is placed at the end of the flaff, to direct the performer to the place of the first note in the next flaff.

7th. A Natural is a mark of reftoration, which being fet before any note that was made flat, or fharp, at the beginning, reftores it to its former natural tone; but not to its natural name, as many have imagined, unlefs it is fet at the beginning of a ftrain, which was made flat, or fharp, and then it reftores it to its former natural key.

8th. A Mark of Diftinction is fet over a note, when it is to be ftruck diftinct and emphatic, without using the grace of transition.

N. B. This character, when properly applied and rightly performed, is very majeflic.

9th. A close is made up of three, four or more bars, and always set at the end of a tune ; it fignifies a conclusion

L E S S O N VI. An Explanation of the feveral Moods of TIME.

THE first, or flowest mood of time, is called Adagio, each bar containing to the amount of one semibreve : four feconds of time are required to perform each bar; I recommend crotchet beating in this mood, performed in the following manner, viz. first strike the ends of the fingers, secondly, the heel of the hand, then thirdly, raise your hand a little and shut it up, and fourthly, raise your hand still higher and throw it open at the same time. These motions are called two down and two up, or crotchet beating. A pendulum to beat crotchets in this mood should be thirty-nine inches and two tenths.

The fecond mood is called Largo, which is in proportion to the adagio as 5 is to 4. You may beat this two feveral ways, either once down and once up, in every bar, which is called minum beating, or twice down and twice up, which is called crotchet beating; the fame way you beat the adagio. Where the tune confifts chiefly of minums, I recommend minum beating; but where it is made up of lefs notes, I recommend crotchet beating : the length of the pendulum to beat minums in this mood, muft be feven feet, four inches and two tenths ; and the pendulum to beat crotchets, muft be twenty-two inches and one twentieth of an inch.*

N.B.

* And here it may not be amifs to inform you, how the length of pendulums are calculated ; take this inftance, fuppofe a pendulum of thirty-nine inches and two tenths, will vibrate in the time of a fecond, then divide $39\frac{1}{10}$ by four, and it will give you the length of a pendulum that will vibrate twice as quick ; and multiply thirty-nine $\frac{2}{10}$ by 4, and it will give the length of a pendulum that will vibrate twice as quick ; and multiply thirty-nine $\frac{2}{10}$ by 4, and it will give the length of a pendulum that will vibrate twice as flow. Make a pendulum of common thread well waxed, and inftead of a bullet take a piece of heavy wood turned perfective round, about the bignefs of a pullet's egg, and rub them over, either with chalk, paint or white-wash, fo that they may be feen plainly by candle-light.

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N. B. When I think it adviseable to beat largo in minum beating, I write "minum beating," over the top of the tune, and where these words are not wrote, you may beat crotchet beating.

The third mood is called Allegro, it is as quick again as adagio, fo that minums are fung to the time of feconds. This is performed in minum beating, viz. one down and one up; the pendulum to beat minums mull be thirty-nine inches and two tenths.

The fourth mood is called Two from Four, marked thus, $\frac{3}{4}$, each bar containing two crotchets; a crotchet is performed in the time of half a fecond; this is performed in crotchet beating, viz. one down and one up. The pendulum to beat crotchets in this mood must be nine inches and eight tenths long.

N. B. The four above mentioned moods are all common time.

The next mood is called Six to Four, marked thus, $\frac{6}{4}$, each bar containing fix crotchets; three beat down and three up. The pendulum to beat three crotchets in this mood, must be twenty-two inches and one twentieth.

The next mood is called Six from Eight, marked thus, $\frac{6}{8}$, each bar containing fix quavers, three beat down and three up. The pendulum to beat three quavers, in this mood, must be twenty-two inches and one twentieth.

N. B. The two last moods are neither common nor triple time; but compounded of both, and, in my opinion, they are very beautiful movements.

The next mood is called Three to Two, marked thus, $\frac{3}{2}$, each bar containing three minums, two to be beat down and one up; the motions are made after the following manner, viz. let your hand fall; and observe first to strike the ends of your fingers, then secondly the heel of your hand, and thirdly raise your hand up, which finishes the bar: these motions must be made in equal times, not allowing more time to one motion than another. The pendulum that will beat minums in this mood, must be thirty-nine inches and two tenths long.

The next mood is called Three from Four, marked thus, $\frac{3}{4}$, each bar containing three crotchets, two beat down and one up. The pendulum to beat crotchets in this mood, must be twenty-two inches and one twentieth long.

The fame motion is used in this mood, that was laid down in 3, only quicker, according to the pendulum.

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The next mood is called three from eight, marked thus $\frac{3}{8}$, each bar containing three quavers, two beat down and one up. The pendulum to beat whole bars in this mood muft be four feet, two inches, and two tenths of an inch long. The fame motion is ufed for three from eight, as for three from four, only quicker; and in this mood you muft make three motions of the hand, for every fwing of the pendulum. N. B. This is but an indifferent mood, and almost out of use in vocal music.

N. B. The three laft mentioned moods are all in triple time, and the reafon why they are called triple, is, becaufe they are three-fold, or meafured by threes; for the meaning of the word triple is three-fold: And common time is meafured by even numbers, as 2-4-8-16-32-viz. 2 minums, 4 crotchets, 8 quavers, 16 femiquavers, or 32 demifemiquavers, are included in each bar, either of which amounts to but one femibreve: therefore the femibreve is called the meafure note; becaufe all moods are meafured by it in the following manner, viz. The fourth mood in common time is called two from four, and why is it called fo? I anfwer; becaufe the upper figure implies that there are two notes of fome kind included in each bar, and the lower figure informs you how many of the fame fort it takes to make one femibreve. And in $\frac{3}{8}$ the upper figure tells you, that there are three notes contained in a bar, and the lower figure will determine them to be quavers; becaufe it takes 8 quavers to make one femibreve.

N. B. This rule will hold good in all moods of time.

Observe, that when you meet with three notes tied together with the figure three over them or under them, you must found them in the same time you would two of the same fort of notes, without the figure. Note, that this character is in direct opposition to the point of addition; for as that adds one third of the time to the note which is pointed, so this diminishes one third of the time of the notes over which it is placed; therefore I think this character may with much propriety, be called the character of diminution.

Likewife, you will often meet with the figures 1, 2, the figure one flanding over one bar, and figure two flanding over the next bar, which fignifies a repeat ; and observe, that in finging that ftrain, the first time you perform the bar under figure 1, and omit the bar under figure 2, and in repeating you perform the bar under figure 2, and omit the bar under figure 1, which is so contrived to fill out the bars; for the bar under figure 1 is not always full, without borrowing a beat, or half a beat, &c. from the first bar which is repeated, whereas the bar under figure 2, is or ought to be full, without borrowing from any other but the first bar in the tune, and if the first bar is full, the bar under figure 2 must be full likewise. Be very careful to strike in proper upon a half beat, but this is much easier obtained by practice than precept, provided you have an able teacher.

Syncope, fyncopation, or driving notes, either through bars, or through each other, are fubjects that have not been fufficiently explained by any writers I have met with; therefore I shall be very particular, and give you several examples, together with their variations and explanations.

Example first. The time is Allegro, and the bar is filled with a minum between two crotchets; you must take half the time of the minum, and carry it back to the first crotchet, and the last half to the last crotchet, and then it will be equal to two crotchets in each beat.

In the second example the time is Allegro, and the bar is filled with a crotchet before a pointed minum; take half the minum and carry back to the crotchet, which makes one beat; then the last half of the minum, together with the point of addition, completes the last beat.

In example third, you will find a minum in one bar, tied to a point of addition in the next bar, which fignifies that the found of the pointed minum is continued the length of a crotchet into the next bar; but the time which is occafioned by the point of addition, is to help fill the bar it ftands in.

Example fourth is the fame in $\frac{2}{4}$ as the first in Allegro.

Example fifth is the fame as example fecond.

Example fixth is the fame in $\frac{3}{2}$ as example third in Allegro.

Example feventh is in $\frac{3}{4}$, as difficult as any part of fyncope ; therefore I have given feveral variations from the example, in which the bar is filled with two pointed minums, which muft be divided into three parts, in the following manner, viz. The first minum must be beat with the ends of the fingers ; fecondly, the point of addition, and the first half of the last minum, must be beat with the heel of the hand ; and thirdly, the last half of the last minum, together with the point of addition, must be beat with the head rifing ; and in the feveral variations you must divide the notes into three equal parts, fo as to have one minum in each beat : And in all the examples with their variations, you must first inform yourfelf what particular note goes for one beat, whether minum, crotchet or quaver, and then divide the fyncopated note accordingly. As this subject has not been very fairly explained by any of our modern authors, I have great reason to think it is not well understood ; I therefore recommend it to all teachers, to infift

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very much on this part of practical music; it is a very effential part of their office: And if any who fuftain the office of teachers, fhould not be able to perform this branch of their business by the help of these examples (for their honour and their pupils interest) I advise such as the femi-teachers to refign their office, and put themselves under some able master, and never presume to commence teachers again, until they thoroughly understand both syncope and syncopation, in all their variations.

N. B. The fame examples of fyncope and fyncopation, which are fet down in $\frac{3}{2}$, you may have in $\frac{3}{4}$; only obferve to fubflitute minums for femibreves; crotchets for minums; and quavers for crotchets; and in $\frac{3}{8}$ you must make the notes as fhort again as they are in $\frac{3}{4}$.

When you meet with two or three notes flanding one over the other, they are called chufing notes, and fignify that you may fing which you pleafe, or all, if your part has performers enough, and remember that they add not to the time, but to the variety.

L E S S O N VIII.

THERE are but two natural primitive keys in mufic, viz. A, the flat key, and C, the fharp key. No tune can be formed rightly and truly, but on one of these two keys, except the mi be transposed by flats or sharps, which bring them to the same effect as the two natural keys. B mi, must always be one note above, or one note below the key: if above, then it is a flat key; and if below, then it is a sharp key. But to speak more simply, if the last note in the bass, which is the key note, is named fa, then it is a sharp key, and if la, then it is a flat key; and observe, that it cannot end properly with mi or fol.

N. B. It is very effential that these two keys should be well understood; they must be strictly enquired into by all musical practitioners; for without a good understanding of their different natures, no person can be a judge of music. The different effects they have upon people of different constitutions, are surprizing, as well as diverting. As music is faid to cure several disorders, if I was to undertake for the patients, I should chuse rather to inject these two keys into their ears, to operate on their auditory, than to prescribe after the common custom of Physicians.

the Chorifters must always remember to fet flat keyed tunes to melancholy words, and sharp keyed tunes to cheerful words.

A COMMENTARY on the preceding Rules; by way of DIALOGUE, between MASTER and Scholar.

Scholar. S IR, I have for fome time paft been withing for a favourable opportunity to be better inftructed Ly you; I have read over your rules, and although I think that they are very explicit, yet I confefs I am not fo well verfed in the fundamental parts of mulic as I with to be; therefore (if it be not intruding too far upon your patience) I fhould be very glad to alk you fome queftions, and I doubt not but your anfwers will be gratefully accepted by many of your attentive readers, and in a particular manner by your inquifitive Pupil.

Master. It gives me great pleasure to see you so defirous of being better informed, and I can truly fay, I never am happier than when I am communicating happinels to others; you may be assure your proposal is so far from being an intrusion, that it gives me great fatisfaction; therefore, without any more preface, you may ask as many questions as you please, and I will endeavour to answer them as plainly and judiciously as I possibly can.

Scholar. Sir, I thank you, and as I have your approbation, I will begin with the gamut, and fo go on, in the order in which you have laid the rules down, for I think I have fomething to afk upon almost every chapter.

Master. I like your method of beginning, and as we have agreed upon the manner, let us come to the matter in hand without any further ceremony.

Scholar. Sir, I fhould be glad to know how long the Gamut has been invented, and who was the first inventor? Master. The first invention is attributed to several Grecians; but the form in which the scale now stands, is faid to have been projected between 7 and 800 years ago, by Guido Arctinus, a Monk; whose name deserves to be recorded in the annals of same, in capitals of gold : and here I think it worthy of remark, that though this invention of Guido's can never be sufficiently admired, yet it appears from history, that he did not see its extensive use in compofition; and as it is faid the letters of the alphabet (by which are expressed all words in nature) were handed down to Moses, the great Lawgiver of Israel, by God himself, I think we may with equal propriety say, that it is probable that Guido was inspired with this invention, by Him, who is the Author of harmony itself.

Scholar.

Scholar. Sir, if the scale of music was invented but about 700 years ago, how is it supposed the Royal Psalmitt, King David, and his celebrated choir of musicians (both vocal and instrumental) performed by rule or rote ?

Master. As it is not in my power to give a positive answer to your question, perhaps it may not be a fatisfactory one: but however it is rational to suppose, that King David and his choir, had the benefit of a certain rule or form, which was to them, both communicative and intelligible; and there is a passage in his life which both favours and flrengthens this supposition; you may find it recorded in the first book of Chronicles, 15th chap. and 22d verse. And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for fong; he instructed about the fong, because he was skilful. I think this circumstance amounts almost to a demonstration; for it would be absurd to suppose that Chenaniah should be able to instruct fo great a number, as we may reasonably conjecture, or gather from sexactly correspond with each other both in time and found; therefore I think it is more than probable, that Guido by fome means or other availed himself of King David's Scale,* and by making fome few alterations and amendments, or it may be by climbing a few steps higher on a ladder of king David's raising, he (in spite of the royal author) has unjustly taken all the glory of the first invention to himself. But as this is a matter of mere conjecture, or dry speculation, we must be content to leave it, where we found it, and proceed to fomething more authentic.

