









Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2014











# The Last Night of Mr. DE CAMP's Engagement.

In consequence of the great overflow last Night to the New Grand Melo-Dramatic Burietta, and the universal Applause with which it was received, the Public is respectfully informed it will be repeated

This present SATURDAY, the 21st of September,

sented, 3d time, a Grand Melo-Dramatic Burletta, founded on the popular English Opera of

Artaxerxes Arbaces Mrs. NUNN.

Mr. SLADER. Rimenes Artabanes M. BARNARD

Mrs. HATTON. Mandane Miss FERON. Nobles, Guards, and Attendants, by the Chorus and Corps de Ballet.

After which, as altered by Mr. DE CAMP, a Burletta Interlude, founded on

Sylvester Daggerwood, Mr. DE CAMP. Fustian, Mr. SLADER. Servant, Mr. BANKS. To conclude with the Grand and highly popular Spectacle, founded on

Tickets and Places for the Boxes way be had of Mr. NORAUFR, at the Rox Office, from Ten till Four.—BOXES 4s. PIT 2s. GALLERY 1s.

The Doors to be opened at a Quarterafter Five; to commence at a Quarter after Six precisely.—NO MONEY DETURNED.

On TUESDAY next will be produced, a Grand Serious Romantic Infantine Heroic Spectral Spectacle, called the

# ammersmi Or, INFANT MATURIT

Written by Mr. LAWLER. CHARACTERS:

NATURALS.

Semira

The Right Yonourable Benjamin, Lord , Usurping Earl of Hammer-ently no better than he should be, Viscount Bl smith; cons by Mr. SLADER.

The Right Honourable Simon, Lord Viscount Simple, Rightful Earl of Hammersmith; supposed to have been kidnapped and killed by the Gipsies, but only half-killed, confined in a Dungeon under Hammersmith Castle, and reduced to a mere exceleton by bad living.

N. B. Not shaved since his complete to the confined in a part of the confined in the co

N. B Not shaved since his confinement. by Mr. FITZWILLIAM.

Sir Walter Wisehead, Bart. an Infant Prodigy, in a gold-laced Waistcoat, nine years old, 3 feet 2 inches high, of extraordinary talents and acquirements, Private Secretary to Lord Bluster, Son to Lord and Lady Simple, in love with his Grandmother, by the Mother's side, by Miss CARR.

N. B. The Public is respectfully informed, that so wonderful a child was never before exhibited on any Stage,

Sir Christopher Calipash, Five feet 10 inches, without his shoes, by Mr. G. GIBBON.

Sir Arthur Callipee, ditto ditto ditto, by Mr. JOHANNOT.

Both of them Privy Counsellors to Lord Bluster, in love with Lady Margaret Marrow-Bones, Rivals of Sir Walter Wisehead, and ultimately of each other.

The Right Honourable Susannah, Lady Simple, Countess of Hammersmith, who upon supposed Death of her Husband, the Rightful Earl retired to a small Castle at Turnham Green, will'd to her in her own right by a Maiden Aunt, and now returns to Hammersmith Castle, to bestow her hand in marriage on Lord Bluster. by Mrs. HATTON.

Consisting of Lords, Ladies, Attendants, Rebel Troops, Centinel, Minstrels, &c. &c.

SUPERNATURALS.

Ledy Margaret Marrow Bones, Granmother to Sir Walter Wisehedd, by the Mothes side, 5 feet high, 6 feet in circumference!

by Mrs. NUNN.

SUNDRY ARTICLES of LIVE LUMBER,

Ghost of a Footman, in Livery; Ghost of the Dowager Countess of Hammersmith; A Ghost em bon point; Ghost of Betty, the Counters's Waiting Maid; Ghost of a Travelling Chariot, two Postillions, and four Blood Horses.

N. B. The dimensions of the principal Characters are given from actual measurement.

Hartnell, Albion-Press, Bermondsey-Steet, Southwark, Printer to the Theatre.



## Theatre Royal, Covent Garden

This Evening, MONDAY, November 11, 1833.

Will be performed the Opera of

Artaxerxes.

ss H. CAWSE, Mr. H. PHILLIPS,

Artabanes,

Guards, Nobles, Attendants, Priests.—Messrs. Allcroft, Chant, East, Galli, Healey, May, Miller, T. Jones, S. Jones, G. Smith, S. Tett, C. Tett, Tolkien, White Mr. HENRY, Arcaces,

(First Time)
Mrs. CHESTER. Miss ATKINSON, Mandane.

Semira, Mrs. CHESTER.

Ladies of the Court—Mesdames Boden, C. Boden, Goodwin, Dalton.

Priescesses—Mesdames Allcroft, (Connelly, East, Mapleson, Penley, Porry.

After which (15th Time) a new Melo-drama called The

# Mr. WOOD,

Peter, (the Young Czar)
Menzekoff, (under the Name of Winbold) Mr. G. BENNETT,
Fishermen,—Findab, Mr. MILLER,
Stebark

Ugo, (the Ferryman) Mr. YARNOLD, Marcoff, Mr. MEARS,

Fishermen,—Findab, Mr. MILLER,
Stoback, (a Woodcutter) Mr. RANSFORD,
Coruholm, (the Miller) Mr. BARTLEY,
Maximus Middleman, (Collector of the Poll Tax) Mr. HARLEY,
Galitzin, (Commander of the Strelitz Guard) Mr. DIDDEAR, Brock, (Sergeant of the Guard) Mr. PAYNF Kirff, (Corporal to Guard) Mr. T. MATTHEWS, Udolf, Mr. F. SUTTON, Mingall, Mr. J. COOPER
Catherine of Livonia, Mrs. VINING,
Ulrica, (the Miller's Wife) Mrs. C. JONES, Mary, (the Miller's Daughter) Miss TAYLOR.

### E FERRY ON THE DWI DISTANT VIEW OF THE MILL AND OLD WATCH TOWER, THE DWINA.

INTERIOR OF THE FERRY HOUSE, INTERIOR OF THE MILL. FERRY HOUSE BY MOONLIGHT.

Inundation of the Mill, from the bursting of the Dam, by the

TORRENT RUSK

To conclude with (22nd Time) a New Farce, called

Mrs. Somerton, Miss TAYLOR,

Mrs. Brown, Miss KENNETII, Mrs. Smith, Miss MURRAY.
The New FARCE is published, and may be led in the Theatre, and of Mr. MILLER, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.—Price 104.

# will have the honour of making her first appearance this Evening, as DANE, ARTAXE

### THE FERRY AND THE MILL.

Having, on its 14th Representation, been received throughout with the utmost approbation, & THE EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTS OF THE LAST SCENE Being hailed with rapturous applause, it will be repeated Four Times a Week,

## NEIGHBOUR'S WIFE,

ontinuing to please the Public, will be alternately acted at each Theatre til further notice,

To-morrow,.. (in consequence of the necessity of a full dress rehearsal of the Grand Historical Opera of GUSTAVUS THE THIRD), there will be no Performance.

On Wednesday, will be produced a New Grand Opera, (which has been a long time in preparation), called

### Gustavus the Third; or, The Wasked Ball.

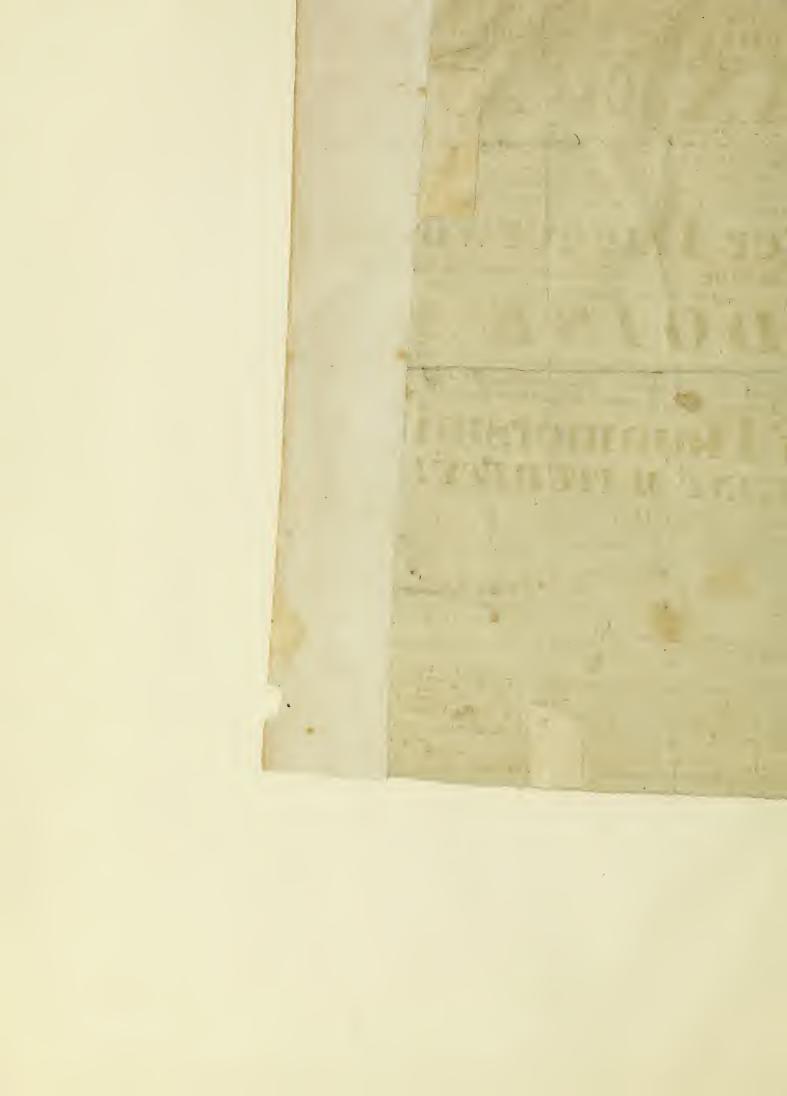
WITH NEW MUSIC, SCENERY, MACHINERY, DECORATIONS, AND DRESSES, ON A SCALE OF GRANDEUR AND EXPENCE, NEVER BEFORE ATTEMPTED ON THE LONDON STAGE.

The Principal Characters by Messrs. Warde, H. Phillips, Templeton, Wilson, Seguin, Bedford, Miss Inversity, Miss Shirreff, Mrs. Fitzwilliam.

To which will be added the New Farce of NAY NEIGHBOUR'S WIFE.

No money teturned.]

[W. WRIGHT ,Printer, Rientre Royal, Billio Lane



# TheatreRoyal, CoventGarden This Evening, MONDAY, November 11, 1833.

Will be performed the Opera of

H. CAWSE, H. PHILLIPS, Artabanes, Mr.

Gaces, .... Mr. WILSON, Rimenes, .... Mr. HENF Guards, Nobles, Attendants, Priests.—Messrs. Allcroft, Chant, East, Galli, Healey, May, Miller, T. Jones, S. Jones, G. Smith, S. Tett, C. Tett, Tolkien, White

Semira, Mrs. CHESTER.

Ladies of the Court—Mesdames Boden, C. Boden, Goodwin, Dalton. Miss ATKINSON.

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f - I All

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Maximus Middleman, (Collector of the Poll Tax) Mr. HARLEY,
Galitzin, (Commander of the Strelitz Guard) Mr. DIDDEAR, Brock, (Sergeant of the Guard) Mr. PAYNE
Kirff, (Corporal to Guard) Mr. T. MATTHEWS, Udolf, Mr. F. SUTTON, Mingall, Mr. J. COOPER

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E wandout in William, Begure, Medicari, Marie Waren, Il regular Tampleton, PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE PERSON NAMED t black or skylling the Doming of the business of the best of the best state.

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EXTRIORDINARY BFFEGTS OF THE LAST SCIME 

COVENT-GARDEN.
the THEATRE-ROYAL, COVENT-

A T the THEATRE-ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN, THIS DAY, December 13, 1779, will be presented the Opera of

A R T A X E R X E S.

Arbaces, Mr. L E O N I,

(Being his first Appearance this Season.)

Artabanes, Mr. R E I N H O L D;

Rimenes, Mr. R O B S O N.

Artaxerxes, Mrs. K E N N E D Y;

Semira, Mrs. M O R T O N;

And Mandane, Mis B R O W N.

To which will be added, the.

U P H O L S T E R E R.

The doors to be opened at a Quarter after Five o'clock. The doors to be opened at a Quarter after Five o'clock.
To begin et a Quarter after Six.

Secrets of Composition.—Dr. Fisher (once leader of the band and composer for Covent-Garden Theatre), imagining that Dr. Arne's success in composition proceeded from the position of his instrument tion of his instrument, was anxious to ascertain the attitude of his harpsiascertain the attitude of his harpsi-chord on those occasions. At length he fairly put the question: 'Pray,' Dr. Arne, when you wrote your opera of Artaxerxes, did you write it with the lid of your harpsichord up or down?'

### Dr. Arne.

Thomas Augustine Arne was born in King Street, Covent Garden, in the carly part of the eightcenth century. His father, the famous upholsterer (according to the Spectator, No. 50), is said to have entertained the Indian kings in the reign of Queen Anne. Arne was fortunate enough to have a parent who was alive to the benefits arising from a good education, and he was accordingly sent to Eton by his father, who intended him to follow up the law as a profes But, to make use of Burney's own words (to whom I am indebted for what is important in this sketch), "I have been assured by several of his school-fellows that his love for music operated upon him too powerfully even while he was at Eton for his own peace or that of his companions." It appears that he became possessed of an old cracked common flute, with which he used to torment them all at school, when not engaged in his proper studies. History does not tell us whether he extracted sweet music from this miserable instrument, but, from the fact of Burney remarking that he tormented his school-fellows, we must either infer that they lacked musical taste or that the music was not of the best description. Be that as it may, it is very evident that Arne early displayed a great love for music, for when he left Eton so great was his passion for the divine art that he used to avail himself of the privilege of a servant by borrowing a livery and going into the upper gallery of the opera house, which was at that time appropriated to the domestics. At home, he contrived to secrete a spinet in his room, upon which, after muffling the strings with a handkerchief, he used to practise in the night, when the rest of the family were asleep; for had his father discovered how he spent his time, he would probably have thrown the instrument out of the window-if not the player. This does not necessarily show that Mr. Arne, enior, had an aversion for music, but his dislike to it as a profession, seeing what a poor living so many were making at it. At length young Arne was obliged to serve a three years' clerkship to the law-although he had doubtless thoroughly made up his mind that he would not follow it hereafter; but even during this servitude-slavery it must have been to him-he snatched every moment he could obtain, fairly or otherwise, for perfecting himself in music. His soul was longing to free itself from the shackles of business, and wander undisturbed among the fields of art. He not only practised the spinct and instructed himself in the rudiments of harmony and counterpoint, but he contrived during his clerkship to acquire, from Festing, some instruction on the violin. On this instrument he made very great progress, as the following incident, which led o his adoption of music as a profession, will testify.

