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THE BANJO,

AND

HOW TO PLAY IT.

CONTAINING,

IN ADDITION TO THE ELEMENTARY STUDY.

& CHOICE COLLECTION OF POLKAS, WALTZES, SOLOS, SCHOTTISCHES, SONGS, REELS, HORNPIPES, JIGS, ETC., WITH FULL EXPLANA-TIONS OF BOTH THE " BANJO " AND " GUITAR " STYLES OF EXECUTION, AND DESIGNED TO IMPART A COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ART OF PLAYING THE BANJO PRACTICAL-LY WITHOUT THE AID OF A TEACHER.

> BY FRANK B. CONVERSE.

NEW YORK: DICK & FITZGERALD, PUBLISHERS, No. 18 ANN STREET.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1872, by DICK & FITZGERALD, In the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

Electrotyped by SMITH & McDougal, 82 Beekman St

PREFACE.

In presenting "The Banjo, and How to Play it," to the learners and lovers of the Banjo generally, the author begs he may, without presumption, be allowed to congratulate himself upon the flattering success attained by his former work—"The Banjo without a Master," and in having contributed, in no slight degree, towards abridging and simplifying the study of the Banjo, and thereby removing the many obstacles from the pathway of those who—from want of a competent teacher, or a comprehensible instruction book—have been unable to obtain a mastery over this delightful instrument.

Many of those who essay the Banjo, labor under the impression that to learn and apply correct musical principles to this instrument would be a needless waste of time, and—having heard many persons who execute passably well entirely by ear—quite useless. But this is a great mistake, and none but a person entirely ignorant of the science of music would entertain such an opinion.

Music—like the other sciences—to be understood, requires to be learned systematically; and the elementary principles must be well fixed in the mind before a satisfactory or rapid progress can be expected.

When once the rudiments and the elementary exer-

PREFACE.

cises are well understood (which amounts to nearly all the study the character of this work requires), each succeeding step becomes comparatively easy, and the more interesting; and the fact that the pupil is performing understandingly gives him an assurance and certainty which this knowledge alone can convey.

The present work is designed to enlarge the learner's knowledge of the instrument, particularly in the Guitar Style of execution—playing accompaniments, Polkas, Waltzes, &c. It also embraces a large collection of Jigs, Hornpipes, &c., to be executed in the regular Banjo style, the whole forming a collection valuable as well to the professional as to the amateur.

With these few remarks I send this little volume forth, sincerely trusting it may receive a share of the favor so generously extended to its companion, "The Banjo without a Master."

THE AUTHOR.

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THE BANJO, ND PLAY IT.

RUDIMENTS OF MUSIC.

MUSICAL TONES, or Sounds, are represented by characters called notes.

Notes denote the LENGTH (duration of time) of tones. RESTS are marks for silence, corresponding in length (duration of time) with the different notes after which they are called.

Notes and Rests.

THE WHOLE NOTE is represented by a character somewhat resembling an italic o, and is the longest note used. As it is usual to measure the length (duration) of tones by counting the whole note has four counts.

THE HALF NOTE is distinguished from the whole note by its having a stem, thus, $rac{\circ}$ or $rac{\circ}$, and has two counts. THE QUARTER NOTE is represented thus $rac{\circ}$ or $rac{\circ}$; is one-

THE QUARTER NOTE is represented thus for j; is onefourth the length—in duration of time—of the whole note, and has one count.

THE EIGHTH NOTE differs from the quarter note in having a hook attached to the stem, thus: 2 or N, and is one half the length of the quarter note, or one eighth the length of the whole note.

THE SIXTEENTH NOTE differs from the eighth in having two hooks attached to its stem, thus : g or N.

THE THIRTY-SECOND NOTE has three hooks, thus:

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Table of Notes and Rests.



Dotted Notes and Rests.

A dot placed to the right of, and immediately following a note or rest, adds to the note or rest one half of its original length in duration of time; thus:

A dotted whole note, σ • is equal to three half notes.

A dotted half note, ? ' is equal to three quarter notes.

A dotted quarter note, β is equal to three eighth notes. A dotted eighth note, β is equal to three sixteenth notes. A dotted sixteenth note, β is equal to three thirty-second notes.

The Musical Alphabet.

The first seven letters of the Alphabet are used for naming the different tones. As there are a greater number of tones than seven, the letters are repeated as often as may be necessary, thus: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F G, A, &c.

The Staff, or Stave.

The staff is composed of five parallel lines and the four intermediate spaces, which, taken collectively, form nine degrees. The names of the notes are determined by the position they occupy upon the staff.



Added, or Leger Lines.

When it is required to extend the scale beyond the limits of the regular staff, then ADDED or LEGER lines are used, and the notes upon these lines are reckoned in the same manner as those upon the staff.

Names of the Notes on the Staff, Leger Lines and Spaces.



The G, or Treble Clef.

THE TREBLE CLEF is the only one used for banjo music. It resembles, somewhat, a written capital letter S reversed, and is always placed at the beginning of the staff.



Measures, Bars, Time.

The perpendicular lines drawn across the staff at regular distances are called BARS. The spaces between the

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bars are called MEASURES. Each measure contains the quantity indicated by the figures placed at the beginning of the piece.

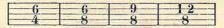
Measure.	Bar.
Colorence and	

There are three kinds of time, viz: COMMON, TRIPLE, and COMPOUND. In COMMON TIME there are an equal number of parts in a measure; in TRIPLE TIME, three parts; and in COMPOUND TIME, six or more. COMMON TIME has three varieties, viz: $\frac{4}{4}$ (sometimes indicated by the letter C placed at the beginning of the piece) which signifies that each measure contains the value of a whole note. This variety has four beats or counts in each measure. The second variety has two beats in each measure and is designated thus: $\frac{2}{4}$. The third variety has two beats in each measure, and is designated thus: $\frac{4}{3}$.

Three Varieties of Triple Time



Four Varieties of Compound Time.



The figures signify that each measure contains that portion of a whole note which they fractionally represent of a whole. And, in counting time, the upper figure denotes the number of counts, or beats, in each measure; the lower figure, the value of each count or beat.

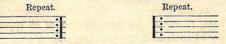
The Double Bar.

The double bar is placed at the end of a strain, or at the close of a piece, to denote that a part or the whole is finished.

Dou	Die	Bar.
	П	
1.4.1.2.2	tt	-
1003.03	11	church marked

The Dotted Double Bar.

Dots placed to the right or left of a double bar, denote that the part of the tune on the same side with the dots is to be repeated.



Tones and Semitones.