Scholar. Sir, is it abfolutely neceffary for B ini to be transpoled so often as I fee it i in your explanation? I think you fay there are but *feven* letters, and yet there *fourteen* removes for B mi.

Moster. Your remark upon that is very just; for as there are but feven letters, fo there are but fix removes, viz. B flat, B and E flat, B E and A flat, and F sharp, F and C sharp, and F C and G sharp, these are the six removes for B mi, which, together with B mi natural, take up the seven letters; for if you add another flat, or fliarp, it will only be going over the same again; as for instance, if B E A and D be flat, mi is in G, which is the same as F C and

^{*} I would not be underflood, by the candid reader, to be guilty of fo great a piece of abfurdity as this may appear to be, at the first glance; viz. the attempting to define a monument which (in the answer to the preceding question) I was so industrious and folicitous in erecting, to immortalize the name of *Guido*; fo far from that, I think I reflect great honour on *Guido*, in supposing him capable of improving, or making any addition to a mutical scale of King David's invention; the man who, in scipture, is stilled *The Lord's anointed*, the man after God's own heart, the chief musician, &c. The daughters of Ifrael fang by way of congratulation, "Saul hath flain his thousands, and David his ten thousands," and by way of fimile, thus sing I, "Guido hath done well, and David hath done better."

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and G fharp, fo likewife if F C G and D be fharp, mi is in D, which is the fame as B E and A flat, fo that after three removes by flats, and three by fharps, the reft are only a different way of expressing the fame thing; therefore all the effential difference is in pitching the tune. Take this inflance, suppose you have a sharp key tune, with B and E flatted, ending on B; in order to make the voice conform to an inftrument, you must not pitch the tune on B natural, but B flat; because a flat inferted at the beginning of the five lines ferves to flat all notes that may happen on that line, or space, unless it is contradicted by an accidental sharp, or natural : and all sharps that are placed at the beginning of the five lines, ferve to sharp all notes that may happen to be on that line, or space, unless contradicted by an accidental flat, or natural; therefore in order to raise the tune, without removing the notes, you must take off the two flats, and substitute five flarps; that is, F C G D and A must be sharped, which bring Mi into the same place, and raises the tune a femitone higher; for B is now made natural; and if a tune sharps Mi into the same place, and in fo doing, you will fink the tune a femitone lower without removing the notes.

Scholar. Sir, I am obliged to you for being fo explicit, and I doubt not but I fhall reap the benefit of it; and now, fir, if you pleafe, we will proceed to the next thing in order, viz. the cliffs : pray fir, why are they fo called ?

Master. The word cliff is much the fame as a key, which ferves to unlock, or let into a piece of mulic; for if there was no cliff marked you would be at a loss to know how to begin, and you might fuppole it to be either of the three cliffs, and you have two chances to guess wrong, where you have one to guess right.

Scholar. I fee the necessity of them, pray, fir, how many cliffs are in use, and what distance are they from each other?

Mafler. Three cliffs are as many as I ever knew, viz. the F, the C, and the G cliffs: The F cliff is the loweft; the C cliff is a fifth higher than the F cliff; and the G cliff a fifth higher than the C cliff; unless the G cliff is fet to the tenor, and then it is a fourth below the C cliff, and but one note above the F cliff.

Scholar. Are the cliffs always confined to one place?

Master. The F, and G cliffs are generally (and I believe always) confined, viz. the F cliff to the upper line but one in the bass, and the G cliff to the lower line but one in the treble and tenor, but the C cliff is removed, from one line

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line to another, as the composer pleases, and Mr. Williams informs us that the cliff was formerly made use of to transpose B-Mi in the room of flats and sharps.

Scholar. Pray fir, what is the difference between the Medius and Treble ?

Master. When a piece of music is set in four parts, if a woman sings the upper part, it is called a Treble, because it is threefold, or the third octave from the Bass, but if a man sings it, it is called a Medius, or Cantus, because he sings it an octave below a Treble.

Scholar. Which is the best of these two?

Master. It is fometimes fet fo, as for one part to be best, and sometimes the other; but in general they are best fung together, viz. if a man sings it as a Medius, and a woman as a Treble, it is then in effect as two parts; so likewife, if a man sing a Tenor with a masculine and a woman with a feminine voice, the Tenor is as full as two parts, and a tune so fung, (although it has but sour parts) is in effect the same as fix. Such a conjunction of masculine and feminine voices is beyond expression, sweet and ravishing, and is esteemed by all good judges to be vastly preferable to any instrument whatever, framed by human * invention.

Scholar. And is it a matter of indifference which part is fung, either Medius, or Treble ?

Master. No, for if one part must be omitted, I chuse it should be the Medius, because oftentimes notes in the Treble which are fifths above the Tenor, or Bass, when sung as a Medius, are converted into souths below; an instance

* We find it recorded in facred writ, that "Jubal was the Father of all fuch as handled the harp and organ." But who was the father, or rather the former of the human voice ? The Lord God Omnipotent 1 Then furely a greater than Jubal is here; we know that neither Jubal, or any of his fucceffors were ever able to frame an organ, that can diffindly articulate thefe words, "Hear my prayer O Lord," or change the key and fay, "Praife the Lord O my'foul," furely not. The most curious inftrument that ever was conftructed, is but found, and found without fenfe: while man, who is bleft and endued with the faculties of fpeech can alternately fing of mercy and of judgment as duty bids, or occafion may require. The Royal Pfalmift, who calls upon "every thing that hat hereath to praife the Lord," has made this very beautiful diffindition, where he lays, "the Singers went before, the Players on in-framents followed after." Here you fee the fingers took the lead, while the inftrumental practitioners humbly followed after. Lord what is man that its or great encomium upon the Creator of heaven and earth, to acknowledge his fuperiority in conftructing a vehicle for the conveyance of founds, which is at once both capable of vociferation and articulation if or indeed I thick it not much thort of blafphemy, to fet up Jubal as a competitor with the Almighty of Heaven. Repeat ye Jubalites, left his jcaloufy awake and punifh the prefumption. "O Lord how manifold are thy works, in wildom haft thou made the and all." Help us O Lord to admire Jubal for thy fake, and adore thee for thine own fake. Then fahl we render unto Jubal the things that are Jubal's.

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ftance of which is in that admirable piece (composed by the ingenious Mr. Stephenson) commonly known by the name of the 34th Psalm: where the Tenor and Bass begin in unifon upon C, and the Treble on G Sol-re-ut line, which if sa a Treble is a fifth above the Tenor and Bass, but if sa a Medius is a fourth below; and also notes which are thirds above, when sa a Treble, are converted into fixes below, when sa a Medius, which frustrates the defign of the composer; but when they are both fung together, one ferves to hide the imperfection of the other.

Scholar. Sir, 1 think you fay that refts are notes of filence, which fignify that you must reft or keep filence, as long as you would be founding one of the refpective notes to which they belong; but it feems to me this rule does not hold good in a femibreve reft, for in fome moods of time, it contains more, and in fome other, it contains lefs than a femibreve. I fhould be glad if you would fet that matter right.

Master. This would be more properly called a bar reft, which is fometimes longer, and fometimes florter, according to the variation of the time, for it will fill an empty bar in any mood of time; fo that in $\frac{3}{4}$ it is half as long again as a femibreve, and in $\frac{3}{4}$ it is but juft half as long as a femibreve; but for the future, I advife you to call it a bar reft; becaufe it is not always a femibreve reft, but in every mood of time, it is used as a bar reft.

Scholar. Sir, I do not well understand the true intent of a Hold; for Mr. Arnold faith, that a note under a Hold must be holden something longer than the time it contains, and Mr. Tanfur, does not fay positively that it must, but that it may be holden longer than the note contains, if the performer please; he tells us that the French call it a Surprize.

Master. And in my opinion, it it very rightly named; for it is a matter of very great furprize to me, that any author should give license, and such room for dispute, as may (and to my certain knowledge does daily) arise from such a paltry infignificant thing; which is fo far from being any benefit, that I have known a company of musicians to break off in the middle of a piece, because they were divided in sentence, at the occurrence of a Hold; some were for holding on the sound something longer than the time; some were for stopping to take breath, and perhaps in this party, no two would be agreed about the length of time they purposed to stop, but would begin one after another, as if they were performing a Fuge; others would be for going on without taking any notice of the Hold, which (in my opinion) is much the best way; for certainly if you hold on the note any longer than the time, it is impossible

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ble to beat the Bars; if the bar is full (as it ought to be) without it, there is no room for it, and if the bar be not full without it; certainly it is deficient with it; and if any two fhould difpute upon it, there is authority for them to contradict each other; for one may fay he has a right to obferve it, another will fay he has a right to omit it, and both will refer each other to the fame author, to prove what each one has afferted; for that in fact they are both right, and yet difagree at the fame time; therefore I think it fo abfurd, that it is beft to take no notice of it; for my own part I never obferve it, and I find upon enquiry that most judges of music are of my opinion.

Scholar. Sir, I have heard many dispute about double Bars; for some authors say that a double Bar dotted on each fide fignifies a Repeat; and some say, that a double Bar without dots stands for a Repeat; and others say you may stop at a double Bar, in plalm tunes, the time of one or two beats, to take breath, if you please; which sometimes occasions as much confusion, as the occurrence of a Hold; for if I am disposed to stop, and another to proceed, Ido not fee how the time is to be preferved.

Master. I do not see any more rule for stopping at a double Bar, than at a single Bar, unless there be a rest inferted; because it cannot be done without losing time; and in my definition of a double Bar,* instead of sying, that you may stop to take breath, I should have faid that you may stop to catch breath; and even that must be done without losing time; but double Bars in Pfalm tunes are placed at the end of the lines, for the benefit of the sight, to direst the performer, where to stop, in congregations, where they keep up that absurd + practice of reading between the lines, which is so destructive to harmony, and is a work of so much time, that unless the performers have very good

* I never place a double Bar for a repetition of notes, but always make use of an :S: though I fometimes make use of a double Bar doted for a repetition of words; for where the same word occurs several times successively, a double bar doted answers the same purpose as the word written at length, and faves a great deal of labour and room.

+ Among the many other abfurdities which always take place, where this contemptible practice of reading between the lines is fill kept up, this one may be added, viz. the great tendency it has to flut fuch an excellent body of divine poetry (as is contained in the pfalm and hynn book now in vogue among us) out of private families; for where the floging is carried on without reading, the performers mufl (of neceffity) be furnified with books; on the other hand, there are many who excufe themfelves from procurring books in this manner, viz. why flould I be at this unneceffary expende, when I am enabled (by the help of the Clerk, or Deacon) to fing without it ? Ironically, I anfwer, and why need we be at the expense of purchafing a bible, or trouble on felves with perufing it at home, to long as we may, by going to meeting once a week, hear a chapter or two gratis. (I confest this remark flould have been inferted in the body of the work, but it did not take place in my mind till the pages were full; therefore I plead benefit of *margin*, a glorieus privilege, for which bad memories and dull authors cannot be too thankful.)

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good memories, they are apt to forget the tune, while the line is reading. I defy the greateft advocates for reading between the lines, to produce one word of fcripture for it, and I will leave it to all judicious people, whether it is founded on reafon; and certainly, whatever is founded on neither reafon, nor religion, had better be omitted. The practice of retailing + the pfalm line by line, was introduced fo long ago as when very few people had the knowledge of reading; therefore a reader was fubfituted for the whole congregation, who was called a Clerk; but at this time when every man is capable of reading for himfelf; and when we confider the confusion that is caufed in the mufic, by reading the lines, and the deftruction it occasions to the fenfe of the pfalm, I can fee no reafon for keeping up fo abfurd a practice. Confider further, that according to the practice in country churches, the pfalm is three times repeated. First the minister reads it audibly alone, lecondly the clerk, or deacon, line by line, and thirdly, it is fung by the congregation; now if we are obliged to repeat the pfalm three times over, why are we not obliged to repeat our prayers as often before they would be deemed to be acceptable. I expect this doctrine will meet with fome opposition in the country, but let who will concur or diffent, I think myfelf highly honoured in having the approbation of the pious and learned Dr. WATTS* (that great master of divine fong) who in his writings has declared himfelf to be of the fame opinion.

Scholar. Sir, I fhould be glad to know how many notes were formerly ufed when a femibreve was the fhorteft. Mafter. The ancients made use of three other characters, viz. the Large, the Long, the Breve, and then the Semibreve; but the moderns have firuck out the three first, and substituted some lefter notes, viz. the Minum, the Crotchet, the Quaver, &c. therefore the semibreve, which was formerly the shortest note, is (under the present system) become the longest.