Soon after he had quitted his legal master, his father, accidentally calling at a gentleman's house in the neighbor hood of Covent Garden, on a matter of business, found him engaged with friends, but sending his name, he was invited upstairs, where there was a large company and a concert, in which, to his utter astonishment, he caught his son in the act of playing the first fiddle. Finding him more admired for his musical abilities than for his knowledge of the law, he was soon prevailed upon to forget his unruly passion, and to let him try to turn it to some ac-No sooner was the young musician allowed to practice in his father's house than he bewitched the whole family. In discovering that his sister had a sweet voice, he gave her the first instructions in the art of singing, and soon presented her capable of singing for Lampe in his opera "Amelia," and finding she was so well received at that performance, Arne soon prepared a new character for her by setting Addison's opera of "Rosamond," in which he likewise employed his youngest brother in the character of the page. This musical drama was first produced on March 7th, 1733, at Lincoln's Inn Fields, where Miss Arne performed the part of *Rosamond*. The opera was performed ten nights successively, and with great applause; the last time for the benefit of its successful composer. This was his first venture, and very successful it was. Having succeeded so well in serious opera, our young musician tried his hand at a burletta, and fixed upon Fielding's "Tom Thumb," under the title of the "Tragedy of Tragedies; or, the Life and Death of Tom Thumb the Great." and set it to music after the Italian manner. A light analysis of Arne's works will at once show the great powers he had for melody, being as great in his way as Rossini for tune; but the latter wrote for Italian singers, while Arne only found interpreters for his music in his countrymen. This burlet's was first performed at the new theatre in the Haymarker, the part of Tom Thumb being impersonated by Master Arne, his brother. This work met with an enthusiastic reception, and was received with much favor by the nobility Princess Amelia and the Duke of Cumberland honored the second representation with their presence, the Prince of Wales the sixth, and the youngest princesses the eightn, and afterwards it had a very consider

able run. Arne had now established himself as a theatrical

In 1736, the three Misses Young were the favorite Engusn temale singers. Cecilia (the eldest) afterwards married to Arne, Isabella to Lampe, and Esther to Jones-surely a happy intermixture of musical talent.

In 1738, Arne again added to his reputation as a lyric composer by the artistic manner in which he set Milton's "Comus." In this masque he introduced a light airy original melody, wholly different from that of Purcell and Handel, whom all English composers had more or less pillaged or imitated. Indeed the melody of Arne at this time, and of his Vauxhall songs afterwards, forms an era in English music; it was so easy, naturally graceful and agreeable to the whole kingdom, that it had an effect upon our national taste, and, till a more modern Italian style was introduced in the English operas of Messrs. Bickerstaff and Cumberland, it was the standard of all perfection at our theatres and public gardens.

To give merely one instance of many of Arne's exquisite power of melody, I quote his beautiful little song, "Blow, blow thou wintery wind." In this year (1738) a meeting was advertised in the London Daily Post and General Advertiser of the subscribers to a fund for the support of decayed musicians and their families, at the Crown and Anehor Tavern, in the Strand, on Sunday evening, April 19th, at seven o'clock. It appears that at the first benefit, Handel performed himself (1739), when "Alexander's Feast" was given with several concertos, etc.; at this performance Handel gave the house and the performance gratis.

Mr. Arne, afterwards Dr. Arne, on his return from Ireland, in 1744, was engaged as composer to Drury Lane playhouse and Lampe at Covent Garden. The only subscription concert at the west end of the town at this time was at Hickford's room or dancing school in Brewer Street, and in the city at the Swan and Castle Concerts, at which the best performers of the Italian opera were generally employed, as well as the favorite English singers.

In 1772, Arne quitted the former style of melody in which he had so well set "Comus," and furnished many songs which were highly appreciated. Arne was never a close imitator of Handel, nor was he thought by the votaries of that great musician to be a sound contrapuntist. However, he had an inward and secret reverence for Handel's abilities and those of Germiniani, as well as for the science of Pepusch. In the science of harmony, though he was self-taught, yet being a man of genius, quick partss and great penetration in his art, he betrayed no ignorance or want of study in his scores. The oratorios he produced were so unfortunate that he was a loser whenever they were performed. His two most successful works were "Comus" and "Artaxcrxes," at the interval of twenty-four years from each other.

Upon the whole this composer had formed a new style of his own; but there did not appear that fertility of ideas, original grandeur of thought, or those resources upon all occasions, which are to be found in the works of his predecessor Purcell, both for the church and stage. Yet in secular music he must be allowed to have surpassed him in ease of grace and variety, which is no inconsiderable praise, when it is remembered that from the death of Purcell to that of Arne, a period of more that eighty years, no candidate for musical fame among our countrymen had appeared who was equally admired by the nation at large. Of nearly one hundred and fifty pieces produced at our national the atres during forty years, thirty of them at least were set

In 1759 the University of Oxford conferred on him the degree of doctor of music. He died March 5th, 1778. The copyright of "Artaxerxes" was sold for sixty guineas, the largest sum which had ever been given at that period for a piece of that description. Besides his successful operas named, I may mention "Eliza," "Love in a Village," the "Masque of Britannia," and his oratorios, "Death of Abel," "Judith," and "Beauty and Virtue." The musical entertainment of "Thomas and Sally," the "Prince of the Fairies," the songs in "As You Like It,"
"Merchant of Venice," "Arcadian Nuptials," "King
Arthur," the "Guardian Out witted," the "Rose," "Caractacus," "Elfrida," besides numerous instrumental pieces, ongs, etc. In his private character, Dr. Arne was a man of pleasure, addieted to promiscuous gallantry, and so much a lover of gaiety and expensive enjoyment that he left scarcely any property behind him.

I cannot conclude this sketch without referring to his father, Mr. Arne, the upholsterer, who was a most interesting and well-known man in his time. He seems to have been the principal projector and manager of the performances of Handel's compositions in English, as it is said in onc of the advertisements that subscriptions for English operas "are only taken in by Mr. Arne, at the 'Crown and Cushion, King Street, Covent Garden." In Nos. 155 and 160 of the Tatler, he is spoken of as a "crazy politician." He died in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He married in 1736, his wife being a pupil of Germiniani.

G. F. GROVER.

To the Printer of the Public Advertiser. No the Printer of the Public Advertiser.

SIR,

Od. 23.68

HE English Opera of Artaxerxes, which had been laid aside for some Years, to the great Mortification of all Musical Connoisseurs, was revived last Night with greater Lustre than it displayed at it's first Appearance, on Covent Garden Theatre. The Parts of Mandane and Semira were, as originally, performed by Mrs. Pinty, then Miss Brent, and Mrs. Baber, (then Miss willer.)

As to the newly cot up Parts Mr. Mas

As to the newly got up Parts, Mr. Mat-tocks made us almost forget Mr. Beard, and will no doubt rife upon the Town in every succeed.

no doubt rise upon the Town in every succeeding Representation.

In Rimenes Mr. Dr. Bellamy acquitted himfelf not only well, but with the Audience's general Approbation. Now I come to what was apprehended would be found according to the French Words Le foible de la Guirasse, viz. the Characters of Artaxerxes and Arbaces, in which the two foreign Signers Tenducci and Peretti so highly shone, net vithstanding their unnaturally disgracing our Language to every possible fo highly shone, not vithstanding their unnaturally disgracing our Language to every possible Deviation of unmeaning inspidity; which was not the Case, with the now judiciously substituted Performers: No: they gave an accurate and Christian Accent to their Recitative, with a rightly marked and enforcing Energy thro' all their Songs. The Passions arising from their respective Situations were so emphatically expressed, as, that while on one hand, for exertive Fire in Artaxerxes, the inspiriting Lyric Muse may claim Mrs. Thompson for one of her Train: Melpomene, on the other, may stretch out may enable the child of her Asoption. Such pleasingly pathetic Deportment, and Elegiac Strains, interested all Hearts in the Fate of Arbaces, and

ANUARY 13, 1787.

THE PLAY-HOUSE

COVENT-GARDEN. \*

His Evening will be performed, a Serious OPERA, called

ARTAXERXES ARIAXERALS.

Arbaces, Mr. LEONI,
Being his First Appearance on this Staze these Six Years.

Artabanes, Mr. DARLEY;
Rimenes (1st Time) Mr. KING;
And Artaxerxes, Mrs. KENNEDY;
Semira, Mrs. MORTON;
And Mandane, Mrs. BILLINGTON.
Being her First Appearance in that Character.

o which will be added, for the 17th TIME, a New PANTOMIME, intermixed with DIALOGUE and SONGS, called

SONGS, called
THE ENCHANTED CASTLE.
With NEW MUSIC, SCENES, MACHINERY, DRESSES,
and DECORATIONS.
A few of the AIRS compiled from
PURCELL, TRAVERS, SACCHINI, &c.
The rest of the MUSIC composed by Mr. SHIELDS.
The SCENERY and MACHINERY designed by
Mr. RICHARDS and Mr. CARVER,
And executed by them,
Mr. HODGINS, and MANY ASSISTANTS.
To conclude with the REPRESENTATION of the

To conclude with the REPRESENTATION of the INSIDE of

A NABOB'S PALACE A NABOB'S PALACE.

Books of the Songs to be had at the Theatre.

Nothing under full price will be taken.

Bexes 5s. Pit 3s. First Gailery 2s. Upper Gallery 1s.

Places for the Boxes to be taken of Mr. Brandon, at the Stage Door.

The Doors will be opened at a Quarter after Five.

To begin at a Quarter after Six.

Vivant Rex & Regina.

On Monday will be revived, The Tragedy of Merope; Dorilas, by Mr. Holman; Poliphontes, by Mr. Farren; Narbas, by Mr. Aickin, (being their 1st appearance in those characters) and the Part of Merope, by Mrs. Pope. The favourite new Comedy of He Wou'd be a Soldier, and the new Pantomime, were repeated, last night, before a most elegant and overflowing audience, and both were honoured with the highest applause.

Spearce-Royal Covent-Garden.

THIS EVENING

THIS EVENING

NOT ACTED THIS SEASON,

For the BENEFIT of

Mrs. BILLINGTON,

Will be performed, the Serious Opera of

ARIAXERXES.

Arbaces, (for that night only) Mr LEONI,

(Who has kindly offered Mrs. Billington his affiftance,

Artabanes, Mr. DARLEY; Rimenes, Mr. DAVIES;

And Artaxerxes, Mrs. KENNEDY;

Semira, Mrs. MORTON;

And Mandane, Mrs BILLINGTON.

With the Muffical Entertainment of

THE PADLOCK.

Leander, Mr. JOHNSTONE;

THE PADLOCK.

Leander, Mr. JOHNSTONE;

Don Diego, Mr. DAVIES;

And Mungo, (first time) Mr. BLANCHARD;

Urfula, Mrs. WEBB;

And Leonora, Mrs. BILLINGTON.

Being her first appearance in that character.

In which she wilt introduce (for that Night only)

The favourite Ballados AULD ROBIN GRAY.

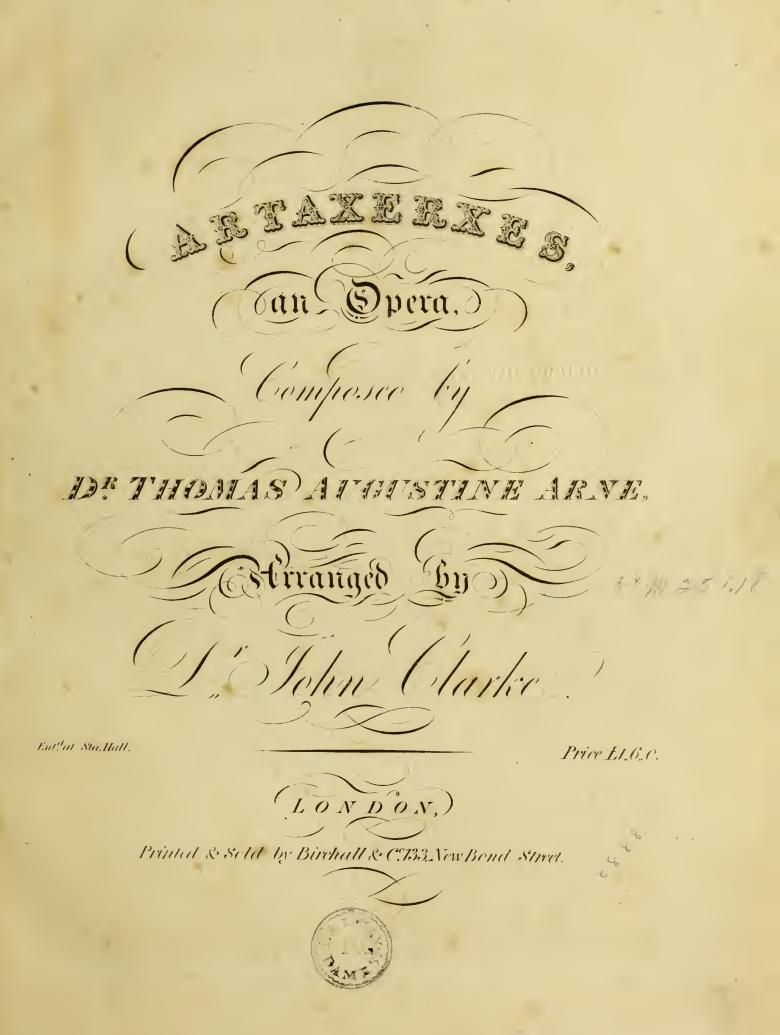
Part of the Pirt will be laid into the Boxes.

Part of the Pitt will be laid into the Boxes.

Tickets delivered for the 9th will be taken.

Tickets and Places for the Boxes, to be had of Mrs.

Billington, No. 53, Poland-freet; and of Mr. Brandon, at
the Theatre. 211 . 135 1766.



- aug 14, 1894

and continues of

## PREFACE.

IN offering the following adaptation of Artaxerxes to the Public, I have been chiefly actuated by the desire of rendering the performance of it practicable to those who have not made the scientific part of Music their peculiar study. At all events, I shall enjoy the gratification of having been tributary to the memory of one who, in the versatility of his genius, the graceful simplicity of his Melodies, the unsophisticated progression of his Harmonies, and the number of his Compositions, may be allowed the envied distinction of ranking next to Henry Purcell.

In justice to the memory of those who first stampt celebrity on the vocal parts by their performance of them, I have inserted their names, in the Index, to each Song and Duet.

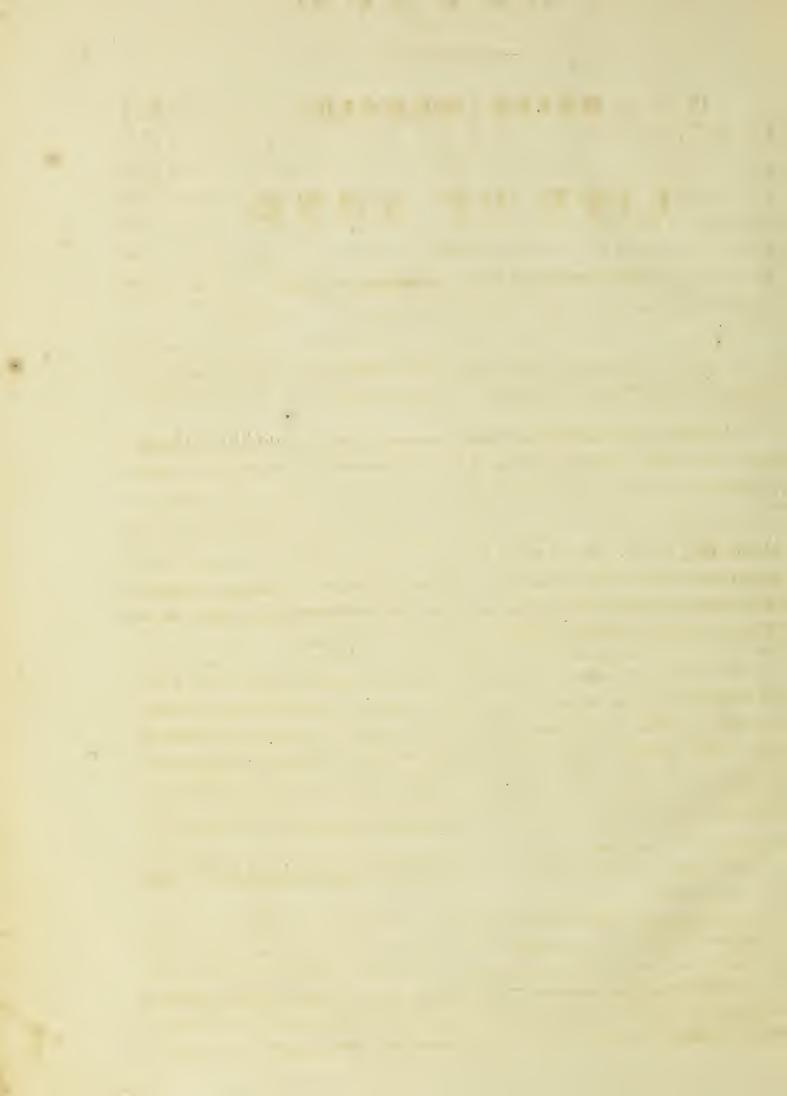
As the effect of a Musical Composition is always diminished, and sometimes destroyed, by transposition, I have written all the Songs, &c. in their original Keys, excepting "In infancy our hopes and fears," which, in modern times, it would be found rather difficult for any Gentleman to sing in the Key of C. In the other Songs, where the Melodies run either too high or too low for the generality of Singers, I have, for their accommodation, added small Notes (corresponding with the Harmonies) to those of the Text; which may be adopted or rejected at their pleasure.

