

J.B. MAYER'S INSTRUCTIONS,

FOR THE

HARP

Exemplified in the most comprehensive manner by a variety of Examples Progressive Sessons Preludes &c. unth preliminary Premarks on the first princeples of Music and air short Introduction to the Knowledge

of the

DOUBLE ACTION HARP.

Ent. Stw Hall.

Price 6%

London,

From the Clive Morley Collection

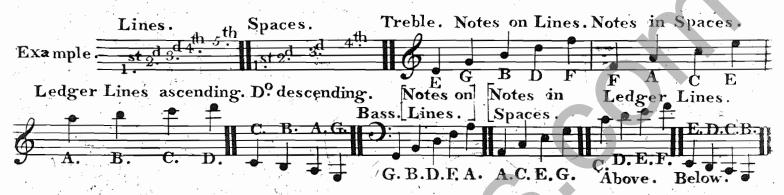
CLIVE MORLEY HARPS LTD

GOODFELLOWS, FILKINS,

LECHLADE, GLOS. GL7 3JG .ENGLAND

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Musical Sounds are expressed by certain characters called Notes, and are distinguished by and bear the names of the first seven Letters of the Alphabet Viz A.B.C.D.E.F. G. and placed on five parallel lines termed a Stave, and the Stave is divided in five lines, and four Spaces, as per Example, those which are written above or below the Stave are called Ledger or Additional lines.

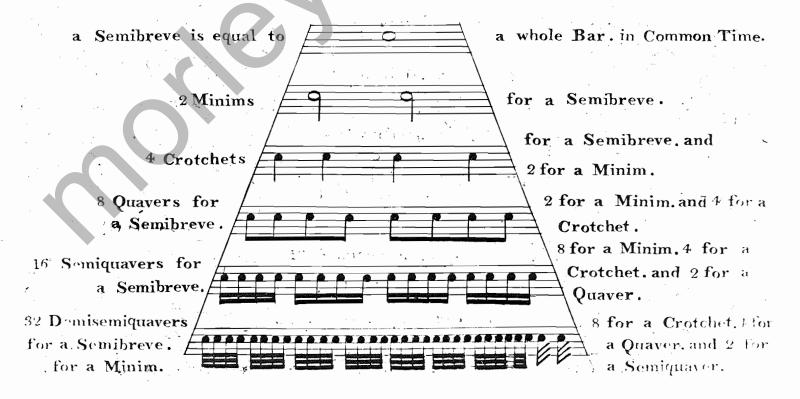


There are two Cleffs made use of in Music, for the Harp; the same as for the Piano Forte. Viz: the Treble or G. Cleff thus placed on the second line of

the Stave, and the Bass or F. Cleff thus. F. placed on the fourth line. These

Cleffs are placed at the beginning of each Stave, in order to determine the names of the Notes on the Lines, and Spaces, which are reckoned from them.

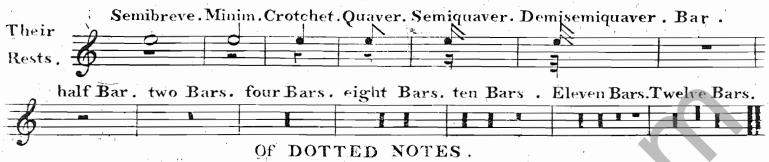
There are six sorts of Notes used Viz: Semibreve O. Minim O. Crotchet O. Quaver Semiquaver of and Demisemiquaver of the proportion they bear each other is as follows:



Of the RESTS.

A Rest is a temporary silences often used in Music, each specie of Music has a Rest, which in point of duration is equal to the Note itself.

EXAMPLE.



A Point, or Dot, following any Note or Rest, makes such Note or Rest, half as long a gain, as it otherwise would be were there no Dot annexed to it, see Example.



These three signs #.b. \(\beta\). are called Sharp, Flat, and Natural. A Sharp placed before a Note, raises it half a tone thus.

and a Natural placed before any Note, that has been made Sharp or Flat, restores it to its original place: thus.

five lines, is to divide the Measure, and to distinguish one Bar from another.

Double Bars it: divide Pieces of Music, into two or more Parts, generally called Strains, these are not always used, except at the end, and then they mark the finnishing of the Movement. A Repeat S. over: is placed as a Mark to denote from when the Part is repeated. When the double bar is dotted the strain must be repeated.