+ Whatever Mr. Clerk, or Mr. Deacon, or Mr. Any.body.elfe, who fulfains the office of retailer may think; I fhall take the liberty to tell them, I think it a very groß affront upon the audience, for they still go upon the old supposition, viz. the congregation in general cannot read; therefore they practically fay, we men of letters, and you ignorant creatures.

* Here take the Doctor's own words. " It were to be wifted that all congregations and private families would fing as they do inforeign proteftant churches, without reading line by line, though the author has done what he could to make the fenfe complete in every line or two, yet many inconveniences will always attend this unhappy manner of finging," &c. Thus he, the Rev. Doctor, does not tarry upon this fubject long enough to enumerate the many inconveniences he feems to refer to. 1 imagine his reafons for declining the tafk, were, the great tendency fuch an undertaking would have to fwell each page to a treatife, or rather a volume ; therefore we may reafonably conclude that the omiffion was merely for want of room, not for want of reafon.

Scholar.

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Scholar. Sir, I want to know the difference between Common Time and Triple Time, and why one fort of time is called Common and the other Triple Time?

Master. I believe your question is but little understood ; although it is very plain and easy, yet, through inattention, but few people entertain a right notion of it; for did mankind in general understand what is meant by Time* in mufic, they would no longer entertain those false ideas which they now do; viz. that common time is a very flow movement, and triple time a very quick movement. The effential difference between common time and triple time does not confift in gravenels or brifknels, but in the measure of the bars; for all moods in common time, are meafured by even numbers, and all moods in triple time are measured by odd numbers, viz. by threes, for the very import of the word Triple is three-fold; therefore the most material difference between common time and triple time, is in accenting the bars, because in common time the accent + falls twice in a bar, and in triple time but once. But to ascertain the exact length of time in each particular mood, you must be governed by pendulums. But although triple time is differently barred from common time, yet all triple time moods are measured by the semibreve in common time, as thus: the first mood in triple time is called three to two; and now the question which naturally arifes, is this; why is it called three to two? Answer, because each bar contains three minums, whereas a bar in common time contains but two, which is the length of one femibreve; therefore it is called three to two. The fecond mood in triple time is called three from four, becaufe each bar contains three crotchets ; whereas, a bar in common time contains four, which is the amount of one femibreve; therefore it is called three from four, because it is taken from

* There are feveral species of good *Time*, which may be divided in the following manner, viz. one good division of Time is, when the performers give each note its due proportion, viz. the femibreve as long again as the minum, the minum as long again as the crotchet, &c. Another good division of time is, when the performers give each bar its due length of time, not performing one bar quicker than another. Another good division of time is, when the performers move exactly together. Another good division is, when the performers move in exact conformity to the vibration of a pendulum. N. B. Thefe are all grand divisions, and to carry this military idea fill further, you may confider the fingle bars in the flead of file leaders, and the pendulum in the place of the flandard.

† You may take this as infallible, that your hand or foot must always be falling in the first part, or note in a bar, and rising in the last part, both in common time and triple time. The motion of the hand in beating time is as correspondent with the music, as the feet of the foldier is to the found of the fife; and through the medium of the eye, as well as the ear, it conveys the accents into the minds of the audience, and ferves to strike the passions in an extraordinary manner; for the accents are the life and spirit of the music, without which, it would be very inspired, and destitute of meaning. from four fuch like notes in common time. The next mood in triple time is called three from eight, becaufe each bar contains three quavers, whereas a bar in common time contains eight, which is the amount of one femibreve; and in all moods of time, both in vocal and inftrumental mufic, the femibreve is the meafure note; therefore by obferving the figures, you may tell how much is included in a bar, in any mood of time whatever, for the upper figure tells what quantity of notes is contained in a bar, but it does not tell what fort of notes, whether they are minums, crotchets, quavers, or femiquavers; but the under figure tells how many notes of the fame fort is required to make one femibreve : Take this inftance, fuppofe the time to be marked thus $\frac{6}{4}$, the upper figure fignifies that there are fix notes of fome fort included in each bar, and the under figure will determine them to be crotchets, becaufe four crotchets amount to one femibreve. N. B. You may depend upon the infallibility of this rule in any mood of time whatever.

Scholar. I think this is very plain; and now Sir, I want to know where to rank these moods of time called 6 to 4, and 6 from 8, whether in common or triple time?

Mafter. I think it is neither common time, nor triple time, but composed of both; yet it must be beat as common time, viz. three quavers down, and three up; for if you beat it as triple time, it is fynonimous with three from four, there being the fame quantity of notes included in a bar: but although the bars are filled in the fame manner, yet there is as much difference between $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ as there is between any two moods whatfoever: for in $\frac{3}{4}$ the accent falls but once in a bar, in $\frac{6}{8}$ it falls twice in a bar; and it is impossible to beat $\frac{6}{8}$ as triple time without confounding the fense of the time and tune: and if any are in doubt of the truth of this affertion, I advise them to try the experiment.

Scholar. If common time is measured by even numbers why is not $\frac{6}{8}$ entirely of the Binary species?

Master. This mood of time marked thus, $\frac{6}{8}$, fimply confidered, may be called common time, but in diffecting the bar, the first division falls out in threes, which makes it partake of the Trinary; the subdivision is likewise uneven, and that mood which will not bear dividing without partaking of the other scannot properly be called either Binary, or Trinary, neither can it be faid to be neuter because it partakes largely of the beautics of both.

Scholar. How much quicker, or flower, must a strain be sung for a quick, or flow term being set over it; for it feems to be a matter of uncertainty and sometimes occasions a great deal of dispute?

Master.

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Maßer. I dont know what other authors may intend, but I fhould be glad to have fuch ftrains, performed one fourth part quicker or flower; for if it is not reduced to a matter of certainty, it may occasion not only a great deal of difpute but also a great deal of confusion, and most practitioners who are not thorough masters of time, are very apt to drive the time, especially in the Allegro mood.

Scholar. Sir, I fhould be glad to know whether the grace of transition should be always used in tuning thirds up and down ?

Master. Where the time of the notes will admit of it, I am very fond of the notes being graced by founding the intermediate note, which ferves for a flair for the performer to flep up or down upon; but where the notes are but a half beat in length, you must not firike the intermediate note, because the two outfide notes are fo fhort, that if you fpend any time upon the intermediate note, it makes them found like notes tied together, in threes, which is very false, and entirely spoils the *air*; but where you meet with such notes, you must firike them as diffined and emphatic as if a mark of diffined over their heads.

Scholar. Sir, I want to know the effential difference between a flat key, and a fharp key?

Master. You will find that the third above the flat key, contains but three semitones, and the third above the sharp key, contains four semitones.*

Scholar. Sir, I fhould be glad to know which key you think is beft; the flat, or the fharp key?

Master. I believe your question would puzzle the greatest philosopher, or practitioner, upon earth; for there are fo many excellent pieces on each key, that we are apt to fall in with a certain man, who heard two very eminent lawyers plead in opposition to each other; after the first had done speaking, the man was so charmed with his eloquence and oratory, that he thought it would be an idle (as well as a rash) attempt for any one to gainfay, or contradict him; but when he had heard the second, he faid, that his reasons were so nervous and weighty, he was about to give him the preference; upon which the first made so forcible a reply, that the man knew not what to say, at last he concluded they were both best. Similar to this, let us suppose ourselves to be auditors to a company of musicians;

^{*} To the above definition this might be added, viz. that the flat key has its leffer fixth, and feventh, rifing above the key note; and the fharp key has its greater fixth and feventh, rifing above the key note; but as these are circumflances which mult take place in confequence of the former, they are suppost to be included in the above answer.

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cians : how enraptured should we be to hear the sharp key, express itself in such lofty and majestic strains as these! O come let us fing unto the Lord, let us make a joyful noife, to the rock of our falvation; let us come before his prefence with thank fgiving, and make a joyful noife unto him with pfalms. Sing unto the Lord all the earth, make a loud noife, re-joice and fing praise! Do I hear the voice of men, or angels! furely fuch angelic founds cannot proceed from the mouths of finful mortals : but while we are yet warm with the thought, and ravished with the found, the mulicians change their tone, and the flat * key utters itself in strains fo moving, and pathetic, that it seems at least to command our attention to fuch mournful founds as these : Hear my prayer O Lord, give ear to my fupplication, hear me fpeedily : O Lord my fpirit faileth, hide not thy face from me; O my God, my foul is caft down within me. Have pity upon me, O ye my friends, for the hand of God hath touched me. O how these founds thrill through my foul ! how agreeably they affect my nerves ! how foft, how fweet, how foothing ! methinks these founds are more expressive than the other, for they affect us both with pleasure and pain, but the pleasure is so great it makes even pain to be pleasant, so that for the fake of the pleafure, I could forever bear that pain. But hark ! what fhout is that? It feems the fharp key is again upon the wing towards heaven ; jealous, perhaps, that we pay too much deference to his rival : he not only defires, but commands us to join in fuch exalted strains at these. Rejoice in the Lord, and again I fay, rejoice, O clap your hands all ye people, fhout unto God with the voice of triumph; God is gone up with a fhout, the Lord with the found of a trumpet; fing praifes to God, fing praifes, fing praifes unto our King, fing praifes. What an ecftacy of joy may we suppose the Royal Author to be in when he composed this Pfalm of praise! perhaps it might be some such that the found of the second as this, that expelled the evil fpirit, and I with it might expel fome of the evil spirits in these days, who are averse to hearing God's praises fung, in such a manner as the Pfalmist has here pointed out : but I would refer such persons to King David, for their character, who fays, they are like the deaf adder, who floppeth her ear, and will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never fo wifely. But to return, you fee the extreme difficulty, and almost impossibility of giving the preference to either of these keys, both of which are so agreeable to our natures, and are so excellent that

[•] I take this opportunity to make this remark, viz. the impropriety of fetting a Hallelujab in a flat key; the reader may observe, that the import of the word is, Praife ye the Lord. —Query, is it not very inconfissent to praife the Lord, in tones which are plaintive and prayerful ? for certainly the words and the music, must contradict each other. N. B. This errour I confess myself guilty of in a former publication, but upon more mature reflection, I heartily wish it were in my power to erase it.

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that they feem to excel each other; * for when we are juft about to declare ourfelves in favour of one, the other comes and pleads its own caufe fo powerfully upon our nerves, that it not only ftaggers, but fometimes fets us quite befide our purpofe; for the one is fo fublime, fo grand, and fo majeftic, + the other, fo foft, fo foothing, fo pathetic; in fact, the key which comes laft feems to be the beft, and generally leaves the greateft imprefion. Hiftory gives us an account very fimilar to this in the Life of Alexander the Great, viz. that while he was fitting at table (calmly and quietly) his mufician would ftrike upon a majeftic ftrain on the fharp key, founding to arms, to arms, to arms, in fuch animating and commanding founds, that the king being filled with martial rage, would ftart from table, draw his fword, and be juft about to fally forth, in order to flay his enemies, when none were near him; but even while martial fury had the afcendency over reafon, the muficians would change the key, and play fuch moving and melting airs; viz. Darius is fall'n, fall'n, fall'n, that the king (being melted into pity) would let his fword drop out of his hand, fit down and weep heartily for him, whofe deftruction he had been always feeking, and whofe ruin he had but juft accomplifhed. For my own curiofity I have been very critical in my obfervations, and very induftrious in my inquiries, and I find that moft men who are lovers of mufic, are affected in the fame manner (though not often to fuch a degree) as Alexander was; but at the fame time, if all, who are lovers of mufic, were to decide the point by vote, I am pofitive the flat key would have the preference by a great majority.

Scholar. Sir, I do not well understand you, for you have but just given it as your opinion, that the two keys, were to most men equally pleasing ; therefore I should be glad to hear you explain yourself further.

Master. When I spoke in that manner, I meant to confine the observation to the male fex : but you may take it for granted, that the female part of the creation are much the greatest lovers of music; for I scarcely ever met with one but what was more or less entertained with musical founds, and I am very positive that nine tenths of them

are

• It is probable that at the first glance, this may appear inconfistent, viz. that any two things opposed should be faid to excel each other; but I prefume (upon fecond thought) all who are judges of music will allow that the sharp and the flat key are to excellent each in its own way, that confidering them in this light, though so different, they may (without any impropriety) be faid to excel each other.

+ I think it may not be amils to rank the fharp key (by reason of its majesty and grandeur) in the masculine, and flat key (by reason of its softness and effeminacy) in the femenine gender; and all indifferent pieces, which are of no force in either key, may (with contempt) be ranked in the neuter.

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are much more pleafed and entertained with a flat, than a fharp air ; and I make no doubt, but that the mufical world (if upon reading what I have now afferted, they fhould be induced to make fome obfervations that way) muft unavoidably fall into my opinion.

Scholar. Sir, I dont well understand the transposition of keys, or the removal of B-mi from one place to another; I should be glad to have it explained.

