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Lesccllameres
Blean, Foveh mesuol.. (Intervieyy Bameh - Eeflack i (Nliengs)
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Belion. Balles de Syephes
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Gelman $E_{i}$ - Hercy $V I I I$ Three Dances
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& \text { Heber. La Invilalion }
\end{aligned}
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- 4. B6
" 5 " $\mathcal{C}$ minor
- 6 ." Fi Paslozal
" 7 "A
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Handel - Pastoral in $C$
Haydn Min 4 in DClock
- 6 - Gurprize
" // "G military
- 12 . B6 \% \% Hawele

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& \text { "4.D mivar }
\end{aligned}
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& \text { "HO"G minior } \\
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Gomend " Mirclla
Cherold" Yampa
Dilondebshonse "Rebrides
"Los \& Atranger
Moyan ". Don juan

- Higaro
" Gaubar flote
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- La Gatya Ladra
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* Bohemian Girl
"Albion
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- Dife on the Ocean
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- Sa ricine de Laba
"Ronmes fulies
Hecker " Welsh hiis
Jones. I "Geisha
Gerker "Solle of thew york
Allen .. Dratking dolles (Groterque)
Berlioy" Mungavian
Doppler. Horward
Cganne " Mraich-Rovaine
"" " Pere le Vidoire
Gownod. Theneral march (Mavonelle)
.. Militaire
. Komzaine
Cangl. "Der Retures
- Garnmera

Maric." Hattle of Nagenta
" Dolferino
Mendeleshomen Athatic
". Comclius
." ". Diegrims
Meyerber". Ke prophtele Michactis. Imtint Patuo
moyart. Trutes Warch
Loderman A Avedist Reasanbs Wedding Wagner . Lainahauser


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## $I \mathcal{X} D E X$.

## * * *




## PREFACE.

## 赵


$T$ is scarcely necessary to state that many of the following "Scraps" were not intended by their authors to be played on the Double-Bass; they provide, however, such excellent practice, in various styles, for that instrument, that no apology is offered for their introduction here. It will be seen that very little attempt has been made to classify the excerpts; but, as in ordinary scrap books, they consist of a conglomeration of odds and ends, which will probably, to some students, offer a greater and more pleasing variety than if they were regularly classified.

A suggestion is offered as to the tuning of the two lower strings, as indicated, for each "scrap;" this, however, with the fingering, will only be of service to the student until he has a confirmed method of his own, as it is rare to find two players who agree on either subject. The importance of being able to play freely with the strings tuned in fourths or fifths should not be overlooked.

It is by no means desirable that the student, when actually playing in the orchestra, should keep continually altering the pitch of the lower strings. In practice, however, it will be very serviceable to tune the strings, as directed, on almost every page, in order to attain the necessary facility, and to be able to decide how they had best be tuned to perform an entire work in the most favourable manner.

# A Double-Bass Mystery. 

> An Obbligato Accompaniment to a Song by $\mathcal{M}$ azart, "Per questa bella mano."

Published by Breitkopf \&o Härtel, Leipzig.

*     *         * ね

THE question is, how are we to tune the double-bass in order to produce the notes written? and also, at what pitch are they to be played? If precisely in the treble cleff, as written, they will be found extremely difficult, if not impracticable. If an octave lower than written, the difficulty is not much less, and the effect by no means good. In fact, look at this work in any way, it is not doublebass mnsic. No other instance is known of Mozart writing music unsuited for an instrument, nor is he remarkable for writing extremely difficult music for any instrument. His double-bass passages in all his other works are playable and very effective. Why should they be otherwise in this particular work ? No greater proof of the apparently insurmountable difficulty of this obbligato, and its unfitness for the double-bass, can be offered than the fact that when Bottesini played it at the Philharmonic he played it, nearly all, two octaves lower than it is written. Certainly, if he found it unplayable in the original form, there are not many living men likely to dispute his verdict. Notwithstanding the skill and talent he exhibited in this performance, the result was far from satisfactory ; and it is not to be credited that Mozart ever wrote any music which he intended should be treated in this manner. There is every reason to suppose that this accompaniment was really written for a viol da gamba, or some such obsolete instrument. A violin player would find it suitable for his own instrument, with a little arrangement of the few low notes ; but he would certainly never suppose it to be a doublebass part, unless distinctly informed of that fact. The following extracts almost speak for themselves. Bottesini, the greatest authority, played. with his bass tuned-

but for present purposes we will take the ordinary mode of tuning, which was probably in use in Mozart's day ; that is-

if a four-string bass, as was no doubt the case. Now the compass of this obbligato is from