A Pause, or Cadence, is marked thus A Tye, or Binding, thus when put over two, or more Notes on the same Line, or Space, (whether in the same or different Bars) the First only is to be struck, though it must be held the full time of both, as the following Example will explain A Paus denotes that the note or rest over which it is placed must be held longer than its proper time; and when placed over a double bar, denotes the coclusion of the piece



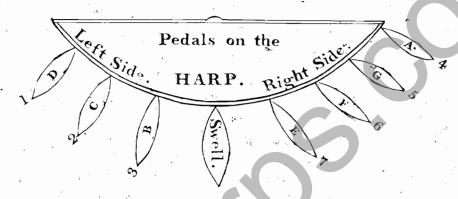
Staccato marks or thus.... signify the Notes over which they are placed, must be played with Spirit and Taste, and held only half their Time, the remaining parts being made up by an imaginary Rest, between each Note, as in the following.



The Modern Pedal Harp, is strung with forty two Strings. It is tuned in E. Flat, (being the Natural Key of the Instrument,) and in order to make it more easy to play, and less confused, all the Es are strung with red Strings, and the Es with Blue; the lowest String in the Bass is E.

POSITION, of the HARP, and the HANDS.

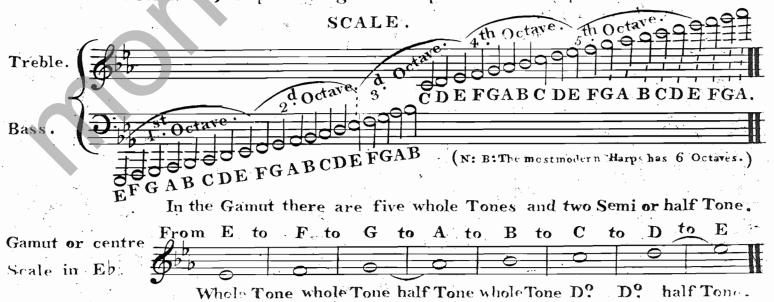
In placing the Hands on the Harp, the Performer must sit upon a Chair somewhat higher than a common one, The Harp placed between the Feet, resting sideways on the right Knee; and Shoulder; In placing the Fingers on the Strings, the right Thumb must be held upright, and bent backwards, the three Fingers held straight on the Strings, to avoid touching with the Nails, the left Thumb may be held opposite the first Finger. N.B. the little Finger is not used on the Harp.



The Seven Pedals are to alter the Tones into half Tones; by pressing with the left Foot. No I D becomes D Sharp, Pressing with the Pedal No 2 C, becomes C Sharp, No B becomes B Natural, No 4 Ab pressed with the right Foot becomes A Natural, No 5 G, becomes G Sharp, No 6 F, becomes F Sharp, and No 7 E becomes E Natural, Sometimes they are kept by the Feet, some times put on inside.

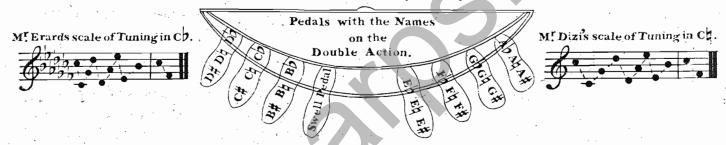
The Modern Harp has a Pedal more, called a Swell Pedal; the use of it is for plain Chords; after the Chord is struck moving it with the left Foot produces a fine effect, when this Pedal is kept open the vibration is much stronger.

A Scale of the Notes, comprehending the Compass of the Harp.



The double action Harp is so denominated from the twofold motion of its pedals, by which two additional sounds are produced from each string; as the advantages possed by these in struments have obtained for them a preference in the higher circles, it may not be unneces asary to explain their peculiar, properties and advantages. For those who are desirous eminently to distinguish themselves, or to whom expence is an inferior consideration, the double action Harp is recommended; but for general practise the single action will be found amply adequate, as the most eminent professors have arrived without the aid of the new improvements at the greatest brilliancy of execution and beauty of performance.

Each note of the Scale may on the double action be made either Flat, Sharp, or Natural but as the single action Harp having only two sounds to each string, the third is made by substituting an approximating sound on the next string on this account those keys having such as more than 3 flats or 4 sharps for their signature have not a perfect scale on this Instrument equal to the double action for by the latter you are enabled to make Do in the Key of Adwith 4 flats by the same Pedal which on the single action must be taken by the C# Pedal, and in other Keys having more Signatures the imperfection increases; it must be remarked that those Keys are not generally used and this defect may be partially remedied by tuning the unused strings to the required Notes in the Key in which you play.