Master. In the first place, Mi is in B, and now the question is, where is B? and that you must find out by the cliffs; and you will find it to be the next letter but two above the F cliff, the next letter below the C cliff, and the next letter but one above the G cliff; fo that for inftance, suppose the G cliff, to be on the lower line but one, then B-mi is on the middle line, and in that cafe you must always suppose it to be there; but if there is a flat * fet on B, it removes it to E; that is, B is then where E was, when B was on the middle line; and E is removed into the place of fome other letter in order to make room for B; for when B removes, all the other letters must move with it, like fo many attendants; fo that when B is in the place of E, C being always one letter higher, must consequently be in the place of F, and A being one letter below, B must be in the place of D; fo that you fee by placing a flat or B the whole scale is removed either a fourth higher than what it was before; or a fifth below. The next remove is effected by adding another flat, and that must be put on the place where B-mi is, viz. on E, and that removes B into the place of A, and in order to make room for B, A modefully steps down into the place of G; and here you fee the remove is either a fourth above, or a fifth below : the next remove is by placing another flat on A, and that removes B into the place of D, and this remove is either a fourth above, or fifth below; fo you fee placing a flat on the place where B flands, always removes it either a fourth above, or a fifth below. The next remove is by placing a fharp on F, which draws B out of its native place into its own place, which removes it either a fifth above, or a fourth below; the next remove is made by placing a fharp on C, which draws B out of F into C, and this remove is either a fifth aabove, or fourth below; the next remove is made by placing a fliarp on G, which draws B out of C into G, and this remove is either a fifth above, or a fourth below : thele are all the removes of B-mi : and I would have you observe, that

^{*} The reason why B is the first letter flatted, is, because it is the sharpest tone in the whole octave, and E is the next sharpest tone, and A the next, and fo on as they are laid down in the rules of transposition : and the reason why F is first sharped, is, because it is the flattest tone in the whole octave, C is the next, G is the next, &c. For it is a maxim with multicians to flat the sharpest tones first, and sharp the flattest.

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that by inferting a flat you drive B either a *fourth* higher, or a *fifth* lower; whereas by inferting a fharp, it is just the contrary, for that draws B either a *fifth* higher, or a *fourth* lower; and I would have you take notice that flats drive B out of any letter, and fharps draw it into any letter; for inftance, fuppole B to be on the middle line, then by placing a flat on the middle line, you drive B into E, then by placing a flat on E, you drive B into A, then by placing a flat on A, you drive A into D; on the other hand, by placing a fharp on F, you draw B into F, then by placing a fharp on C, you drive B into C, then by placing a fharp on G, you draw B into G; fo you fee the laft fharp always carries B with it, whereas the laft flat always drives B from it; and that is the reason why flats are faid to drive, and fharps to draw. The Poet expresses it thus:

" By flats the mi is driven round,

" Till forc'd on B to ftand its ground.

"By fharps the mi's led through the keys,

" Till brought home to its native place."

You must likewise remember that where Mi is, there is B; for fa, fol, la, mi, are only other names for the letters, but when you pitch a tune by a pitch pipe, you must draw out the pipe to the key note, without paying any regard to transposition, that is, if the key note stands upon the G-fol-re-ut line although G is removed to some other place, by the transposition of B-mi, yet it is always confidered as in its native place on a pitch pipe, and so are all the other letters, unless there is a flat or sharp set on the letter the tune is pitched on, which railes it, or lowers it a semitone; thus you fee, that no tune can end on any other letter but C, or A, for when B-mi is removed to any other place in the salways the next letter under it, and C, the next letter above it; and I have told you clfewhere that your tune must always end one note above, or one note below B-mi, which brings the key always into C or A.

Scholar. Sir, I do not fee the neceffity of transposing B-mi from one place to another, for if the tune must always end on A or C, I do not fee any great difference between a tune that is fet in its native place and one that is transposed, and I am fure it would be much easier for the learner if it was always confined to one place.

Master. The transpoling of B-mi oftentimes ferves to keep the tune more in the compals of the five lines, than it could possibly be, if B-mi stood in its native place, and likewise gives a variety of airs. For any one who is acquainted xxvi [26]

quainted with mufic will allow that a fharp key tune ending on D, is much more fprightly and expresses a fhout better than one which ftands on C; fo likewife, a flat key tune ending on G is more pensive and melancholy, than one which ftands on A, and every letter has its own peculiar air, which air is very much hurt if the tune is not rightly pitched; for inftance, if a tune is fet on A natural, and in pitching the tune, you fet it a tone too low, you transpose the key into G, which is perhaps quite different from the intention of the author, and oftentimes very destructive to the harmony, for there is a certain pitch for every tune where it will go fmoother and pleasanter than it would on any other letter whatfoever.

Scholar. Sir, I think I have read in some authors, that if the performers can sound the highest and lowest note in a tune clear, the tune may be faid to be well pitched.

Master. There is no general rule without some exceptions, and I think in this rule there is room for a very great one, for perhaps in a company of singers, one may be able to strike feveral notes above G-fol-re-ut in Alt, another perhaps can strike double B in the Bass; now can that tune always be faid to be well pitched, because these two extraordinary voices can strike the two extreme notes? So far from it, that by this rule there is room to pitch the tune perhaps five or fix notes too high, or too low.

Scholar. Sir, I should be glad to know what rule I am to be governed by in this cafe.

Master. The best general rule I know of, is, to set the tune on the * letter the author has set it, unless he has given directions to the contrary; for it is to be supposed that any one, who has skill enough to compose a piece of music, has likewise judgment enough to set it on a proper key. But although this rule is good in general, yet it is not infallible; for oftentimes the greatest masters of composition set some of their pieces too high or too low, which you will some difference by making yourself masters of the tune.

Scholar. Sir, I want to know if there are not some principal or dominant tones besides the key note which serve to regulate the rest?

Master. In the first place, you must pay great attention to the key note, and the found of B-mi which constitutes the key note, and causes it to be either flat or † sharp; the next principal tone to be regarded, is the third above the key

* The utility of that little infrument, called a *Pirch Pipe*, is fo univerfally known and acknowledged, that it would be needlefs for me to engrofs the reader's time in proving a thing which is already granted.

+ It may not be amils here to trace this matter back to the fountain head, viz. the *cliffs*, for the *cliffs* afcertain the place of B-mit, and B-mi conflitutes the key note, and that determines the tones above or below it to be either flat or fharp, according to the Icale.

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key note, which contains a great part of the true air of the tune, for by the found of the *third*, we are enabled to tell whether the key is flat or fharp; another principal tone is the *fixth* above the key note, which is either flat or fharp, according to the key of the tune; for the *fixth* above A, the natural flat key, contains but eight femitones, viz. from A to F, which is a flat and melancholy found; whereas the *fixth* above C, the natural flarp key, contains nine femitones, viz. from C to A, which is very martial and fprightly, and I think is almost as great a mark of diffinction as the *third* • the *feventh* is likewife a guide in this cafe, for the *feventh* above the flat key contains but ten femitones, whereas the *feventh* above the flat key contains but ten femitones, whereas the *feventh* above the flat key contains but ten femitones, whereas the *feventh* above the flat peventh is included in the *fourth* above the flat key as there is above the flarp, viz. from A to D is five femitones, and from C to F is five femitones : the *fifth* is no guide in this cafe, for the famitones are included in the fifth above the flat, as there are above the flarp key, viz. from A to E is feven femitones, and trom C to G is feven femitones : the *offave* is no guide at all in this cafe, for every *offave* contains twelve femitones.

N. B. Experience will teach you that great advantages will arife from these observations.

Scholar. Sir, I have observed in a sharp key tune, most people are apt to strike B-mi too sharp, so as to make but little distinction between B-mi and C-fa; can you render any reason for it?

Master. I believe it is the power of attraction in the key note, which is naturally very drawing. A proof of this you may observe in a flat key tune, where the note before the close flands on G fol, which is a whole tone below the key; but it is so natural to flarp it, that it seems to be doing violence to nature to fluke it without the flarp; and I prefume all masters of music, both vocal and inftrumental, will allow this to be fact, and as a further proof of what I have afferted, you may observe that B-mi is easy to flrike in a flat key, and to is G-fol, in a flarp key.

Scholar. Sir, I have obferved that ftrangers who are well fkilled in the rules of mufic, do not harmonize fo well at first trial, as those who are better acquainted with each others voices; I cannot conceive the reason, for I always thought the rule was so extensive and infallible as to cause as much harmony between those who never so the reason, er before, as between those who were intimately acquainted with each others voices.

Mafter. Strangers often difagree about the grace of transition, or fliding from one note to another, especially in turning thirds, for some will lean very hard upon the intermediate note, and some will not touch it at all, but will leap

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leap from one note to another as they would in a fourth, or any other diffance; but they oftener diffagree about the emphatical notes in the tune, for fome authors confine the emphatical or accented notes to the first part of the bar, both in common and triple time, and fome lay the emphasis on the first and third parts of the bar, in common time, and fome others let them fall where they may happen, without any reftraint at all; but it is much the best way (1 think) to lay the emphasis on the first part of the bar in triple time, and on the first and third parts of the bar in common time, though fometimes it is very difficult for the composer to accent the bars without losing the air, especially in fuging music;* but if the air can be preferved, and the bars properly accented also, it discovers much more ingenuity in the composer, and adds a greater lustre to the composition, and it would likewife have a tendency

to

* It is an old maxim, and I think a very juft one, viz. that wariety is always pleafing, and it is well known that there is more variety in one piece of fuging mulic, than in twenty pieces of plain fong, for while the tones do molt fweetly coincide and agree, the words are feemingly engaged in a mulicat warfare; and excufe the paradox if I turther add, that each part feens determined by dint of harmony and ftrength of accent, to drown his competitor in an ocean of harmony, and while each part is thus mutually fliving for maftery, and tweetly contending for victory, the audience are molt tuxurioufly entertained, and exceedingly delighted; in the mean time, their minds are furprizingly agitated, and extremely fluctuated; fometimes declaring in favour of one part, and fometimes another.—Now the folemum bafs demands their attention, now the manly tenor, now the lofty counter, now the volatile treble, now here, now there, now here again.—O inchanting 1 O ecftatic 1 Pufh on, pufh on ye fons of harmony, and

Difcharge your deep mouth'd canon, full fraught with Diapatons ; May you with Maeilofo, rufh on to Choro-Grando,

May you with Maenolo, rull on to Choro-Grando

And then with Vigorofo, let fly your Diapentes

About our nervous system.

An EJACULATION of Philo FUGING.

Grant I befeech thee, O Apollo, that thefe thy devotees may never want competitors, and let thefe thy fugers be unanimoufly difagreed, and fweetly irreconcilable.---

Hark 1 Hark 1 hear the voice of reafon, who in difguife has attended through the whole controverfy, and thus fhe addreffes the contending parties. "Give over your fruitlefs endeavours, ye fons of Confonance, and no longer attempt impoffibilities, for we have heard with our ears, and our auditory nerves have informed us, that the author of this composition has ingenioufly turned all your efforts for alcendency into the right channel, fo that all your extraordinary exertions for fupremacy, has but a tendency to animate and ftimulate your rival competitors; therefore we do, by and with the advice of the author, both counfel and command that (for the prefent) you let all mifical hoffilities fubfide, and it is our royal will and pleafure, that your thirds and fourths, your fixths and tenths, be refolved into the unifon and octave, the twelfth and fifteenth from the bafs.

By the command of REASON,

The Author, Secretary.

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to bring ftrangers to a better agreement about using Forte and Piano, to that one voice would not be to apt to fwallow up the other, as is fometimes the cafe, when they are at a lofs about accenting.*

Scholar.