If the E treble is to be played as written, then the $G$ bass will be the sol of the 'cello, or the same sound so marked for pianoforte. This seems very probable; but taking this as a standard of the position throughout the piece, many passages will be found of great difficulty and uncertainty, and which will require an amount of "dodging" which could never have been contemplated by the composer, and would be very unlike all else we know of Mozart. This so-called double-bass part opens thus :-


Very nice on a treble instrument like the violin, but on the double-bass, especially two octaves lower, by no means pleasant. Suppose it played thus :-


Is it possible that Mozart could have intended this? And if so, why did he not indicate as much by using the bass or tenor cleffs, as he always did in double-bass and 'cello parts? Now, on the ninth and tenth bar of the obbligato, there are the following notes in the bass cleff, which seem to show plainly that the previous bars should be really played as written, in the treble :-


It seems clear that the $A$ on the fifth quaver, bar 9 , and the sixth quaver, $A$ (bass),
in the same bar, are an octave apart.* This alone would show that the previous bars should be played as*written; for if the whole work be played two octaves lower, as was really done, it would be impossible to make the intended distinction between the two A's, and this seems to settle the question. On the forty-sixth bar we have this passage :-


The first few notes are, as everyone knows, possible with the second string tuned D ; but with the string tuned E , one must play the passage an octave lower, as was actually done. Why should this be necessary in this one composition of Mozart and in no other? The fifty-fourth bar concludes the Andante, and by playing it two octaves lower a very improper close is made-

which seems again to show that the obbligato should be played as written, and not two octaves lower. On the fifty-second bar of the following Allegro there is the following passage, which, as written (or printed), in the treble seems well enough, but is very grumbly and unpleasant two octaves lower:-


Try it two octaves lower, and say whether this is the effect intended :-


What an accompaniment for any human voice, especially a deep one! "Lo, here the gentle lark," or gentle elephant! Has Mozart written anything else like this for the double-bass? From all these considerations, there seems to be no

[^0]doubt that this obbligato was written for a viol da gamba (as has been said), the arrangement of the strings on which, and the probably extended compass, would render the playing of these passages anything but difficult. Whereas, for the double-bass, as now understood, the work presents very great difficulties, with no good result. The viol da gamba was probably tuned much like the viol d'amor, which is at the present day so successfully used in Meyerbeer's opera, "Les Huguenots." This latter instrument has, I believe, six strings for actual playing purposes, and others which are not played upon, but must be tuned. The strings are so tuned that the passages in thirds in this obbligato can be played with the greatest facility, and with excellent effect. The viol da gamba was probably tuned in a similar manner, and offered the same facility.

Here seems to be a reasonable explanation of the existence of this miscalled double-bass obbligato. If this be the case, no double-bass player need blush to own that he is unable to give a satisfactory rendering of the work; for if even some means could be found to string and tune a double-bass, so as to smooth away some of its difficulties, we should still be far from realising the composer's intentions; and, moreover, what professor would care to keep a bass specially fitted for this purpose, when the opportunities for playing the piece would be so rare? It has been thought well to discuss this question here. Either some clever player will devise means by which the difficulties of the piece may be overcome, or students will be deterred from wasting their time over a composition which, it is believed, was never written for the double-bass, and which they can scarcely hope to perform in a legitimate manner.

Querr.-Would it not make a good obbligato for the viol d'amor? In the preceding remarks, it is hardly necessary to say, there is no intention to criticise Bottesini's mode of playing this work. He had no more sincere friend, or ardent admirer, than the writer of these lines. Bottesini, no doubt, saw the absurdity of such passages being written for the double-bass; but the work had to be done, and he made the best of it, and even to do that was no easy matter.

From "PEDAL FUGUE" Bach.
Tune the $3^{\text {rd }}$ string to A or G .

> Tempo giusto.






From "OCTETT." Schubert.
4 strings A. E.


Pantomime from "BOHEMIAN GIRL." Balfe.


From "SONATA". Cornelli.

3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ string A．
Allegro.

等



男…草


 From＂QUINTETT．＂Onslow．


Chorus from "WILLLAM TELL". Rossini.
4 strings A. E.

*)






QP




Overture "OTELLO" Rossini.
Andante.
Mo ere
$3^{\text {rd }}$ string. A. Chorus from "WILIAM TELL." Rossini.
Allegro vivace.








Allegro.
9)


$$
\text { grd siring } \mathrm{A}
$$

From "PEDAL FUGUE" Bach.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { From "BOHEMIAN GIRL" Balfe. } \\
& \text { Presto. }
\end{aligned}
$$


$3^{\text {rd }}$ string $G$.
Allegro.