On comparing my adaptation with the Score, it will appear that I have taken no liberties but with the rapid violin passages; and then only, if liberties they may be called, by changing the position of a very few Chords, or Notes, in order to render the execution of them less embarrassing to the Accompanist, without the slightest deviation from the original Harmonies, or, I trust, lessening the effect intended to be produced by the Composer.

### JOHN CLARKE WHITFELD.

Hereford, April 28, 1821.

Artaxerxes was first performed at Covent-Garden Theatre in 1763; revived there in 1787, the part of Mandane by Mrs. Billington; and at the Crow-Street Theatre, Dublin, in 1795, or 1796, the part of Mandane by the unrivalled Mara.—(Editor's Note).



### BRIEF MEMOIR

OF THE

## LIFE OF ARNE.

### EXTRACTED FROM BURNEY'S HISTORY OF MUSIC.

"THOMAS AUGUSTINE ARNE was the son of Arne, the celebrated Upholsterer, of King-street, Covent-garden, at whose house the Indian Kings lodged in the reign of Queen Anne, as mentioned in the Spectator, No. 50.

"Arne had a good school education, having been sent to Eton by his father, who intended him for the Law. But I have been assured by several of his school-fellows, that his love for Music operated upon him too powerfully, even while he was at Eton, for his own peace or that of his companions; for with a miserable cracked common flute, he used to torment them night and day, when not obliged to attend the school. And he told me himself, that when he left Eton, such was his passion for Music, that he used to avail himself of the privilege of a servant, by borrowing a livery, and going into the upper gallery of the Opera, which was appropriated to domestics. At home he had contrived to secrete a spinet in his room, upon which, after muffling the strings with a handkerchief, he used to practise in the night, while the rest of the family were asleep; for had his father discovered how he spent his time, he would, probably, have thrown the instrument out of the window, if not the player. This young votary of Apollo was at length obliged to serve a threeyears' clerkship to the Law, without ever intending to make it his profession; but even during this servitude, he dedicated every moment he could obtain fairly, or otherwise, to the study of Besides practising on the spinet and studying composition by himself, he contrived, during his clerkship, to acquire some instructions on the violin, of Festing, upon which instrument he had made so considerable a progress, that soon after he had quitted his legal master, his father accidentally calling at a gentleman's house in the neighbourhood upon business, found him engaged with company; but sending in his name, he was invited up stairs, where there was a large company, and a concert, in which, to his great astonishment, he caught his son in the very act of playing the first fiddle!

"Finding him more admired for his musical talents than knowledge in the law, he was soon prevailed upon to forgive his unruly passion, and to let him try to turn it to some account. No sooner was the young musician able to practise aloud in his father's house, than he bewitched the whole family. In discovering that his sister was not only fond of music, but had a very sweet-toned and touching voice, he gave her such instructions as soon enabled her to sing for Lampe, in his Opera of Amelia: and finding her so well received in that performance, he soon prepared a new character

for her, by setting Addison's Opera of Rosamond, in which he employed his younger brother likewise, in the character of the Page. This Musical Drama was first performed March 7th, 1733, at Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, where Mrs. Barbier performed the part of the King; Leveridge, Sir Trusty; Page, Master Arne, who had never appeared in public; Messenger, Mr. Corfe; Queen, Mrs. Jones; Grideline, Miss Chambers; and the part of Rosamond by Mrs. Arne. The Opera was performed ten nights successively, and with great applause; the last time, for the benefit of Mr. Arne, jun., the Composer. Having succeeded so well in a serious Opera, our young musician tried his powers at a Burletta, and fixed upon Fielding's Tom Thumb for that purpose, which, under the title of Tragedy of Tragedies, having met with great success in 1731, he now got it transformed into the Opera of Operas, and setting it to music, "after the Italian manner," had it performed May 31st, at the New Theatre in the Haymarket; the part of Tom Thumb by Master Arne, his brother. Princess Amelia and the Duke of Cumberland honoured the second representation with their presence; the Prince of Wales the sixth; the youngest Princesses the eighth; and afterwards it had a considerable run.

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"In 1738, Arne established his reputation as a Lyric Composer, by the admirable manner in which he set Milton's Comus. In this Masque he introduced a light, airy, original, and pleasing melody, wholly different from that of Purcell or Handel, whom all English Composers had hitherto either pillaged or imitated. Indeed, the melody of Arne at this time, and of his Vauxhall Songs afterwards, forms an æra in English Music; it was so easy, natural, and agreeable to the whole kingdom, that it had an effect upon our national taste; and till a more modern Italian style was introduced in the pasticcio English Operas of Messrs. Bickerstaff and Cumberland, it was the standard of all perfection at our theatres, and public gardens.

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"Mr. Arne, afterwards Dr. Arne, on his return from Ireland, in autumn 1744, was engaged as Composer to Drury-Lane playhouse.

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"Dr. Greene was now at the head of our Cathedral Music and the King's band, and Mr. Arne and Mr. Boyce were frequently concurrents at the theatres, and in each other's way, particularly at Drury-Lane. Arne was aspiring, and always regarded Handel as a tyrant and usurper, against whom he frequently rebelled, but with as little effect as Marsyas against Apollo. The late Mr. Tyers, proprietor of Vauxhall Gardens, who by his taste in laying them out, paintings of Hayman, band of music, good wines, and cold collations, had attracted much company thither, and rendered it a favourite and delightful place of public amusement in fine weather; in the summer of 1745, added, for the first time, vocal to his instrumental performances; engaging Mrs. Arne, Messrs. Lowe and the elder Reinhold, to sing. On this occasion the orchestra was enlarged, and Mr. Arne's ballads, dialogues, duets, and trios, were performed here with great applause, and circulated all over the kingdom. During this first summer, his little dialogue of Colin and Phœbe, written by the late Mr. Moore, author of Fables for the Female Sex, was constantly encored every night for more than three months successively.

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"In 1762, Arne quitted the former style of melody, in which he had so well set Comus, and furnished Vauxhall and the whole kingdom with such Songs as had improved and polished our national taste; and when he set the bald translation of Metastasio's Opera of Artaserses, he crouded the airs, particularly in the part of Mandane, for Miss Brent, with all the Italian divisions and difficulties which had ever been heard at the opera. This drama, by the novelty of the music to English ears, with the talents of Tenducci, Peretti, and the Doctor's scholar Miss Brent,

had very great success; and still continues to be represented whenever singers can be found who are possessed of sufficient abilities for its performance. But in setting Artaxerxes, though the melody is less original than that of Comus, Arne had the merit of first adapting many of the best passages of Italy, which all Europe admired, to our own language, and of incorporating them with his own property, and with what was still in favour of former English Composers.

"The general melody of our countryman, if analyzed, would perhaps appear to be neither Italian nor English, but an agreeable mixture of Italian, English, and Scots. Many of his ballads, indeed, were professed imitations of the Scots style; but in his other songs he frequently dropped into it, perhaps without design. Arne was never a close imitator of Handel, nor thought, by the votaries of that great musician, to be a sound contrapuntist. However, he had an inward and secret reverence for his abilities, and for those of Geminiani, as well as for the science of Pepusch; but except when he attempted Oratorios, theirs was not the merit requisite for him, a popular composer who had different performers and different hearers to write for. In the science of Harmony, though he was chiefly self-taught, yet being a man of genius, quick parts, and great penetration in his art, he betrayed no ignorance or want of study in his scores. The Oratorios he produced were so unfortunate, that he was always a loser whenever they were performed. And yet it would be unjust to say that they did not merit a better fate; for though the Chorusses were much inferior in force to those of Handel, yet the Airs were frequently admirable. But besides the great reputation of Handel, with whom he had to contend, Arne never was able to have his music so well performed, as his competitor had always a numerous and select band, a better organ, which he played himself, and better singers.

"None of this ingenious and pleasing Composer's capital productions had full and unequivocal success but Comus and Artaxerxes, at the distance of 24 years from each other. Rosamond, his first musical drama, had a few songs in it that were long in favour; and the Judgment of Paris many; but except when his sister, Miss Arne, afterwards Mrs. Cibber, sung in them, he never gained any thing by either. Thomas and Sally, indeed, as a Farce, with very little musical merit, was often acted; and previous to that, Eliza was a little while in favour; but the number of his unfortunate pieces for the Stage was prodigious (The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green, Fall of Phæton, King Pepin's Campaign, Don Saverio, Temple of Dulness, Guardian Outwitted, Achilles in Petticoats, &c. &c.); yet none of them were condemned or neglected for want of merit in the music, but words, of which the Doctor was too frequently guilty of being the author. Upon the whole, though this Composer, who died March 5, 1778, had formed a new style of his own, there did not appear that fertility of ideas, original grandeur of thought, or those resources upon all occasions which are discoverable in the works of his predecessor, Purcell, both for the church and stage; yet, in secular music, he must be allowed to have surpassed him in ease, grace, and variety; which is no inconsiderable praise, when it is remembered that, from the death of Purcell to that of Arne, a period of more than four score years, no candidate for musical fame among our countrymen had appeared, who was equally admired by the nation at large.

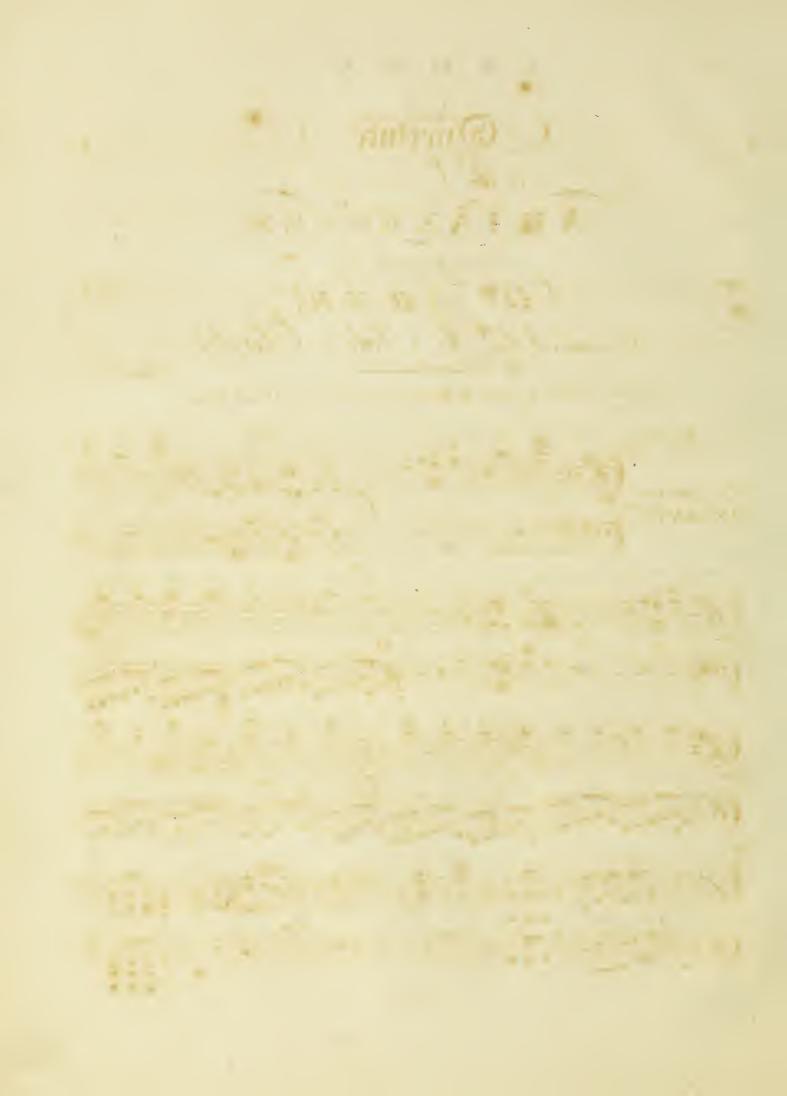
"Of near a hundred and fifty Musical Pieces that have been brought on the Stage at our two National Theatres within these forty years, thirty of them, at least, were set by Arne."