" But fays the critic. Ah | well, what fays the critic? "I think, Mr. Author, your precept is excellent, and your preclice but indifferent, for in your New England Pfalm Singer, you feen to take but little notice of either emphafis or accent, and whether the reafon is founded either upon ignorance or inattention, I am not able to determine, but I am rather inclined to think the former." Hark you, Mr. Critic, a word in your ear, hear and be aftonifled, and let me affure you, upon the word and honour of an author, that what I am about to confess is neither ambiguous nor ironical, but you may depend upon my fincerity, when I acknowledge, I was fool enough to commence author before I really underftood either tune, time, or concord. "Indeed, this from your heart." This from my very foul. "Amazing, what condefeenfich is this, in an author of your popularity? But fure, Mr. Author, you do not intend to publish this acknowledgement to the world." O, by no means, as I told you before, this is only a word in your ear. "But if my opticks inform me right. I faw this fame conteffion inferted, verbatim, in a dialogue between you and your pupil, how then do you fuppofe it poffible to conceal it from the world, when it is typically conveyed to every reader." Softly Sir, not quite to loud, if my pupil (who is hard by) should chance to hear your interrogation or my confettion, his great opinion of my infallibility, would be entirely deftroyed, and inflead of respect for my knowledge, he would, no doubt, flow his contempt of my ignorance, and he might alfo (with great propriety) express his indignation at my impudence in attempting to inftruct him in a fcience of which I have confedered myfelf entirely ignorant; although fuch teachers are no novelty, yet no doubt the confequences to me would be this; the lofs of my character, which would be attended with the lofs of my bufinefs, and confequently the lofs of my bread; therefore Sir, in the name of charity, I muft entreat you not to be fo clamorous. "But indeed, Mr. Author, your manner of anfwering my laft queftion is very foreign from the purpole, and entirely evalue; but I am refolved your equivocation thall not excute you from anfwering this concite quettion. How do you expect to keep private, what you have already made public?" I do not intend to have it inferted in the body of the work, but by way of whifper in a marginal note, and I intend to order the printer to print it on a very fmall type, in an objeure part of the book, and as near the bottom of the page as polible. I suppose, Mr. Critic, I need not inform you that all readers may be divided into these two classes, viz. the curious and incurious; the curious reader, by peruling this work, will (without this information of mine) be taily fatisfied that the composition is both inaccurate and indifferent : therefore, as I tell him no more than he knew before, my popularity will not be diminified by this frank confession; but if he has a spark of generosity, he will beflow large encombines both on my honefly and modefly; and if he does not (I fill further confefs) I shall be prodigiously chargeneed, and confoundedly difappointed. As to the incurious readers (by way of gratitude) I confels they are a fet of people I have a great respect for ; because they constitute the greater part of my admirers ; and as they feldom trouble themfelves with marginal notes (unlefs forme Type Mafter General should be fo illoatured as to inform against me) they would be none the wifer, and (by this artful evaluon) I prefume I shall be none the worfe for this honeft declaration And now Sir, in my turn, I thall take it upon me (however you may receive it) to interrogate you. Pray Sir, how came you to impertimently officious in your criticilins upon me ? You syllable catcher, if you are but half to honeft as I am condefcending, you will acknowledge I have made game out of your own band, and beat you at your own weapons) You comma hunter, did I not inform you that I intended to difcharge you from my fervice, and do my own drudgery; and now Mr. Semi-critic, once more I command you to quit my Conforance, with the velocity of a Demifemi; and

> If you ever be to hardy as to traverfe my Quartas, Or fcore off your Eptachords with my Diapatons, I folemnly protect,

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Scholar. Sir, I want to know your opinion of a fourth, for as fome call it a concord, and fome a difcord, and as I have observed it to be very much used in composition, I am at a loss where to rank it.

Master. I think Mr. Walker is the only author I ever read, who is fo fond of a fourth, as to call it a concord, for a fourth, fimply confidered, without dispute is a discord * (at least to my ear) though not so harsh and disagreeable as a fecond or a feventh, for the harfh found of a fourth may be fo mollified and fweetened by a fifth and an eighth, as to induce those, who are led more by the ear than by the understanding, to think that the three founds were all perfect concords to each other; for instance, let one note struck on the F faut cliff in the bass, another on C faut in the tenor, which is a fifth from the bass, and another on F faut in the counter, which is an eighth from the bass, and a fourth from the tenor, these three founds harmonize almost as well as any three founds in nature; but if you take away the bass you mar all the music, because in taking away the bass you take off the fifth and the eighth, which is produced

By the graveness of Adagio, and vivacity of Allegro, The Forte of my Canon well charg'd with Septi Nonas, Shall greet your Auditory with terrible Senfations, And fill you with tremor. I'll beat your empty bars in the twinkle of a pendulum, By way of Syncopation I'll fcore your composition, And with a fingle Solo I'll clofe up your Chorus In tacitnels eternal.

* Although it is generally supposed by philosophers that the more frequent the coincidences the more agreeable the concord, yet Mr. Martin (in his Philosophical Grammar) fays, " there is fomething elfe befides the frequency of coincidences, which conflitute a concord," otherwife a fourth would have the preference to a greater third, which is contrary to experience.

+ The utility of the bafs is as confricuous in this example, as it can poffibly be, for by taking away one note you take away two concords, which were not only concords in themfelves, but by their joint force they converted a difford into a concord; and in order to illustrate this point fill more fully, you may felest out one of the beft tunes that was ever composed, and let the upper parts perform without the bass, the noife wou'd be almost intolerable, but, vice versa, let one of the upper parts be taken off and the bass fubsitived in its flead, the concert would be agreeable, although it would be diminished from a full chorus. And here it may not be amifs to inform the reader that in a concert of four parts, with their octaves, there is a great number of chords, or harmonious tones flruck at the fame time; I have heard between twenty and thirty different tones flruck from the four parts, and their octaves; but time would fail me to infift largely upon this fubject, for if a man (Briarious like) had a hundred hands, and a pen in each hand, the ages of all men fron) Adam down to the prefent day, multiplied together, would be too little to comment at large upon this fubject, and I think I may fafely defy all the mathematicians in the universe, to calculate the number of coincidences and vibrations which take place at one and the fame instant of time, for there is fomething magical in it, and out of the reach of human art. Dr. Biles expresses it very beautifully and emphatically in the following Lines,

44 Then rolls the rapture through the air around, " In the full magic melody of found."

produced by the bafs and tenor, and bafs and counter, and leave only the fourth, which is produced by the tenor and counter, and I would advife those perfons who are fo fond of a fourth, to try this method, and if, after that, they ftill continue of the fame mind, I shall be induced to think that one found is almost as agreeable to them as another. Scholar. Sir, I should be glad to know whether you have any particular rule for introducing discords, in musical composition; I think you fay that you have not tied yourself to any rules laid down by others, and I want to know whether you have formed a fet of rules in your own mind, by which you are governed in some measure.

Mafter. Mufical composition is a fort of fomething, which is much better felt than defcribed, (at leaft by me) for if I was to attempt it, I should not know where to begin or where to leave off; therefore confidering myself to unable to perform it, I shall not undertake the task; but in answer to your question, although I am not confined to rules preferibed by others, yet I come as near as I possibly can to a fet of rules which I have carved out for myself; but when fancy gets upon the wing, the feems to despise all form, and feorns to be confined or limited by any formal preferiptions whatsoever; for the first part is nothing more than a flight of fancy, the other parts are forced to comply and conform to that, by partaking of the fame air, or, at least, as much of it as they can get: But by reason of this reftraint, the last parts are feldom fo good as the first; for the fecond part is subservient to the first, the third part must conform to first and second, and the fourth part must conform to the other three; therefore the grand difficulty in composition, is to preferve the air through each part separately, and yet cause them to harmonize with each other at the fame time.

Scholar. Which of the concords is moft uleful in compolition?

Master. I believe the third is the most in use of any concord in nature, for it feldom comes amils; the fixth is also in great request, but it does not so often take place between the tenor and bass, as between the tenor and counter, tenor and treble, counter and treble, &c. But in my opinion the oftave to a greater third, viz. a tenth, is the grandest concord in nature; the fifth is by far the sweetes, but not so durable as the tenth, because it is so lussions and fulfome that it is apt to cloy, and that I suppose to be one reason which forbids two of them from succeeding each other, either rising or falling; the same may be said of two eighths. I believe most people think that a unifon is very easily flruck; but I would have them keep this truth in mind, viz. if one voice vibrates a thousand times in a fecond, and the other nine hundred and ninety nine, they are not in unifor.

Scholar.

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Scholar. Sir, I fhould be glad to know which you think is to be preferred in a finger, a good voice or a good ear. Mafter. A good ear is as much preferable to a good voice, as good eye fight is to a good looking glafs, for the ear is governour of the voice as much as the helm is governour of the fhip; for when I attempt to firike a certain found, my ear informs me whether I am right or wrong, and if wrong, whether I am too high or too low; without which information, I fhould not be able to fing one tune, nor firike one note rightly, but by mere chance, for any one that has not a mufical ear* is no better judge of mufical founds, than a blind man is of colours, and you may take it for granted, that any one who has a curious ear, with an indifferent voice, will harmonize much better in concert, than one who has an excellent voice with an indifferent ear.

Scholar. Have you ever heard it observed what part of this globe is most productive of musical performers.

Master. I have often heard it remarked by travellers, that the people who live near the torrid zone, are in general more mulical than thole who border upon the frigid. I have made one observation which induces me to believe this remark to be juft, viz. the blacks who are brought here from Africa, are in general better conflituted for mulic, than the natives of North America; indeed nature feems to have lavishly beftowed on them, all the mechanical powers requisite to conflitue mulical performers, for they have ftrong lungs, they are remarkably long winded, they have mulical ears, and very melodious voices. N. B. This remark will not apply to blacks born in this country, for their voices are but indifferent.

Scholar. What is an Anthem?

Mafler. It is a divine \ddagger fong, generally in profe, and although I have often heard it disputed, yet I think any piece of divine music, that is not divided into metre (excepting canons and chanting pieces) may with propriety be called an Anthem.

Scholar.

• I think we may with propriety make a diffinction between those who (are faid to) have a musical ear, and those who have an ear for music; for any who are pleased and entertained with musical founds, may be said to have an ear for music, but before they can justly be said to have a musical ear, they must be able to make very nice diffinctions.

 \ddagger I have heard fome object to this definition, because it was a partial one, for they fay that all divine words when fet to music, may with propriety be called divine fongs, whether in profe or verse — In and ker, I grant that the remark is very pertinent; but as words were made to convey ideas, and different names were given to different things, for the take of diffinguishing one thing from another: I have (for the take of convenience) diffinguished Anthems from Pfalm-tunes in the manner above mentioned.

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Scholar. Why may not the Italians be deemed uncharitable who fay, that "God loves not him who loves not mufic ?"

Master. Because they well know that there are no such beings. For as our organs of fense, are differently conflructed; so our notions of fensitive things are proportionably various, and this variety gave birth to a proverb which is common among us, viz "What is one man's meat is another man's poison." Therefore the psalmodist hears music, in a composition of church music: The valuant foldier, in the found of the fife and drum, in the roaring of cannon and whistling of bullets: The fearful foldier, in the midnight cry of "all is well:" The huntsman, in the found of the horn and cry of the hounds: The ftageplayer, in the clap of applause: The centinel, in the found of "relief guard:" The merchant, in the found of cent per cent: The usurer, in the found of interest upon interest: The miser, in the found of his double jo's, moidores and guineas. To the two last mentioned, we may add another animal by far the noblest of the three, viz. the horse, who hears music, in the found of his provender, ratiling from the pottle to the trough. Therefore as music is nothing more than agreeable founds, certainly that found which is most pleasing is most musical. These things confidered; let us exclude those only who are not blest with the faculty of hearing, and then we may (without prefumption) join the Italians and fay, "God laves not them who love * not music."

Scholar. Sir, I thank you, for your kind inftructions; I think I have no more queffions to afk † at prefent, but your advice will always be gratefully received by your much obliged pupil.

Master.

• I think the Friends are the only religious feft, who exclude mufic from their devotions; but, although it is againft their principles, yet it is not always againft their conflitutions: which fometimes eccations their getting behind doors, or under windows, to gratify an itching ear—which they happened to be born with. One of this feft was once for eatholic as to allow two of her neices to attend my felicol, and I obferved that the came almoft every evening, "to fee the girls fafe home," as fine expressed it; and what is most diverting is, that the always came an hour or more before fehool broke up, and that was, as file faid, "to be there in feafon;" but her pretentions were to thin, they were eatily feen through, for if I am not much out of my conjectures, the was as highly entertained as any of the audience. And yet this woman would never acknowledge that mufic was any gratification to her, nor would the allow it to be practifed in her house. An arch Wag brought her a fiddle to play on, the refented it highly; upon which he told her the following ftory. "Once on a time all the beafts met together in order for diversion, they were all for mufic but the *Devil* and the *Afs*, chufe which you will."

+ Scholar. Farewell Preceptor 1

Master. Farewell! dear pupil, your pertinent interrogations, have sweetly extorted many remarks and digretitions from your loving preceptor; and if you are as much edified in the reception, as I was delighted, in the conveyance of these broken thints and imperiect ideas, the fatisfaction on my fide will fully compensate for all my trouble; and I take this opportunity to recommend your inquisitive turn of mind to all my pupils, for the answers edify (not only the interrogator, but) all within hearing.

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Master. I advise you to be neither too confident, nor too diffident, that is, do not be too ready to give up your argument, when your cause may be just and well grounded, and on the other hand, do not be swallowed up, in felf-will nor felf-conceit, but let your mind be always open to conviction, diligently enquiring after truth; for Solomon fays, "instruct a wise man and he will yet be wiser." Therefore you must never think yourself too wise * to be taught, nor too old to learn; but be always ready to receive instruction from any one; and I hope you will be able to fay with the Pfalmist, "I have more understanding than all my teachers." At the fame time you must not be fo taken up with the found as to neglect the fubstance, but strive to fing in the spirit as well as with the understanding : and God grant we may fo conduct ourselves here, as to be admitted into that land of Harmony, † where we may in tuneful Hosannahs and eternal Hallelujahs, Shout the REDEEMER.