The double Action Harp has three sounds to each string. When the pedals are all fixed at the middle Stop all the notes are natural and the Instrument is in the key of Chmajor; by removing them from thence to the upper part the notes become flattened and by fixing them at the lowest they become sharpened. By this expedient each string in every Key represents a seperate note for the scale throughout.

The following will be found a simple and general rule for fixing the pedals for different keys. In the major key of Chall the pedals are fixed at the middle stop; if Flats constitute the signature the pedals must be raised; if sharps they must be pressed down.

The double action Harps of different makers, though varying in mechanical construction all tend to effect the same objects above described; the prejudices in favor of particular manufacterers are not so much regarded now as they were, as there are at this time many Makers of equal celebrity for workmanship and tone Erard's are tuned in Cowith all the Pedals off and

Dizi's and Dodd's Harps are tuned in Chwith all the pedals in the middle or second stop the former when tuned in order to play in En you take off the D,G,C&F Pedals which will leave only the B,E&A Pedals flat, there are many who tune as befor stated and afterwards unlatch the Pedals from the upper stop to the second which will being the Instrumentin the same Key as M. Dizi's Harp which is Ch by which system it presents a very easy method of placing the Pedals as previously noticed; for flats you raise the Pedal to the upper stop and for sharps they are press'd down to the lowest stop according to the names of the Flats or Sharps at the beginning of the Music.

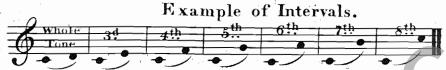
MB The placing of the Pedals is explained to each Air both on the Single & double Action .

An Interval is the distance between two sounds in point of gravity and acuteness the least of which is called a Semitone or half note, it is an Interval of a Semitone between G,& A, or between D & E, & c. the regular progression of the other Notes in what is denominated the Diatonic Scale is by an Interval of two Semitones or a whole tone.

Example of the Diatonic Scale so termed as it proceeds by whole tones.



The Interval between C&D also between D&E or between any two contiguous notes in the Scale is called a 2d the Interval between C&E or between D&F is called a 3d and so on with the rest.



Observe that all the Intervals are contained within the extent of an Octave and those which exceed that extent are but a repetition of the same Notes.

A Chord is several notes struck together thus An Arpeggio is the Notes of a Chord played in succession and in a particular direction which is more the character of the Instrumentthan by striking them together, they are performed by commencing with the lowest note and passing swift. Ly to the highest sweeping over the strings the Chords when intended to be divided or played in succession are often marked thus

The Common Chord is a Key Note to which is added its 3d 5th & 8th thus Eb being the Key or fundamental Note its 3d is G its 5th Bo and its eighth Eb see Exercise On the Common Chord in the different positions which should be played often and in a distinct and steady manner the fingers should be prepared and placed on the Strings before they are struck omitting the 4th finger which is never used you must then commence the Chord from the foundation and the others played rather rapid in succession the thumb must be held in an upright position pressing against the String, which position must be preserved passing from one Octave to another inplaying Octaves the upper is taken always with the 3d finger and may be extended if the passage should exceed its natural position; the Right Hand is used to perform the Treble part and the Left Hand for the Bass part of which there is used but seldom more than the thumb and 3d finger yet the position of the Chord should be prepared.

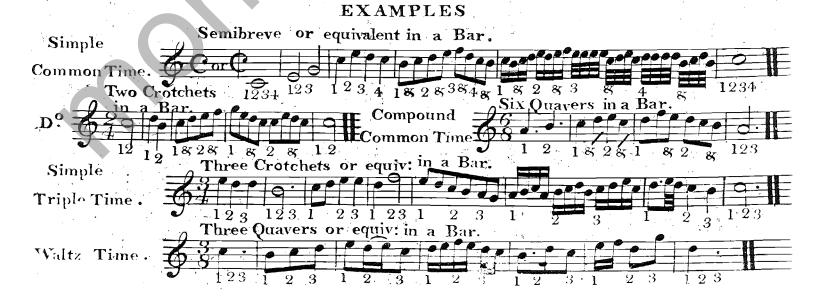
Of Keys or Modes

There are two sorts of Keys Major (Sharp) & Minor (Flat) this you may know notby the Sharps and Flats set at the Clef for there are Major Keys with Flats and Minor Keys with Sharps but by the first 3^d in the Scale which in the Major Key are from the 3^d to the 4th and 7th & 8th in the Minor Scale from the 2^d to the 3^d and likewise from the 7th to the 8th but in descending be—tween the 5th & 6th which constitute the essential difference between the Major and Minor Mode.