A SEMITONE is the smallest interval or degree between two musical sounds. If the banjo is correctly fretted, the distance from one fret to the next is a semitone.



Sharp, Flat, and Natural.

A SHARP (#) placed immediately before a note, raises it one semitone, (one fret towards the bridge).

A FLAT (2) placed before a note lowers it one semitone.

A NATURAL (\ddagger) placed before a note, previously affected by either a *sharp* or *flat*, restores it to its original sound.

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The Signature.

The sharps or flats placed at the beginning of a piece form the Signature, thus determining *the key* in which the piece stands. They affect the pitch of the notes throughout the piece bearing the same name.

Accidental Sharp, Flat, or Natural.

When a sharp or flat—not of the signature—is temporarily introduced in the course of a piece, it is termed an *accidental*, and its influence continues only throughout the measure in which it is placed, unless it should be the last note in the measure, and the first note of the following measure begins with the same note, in which case its influence would continue throughout the second measure also. In either case, however, the introduction of an opposite accidental would contradict the previous one.

Triplets and Sextoles.

A triplet is composed of three notes, having a curved line and a figure 3 placed either over or under them, thus :

påp or ege

They must be played in the time of two notes of the same denomination.

A sextole is a group embracing six notes having a curved line and the figure 6 placed either over or under. The notes must be played in the time of four notes of the same denomination.

Grace Notes.

Grace notes are small notes introduced to embellish the piece. They make no part of the measure, but partake of the notes before or after which they are placed, and are to be executed in such a manner as not to affect the regularity of the movement.

Chords.

When three or more notes are played together as one, they form a chord. A chord is of the same value in duration of time as a single note of the same denomination.

The Barre.

The barré is made by pressing the first finger of the left hand squarely across the finger-board.

Positions.

Positions are taken at each fret on the finger-board, either with the ordinary fingering or by the barré. When required to be taken they will be denoted by a letter P, placed over the note or chord.

The Pause.

The pause (\frown) is a sign placed over a note or chord to denote that its duration of time may be increased according to the judgment of the performer.

The Tie and Slur.

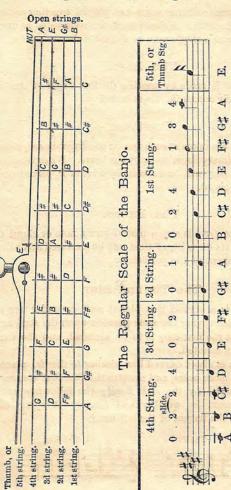
The The is a curved line placed over or under two or more notes occupying the same position upon the staff, and signifies that the first only is to be sounded, and the time of the others counted.

The SLUR is also a curved line, similar to the *tie*, placed over two or more notes, and denotes that the first note only is to be played by the *right hand*; the following notes being produced by quickly and forcibly stopping the strings with the fingers of the left hand.



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Diagram of the Finger-board.



viz: the Fs, Cs, and The learner will more readily comprehend this remark by trying the scale on his instrument while referring to the diagram. The natural scale of the Banjo requires the aid of three sharped notes, Gs,--establishing the Key of A, (three sharps.)

Directions for Stringing the Banjo.*

1st	String		 	 	 	.a	Viol	in E	5	strin	ng.
2d	"		 		 	"	"	A		"	
3d	"		 		 	"	"	D		"	
4th	"		 	 	 	"	Ban	jo 41	h	"	
	"						Viol				

For the 2d, 3d, and 5th strings, select the lightest of the three varieties.

Tuning.

Note.—All banjos do not sound equally well when tuned to the Key of A, in consequence of their varying in length, &c.; but the rule here given, being designed expressly for beginners, will enable them to tune their instruments properly, and, after they have acquired facility in tuning, it will be an easy matter for them to ascertain which key will produce the best quality of tone from the instrument.

An A tuning-fork or pitch-pipe is of great assistance to beginners in learning to tune the banjo. They can be procured from any music dealer.

4TH STRING.

Commence with this string, which tune to A (tuning-fork or pitch-pipe).

3D STRING.

Measure the distance from the nut to the bridge, and at one third of the distance (measuring from the nut) stop the 4th string with the second finger of the left hand, making E. Tune the 3d string in unison with it.

2D STRING

At one-fifth of the distance, measuring as before, stop the 3d string, making $G \ddagger$. Tune the second string in unison with it.

* "Directions for Stringing the Banjo," "Tuning," "Holding the Banjo," and "Signs for Fingering," taken from "FRANK CONVERSE'S Banjo without a Master," No. 1, published by DIGK & FITZGERALD.

THE BANJO,

1st String.

At one third the distance, measuring as before, stop the 3d string with the second finger, making B, tune the 1st string in unison with it.

Unison.

When two strings are in unison, the sounding one of them, will cause the other to vibrate.

Test of Tuning.

If the Instrument is in tune, the first three strings, sounded open, in the following order, thus: 3d, 2d, 1st, 1st, will commence the air of "Oh Susanna." Then by placing the left hand at the Natural Position (see diagram) the 4th and 2d strings will sound in unison.

The Banjo in Tune will sound the following Notes.



Holding the Banjo.

Sit erect. The banjo resting on the front of the right thigh; the neck elevated and resting in the left hand between the thumb and forefinger. Rest the right forearm on the rim of the instrument near the tail-piece. bringing the wrist over the bridge.

Position of the Right Hand.

Partly close the right hand, allowing the first finger to project a little in advance of the others. Slightly curve the thumb. Strike the strings with the first finger (nail) and pull with the thumb.

Signs for Fingering.

LEFT HAND.

The left hand fingering is written above the notes, thus: 1, 2, 3, 4; the figures naming the fingers required for "stopping" the strings to make the required notes, a small o placed over a note, denotes that the note, over which it is formed, is to be sounded on an open string, that is—*not stopped.* Notes figured thus: 1, 2, 3, 4, must be sounded by pulling the string with the finger of the left hand which is numbered in the half circle.

RIGHT HAND.

Right hand fingering is written below the notes, thus: x indicating the thumb, and 1, the first finger. A waved line \sim , placed under a triplet or any collection of notes, denotes that you must play them by sliding the first finger across the required strings. Notes written thus:



are to be sounded on the fifth (thumb) string by pulling with the thumb.

The Guitar Style of Fingering.