THE

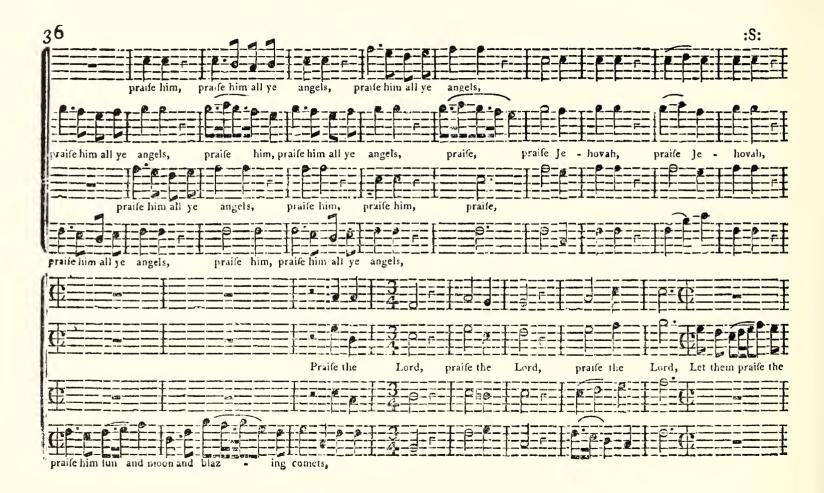
* There is a very firiking paffage recorded in Ecclefiafficus, viz. "be that is not wife will not be taught," a conclusive argument that ignorance and conceit are infeparable companions. To illustrate this more fully, take one inflance. In my mulical excursions through the country, I became acquainted with a superannuated old *Deacon*, who had officiated as chorifter in his parish upwards of thirty years fuccefively. He frequently told me, that he underflood the scale of music perfectly : and by close application and fevere fludy, he had found out that there was no half tones in nature, but that their imaginary exiftence was introduced by pedantic singing masters to keep people in ignorance in order to fleece them of their money. This fame gentleman happening to be at some distance from home was invited to attend a monthly lecture : where, without being defired, he undertook to fet the plalm, which happened to be long metre. The Deacon struck St. Martin's, " that wont do." Then New-Gloucester—" nor that." Then Wantage—" never the nearer."— He then made an effort to fing Bangor, but was fagacious enough to discover his mistake, by the time he had ended the *fecond* line. In this interval or cessation of found one of the congregation fet Buckland, which relieved the poor Deacon for that time.—After divine fervice was ended, one of his acquaintance interrogates the Deacon in the following manner. "How now ! Deacon, what a man of your vast abilities in music make fuch *intelerable* blunders t To which the Deacon (bv way of refentment) made the following reply. "Do not blame me, blame the minister, for it is vassily out of charafter in him to give out a long metre Pfalm, on a Lecture day."

> the facred fong; and waken raptures high: No one exempt, no voice but well could join Melodious part: fuch concord is in heaven."-MILTON.

ТНЕ

CONTINENTAL HARMONY, &c.

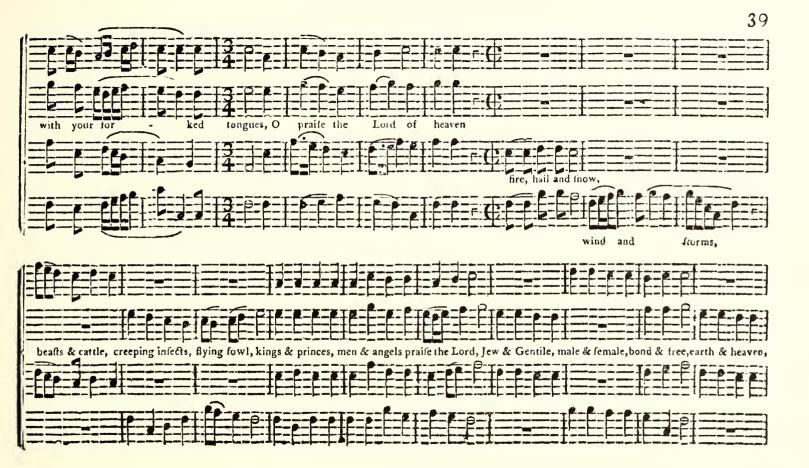






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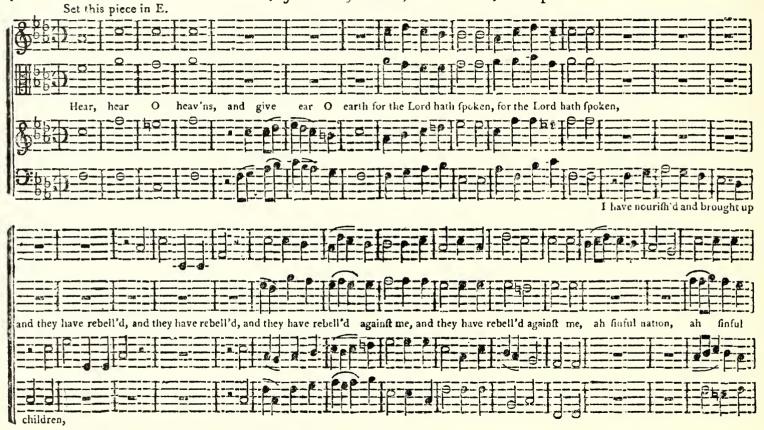




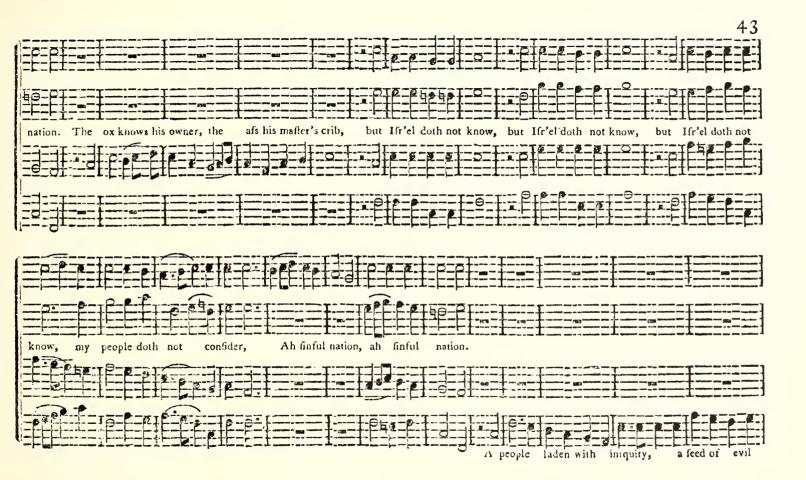




An Anthem, for Fast Day. Isaiah, Chap. 1st.

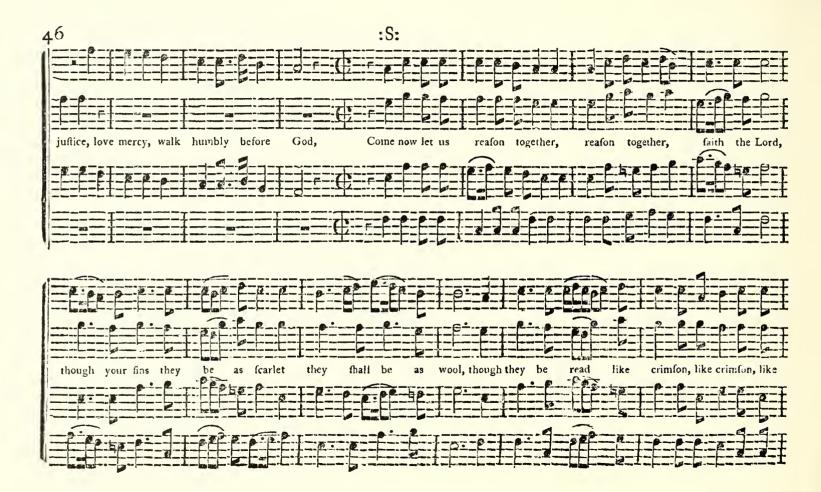


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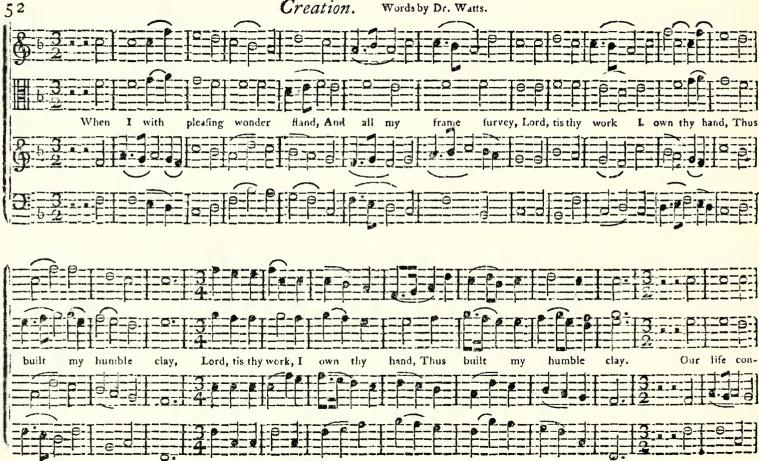




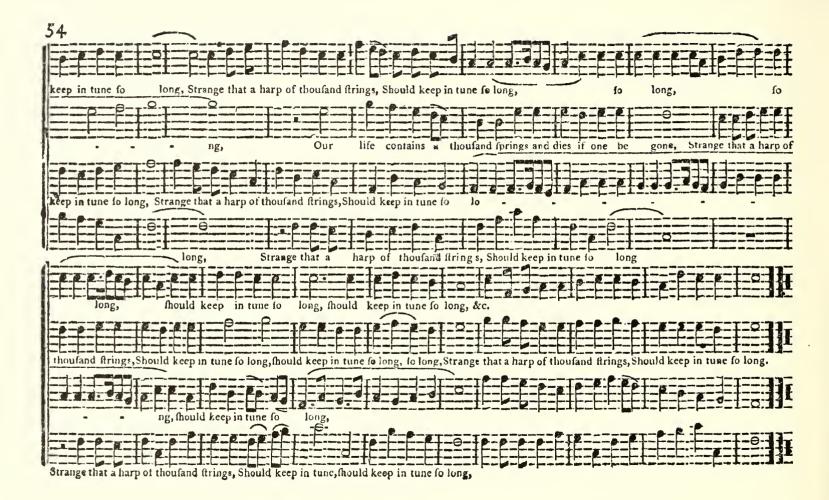




Creation. Words by Dr. Watts.

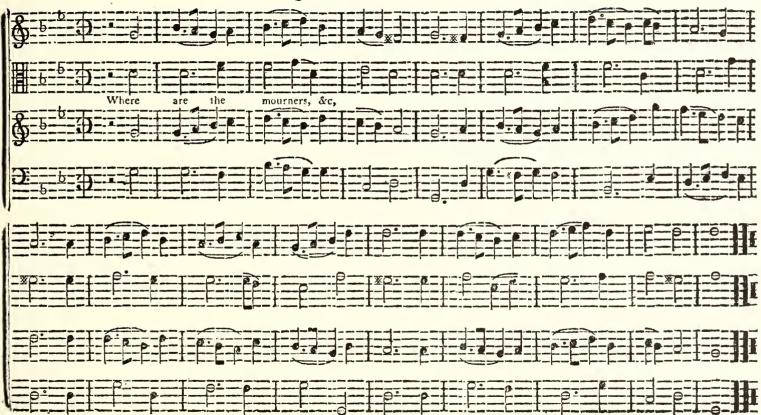




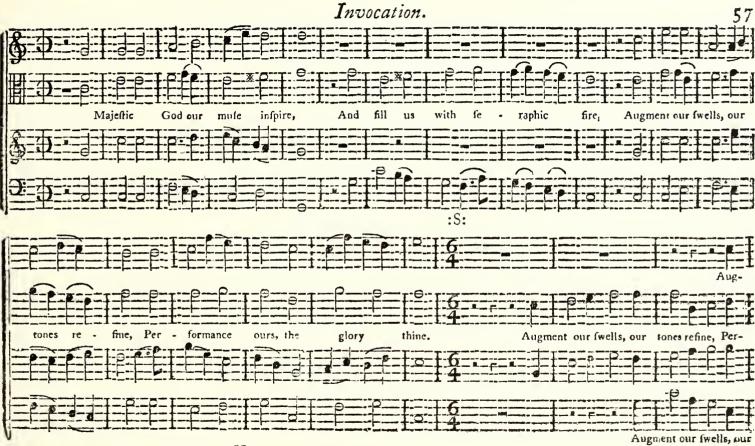


St. John's. Words by Dr. Watts.