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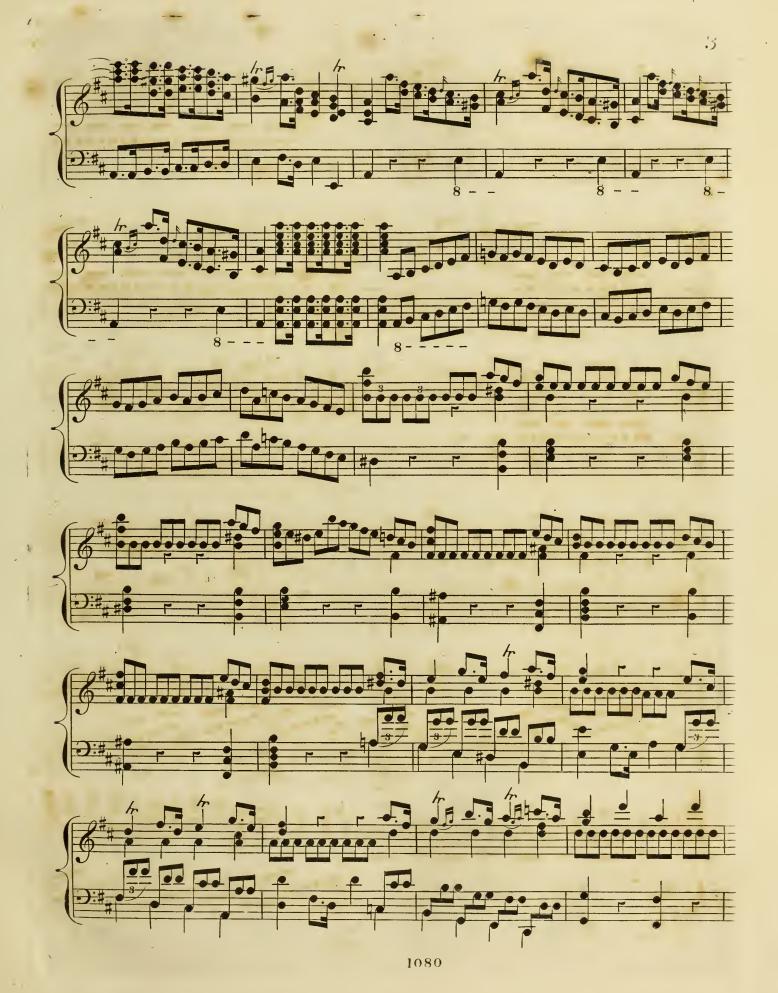


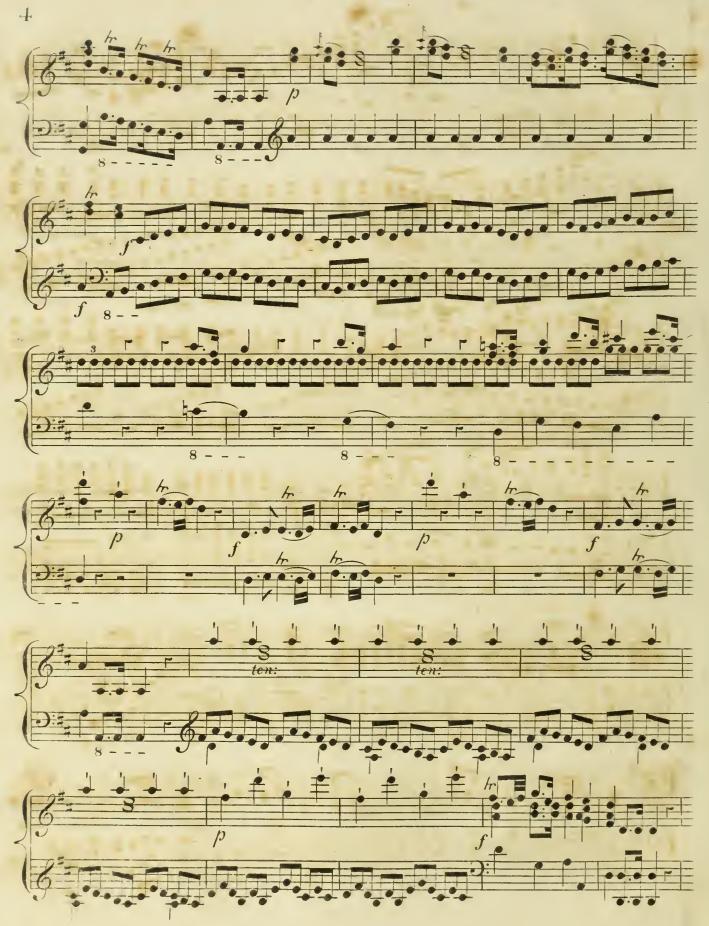


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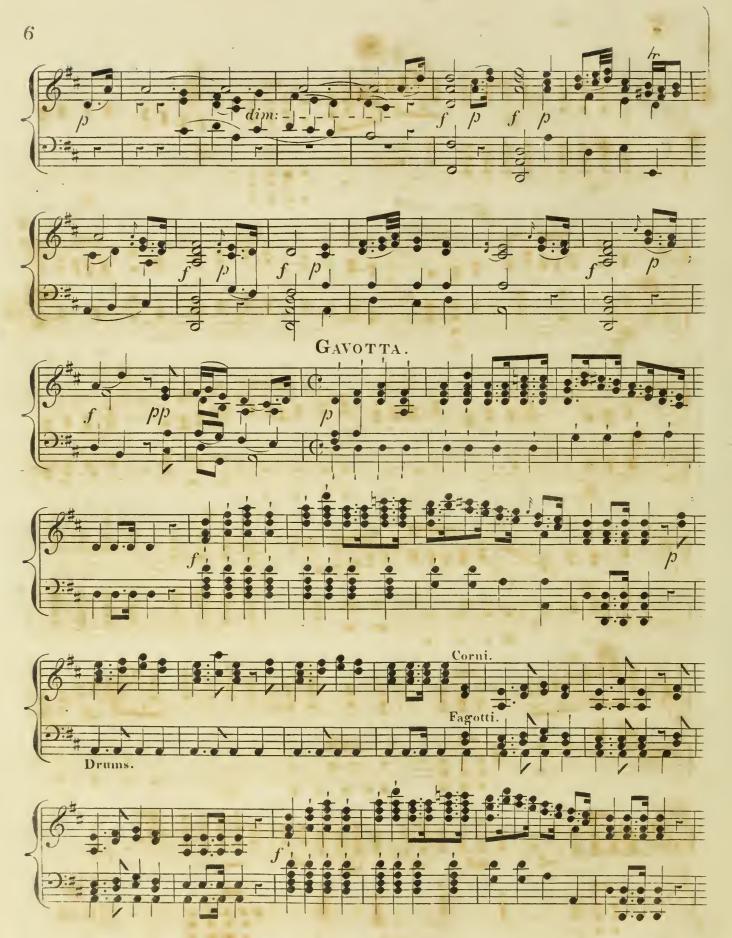


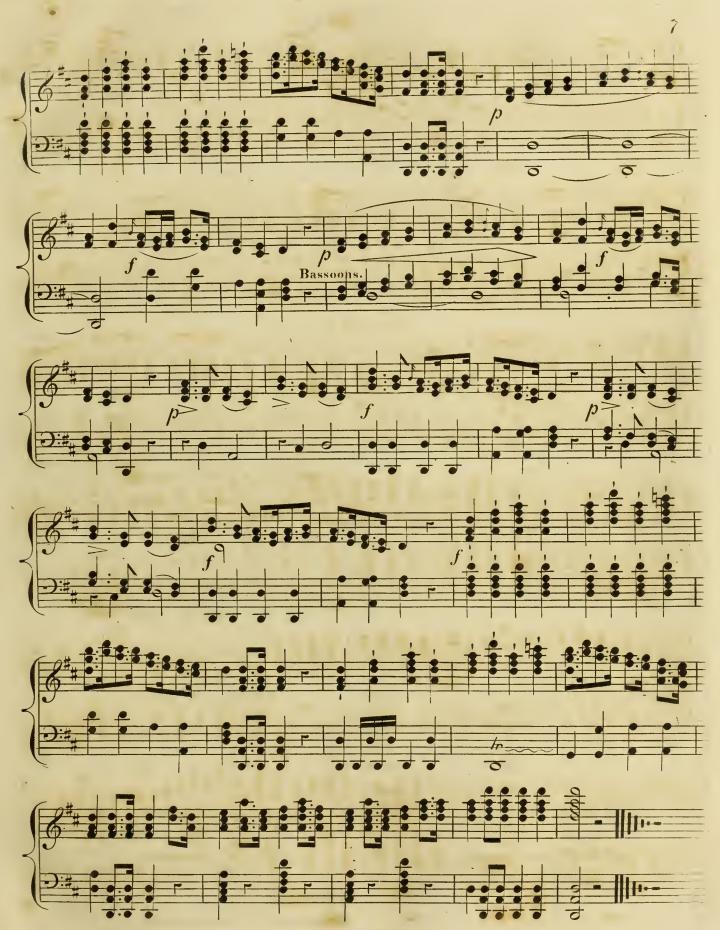














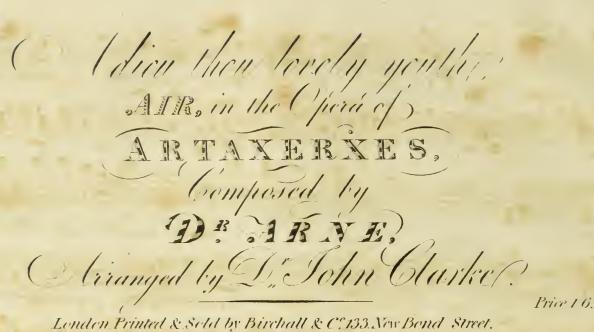
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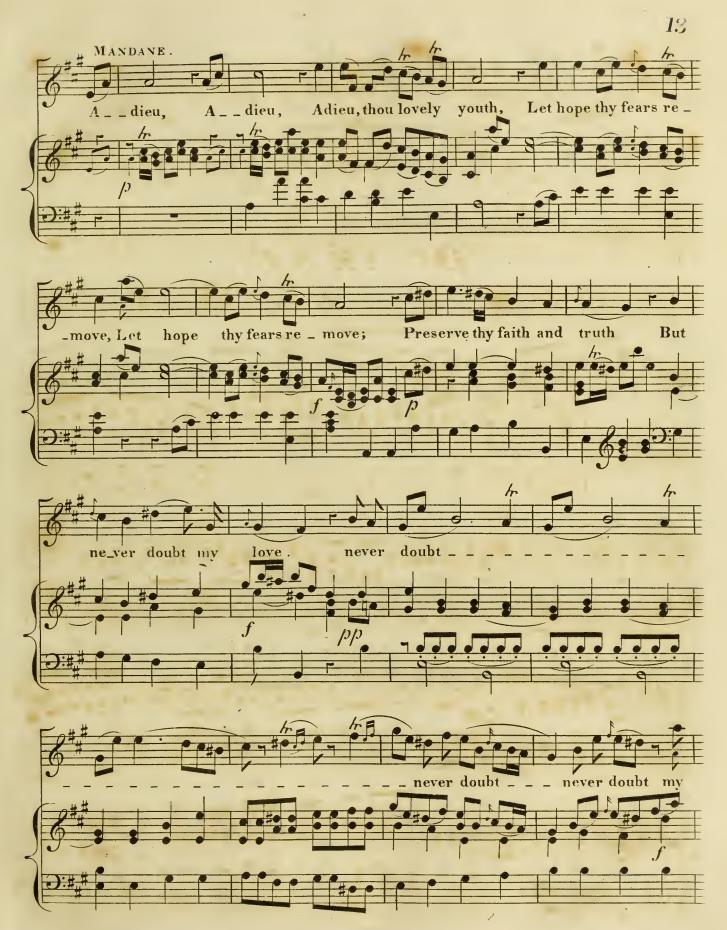






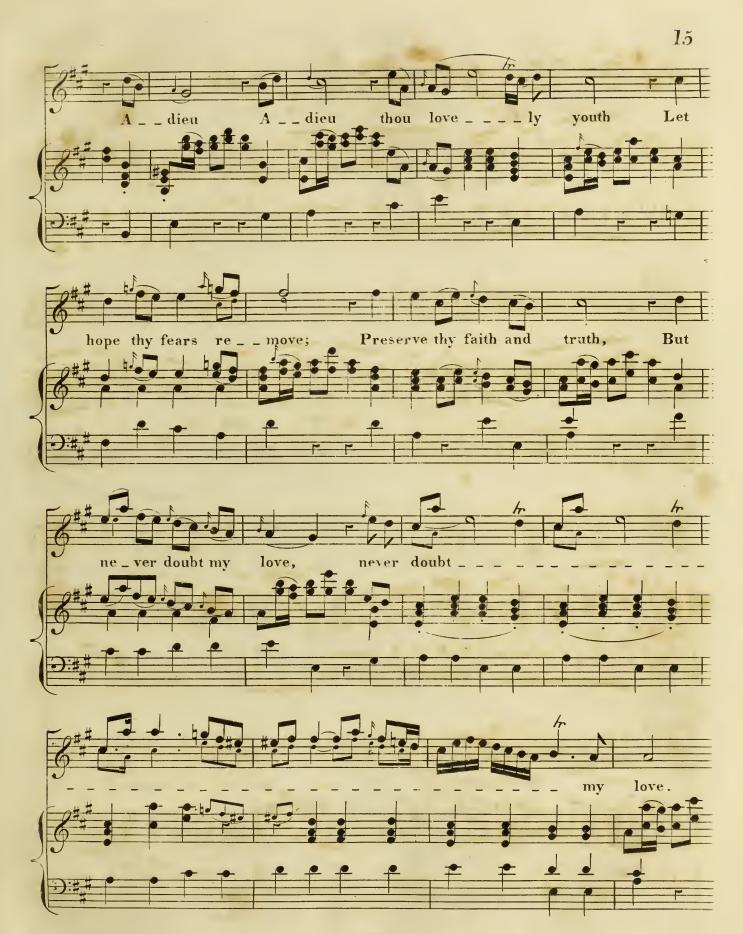














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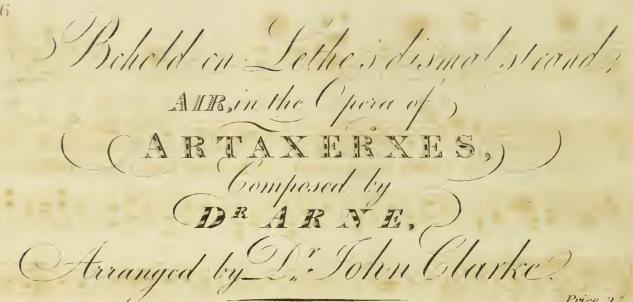