In performing polkas, waltzes, marches, and pieces containining harmony generally, the rule for right-hand fingering heretofore given, having reference solely to what is usually termed the *legitimate banjo style*, does not apply. In the banjo style of execution, melody alone is embraced, or, in other words, the tones follow in succession and are rarely combined. Also the manner of sounding the strings (striking with the nail) produces the quality of tone and other peculiarities characteristic of the genuine banjo musive. In the guitar style of execution the manner of sounding the strings is reversed, and, in addition to the

thumb and first finger, the remaining fingers are brought into requisition. Instead of striking them with the nail the strings are to be sounded by pulling them with the points of the fingers; and to avoid the clashing sound usually attending the first efforts of beginners, the fingers should meet and draw the strings obliquely, which will cause them to vibrate *across* the finger-board, producing a full and mellow tone. Avoid, from the beginning, the bad habit of supporting the right hand by resting the fourth finger upon the head of the banjo. The forearm resting upon the rim, will do this far better and more gracefully. Besides, the fourth finger is frequently required to be used, and when once the habit of resting it has become fixed, it it will be found an effort of no little difficulty to bring the finger into use when absolutely required.

Signs for Right-Hand Fingering.

GUITAR STYLE.

The signs for the right-hand fingering will be found written either below or placed to the left of the notes upon the staff. The following are the signs:--x, thumb; 1, 1st finger; 2, 2d finger; 3, 3d finger; 4, 4th finger.

The Five Principal Positions.

The "five principal positions" by no means embrace the number that can be taken upon the instrument. On the contrary, positions are taken at every fret upon the fingerboard. The five here given are generally the first to be mastered by the learner, and should be thoroughly understood, as they form what might be termed a base of or key to the majority of the positions.

AND HOW TO PLAY IT.

THE FIVE PRINCIPAL POSITIONS.

(See Position, page 7.)

D

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1ST OR NATURAL POSITION.



Place the first finger on the 2d string at A, and the second finger on the 1st string at $C \sharp$.

2D POSITION.



Place the first finger on the 2d string at A, the second finger on the 3d string at F \ddagger , and the fourth finger on the 1st string at D.

3D POSITION.



Press the first finger across the fingerboard at D (on the 4th string) holding

down the four strings firmly; then place the third finger on the 2d string, making D, and the fourth finger on the 1st string, making F #.





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Press the first finger across the finger-board at E (on the 4th string); the third and fourth fingers are placed in the same manner as in holding the 3d position, making E and $G \ddagger$.



Place the first finger on the 2d string at E (of the 4th position), the second finger on the third string at $C \ddagger$, and the fourth finger on the 1st string at A.

EXERCISES FOR PRACTICE.

A familiarity with the following progressively arranged exercises will materially assist the learner in mastering the regular pieces given in the latter part of this work.

In commencing to learn a new tune, the learner should first ascertain the key in which the piece is written, and also the time or movement in which it is to be performed (see SIG-NATURE), and then—after having carefully read the entire piece, beating and counting aloud the time—commence with the banjo.

No. 1. Banjo Style. Introducing QUARTER NOTES and QUARTER RESTS. EXPLANATION.

Natural key of the banjo (3 sharps). Common Time.

Four beats in each measure. A count with each beat: Give to each beat the value (in duration of time) of one quarter note.



Hold the natural position. Play 3d string, 2d string, 1st string, 5th string.

2D MEASURE.

Stop the 1st string with the fourth finger at D (see diagram). Play 1st string. Open strings, play 1st string, 2d string, 3d string.

3D MEASURE.

Open strings. Play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th.

4TH MEASURE.

Hold the natural position. Play 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th.

* Pronouncing the word "and" between the counts completes (in the mind) the duration of time, and thereby assists in regulating the movement.

5TH MEASURE.

Open strings. Play 3d, 1st. Hold the natural position, play 2d.

6TH MEASURF.

Open strings. Play 3d, 5th. Stop the 1st string at D, with the fourth finger, and play 1st. Open strings, play 1st.

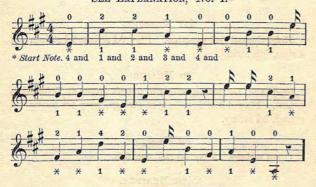
7TH MEASURE.

Open strings. Play 3d, 1st, 2d, 5th.

STH MEASURE.

Hold the natural position. Play 2d (the *Quarter Note*). Give a full beat to the quarter rest. Play the 4th. Give the concluding rest its full beat and count.

No. 2. Banjo Style. SEE EXPLANATION, No. 1.



1st MEASURE. Hold the natural position. Play 1st, 1st, 2d, 3d.

* The "start note" must be counted and played as the finish of a (supposable) preceding full measure.

AND HOW TO PLAY IT.

2D MEASURE. Open strings. Play 2d, 1st, 1st, 5th.

3D MEASURE.

Open strings. Play 1st, 1st, 2d, 3d.

4TH MEASURE.

Hold the natural position. Play 2d, 1st, 1st. Beat upon, and give a full count (4 and) for the Rest.

5TH MEASURE.

Natural position. Play 5th, 5th, 1st, 2d.

6TH MEASURE.

Hold the 2d position (see "FIVE PRINCIPAL POSITIONS"). Play 3d, 2d, 1st, 3d.

7TH MEASURE.

Natural position. Play 3d, 5th, 1st, 2d.

STH MEASURE.

Natural position. Play 2d, 3d, 4th. Give the concluding *Rest* its full beat and count.

No. 3. Banjo Style.

Introducing EIGHTH NOTES, and EIGHTH RESTS; Dotted Eighth notes and eighth rests (see DOTTED NOTES and RESTS), followed by a sixteenth note, and dotted quarter notes.

EXPLANATION.

Natural key of the banjo (3 sharps). Common time. Four beats (with counts) in each measure. The beat equals a quarter note or its equivalent in value of time. The following are the equivalents of a quarter note introduced in this exercise :—

29 48 4.8

THE BANJO,

also the dot placed after the quarter note in the sixth measure, taken in connection with the EIGHTH NOTE that follows, equals a quarter note.



1ST MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 1st, 1st. Open strings, play 1st, 2d, 1st, 5th.

2D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 2d, 3d, 4th, 1st, 5th.

3D MEASURE.

Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger. Play 1st, 1st, 5th. Take the natural position and play 1st, 2d, 1st, 5th.

4TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 1st, 5th, 5th. Count upon the "rest" and follow with 1st (eighth note), 2d, 1st.

5TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 2d. Open strings, play 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

6TH MEASURE.

Stop A (at the natural position) on the 2d string with the first finger. Play 2d, 2d, 2d. The next note $(G \ddagger)$ is to be sounded by pulling the string with the first finger of the left hand—sounding the string open (see LEFT HAND FINGERING). Stop F \ddagger on the 3d string (see DIAGRAM) with the second finger, play 3d, 1st.

7TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d. Count on the "rest" and allow for the dot, play 3d. Stop F # as before and play 3d, 2d.