55







Η

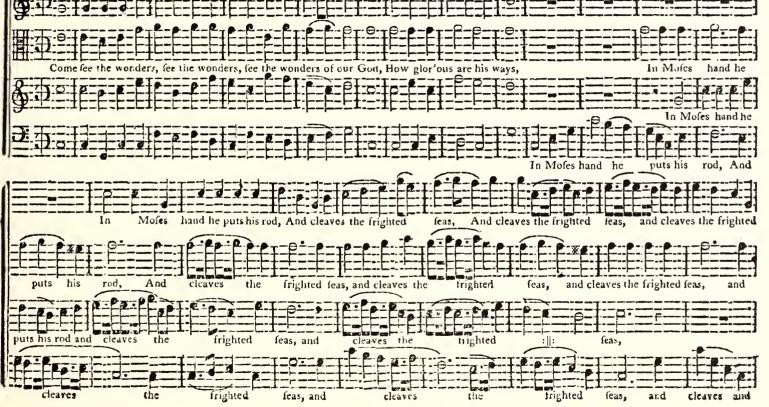






Egypt. Words by Dr. Watts. :S:

61













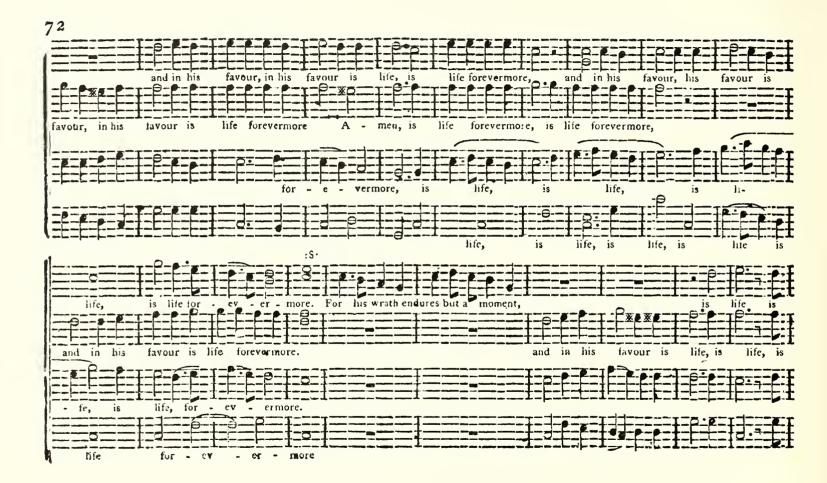








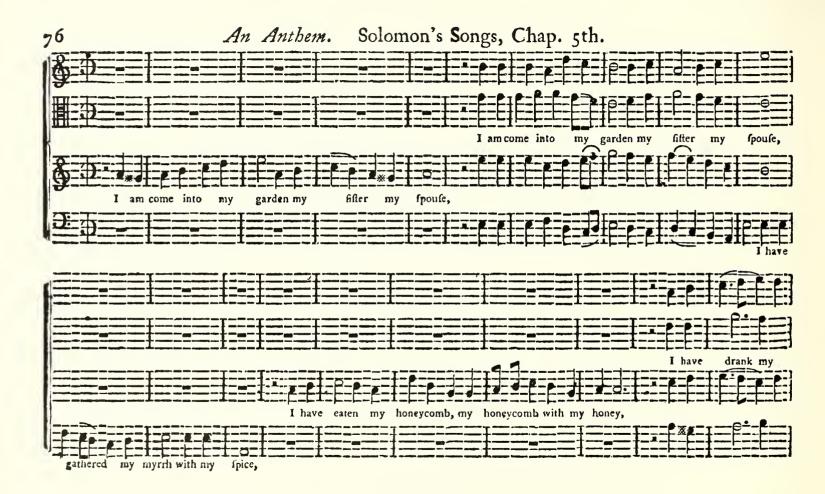




















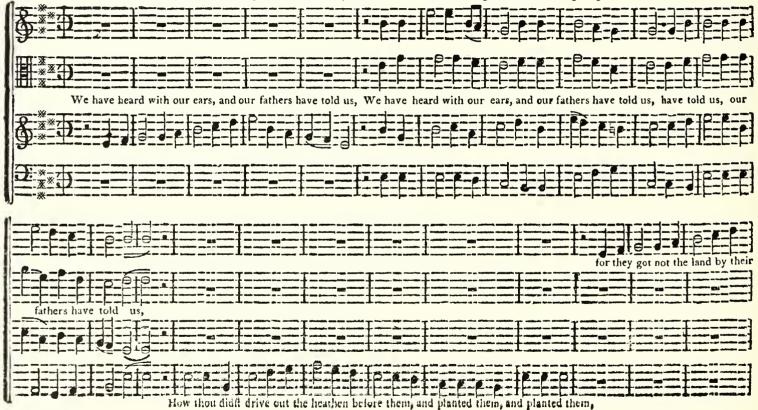


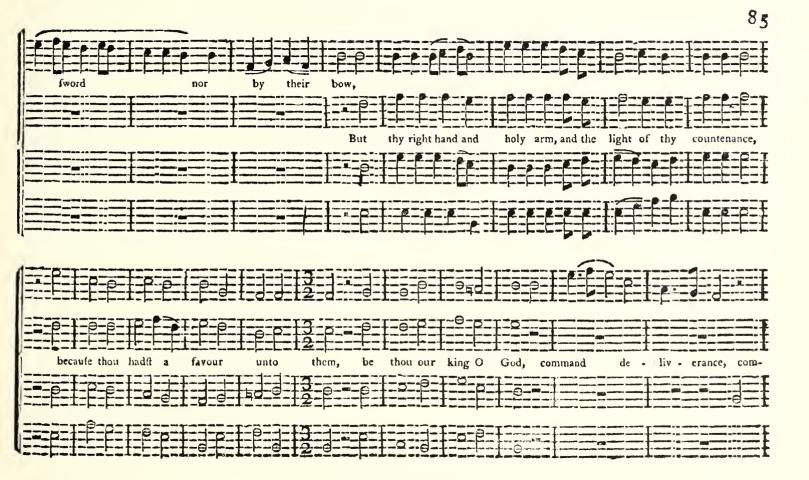


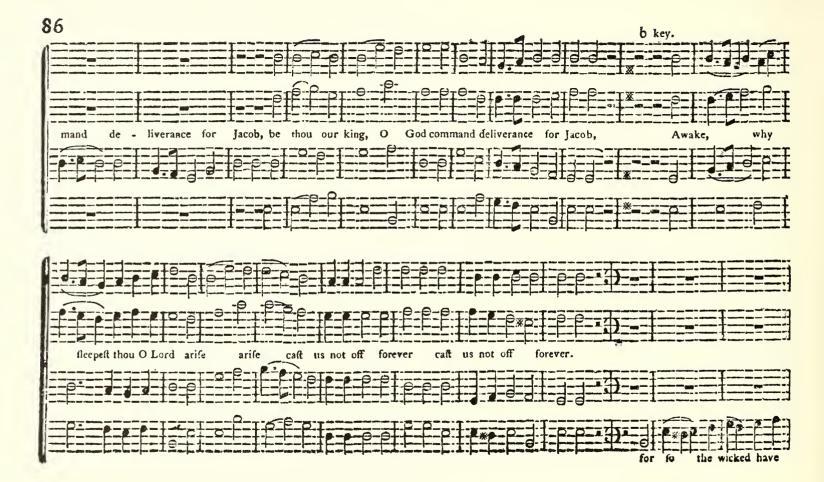


An Anthem. Pfalm 44th.

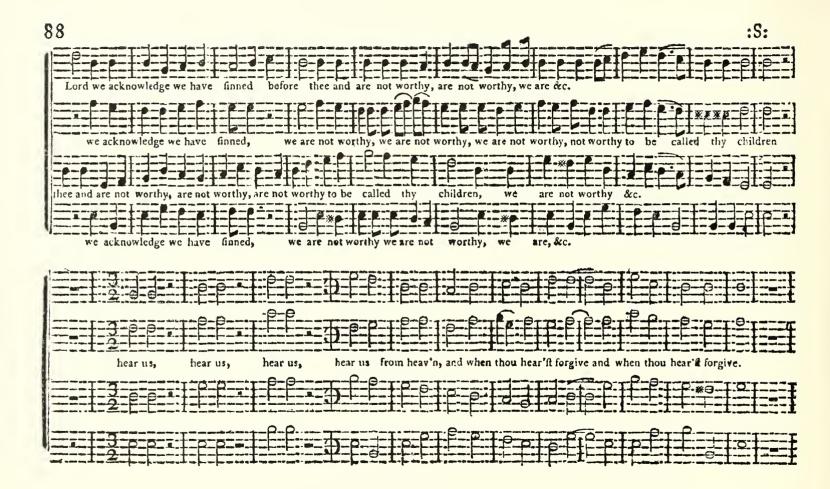
Suitable to be fung on the auniverfary of our Fore-fathers' landing, and for Thankfgiving.



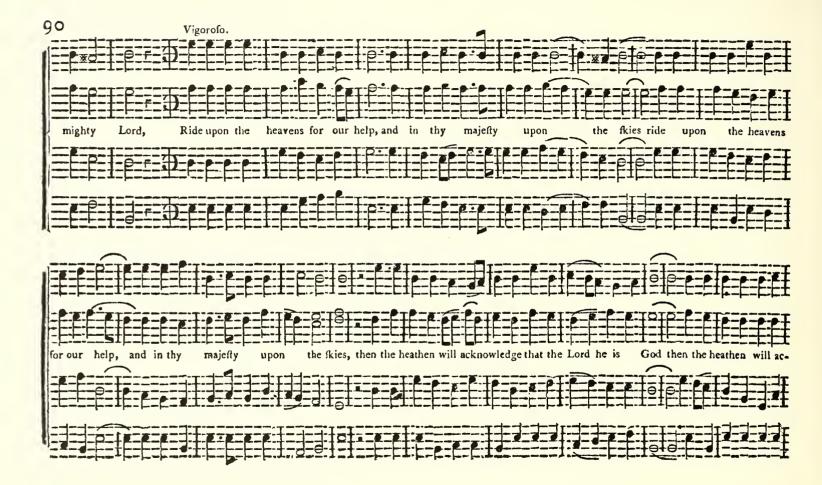






















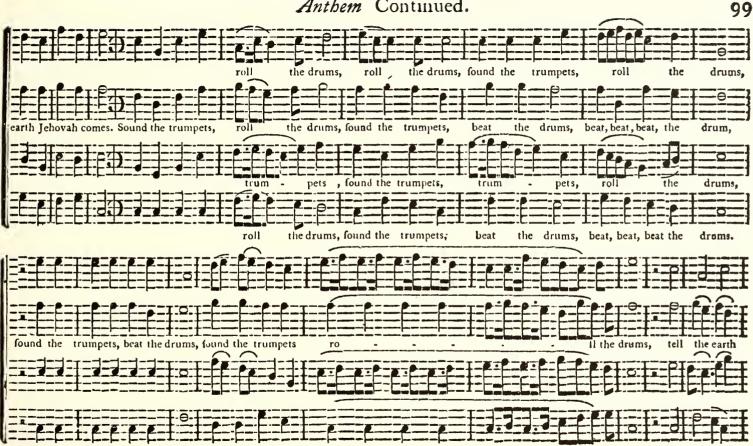




N



Anthem Continued.

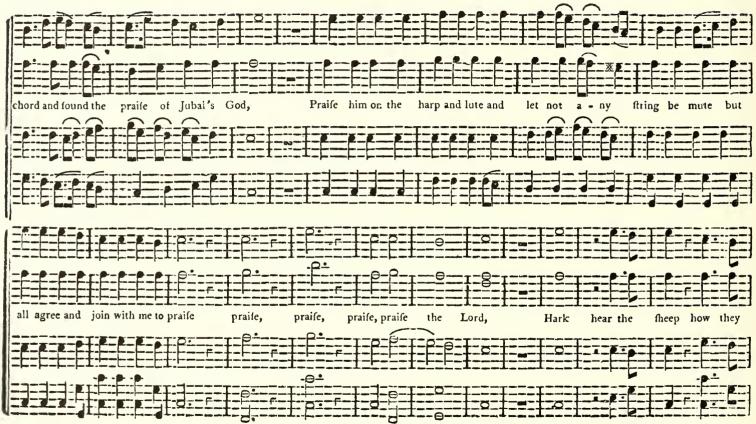


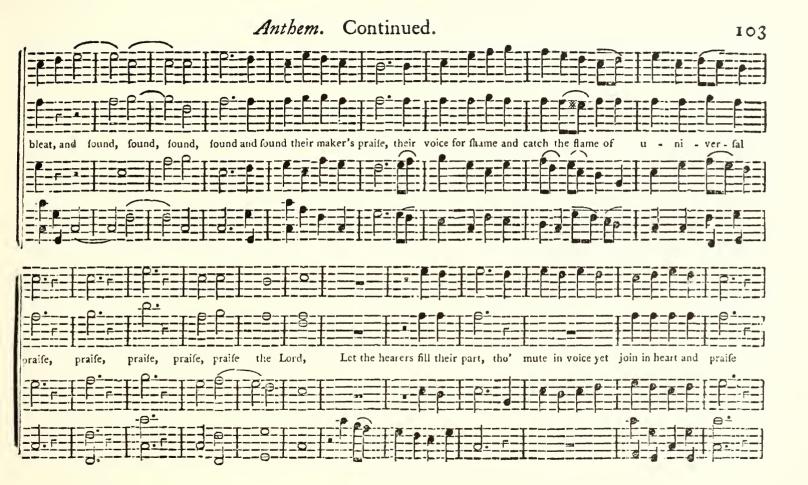
Anthem. Continued.