The Time of a Musical Composition, is Common, or Triple, either of which may be simple or compound; the Figure which denotes the species of Time used in a Piece, is marked at the beginning. Common Time, is expressed by C. C. containing four Crotchets in a Bar, or any quantity of Notes which are equivalent; and by this mark 2. being half Common Time, containing two Crotchets in a Bar. Compound Common Time, by S. Six Quavers in a Bar, and by 12. and 12. the three latter are very seldom used in Modern Music, Simple Triple Time by 2 three Minims in a Bar. 13. three Crotchets in a Bar. 14. three Quavers in a Bar, and 2 and 3 which are also seldom used. N.B. If the Time be common or equal, the beating is also equal, two down and two up, or one down and one up. If the Time be Triple or unequal, the beating is also unequal two down and one up. With respect to the velocity of the different species of Time, they are as various as the Measures and Modifications in Music, and are generally expressed by some Italian word or phrase, at the beginning of each Movement, as Larghetto rather Slow, Allegro Quick, &c.



OF THE ARPEGGIO, AND CADENCES, IN VARIOUS KEYS.

This term is derived from Arpa which signifies a quick succession of the several Notes which compose any Chord and its execution more particularly appertains to this Instrument APPEGGIATO. (Ital:) this term implies that the passage or movement against which it is placed is to be performed in the style of Harp Music.

ARPEGGIO ACCOMPANIMENT. An Accompaniment the Passages of which chief.

Iv consist of the Intervals of the several Chords taken in succession.



These Marks #, # signify a continuation of the foregoing Notes

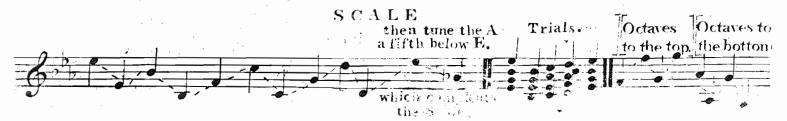




A Scale for Tuning the Harp

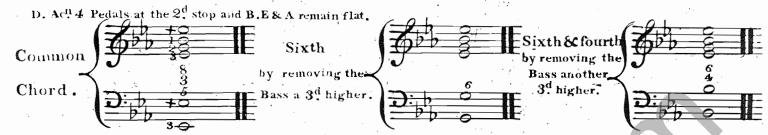
The easiest method of Tuning is as follows, tune E, in the Treble situated on the fourth Octave thus to an E Flat Tuning Fork or to the Piano Forte E ?

and then tune its Octave below perfect, and afterwards the fifth upwards, to the same Octave, and its Octave below, then proceed by Octaves and fifths, as the Scale directs throughout-its bearings, (comprizing Nine Notes) then examine the same by the different Trials, and if perfect, you may proceed to tune the remainder above and below, by Octaves



The Cross + is for the Thumb, I the first Finger, 2 the middle Finger, 3 the third Finger. The Figures over the Bass signify the name of the Chord The Inversions of the Common Chord are shewn by the following Examples.

LESSON FOR THE COMMON CHORD.



In the following Example it must be observed to put the third Finger on the 5th. Note G, before the Thumb has struck the Note E.In ascending, also on B&E following.



In descending the Thumb must be on the fifth Note B, before the 3d Finger strikes the preceding note E &c.



The same observations with the second Finger in ascending or descending; &c.





In Playing the Octaves descending with the Right Hand, it may be slid down with the Thumb when the third Finger strikes the lower Note.



For Staccato Notes in the Bass, the left Thumb must be held up and after tis struck, the Strings must be stopt with the Thumb.



Harmonic sounds are produced with the left Thumb and the under part of the Muscle, opposite the little Finger, The Thumb must be held on the String with the Muscle at the same time, and when the Thumb strikes the String the whole Hand must be with a drawn quickly to liberate the vibration.









PRELUDES AND FAMILIAR AIRS IN KEYS PROPER FOR THE HARP.