From "DON GIOVANNI" Mozart.

## 3rd string $G$.




3rd string A.
From "STUDIES." Kreatzer.
Allegro moderato ma con forza.


> From "IL BARBIERE". Rossini.

$3^{\text {rd }}$ string A. From "SYMPHONY." Mozart.


From "DUO PIANOFORTE \& CELLO." Hummel.
$3^{\text {rd }}$ string $A$.
 Vivace assai.

9: ${ }^{176}$







 g: By



4 strings A. E. From "PEDAL FUGUE". Bach. Allegretto.


Allegretto. From "DOUBLE QUARTETT." spohr.


4 strings A.E. From "SYMPHONY." Romberg.


From "OCTETT." Mendelssohn.
Allegro.


From "LA GAZZA LADRA." Rossini.
Allegretto.


OLD MELODY.




From "MARIA DI ROHAN." Donizetti.


27


4 strings giD. From Overture "MARITANA." Wallace.


Moderato dolce. From "OBERON" Weber.


## 4 strings G.D. <br> Chorus "WILLIAM TELL". Rossini.






 From "WILLIAM TELL". Rossini.
 $3^{\text {rd }}$ string A. Overture "LODOISKA." Cherubini. Allegro vivace.


4 strin\}s A.E.






 3rd string A. From STUDIES. Kreutzer.

Allegro moderato.



3rd string A. From Overture "OTELLO." Rossini.
Allegro molto.



4 strings A. E.
From "BOHEMIAN GIRL". Balfe.

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$$
4 \text { strings A.E. From TRIO. Händel. }
$$

Allegro.














From Overture "DER FREISCHÜTZ". Weber.
 2 … 2

 4.

 20.

From Overture "RUY BLAS". Mendelssohn.
4 strings G. D.
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From Overture "FINGALS CAVE." Mendelssohn.
Allegro moderato.



............ -早早-





From Overture "JUBILEE." Weber.
Adagio.






## win


Andante.


From Overture "ZAUBERFLÖTE." Mozart.





From Overture "WILLIAM TELL". Rossini.


From Overture "FAUST." Spohr.
Allegro.








#  

From Overture "LA GAZZA LADRA." Rossini.






From "LOHENGRIN." Wagner.
4 strings A.E. Published by kind permission of Messes. Breitkopf \& Härtel of Leipzig.




2:b ${ }^{\text {b }}$









## 













4 strings A.E.
From "FAUST." Berlioz.

Andante maestoso.








 3 rd string G. Moderato.

From "FAUST." Berlioz.




4 strinğs A.E.
From "FAUST." Berlioz.
Andante.



4 strings A.E. From "FAUST." Berlioz.


4 strinǵg A. E.
From "FAUST." Berlioz.


4 string i A.E.



Allegro.

From "FLYING DUTCHMAN." Wagner.
4 strings (r.).

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Allegro. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Allegro.

Allegro.




From "FLYING DUTCHMAN." Wagner.
4 strings $\mathrm{A} . \mathrm{k}$.


 Allegro.


Vivace.
 ff detached Presto.


From Oratorio "LAST JUDGEMENT." Spohr.
3rd string A.
Vivace.

From "PRECIOSA." Weber.
$3^{\text {rd }} \operatorname{string} \mathrm{G}$.
Allegro con furoco.


From "SONATA" for Pianoforte \& Cello. Mendelssohn. 3 rd string A.

Allegro vivace.










$$
g^{\ldots} \ldots . . . . .
$$














 3rd etring A.

Andante.



3rd string A.



From "SONATA in D." Meudelssohn.

## $$
3^{\mathrm{xd}} \mathrm{~A} .
$$ <br> Allegro. 



 9: कq कर.















> From "SONATA in D." Mendelssohn.

3 red $G$.










दो: g: (G:
戒:

## 

gy:







 3 rd A.


4 strings A.E.

 3rd A .

 4 strings G.D.



\% …


From Oratorio "ELIJAH." Mendelssohn. 3rd $G$ on four strings A.E. M: Moderato.












> From Oratorio "ELIJAH." Mendelssohn.
$3^{\text {rd }} \mathrm{A}$ ．
等 P年 （afore 1 P ${ }^{30^{4} 6}$ ．
 （20）
 2 3过
From Oratorio "ELIJAH." Mendelssohn.
$3^{\text {rd }}$ A.
Allegro moderato.

## 








3 rd G .