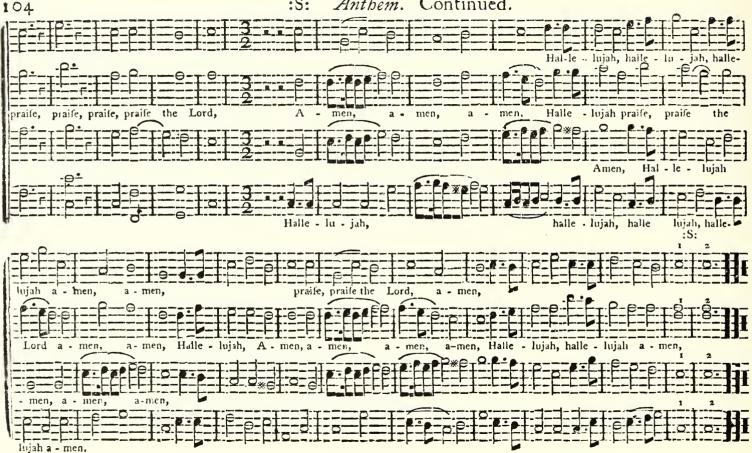


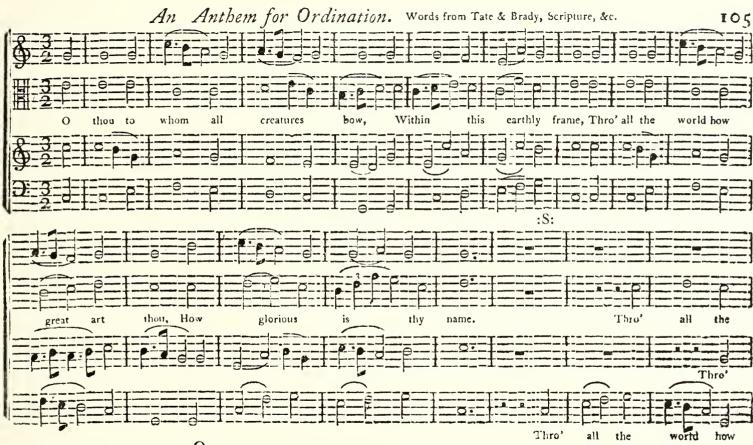
Anthem. Continued.





Anthem. Continued. :S:

















IIO







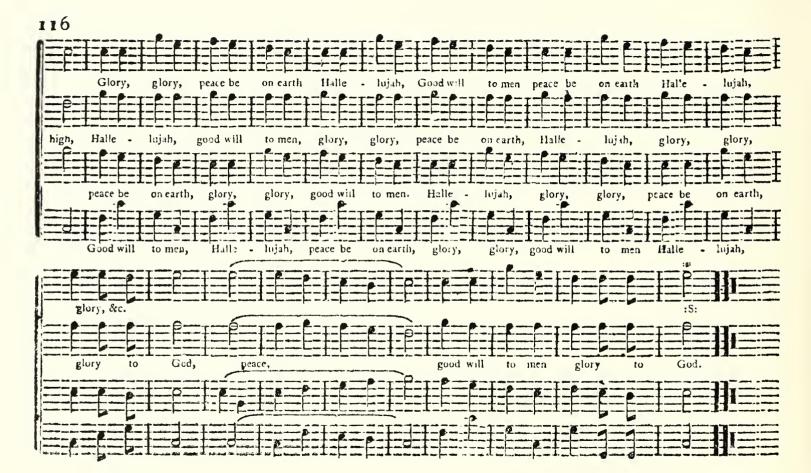




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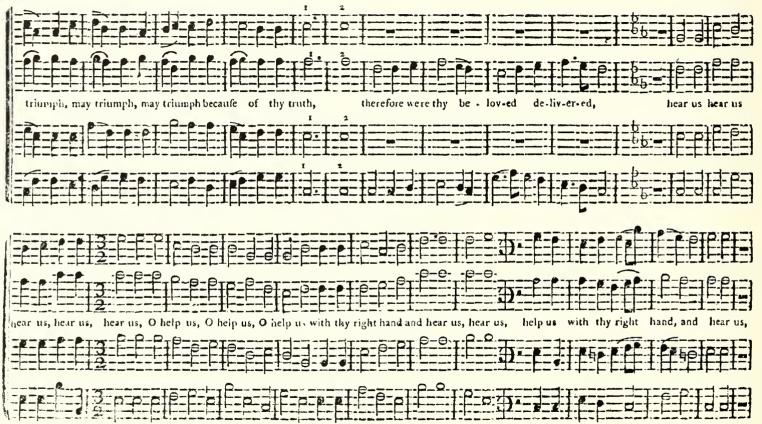
















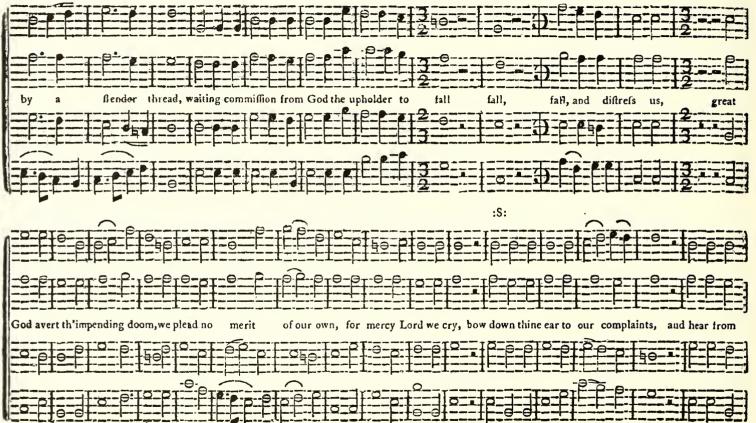




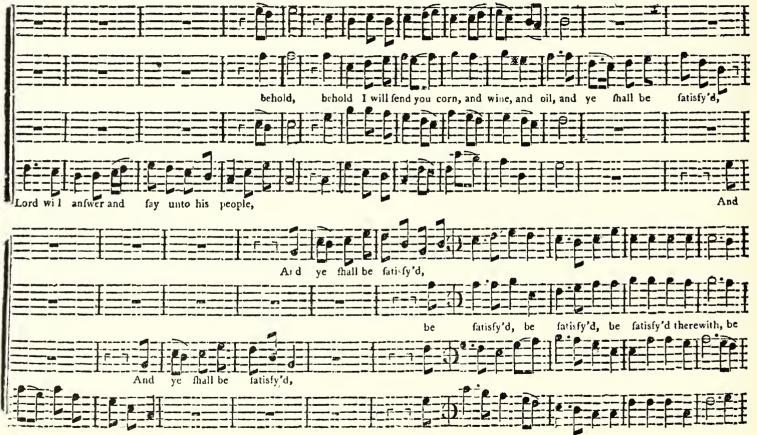














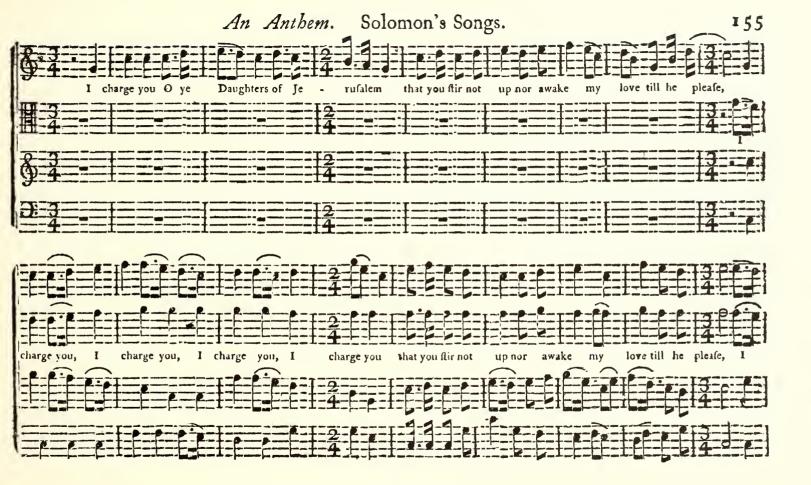


:S: :S: Soft. Loud. C 6 re - joice. Hal lu - jah, jah, and rejoice, le hal le hal le - lu - jah. glad -0 Soft. :S: Loud. praife the Lord, praife the Lord. Hal lu jah, lu - jah, jah, le hal lu hal le le ---------------



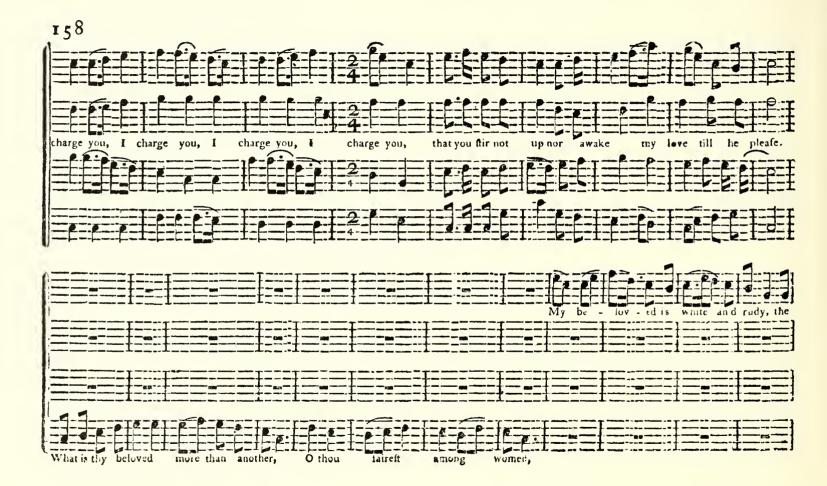














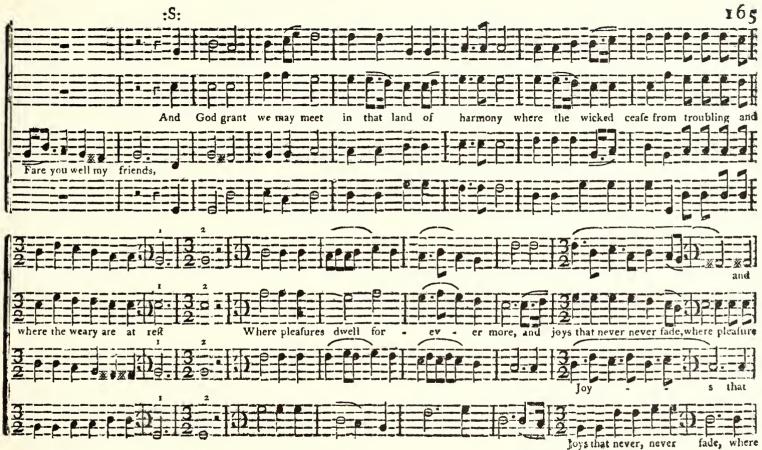






























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Υ.



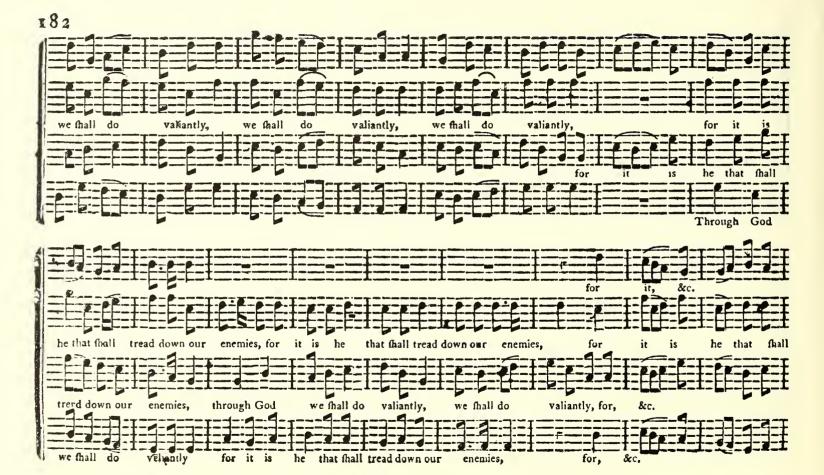








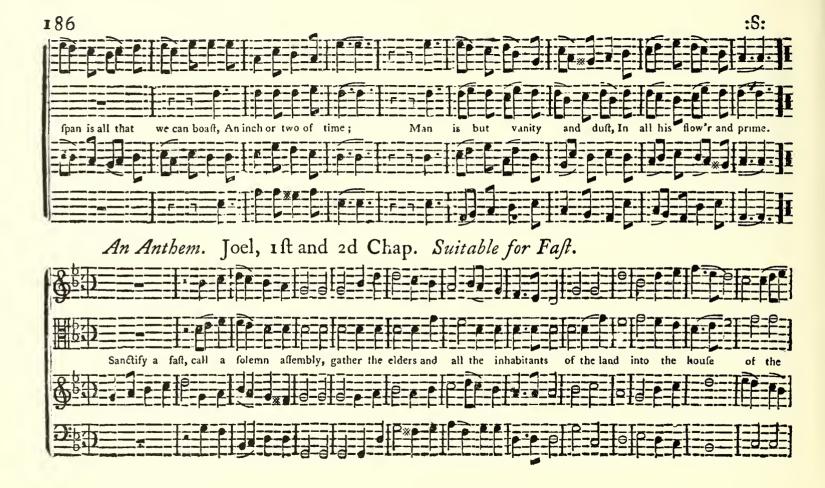




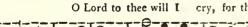


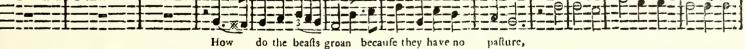












Lord



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:S:

























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This tune should be named Sudbury, not Welt Sudbury.