STH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 2d, 3d, 4th.

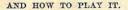
No. 4. Banjo Style.

NOTE.—In playing the dotted eighth note and the sixteenth note, thus: ", care must be taken to properly divide the quantity of time, and give to each its true proportion (see DOTTED NOTES).

SEE EXPLANATION, No. 3.









1ST MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 5th. Retain the natural position, and stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st, 5th. Remove the fourth finger and hold the natural position, play 1st, 5th. Open strings, play 1st, 5th.

2D MEASURE.

The same as 1st measure.

3D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 2d. Retain the natural position and stop D on the 1st string, play 1st, 5th. Remove the fourth finger and hold the natural position, play 1st, 2d. Open strings, play 1st, 2d.

4TH MEASURE.

The same as 3d measure.

5TH MEASURE.

Observe the same changes of fingering as given in the 1st measure, and play 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

6TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 5th. Beat upon, and allow the full time for the dotted eighth rest. Retain natural position and play 5th, 1st, 5th. Remove the second finger only, from the 1st string, continuing to stop the 2d string at A with the first finger, play 2d.

7TH MEASURE.

Observe the same changes of fingering as given in the 5th measure, and play 1st, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d, 1st, 5th.

STH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 2d. Stop the first string at D with the fourth finger, play 1st, 5th. Open strings, play 1st, 2d. Natural position, play 2d.

No. 5. Banjo Style.

EXPLANATION.

Natural key of the banjo. 2d variety of common time. Two beats (or counts) in each measure. Each beat (or count) has the value of one quarter note, the same as in the 1st variety of common time. Four sixteenth notes equal one quarter note in duration of time, and therefore, they must be played in one count (or beat).



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1ST MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 1st. Pull the 1st string open with the second finger of the left hand—sounding B (1st string open). Stop A on the 2d string with the first finger, and, after sounding it, pull it open, which sounds the first note (G) of the 2d measure.

2D MEASURE.

The first note having been explained in "1st measure," stop $F \ddagger$ on the 3d string with the second finger, and play 3d, 3d, 3d.

3D MEASURE.

Hold the 2d position (see "The Five Principal Positions"). Play 1st, 1st, 3d, 1st.

4TH MEASURE.

Stop F # on the 3d string with the second finger, and sound it; after which, pull the string open with the same finger—sounding E (3d string). Play 3d.

5TH MEASURE.

The same as 1st measure.

6TH MEASURE.

Sound the first note by pulling the 2d string open with the first finger of left hand, which finished the preceding measure by holding A (2d string). Take the 2d position, play 3d, 3d, 5th.

7TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st. Natural position, play 1st.

STH MEASURE.

Sound the first note (B) by pulling the first string open with the second finger of left hand, which finished the preceding measure by holding C[#] on 1st string. Open strings, play 2d. Natural position, play 2d. The two eighth rests which conclude this measure equal one quarter note in duration of time. (See "DOUBLE BAR.")

9TH MEASURE.

The beginning of the second strain. Natural position, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

10TH MEASURE.

Second position, play 3d, 1st, 3d, 1st.

11TH MEASURE. Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d,

12TH MEASURE. Natural position, play 2d, 1st, 5th.

13TH MEASURE.

The same as 9th measure.

14TH MEASURE.

Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st, 1st, and then pull the 1st string open with the fourth finger of left hand—sounding B (1st string), play 5th.

15TH MEASURE. Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

16TH MEASURE. Open strings, play 1st, 2d. Natural position, play 2d.

1ST MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 2d, 2d. Remove the second finger only from the 1st string. Play 1st, 2d, 2d.

2D MEASURE.

The same as 1st measure.

3D MEASURE.

Position, stop F # on the 3d string with the second finger; and A on the 2d string with the first finger, play 3d, 1st, 1st, 1st, 2d, 1st.

4TH MEASURE.

The same as 3d measure.

5TH MEASURE.

The same as 1st measure.

6TH MEASURE.

The same as 1st measure.

7TH MEASURE.

Stop A on the 2d string with the first finger, play 4th, 2d, 2d, 2d. Pull the 2d string open with the first finger of left hand, sounding $G \ddagger (2d \text{ string})$. Immediately replace the first finger at A, and sound it.

STH MEASURE.

Stop A on the 2d string with the first finger, play 4th, 2d, 2d, 2d.

9TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st. Stop D on 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st, 5th. Open strings, play 1st. Natural position, play 1st. Again stop D on the 1st string as before, and sound it.

THE BANJO,

No. 6. Banjo Style.

EXPLANATION.

Natural key of the banjo. Compound Time. Six eighth notes—or their equivalent—are required to fill a measure. Each eighth note is entitled to one count, therefore there must be six counts in each measure. Beat only on the first and third counts.





10TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st. After which pull the 1st string open with the second finger of the left hand, sounding B (1st string). Natural position, play 1st, 2d. Remove the fingers. Stop $F \ddagger$ on the 3d string with the second finger, sound, and then pull it open with the second finger, making the two notes $F \ddagger$ and E.

11TH MEASURE.

The same as 3d measure.

12TH MEASURE.

The same as 3d measure.

13TH MEASURE.

The same as 9th measure.

14TH MEASURE.

The same as 10th measure.

15TH MEASURE. The same as 7th measure.

16TH MEASURE.

The same as 8th measure.

No. 7. Guitar Style.

See "GUITAR STYLE OF FINGERING."

EXPLANATION.

Natural key of the banjo. Triple Time. Three quarter notes—or their equivalent—are required to fill a measure. Each quarter note (or quarter rest) is entitled to one count, consequently there will be three counts in each measure. Beat only on the first count in each measure.



1ST MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d. Natural position, play 2d. Open strings, play 1st.

2D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st. Open strings, play 2d.

3D MEASURE.

Open strings, play 1st. Stop A on the 2d string with the first finger and sound it.

4TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 2d. Stop F # on the 3d string with the second finger and sound it.

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14TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 1st. Stop F # on the 3d string with the second finger, play 3d, 2d.

15TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 2d, 3d, 1st.

16TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 2d.

No. 8.

Use both the "BANJO" and "GUITAR" styles of fingering, alternately, in practising the three following exercises.

THAT YOUNG GAL FROM NEW JERSEY.









THE BANJO,

5TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 1st. Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger and sound it.

6TH MEASURE.

Hold the 2d position, play 3d, 1st.

7TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 2d. Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger and sound it.

STH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, 2d.

9TH MEASURE. Natural position, play 4th, 2d. Open strings, play 1st.

10TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st. Stop D on the 1st string and play 1st, 5th.

11TH MEASURE.