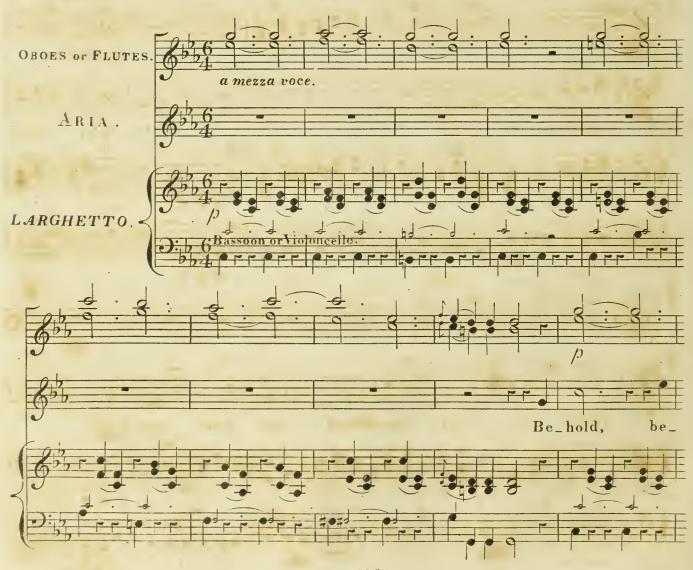


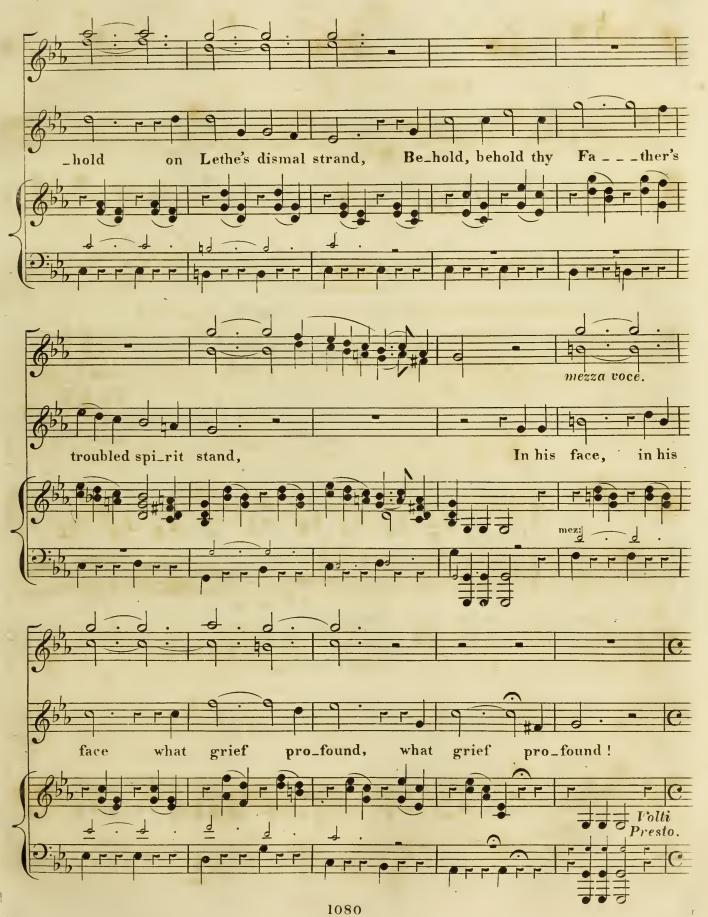






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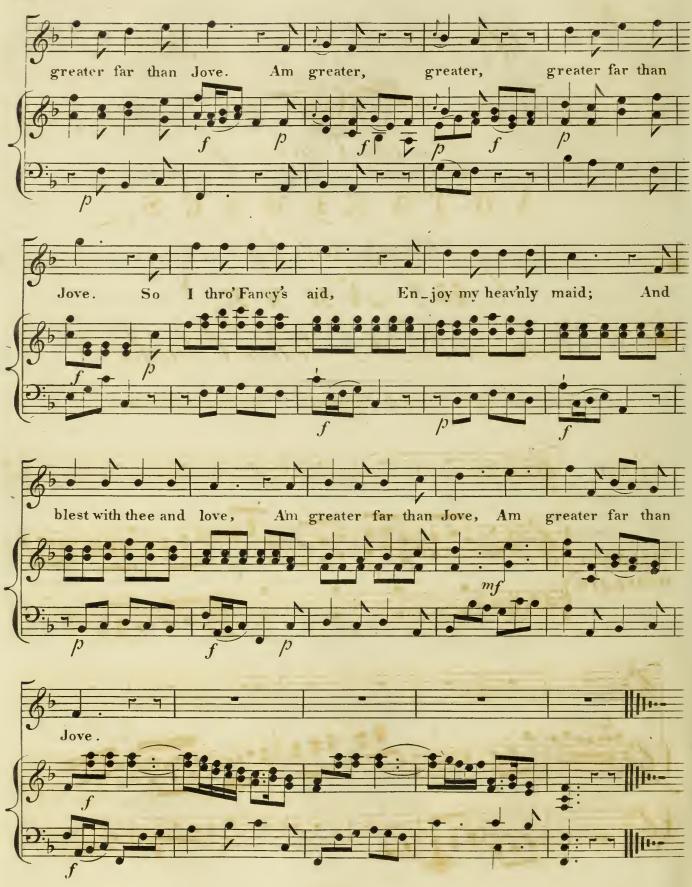


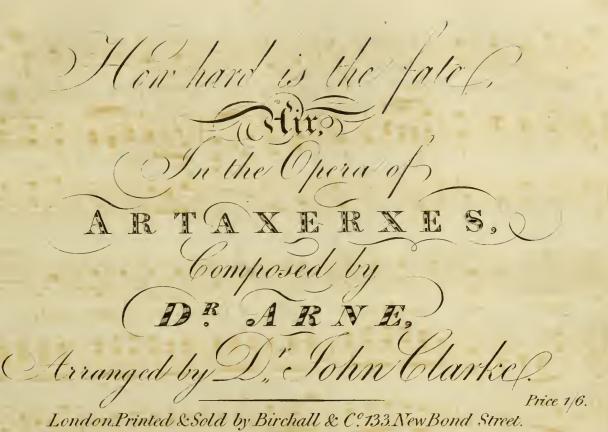








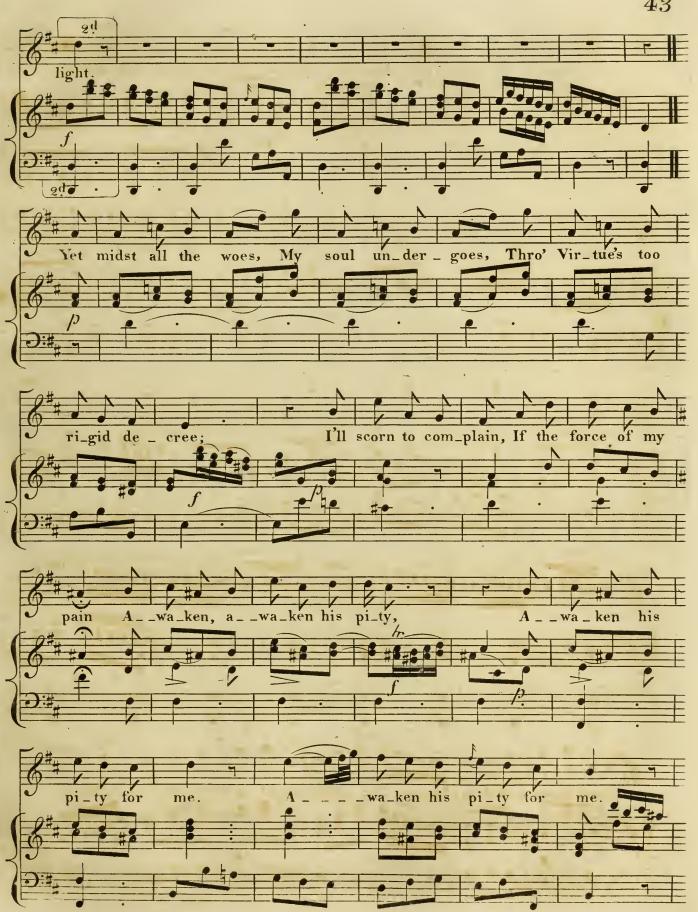






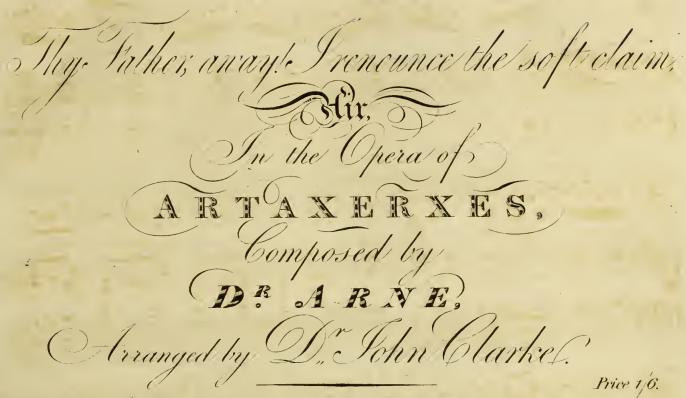










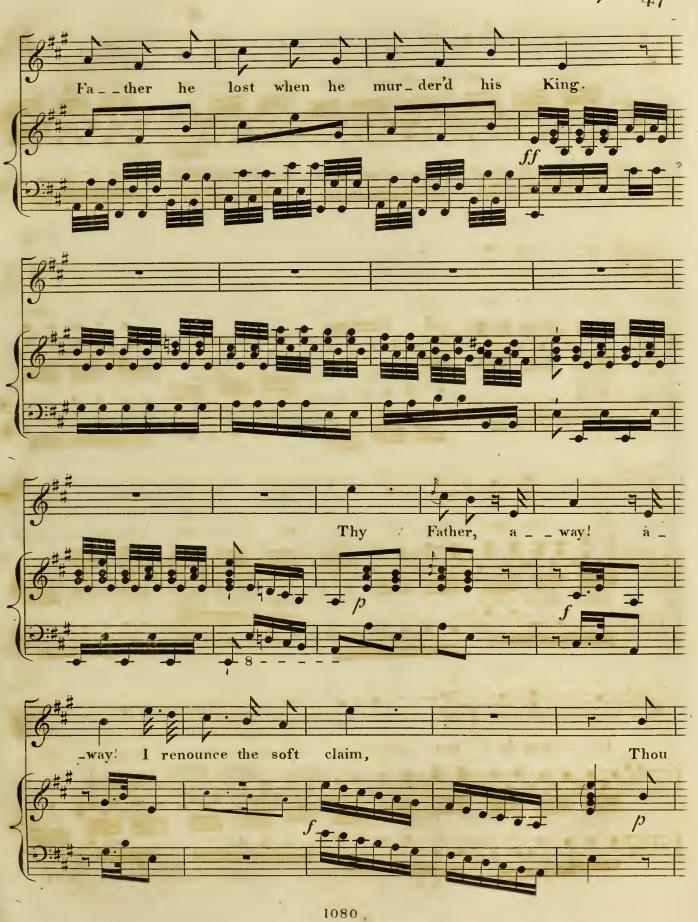


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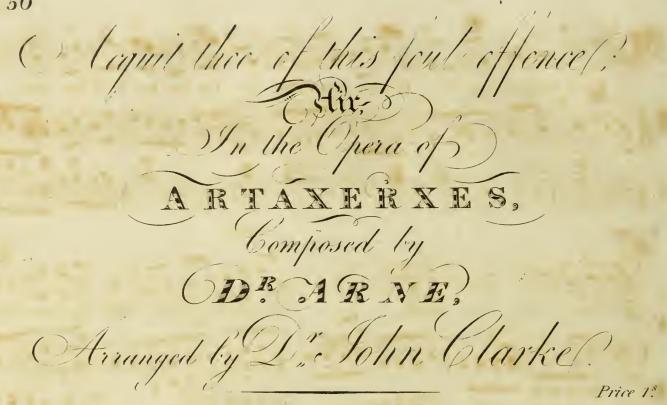








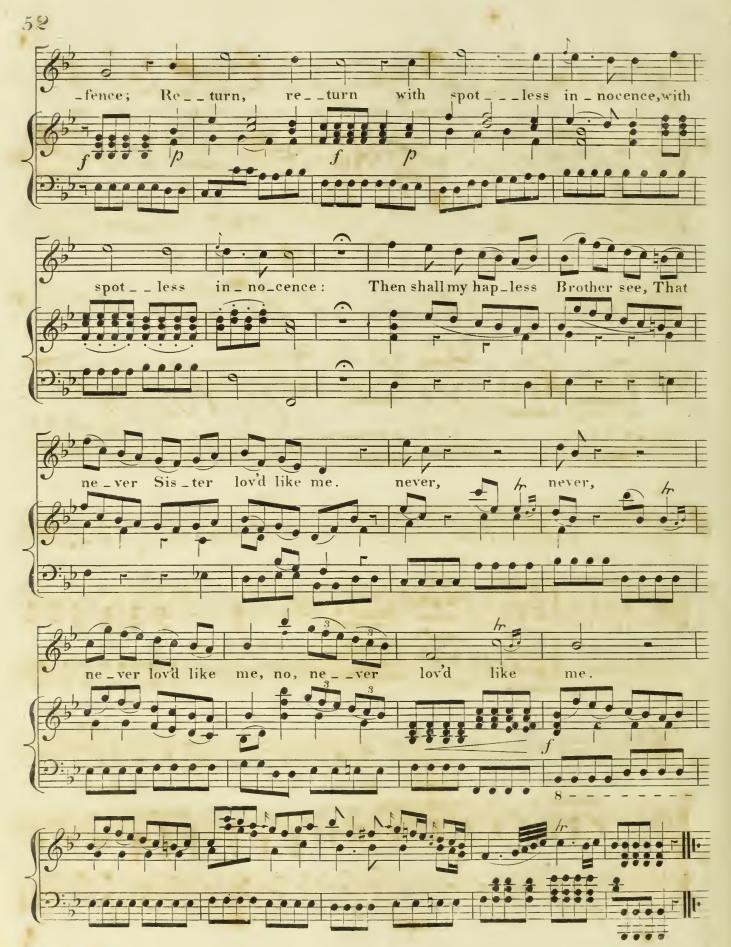




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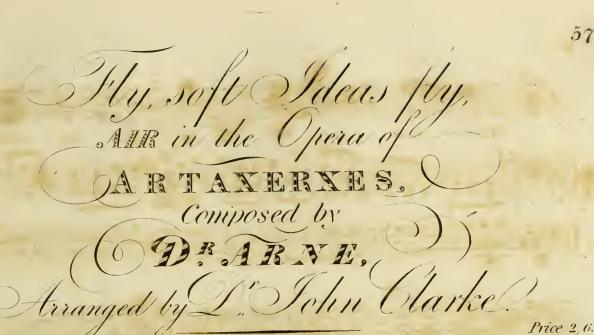












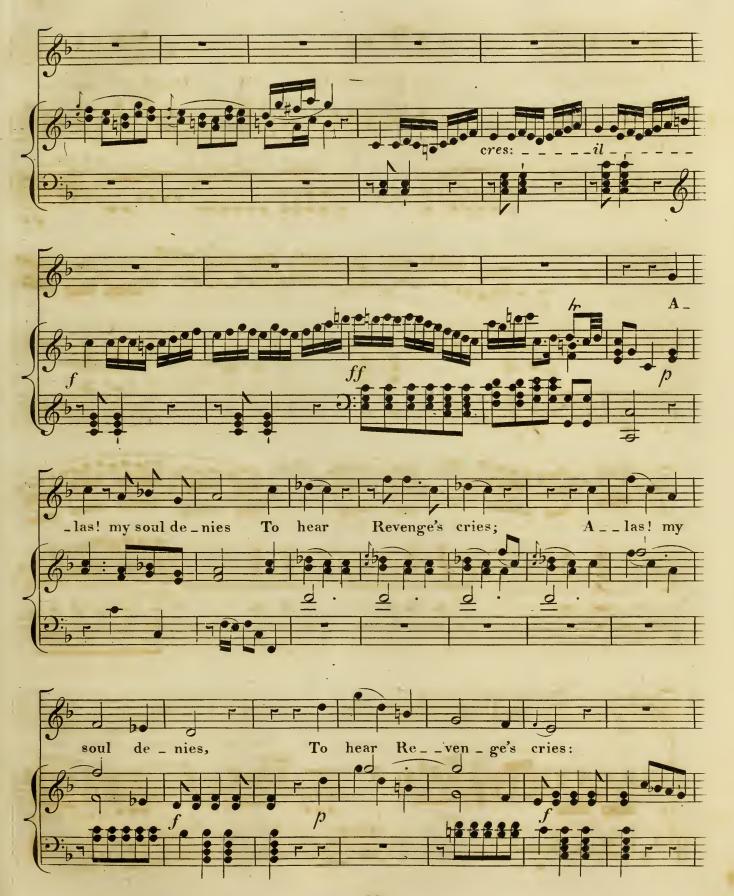
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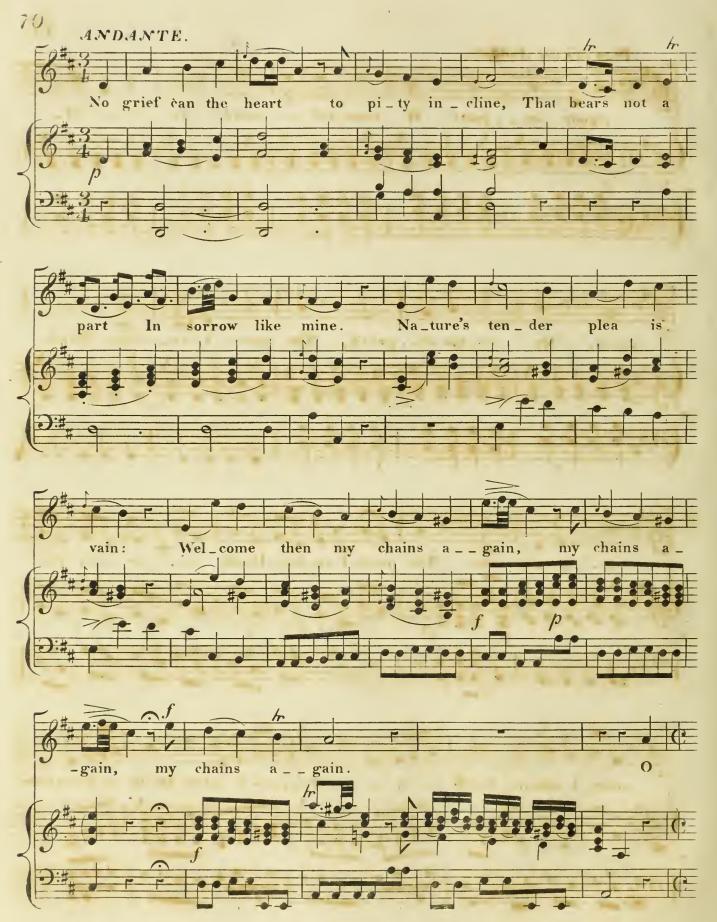