From Oratorio "ELIJAH." Mendelssohu.

4. strings A.E.












From "LAST JUDGEMENT" Spohr.
$3^{\text {rd }}$ A. $4^{\text {th }}$ E.






 Andante.
9): 0 Tge cres. 3rd G or four strings A.E.















From Oratorio "LAST JUDGEMENT" spohr.
4 strings A. E.
Grave.


3! ${ }^{\text {C }}$ string $G$.
Moderato.


From Oratorio "LAST JUDGENENT" spohr.
3rd string G.




3rd string A.










> 3rd string A. From Overture "FRA DIAVOLO" Auber.

Allegro.


 From Overture "OBERON" Weber.





3 rad string A.
From "SYMPHONIES" Haydn.















Allerero molto.




MO/ Allegro.








Vivace.


Vivace.


Allegro.




 Presto.




 2:P



Vinace





 2.3,



9:1


$\square$









 Fis


From SYMPHONIES. Mozart.









> Allegro. SYMPHONY. Mozart.


88
$x_{0} 40$
SYMPHONY. Mozart.
Allegro.
. 2 E





OHOMolto Allegro. SYMPHONY, Mozart.
7:






Allegro. SYMPHONY. Mozart.

72:




$N^{3} \cdot 3$ 9: Allegro.









Andante.
SYMPHONY. Mozart.




SYMPHONY Mozart.
Allegro.






> Symphony. "JUPITER." Mozart.





2: $1 \cdot \mathrm{f}$
Andante




Symphony. "JUPITER." Mozart.




74
 SYMPHONY. Mendelssohn.
"HYMN OF PRAISE." Mendelssohn.


From SCOTCH SYMPHONY. Mendelssohn.
Andante.


Allegro.

| 7.6 |
| :--- |
| 8 |





From SCOTCH SYMPHONY. Mendelssohu.
Vivace non troppo.





2


From ITALIAN SYMPHONY. Mendelssohn.
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From SYMPHONY No 1. Beethoven.
4 Strings A.E.


3T id From SYMPHONY No 1. Beethoven.


From SYMPHONY No 2. Beethoven.














 From SYMPHONY Nọ 2. Beethoven.
Allegro.






Allegro. From 3 rd Symphony. EROICA. Beethoven.










3rd $\& 4^{\text {th }}$ G.d. Funcral March 'EROICA' Symphony. Beethoveu.




Allegro.







$3^{\text {rd }} \& 4^{\text {th }}$ G.D. Finale 'EROICA' Symphony. Beethoven. Allegro.

7):



2 t
2 2

 2 둘

Andante.


Pre


$3^{\text {rd }} \& 4^{\text {th }}$ A. E.
Allegro.












## Andante con moto.

7.:.6.7.3 $\frac{1}{6}$






Allegro.






$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 2: }
\end{aligned}
$$

From $6 \underline{\text { th }}$ Symphony. PASTORALE. Beethoven.
3rd String G.

| Allegro non troppo. |
| :---: |
| $\frac{2}{4} \frac{2}{2}+1$ |


 Allegro.

 2ir in

 STORM, PASTORAL SYMPHONY. Beethoven.
Allegro.



 2．${ }^{2}$（1）

 2： 1.
 शः そ． 2：$\because \cdot 0 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 \cdot 1$

2.

2



Allegretto.




From "No. 7. SYMPHONY." Beethoven.
4 strings A. D.

(4):




















4 strinǵs E. A.
Allegretto.


 4 strings E. A.

Allegro con brio.






4 strinǵs A. E. From "No. 8. SYMPHONY" Beethoven.
Allegro vivace.






$3^{\text {rd }}$ string G.
Moderato. $\quad$ th SYMPHONY" Beethoven.



4 strings A. E.
Vivace.

$10 \%$
$3^{\text {rd }} \& 4^{\text {th }}$ strings A.E. " $9^{\text {th }}$ SYMPHONY." Beethoven.
Allegro nor troppo.















From "No 9 SYMPHONY." Beethoven.
Vivace.


Adacrio. Recit.


 9는 SYMPHONY. Beethoven.









 $9^{\text {th }}$ SYMPHONY. Beethoven.








$\qquad$





F: ! ! ! :
9 th SYMPHONY. Beethoven.


Allegro
2)


 Allegro.








Overture "CORIOLANUS" Beethoven.
Allegro con brio.












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8 o o

DOUBLE-BASS STRINGS.
G, or First.