Stop D on the 4th string with the fourth finger (see diagram) play 4th, 1st (while removing the fourth finger). Natural position, play 1st.

12TH MEASURE.

Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st, 5th. Raise the left hand and shift down the finger-board (towards the bridge) in position to stop $F \ddagger$ (see Diagram), sound it.

13TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d. Stop Λ on the 2d string with the first finger, and sound it.





No. 10.

RATTLESNAKE JIG.

A Triplet is introduced in the 4th measure (see TRIP-LETS).

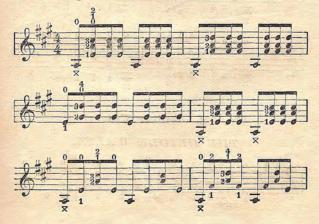




No. 11. Guitar Fingering.

ACCOMPANIMENT.

Several notes written with but one stem, form a CHORD, and all the notes so placed must be sounded together—as one note. The chord is of the same value in duration of time as a single note of the same variety.





No. 13. Guitar Fingering

THE ORIOLE WALTZ.



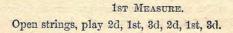


No. 14. Guitar Fingering. MELROSE POLKA. By G. F. HARTLEY.

EXPLANATION.

Key of E, which requires *four* sharps to form the signature. The F[#], C[#] and G[#], forming the signature of the "Natural Key of the Banjo," are retained, to which is added D[#], and, therefore, all the D's must be "sharped" stopped one half tone (one fret) higher than when executing in the "Natural Key." For an explanation of the *accidental sharps, grace notes* and *triplets* occurring in this piece, see "ACCIDENTALS," "GRACE NOTES," and "TRIP-LETS." Tune the 4th string to B—an octave below the 1st string.





2D MEASURE.

Stop C \ddagger on the 1st string (at the natural position) with the second finger; sound it and *immediately* pull the string open with the second finger of the left hand, thus making the grace note (C \ddagger) and the note following it (B, open string). Stop A \ddagger on the 2d string (2d fret) with the second finger, play 2d, 1st. Again stop C \ddagger , on the 1st string, as before; sound and pull the string open, not so quickly as in making the grace note, but giving the note its proper length. After which, play 2d, 3d.

3D MEASURE.

In taking the 2d position (see FIVE PRINCIPAL POSI-TIONS), which must be held throughout this measure, remember the D (on 1st string with the fourth finger) must be stopped *sharp*. Play 4th, 3d, 2d, 1st, 1st.

4TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th. Make the grace note and the one following it, as explained in 2d measure. Open strings, play 2d, 3d, 2d.

5TH MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

6TH MEASURE.

The same as the 2d measure.

7TH MEASURE.

The same as the 3d measure.

STH MEASURE. Open strings, play 3d, 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th.

9TH MEASURE.

Hold the natural position, play 3d, 2d, 1st (the chord). The three following notes for a *triplet*, (see TRIPLETS). Hold the natural position and play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 2d.

10TH MEASURE.

The same as the 2d measure.

11TH MEASURE.

The same as the 3d measure.

THE BANJO.

12TH MEASURE. The same as the 4th measure.

13TH MEASURE. The same as the 9th measure.

14TH MEASURE. The same as the 10th measure.

15TH MEASURE. The same as the 3d measure.

16TH MEASURE. Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 2d, 1st, 5th.

> No. 15. Guitar Fingering, SEE EXPLANATION OF NO. 14. FAIRYLAND WALTZ.









1ST MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st—grace notes, 5th. Stop D (sharp) on the 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st. Natural position, play 5th, 1st, 2d, 1st.

2D MEASURE. Open strings, play 2d, 1st, 5th, 3d, 2d, 1st.

3D MEASURE.

Take the "2d Position," *leaving the 1st string open*, play 4th, 3d, 2d, 1st. Stop D# on the 1st string, sound and then pull it open, making D# and B.

4TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th. Shift down the fingerboard to $G \ddagger$ (1st string), stop with the fourth finger, sound and pull it open, making $G \ddagger$ and B (open string).

5TH MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

6TH MEASURE.

The same as the 2d measure.

7TH MEASURE.

The same as the 3d measure.

STH MEASURE.

Open strings, play the chord 3, 2, 1, 5. Give to the rest its proper count and time which concludes the 1st strain (see DOUBLE BAR). Connect the following strain in time by counting the two starting notes as the finish or completion of the preceding measure.

9TH MEASURE.

The grace note and the two notes following (B and $A \ddagger$), were explained in the 2d measure of No. 14. Place the first finger on the 2d string at the natural position (holding A), play 2d.

10TH MEASURE.

Take the "2D Position," play 4th, 3d, 2d, 1st, 3d, 2d.

AND HOW TO PLAY IT.

11TH MEASURE.

See the 9th measure for explanation of the first three notes. Open strings, play 4th.

12TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 2d, 1st.

13TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d. Stop F # on the 3d string (2d fret) with the second finger, and sound it. Open strings, play 2d.

14TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 2d, 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th.

15TH MEASURE.

Take the "2D POSITION," play 4th, and the chords 3, 2, 1-3, 2, 1.

16TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play the chord 3, 2, 1, 5, concluding the second strain. For commencing the following strain see explanation of 8th measure.

17TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 4, 1. Stop C# (1st string) with the second finger, at the natural position, play 1st. Stop D# (1st string) with the fourth finger, play 4, 1.

18TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play the chord 3, 2, 1, 5-3d, 2d, 1st. Repeat the chord 3, 2, 1, 5.

19TH MEASURE.

The same as the 3d measure.



20TH MEASURE.

The same as the 4th measure.

21st MEASURE.

The same as the 17th measure.

22D MEASURE.

Open strings, play the chord 3, 2, 1, 5-3d, 2d, 1st, 3d, 2d.

23D MEASURE.

The same as the 15th measure.

24TH MEASURE.

The same as the 16th measure.

No. 16. Guitar Fingering. THE GAZELLE POLKA.

The first strain of this polka is written in the natural key of the banjo (A, three sharps). The second strain is in the key of E, and requires four sharps for the signature. The additional sharp is D, and therefore all the notes bearing that name must be stopped one half tone (one fret) higher than when executing in the "Natural key." For an explanation of accidental sharps, which occur in the 3d and 4th measures, the pupil will see "ACCIDENTALS;" also consult THE DIAGRAM.









3D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 1st, after which pull the 1st string open with the first finger of left hand, sounding B (1st string). Play 1st. A# will be found on the 2d string, at the second fret. See DIAGRAM. Stop it with the second finger and play 2d, 1st.

4TH MEASURE.