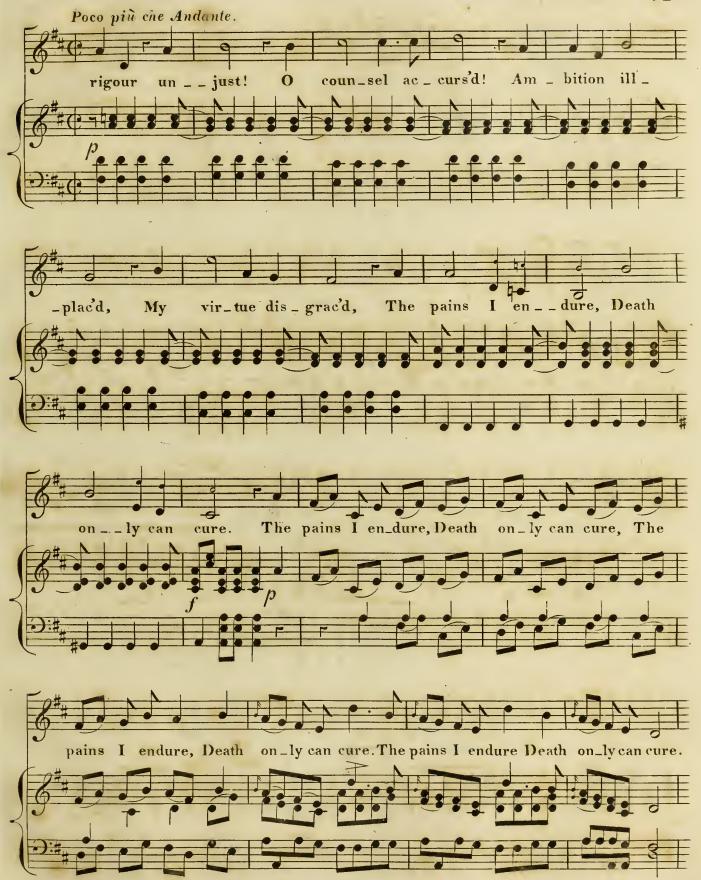


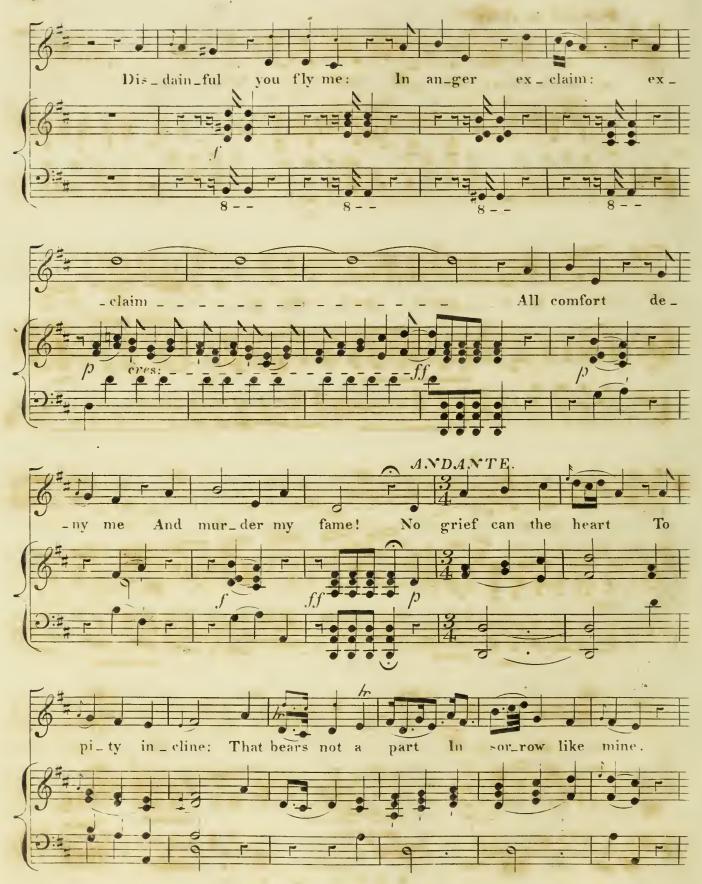




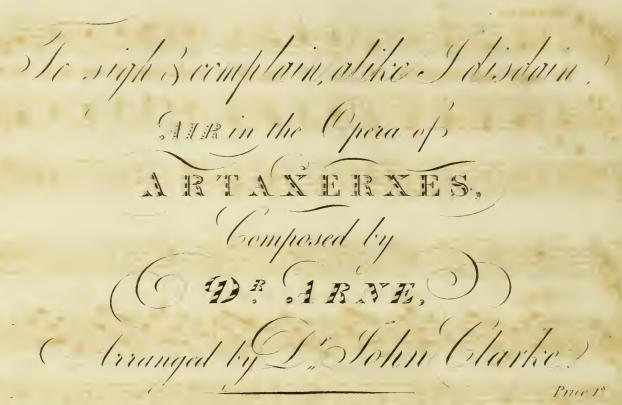












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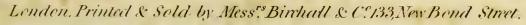