D, or Second.

| French, ordinary, | $\ldots$ | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 16 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Do., best,... | $\ldots$ | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Italian, extra quality, | $\ldots$ | 1 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0 |

A, or Third.
French, ordinary, Do., best, Italian, extra quality, A, or Third, Wire covered, Do., very best, ..
E, or Fourth, Wire covered, Do., very best,

| 5 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0 |
| 8 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 0 |
|  |  |  | each o | 4 |

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The "Professor" Bass, First Quality
$\ldots$
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Nickled Plated, Shoulder finished with Ebony
The "Concert" Bass, Second Quality ... ....
Anty of the above with \& Strings ars., extra.
The .. Concert" Bass, specially selected wood and
fittings, very handsome Back and Scroll, Machines
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The "Concert" Bass, Second Quality ... ....
Anty of the above with \& Strings ars., extra.
The .. Concert" Bass, specially selected wood and
fittings, very handsome Back and Scroll, Machines
Nickled Plated, Shoulder finished with Ebony
The "Concert" Bass, Second Quality ... ....
Anty of the above with \& Strings ars., extra.
The .. Concert" Bass, specially selected wood and
fittings, very handsome Back and Scroll, Machines
Nickled Plated, Shoulder finished with Ebony
The "Concert" Bass, Second Quality ... ....
Anty of the above with 4 Strings 2rs., extra.
The .. Concert" Bass, specially selected wood and
fittings, very handsome Back and Scroll, Machines
Nickled Plated, Shoulder finished with Ebony ...
$\begin{array}{lll}16 & 16 & 0\end{array}$
$1717 \quad 0$

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These are very good Basses made especially for us by the best modern French makers, Cheaper instruments cannot be bought consistent with their quality and prices.

Copies of the Celebrated Panormo Bass used in the Private Band of Her Majesty the Queen, with swell back, and dropped shoulders as adopted by the best London players and soloists; fitted with fine English Machines, with plates all lacquered ; three strings 22 Guineas; four strings 24 Guineas.

The "Concert" Basses are entirely of our own manufacture, and no pains have been spared in obtaining the very best materials through out. They are made by the most experienced workmen on the celebrated Panormo and Baker Models. We earnestly recommend these fine
instruments to artists and others for their beautiful appearance instruments to artists and others for their beautiful appearance and body of tone.
3. Size Basses made in "Concert" and "Professor" Qualities, to order only.

English Machine Heads, made on our premises, splendidly finished, per set including plates Three String Bass Four String Bass

L3 30 440

TESTIMONIALS.
Gentlemen,-The 3 size Bass (Three String) at 88 s. 7 New Land, Banbury, May $77 /$ h, 1890 . pleasure in informing you that my client is simply delit instrument, and is perfect in quality. The workmanship throughout is of the hi. The tone is very powerful for the size of the client declares it is worth its weight in gold. Yours faithfully,

HENRY R. WEBB.
Dilkusha, Lucknow, 2xst Januarty, isgo.
Dear Sirs, -I have pleasure in writing to you to let you know that the String Bass and Violin have arrived safely and give every satisfaction. The Bass is a splendid Instrument in every way, both for workmanship and tone ; the nickle-plated Machines I consider a great improvement. The tone is powerful, clear, and mellow ; the varnish brillant. During the nited month we have had combined bands (four infantry), and amongst the four bands were seven Double Basses, but the Instrement you sent me put the others completely in the shade. I hope to send you another order soon. I remain, yours sincerely,
W. T. G. FITZ-GERALD,

Bandmaster, Scottish Riftes
Gentlemen,-It affords me great pleasure to be able to recommend your repaired for me has given me great satisfaction, and I Bass repairing. The Bass you have
W. SILVESTER,

Philharmonic Orchestra and London Military Band.
Weyside Lodge, Weybridge, January rath, 1891.
Dear Sirs, -Allow me to convey to you my gratification with the manner in which you have executed repairs to my Panormo Bass. The workmanship is decidedly superior to anything I have hitherto seen, and the intelligence displayed by your foreman should command the confidence of any person requiring repairs to a valuable instrument.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MOUNT,
Her Majesty's Private Bond, and Conductor of the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society.

3 Oakeley Square, N.W., London, December 19th, 1889.
Gentlemen, - I have to thank you for the excellent manner in which you have done the repairs and alterations to my fourstring Double Bass. I watched the work almost day by day, and was extremely pleased by the clever and artistic workmanship displayed. The result is most satisfactory. I must add that I was no less pleased with the admirable manner in which thanks.
my two other Double Basses. With
1 am , yours sincerely,
JOHN REYNOLDS.


[^0]:    * Always supposing that this is a double-bass part.