Hold the natural position. Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger, play 1st. Remove the fourth finger only and play 1st. Place the first finger on the first string between the second finger (which continues to stop C[#] on the first string) and the Nut (at the fret). Play 1st, and then pull the string with the second finger of left hand (holding the first finger firmly down) sounding B[#]. Replace

the second finger as before, and play 1st. See "DOTTED DOUBLE BAR." DA CAPO OF D. C. AL FINE is a musical term which directs the performer to repeat the piece from the beginning, and finish at the word FINE.

No. 17. Guitar Fingering, THE GEM WALTZ.

SEE EXPLANATION OF No. 16.

The word "FINE" is a musical term indicating the end or finish. Da Capo—generally written D. C.—indicates that the performer must return to and finish with the first strain. For an explanation of the slurs which are introduced in this piece, see "THE SLUR."





1st MEASURE. Natural position, play 5th, 1st, 2d, 3d.

2D MEASURE.

Stop E[#] on the 3d string (1st fret) with the first finger, sound and immediately stop the same string with the second finger at the 2d fret *sounding* $F^#_{+-}$ the result of the slur. Play D, and C[#]_{+-}

3D MEASURE.

Stop C^{\ddagger} on the 1st string (2d fret) with the second finger, sound and *immediately* after pull the string open, making the *grace* note (C^{\ddagger}) and the following note (B). Stop A^{\ddagger} on the 2d string at the 2d fret, with the second finger, play 2d. Open strings, play 1st, 3d, 2d, 1st.

4TH MEASURE.

Hold A on the 2d string, with the first finger, at natural position, play 2d, 3d, 2d. With the second finger of *left hand* pull the first string open, sounding B. Natural position, play 1st. Stop D (1st string) with fourth finger and sound it.

5TH MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

15TH MEASURE. The same as the 11th measure.

16TH MEASURE. Open strings, play the chord 3, 2, 1, 5.

No. 18.

KENTUCKY JUBA.

This and the following exercises are designed to portray the peculiar characteristics of the genuine banjo style. To obtain the desired effect, the notes should be played *staccato*, i. e., distinct and detached from each other, and the fingering strictly followed. Use the "Guitar Style" for the chords, and the regular "Banjo Style" (thumb and forefinger nail) in executing the single notes.

EXPLANATION.

Second variety of common time. Two quarter notes or their equivalents fill a measure. The following are equivalents:



6TH MEASURE.

The same as the 2d measure.

7TH MEASURE.

The same as the 3d measure.

STH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4, 2.

9TH MEASURE.

The grace note $(C_{\#}^{\#})$ and the note following (B) were explained in the 3d measure. Hold A on 2d string at 1st fret, with the first finger, and F# on the 3d string with the second finger, play 2d, 3d, 2d, 1st. Stop D on the 1st string, as before, and sound it.

10TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 5th, 3d, 2d, 1st, 3d, 2d.

11TH MEASURE.

Stop B on the 2d string, at the 2d fret, with the second finger, and sound it. Hold the 2d position, play the chords 3, 2, 1-3, 2, 1.

12TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, and the chord 3, 2, 1, 5. Natural position, play 1st.

13TH MEASURE.

The same as the 9th measure.

14TH MEASURE.

The same as the 10th measure.



1ST MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 1st, 2d, 5th-2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

2D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 2, 1, 5, 3d, 2, 1, 5.

3D MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 1st, 2d, 5th-2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

4TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 2, 1, 5, 3d, 2, 1, 5.

5TH MEASURE.

Hold B, on the 4th string, with the second finger (see diagram), and D, on the 1st string, with the fourth finger, play 4th, 1st, 2d, 5th—2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

6TH MEASURE.

Hold the position described in the 5th measure, play 4th, 2, 1, 5-3d, 2, 1, 5.

7TH MEASURE.

The same as the 5th measure.

STH MEASURE.

Hold the position described in the 5th measure, play 4th, 2, 1, 5-3, 2, 1, 5, 1, 2.

9TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 1st, 2d, 5th-3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

10TH MEASURE.

Hold the 2d position (see "THE FIVE PRINCIPAL POSI-TIONS,) play 3d, 2, 1,-2, 1.

11TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 1st, 2d, 5th-3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

12TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 2, 1-2, 1.

13TH MEASURE.

Natural position, play 4th, 1st, 2d, 5th-3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

14TH MEASURE.

Hold the 2d position (see 10th measure), play 3d, 1st, 2d, 3d-1st, 2d, 3d, 1st.

15TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 1st, 2d, 5th-2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

16TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d. Take the natural position and play 2d, 4th.

No. 19.

GRAPE VINE REEL.

EXPLANATION.

See "GRACE NOTES," and "FINGERING."





i.

THE BANJO,

1ST MEASURE.

Stop D, on the 1st string, with the fourth finger, play 1st, and then pull the 1st string open with the fourth finger, sounding B (1st string open). Natural position, play 1st, 5th. The last four notes are executed in the same manner.

2D MEASURE.

The first four notes are the same as the first four of the preceding measure. Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d.

SD MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

4TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d. Natural position, play 2d, and then with these cond finger of the left hand, pull the first string open, sounding B. Natural position, play 1st, 5th.

5TH MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

6TH MEASURE.

The same as the 2d measure.

7TH MEASURE.

The same as the 1st measure.

STH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d. Stop A, on the 2d string, with the first finger (see Diagram) sound, and then pull it open with the finger stopping it making G_{\pm}^{\pm} (2d string open). Stop F \pm , on the 3d string, with the second finger of the left hand; sound, and then pull it open with the second finger of the left hand, making E (3d string open).

9TH MEASURE.

Stop B on the 4th string with the second finger, play 4th, 1st, 1st, 4th, 1st.

10TH MEASURE.

Continue to hold B as in the preceding measure, play 4th, 1st, 1st. Natural position, play 2d, and then pull the 1st string open with the second finger of the left hand. Natural position, play 1st, 5th.

11TH MEASURE.

Hold B on the 4th string, play 4th, 1st, 1st, 4th. Natural position, play 1st, 5th.

12TH MEASURE.

Stop D on the 1st string with the fourth finger, sound and then pull it open, making D, and B. Natural position, play 1st, 2d (see GRACE NOTES). Stop C# on the 1st string (see DIAGRAM) with the second finger, sound and pull nearly simultaneously, thus making the grace note and the one following (B). Place the first finger on the second string at A, and the second finger on the 3d string at F#. Play 2d, 3d, and then pull the 3d string open with the second finger of the left hand making E (3d string open).

13TH MEASURE.

The same as the 9th measure.

14TH MEASURE.

The same as the 10th measure.