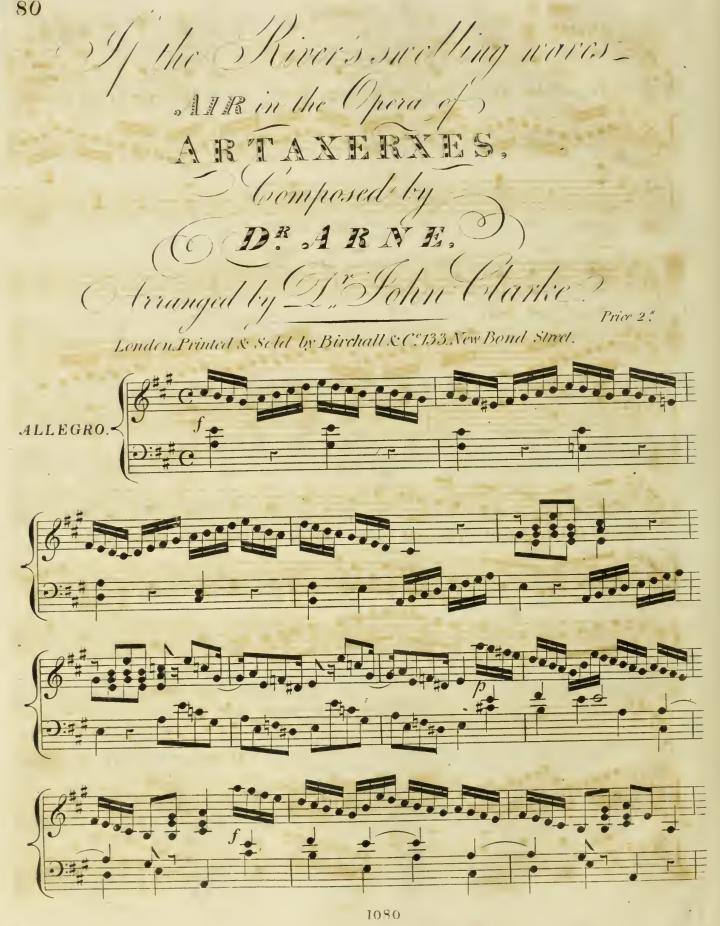




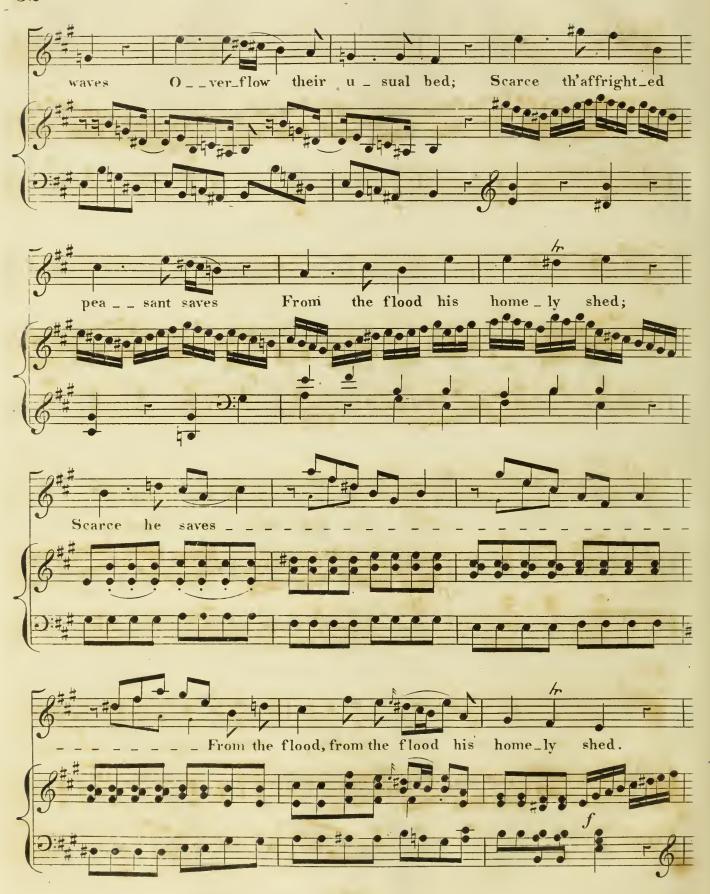














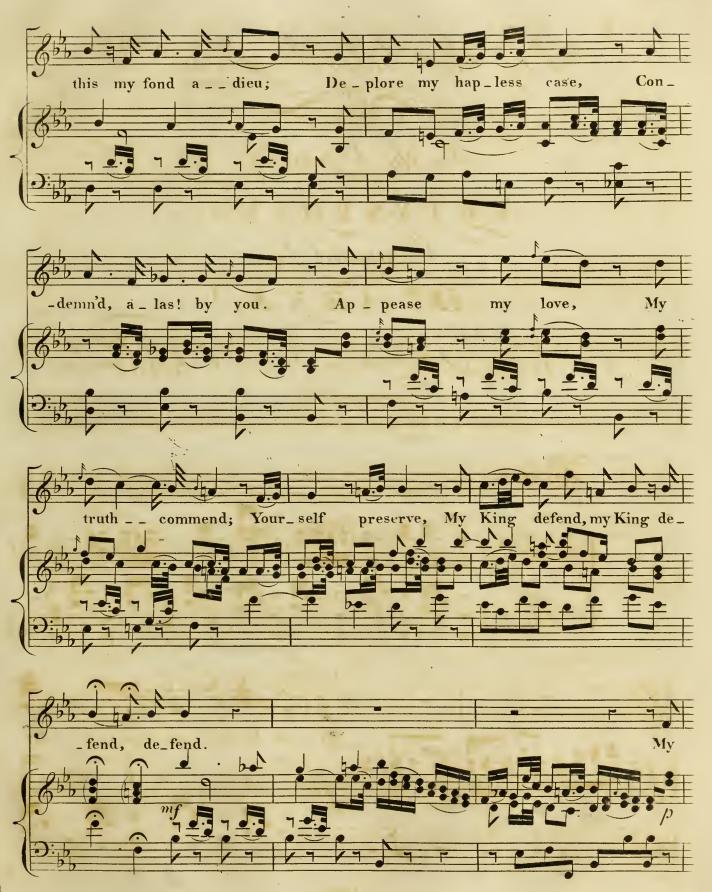


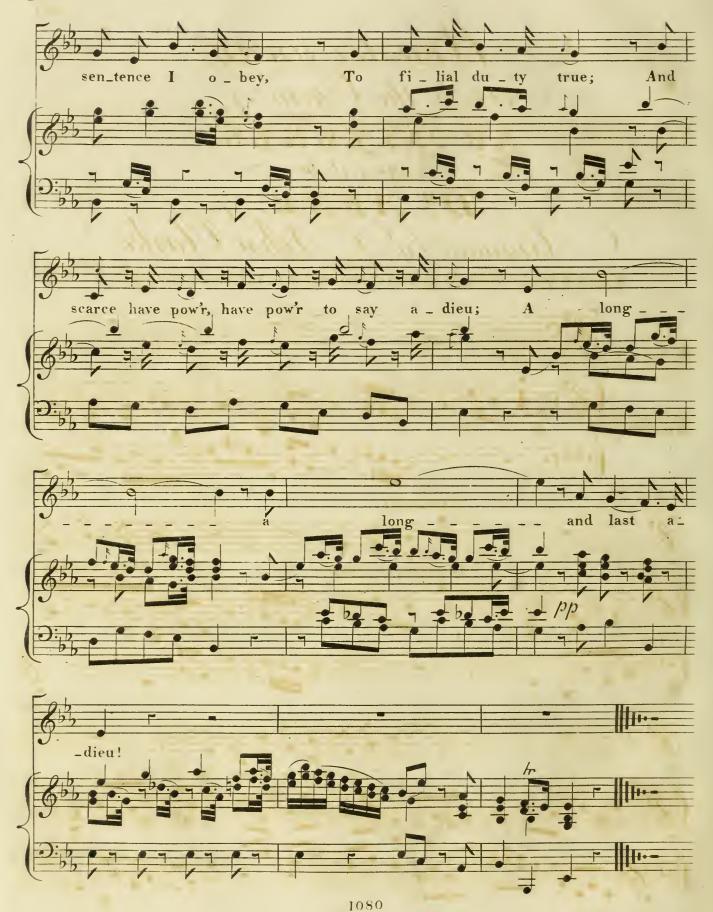


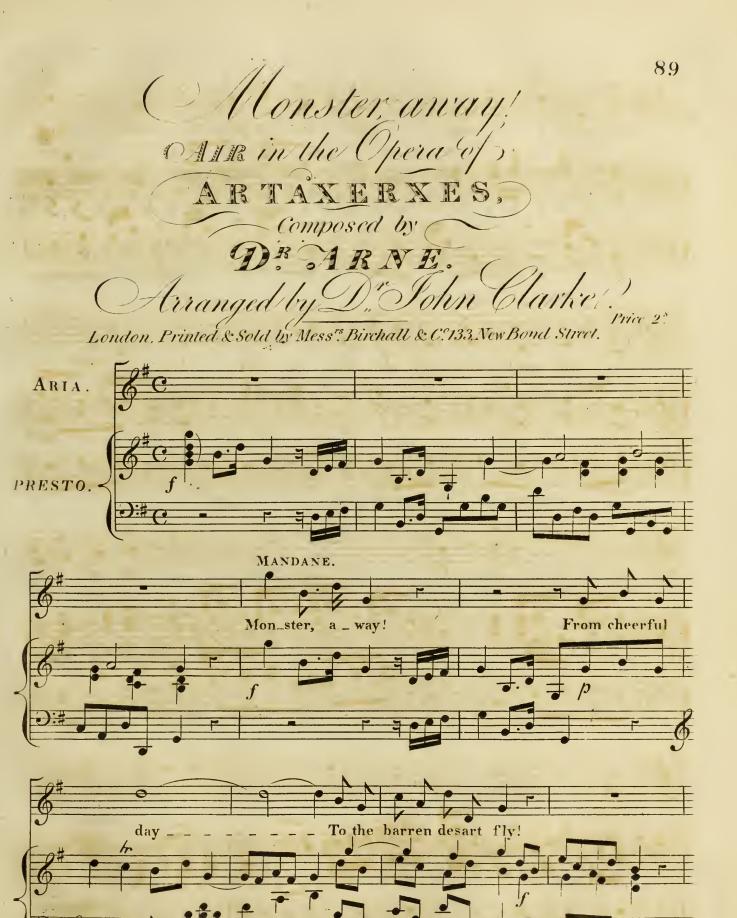


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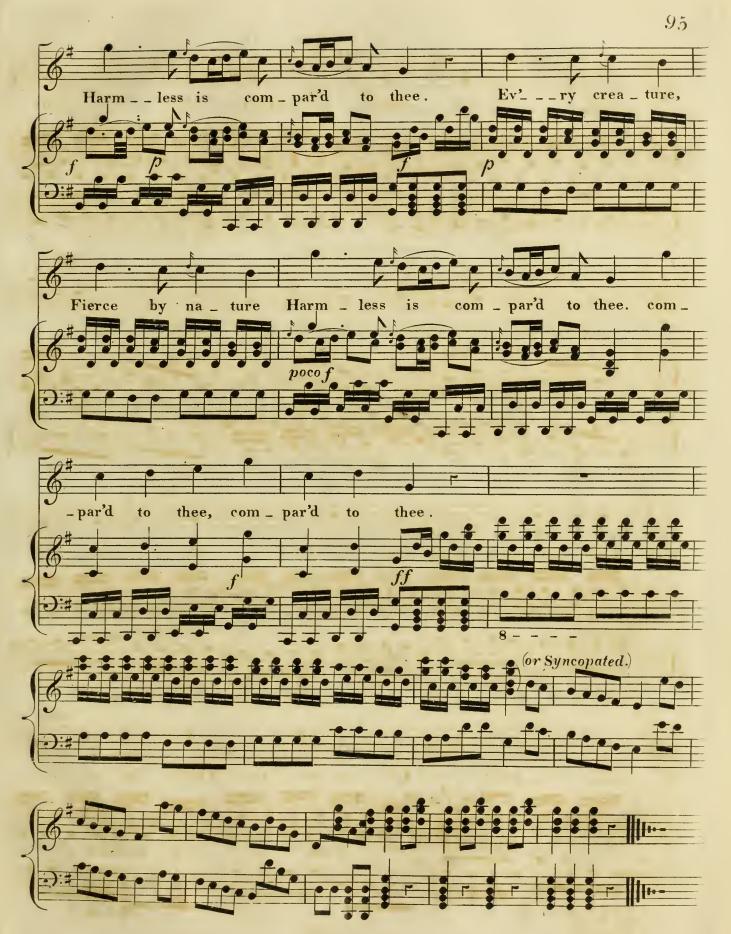


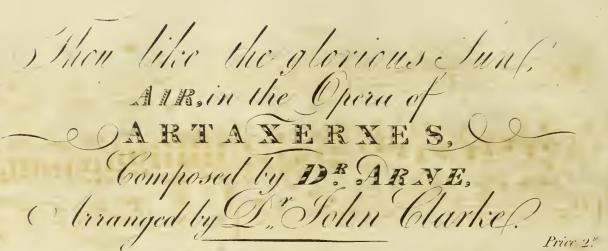






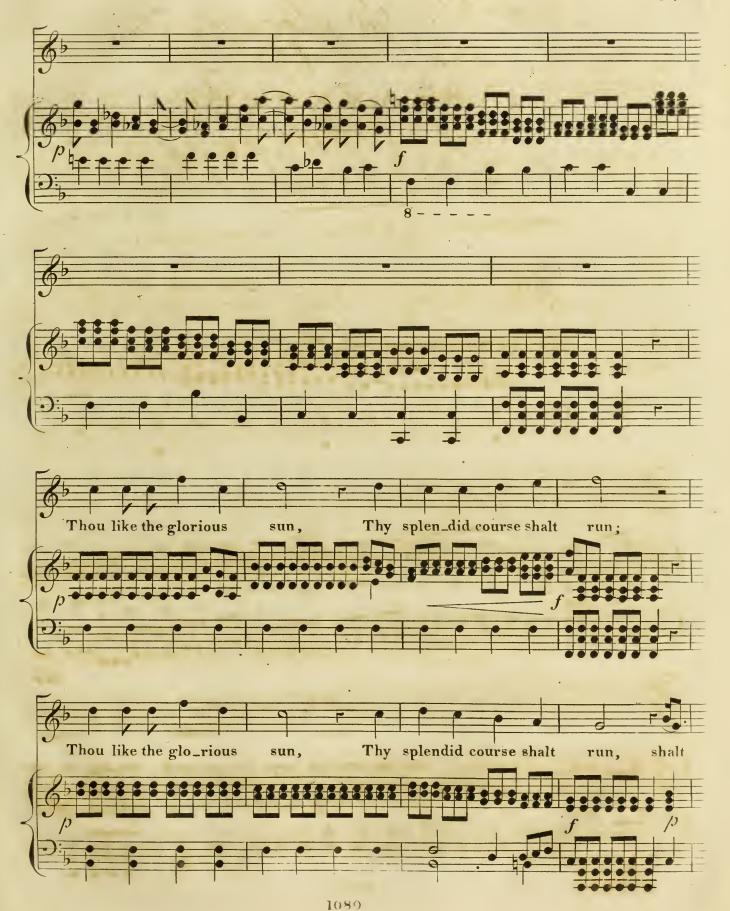






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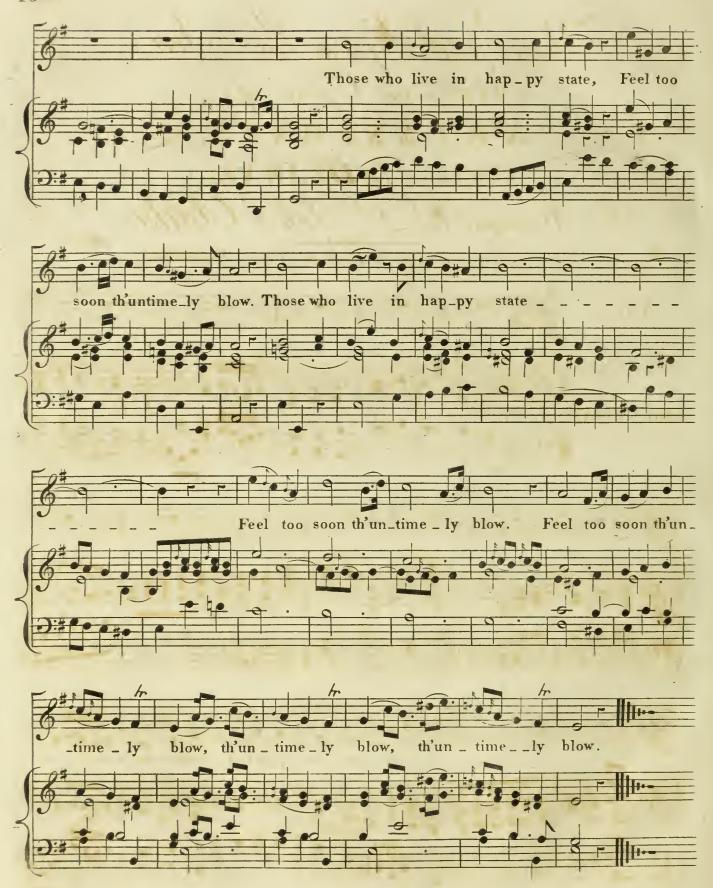
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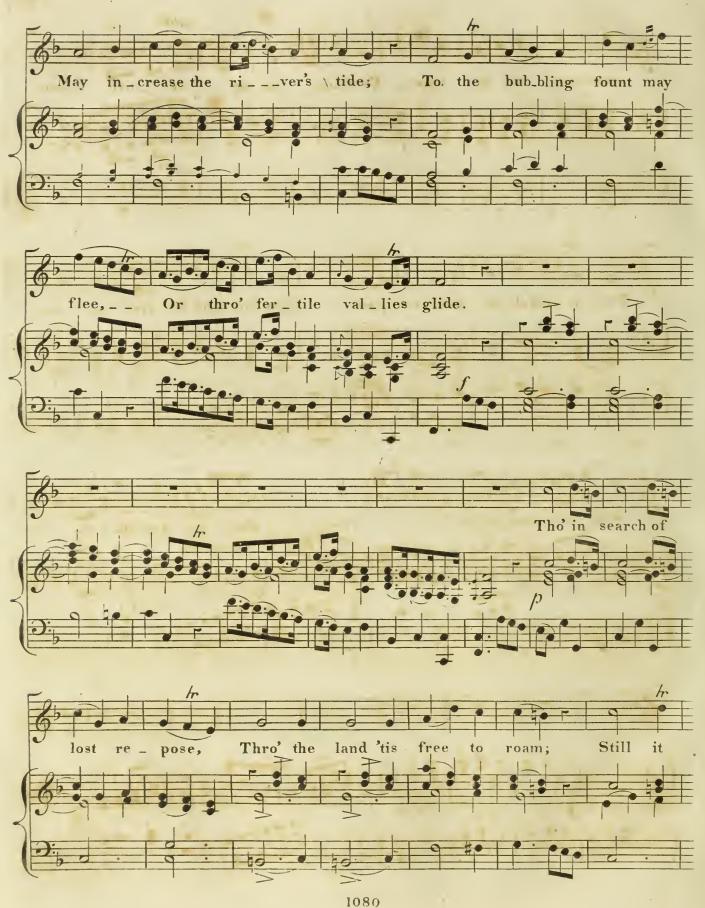


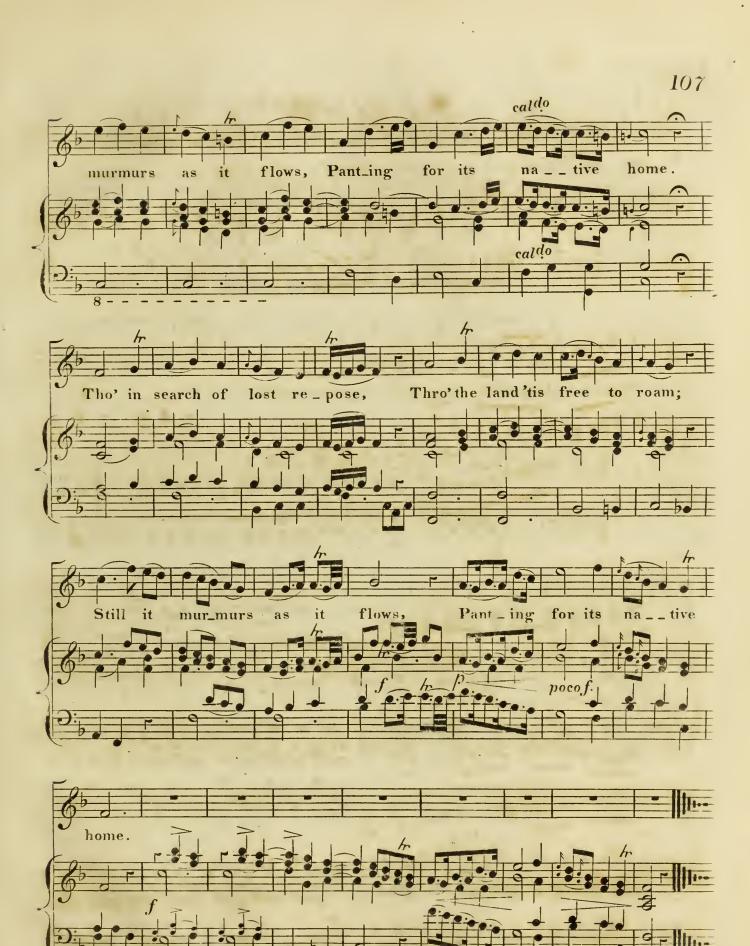
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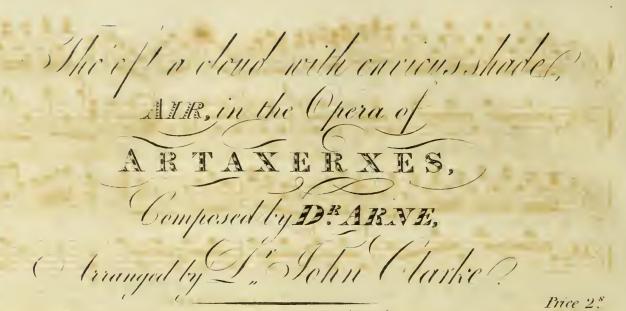
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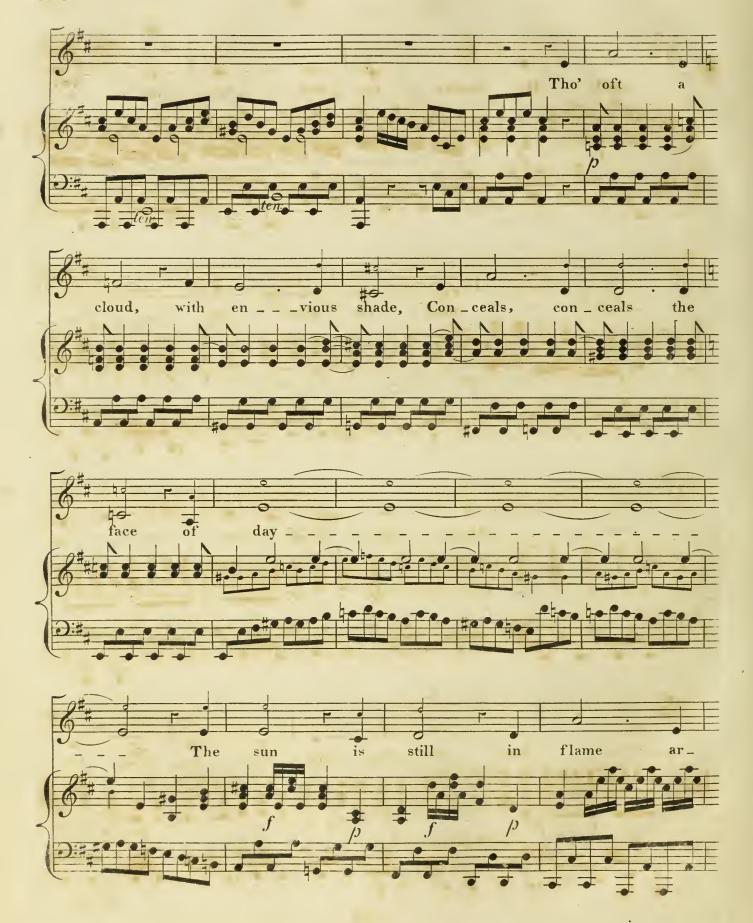
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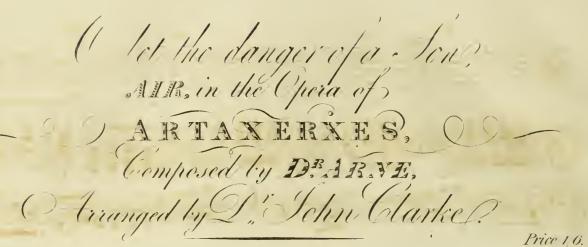