15TH MEASURE.

Hold B, on the 4th string, play 4th, 1st, 1st, 4th, 1st, 5th.

16TH MEASURE.

Open strings, play 3d, 2d, 1st, 5th, 1st, 2d. Natural position, play 2d, 4th.

SPRIG OF SHILLALAH. Irish Jig.



MISCELLANEOUS.

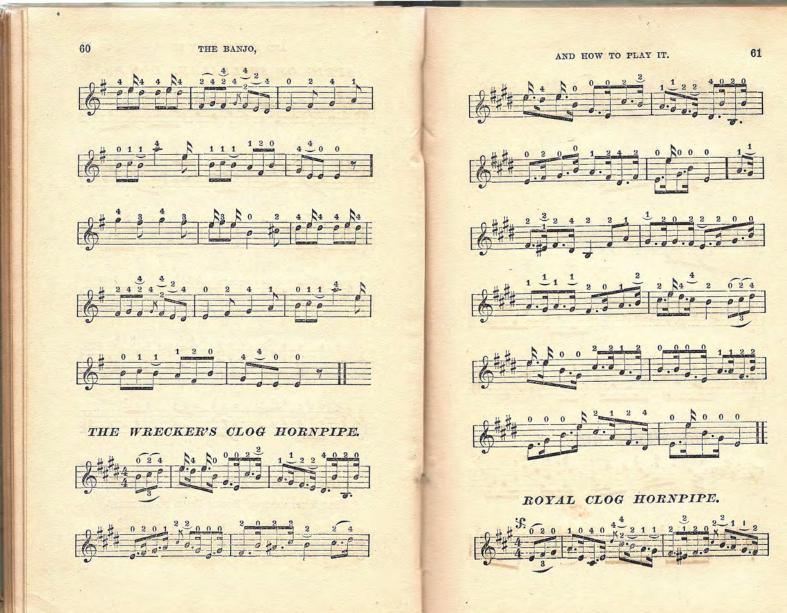
THE BANJO.

ROCKY ROAD TO DUBLIN. Irish Jig.

EXPLANATION.

In this piece the C's and G's must be played *natural* [one semitone (one fret) lower than when executing in the "Natural Key" of the banjo] except where they are controlled by an *accidental* sharp. Pay particular attention to the *slurs*, as they naturally assist in the execution.

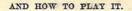














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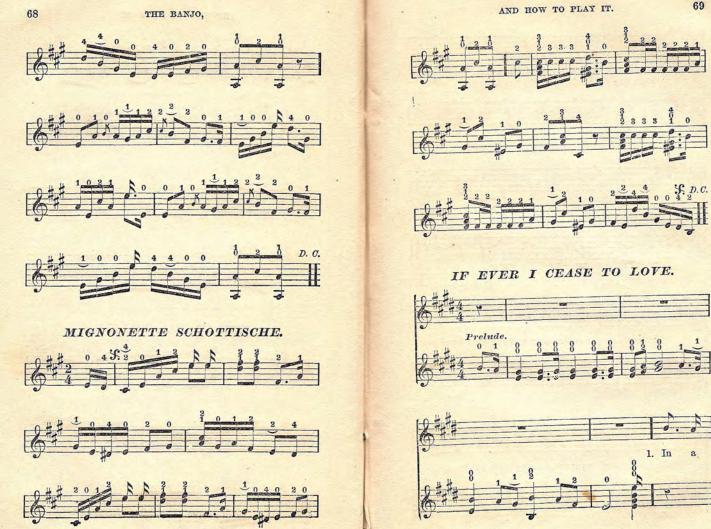


THE CLARA POLKA.





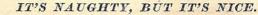






If





Written and Composed by ARTHUR LLOYD.









love. 2 She can sing, she can play the piano,

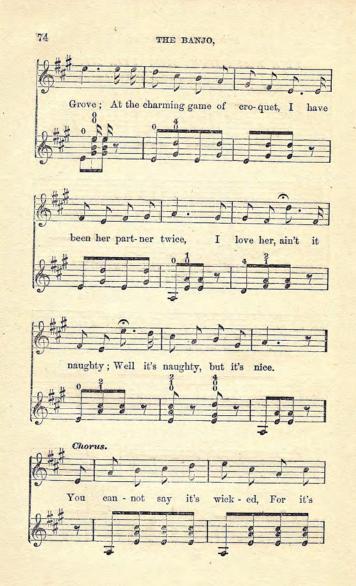
to green cheese, If ev-er I cease to

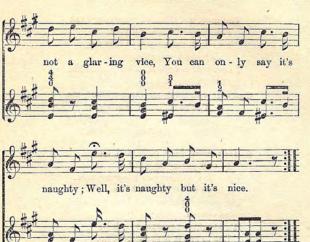
THE BANJO,

She can jump, she can dance, she can run, In fact she's a modern Taglioni And Sims Reeves rolled into one. And who would not love such a beauty, Like an angel dropped from above, May I be stung to death with flies, If ever I cease to love ; May I be stung to death with flies. If ever I cease to love. If ever I cease to love, If ever I cease to love, May little dogs wag their tails in front, If ever I cease to love.

3 For all the money that's in the bank, For the title of a lord or a duke, I wouldn't exchange the girl I love, There's bliss in every look ; To see her dance the polka I could faint with radiant love. May the Monument a hornpipe dance If ever I cease to love ; May we never have to pay the income tax If ever I cease to love.

If ever I cease to love, If ever I cease to love, May we all turn into cats and dogs, If ever I cease to love.





AND HOW TO PLAY IT.

- 2 Last night I called at Dudley's Grove, And asked if she would go
 A walk, and we would talk of love; At first she answered, "No,"
 Then consented, and we walked and talked, I thought it Paradise;
 But she said 'twas wrong ; I answered, Well, it's naughty, but it's nice.—Сно.
- 3 I put my arm around her waist, Her form I gently pressed;
 And then she laid her lovely face Upon my manly chest.
 I kissed her two times on the cheek, I would have kissed her thrice;
 But I whispered, Ain't it naughty? She said, Yes, but it's so nice.—CHO.

4 To-day she asked if she might wed : Her ma exclaimed, My dear!

THE BANJO,

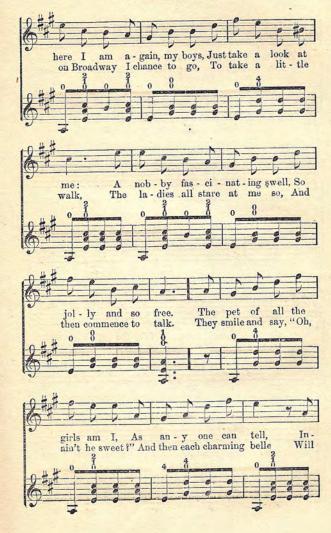
You must not think of marrying Fred For many and many a year.
It's wieked, miss, your pa and ma And home to sacrifice;
To get married: well, I know, said she, It's naughty, but it's nice.
CHO.—If you think marriage wicked, ma, You're guilty of that vice;
You, perhaps, may call it naughty, But you also know it's nice.

5 Her parents have consented, and In two years she will be My wife; so now you know my tale, I hope you will give to me The same applause that from you all So often I entice;
It's naughty, perhaps, to ask it, But to get it is so nice.—CHO.

THE FASCINATING SWELL.





















3 At all the balls and parties

I am always to be found,

For where the girls do congregate,

You'll find me, I'll be bound.

And there I trip the light fantastic

With some charming belle,
Who talks sweet loving nonsense to

This fascinating swell.
CHO.—For they can't resist, &e.

4 But soon a married man I'll be, For t'other day as I
Was walking out I chanced to see A pretty girl go by.
She winked at me, I winked at her, Then straight in love she fell
With Charles Augustus Fitz de Gray, The fascinating swell.
CHO.—For they can't resist, &c,

THE BANJO,

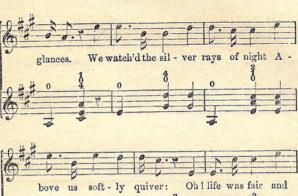
UPON THE DANUBE RIVER.















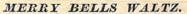








2 I held your little hand in mine, And thought not of the morrow l
I saw your eyes in beauty shine, Undimmed by clouds of sorrow.
I would that both our lives might flow As calmly on forever;
'Twas Cupid at the helm, you know, Upon the Danube river!
CHO.—We watched the silver rays, &c.





















THE DAWN WALTZ.







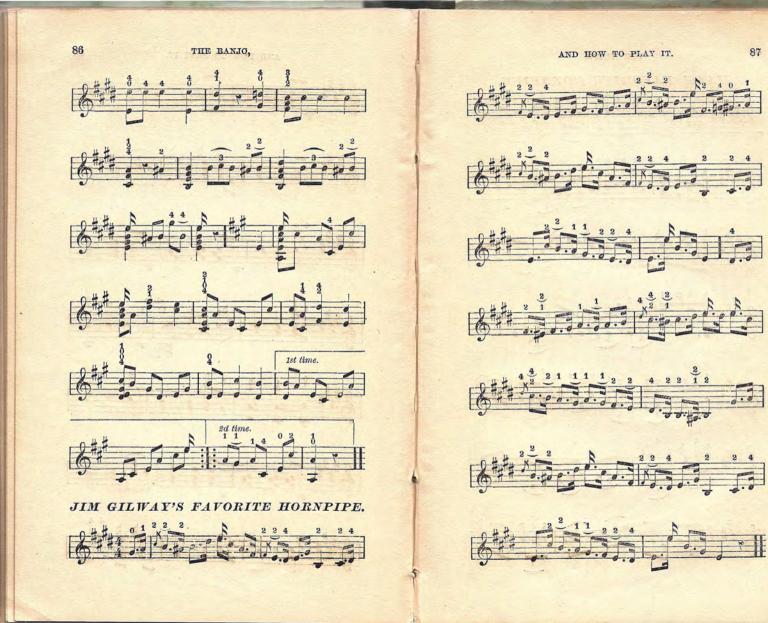


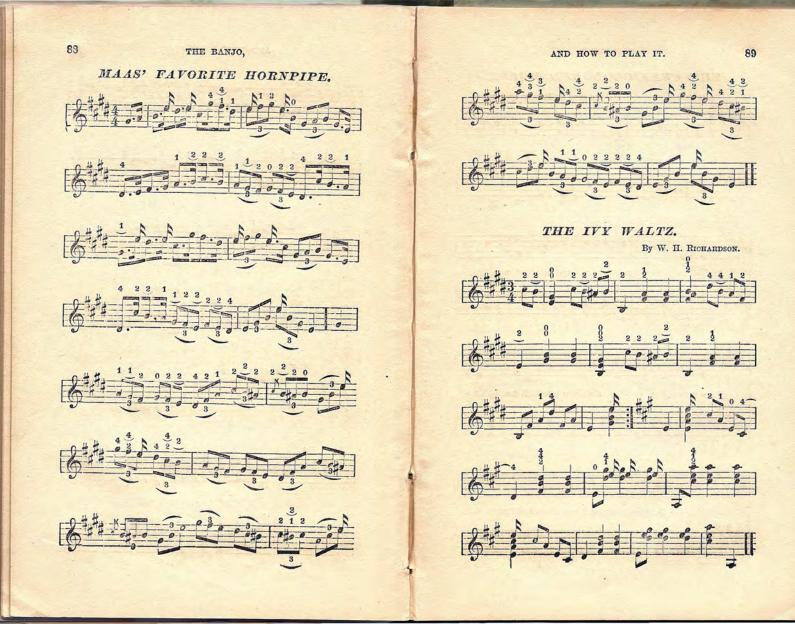


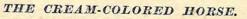










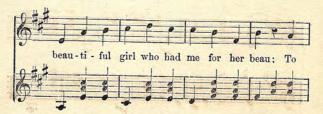


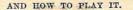














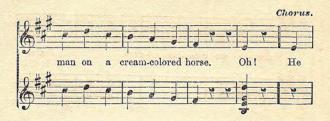






AND HOW TO PLAY IT.













I took 'Liza Jane to the circus, one night, To witness this artist equestrian's flight, She applauded so loud they all thought she was tight, Oh, goodness! how jealous I got. Says I, "'Liza Jane, now be quiet!" Says she, "Mister, you're not my boss," When she yelled for a cent's worth of pea-nuts For this man on the cream-colored horse.—Cho.

2.

3.

He came out again with a flap and a whirl; When he came right side up, he then winked at my girl; I had a great notion my cane for to twirl At this man in his spangles and tights. She threw him a kiss back so quickly, For my feelings she had no respect; Now as he rode 'round in the circle, I wished that he might break his neck.—*Cho.*

1.

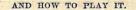
Now when we went home, we'd a terrible row, I called her false-hearted, she'd broken her vow; Says she, "Quit my sight, I'm done with you now, I'm engaged to the star of the ring.

I'll be called on the bills Senorita,

We'll travel together, of course;

I'll do a flip flap on his eyebrow,

As he rides on his cream-colored horse,"-Cho.





SPANISH WALTZ.





















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