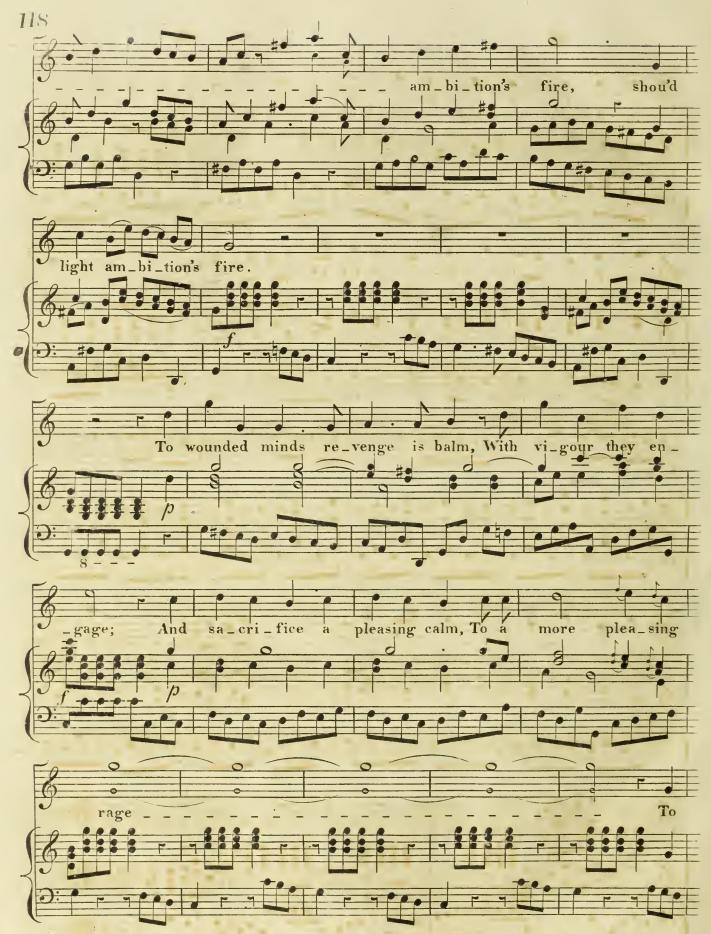


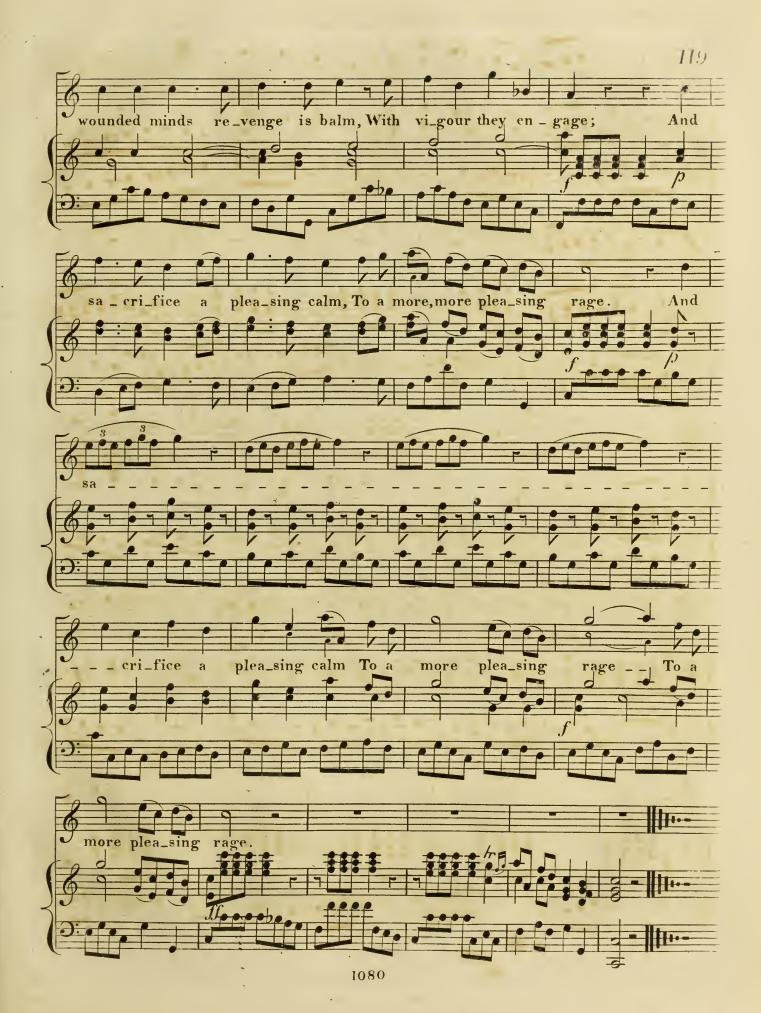
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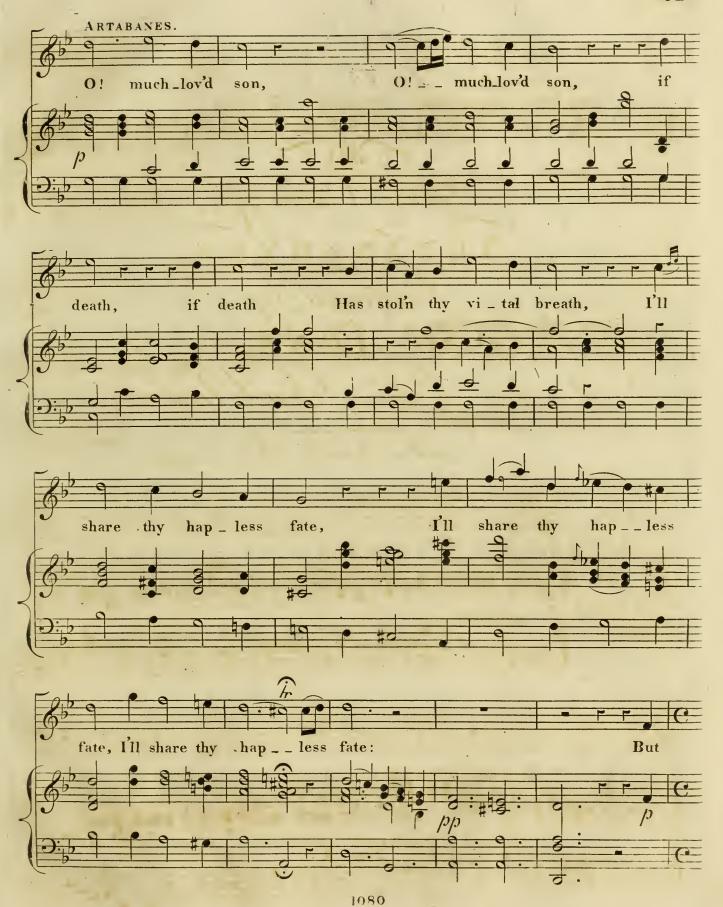






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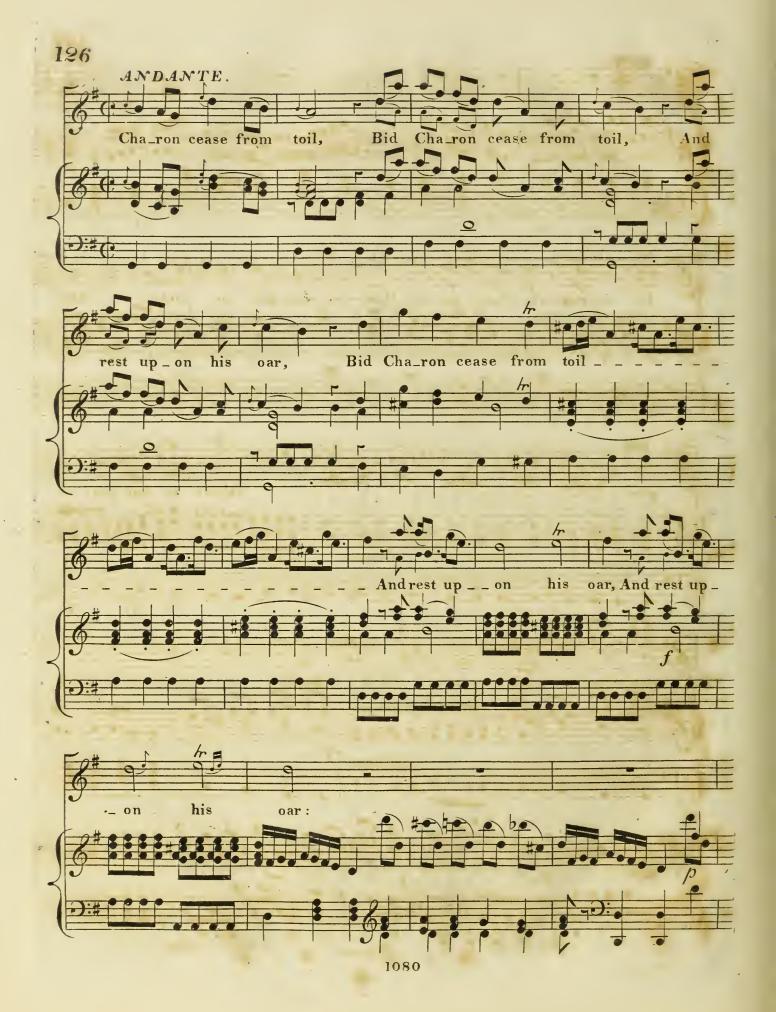


















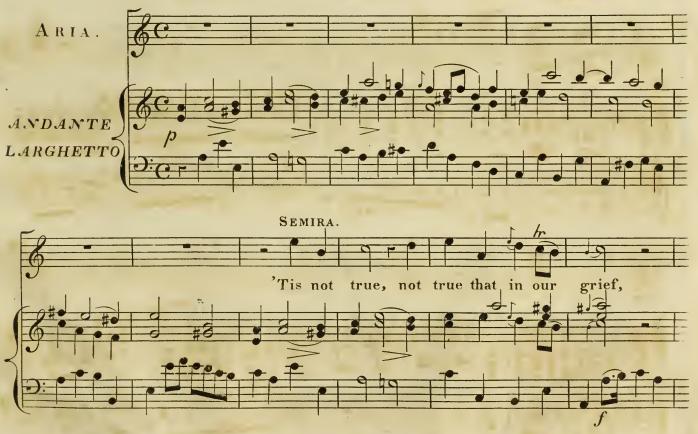


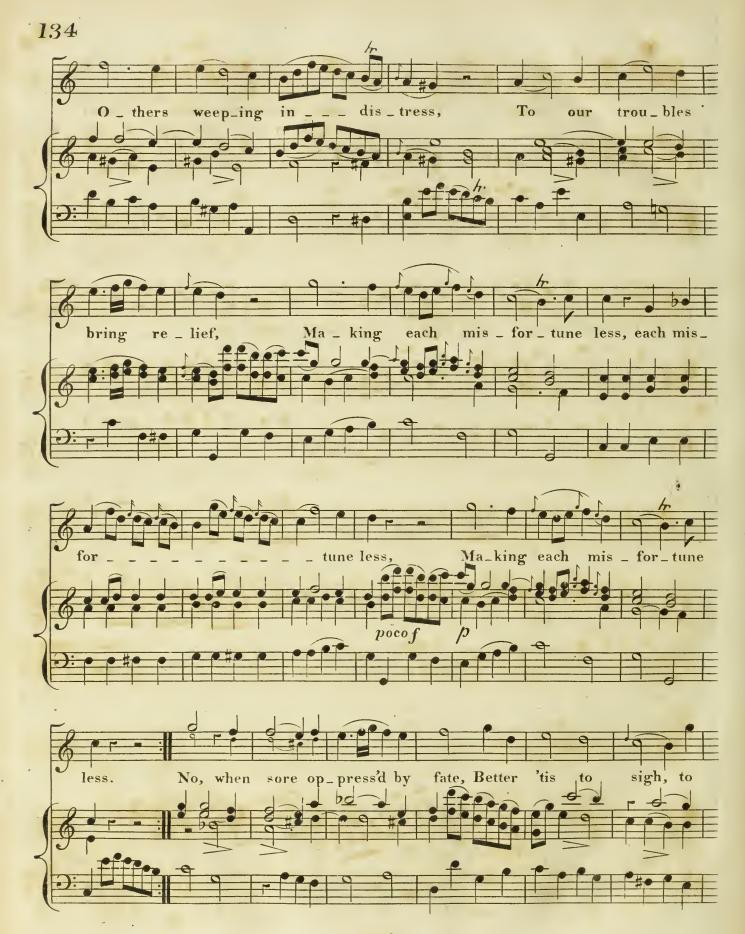






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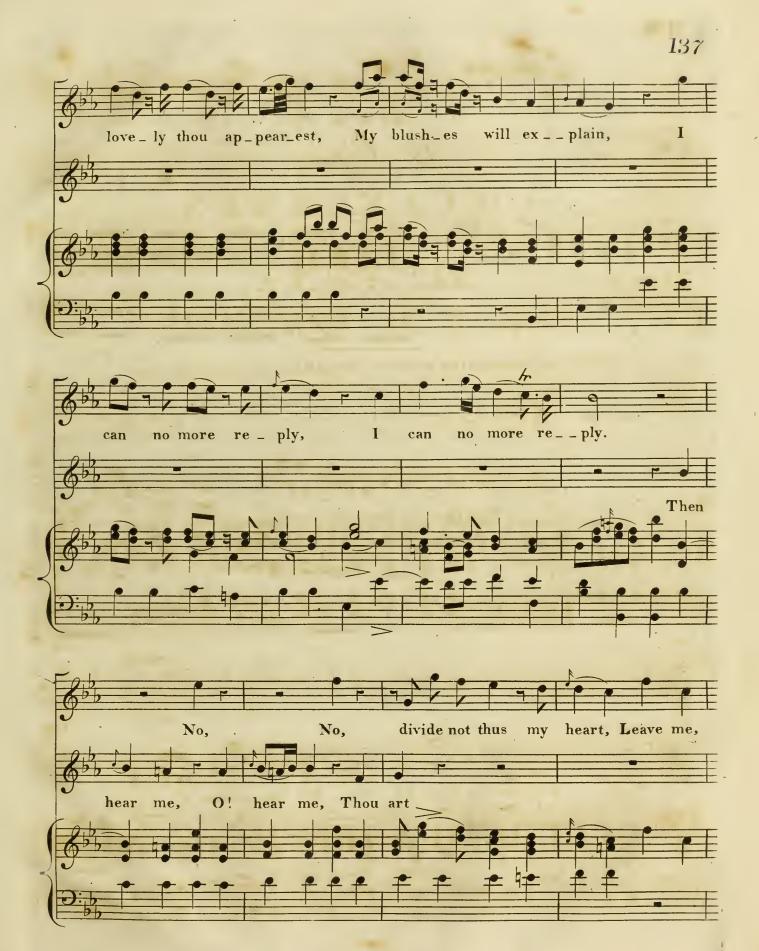






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