ADULT PREPARATORY PIANO BOOK

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PREFACE

Music is composed of three equally important parts: Melody, Harmony and Rhythm.

Briefly, Melody is the "air" or "tune" of the piece.

Harmony is the accompaniment or background given the Melody.

Rhythm is the "swing" or "lilt" of the piece as a whole.

MELODY APPROACH

Any of the three factors (Melody, Harmony, Rhythm) may be used effectively as an approach to the study of Music—and this is a point upon which authorities differ. The author has chosen the Melody Approach for very solid—(old-fashioned, if you like)—but conclusive reasons!

In the first place all music is identified by its "tune" or melody.

This is equally true of a simple Lullaby or a great Symphony.

The Melody, therefore, would seem to be the very first essential.

Secondly—by using the Melody Approach the student is enabled to "make music", or in other words, play a tune, in the very first lesson.

Thus interest, appreciation and use of the ear are fostered from the very beginning.

Rhythm and Harmony are approached in proper order as soon as the student is able to digest them.

Music is a great **Art** and an exact **Science**. By using the Melody Approach, the student is led to think of music first as an Art—an end highly desirable. Later, as Harmony and Rhythm are introduced, he becomes acquainted with the scientific side of music study.

IMPORTANCE OF ENSEMBLE PLAYING

The Introductory Section of this book is arranged in the form of Duets.

The accompaniments added by the teacher "dress up" the melodies which are necessarily simple at this point.

They also offer certain advantages of ensemble playing by which the teacher can *control* the tempo. *influence* the rhythm and *encourage* tonal contrast—all of which form the basis of Interpretation.

IMPORTANCE OF FINGERING

Strict attention to correct fingering is of great importance.

In fact, one can safely say that correct fingering is just as essential as correct notes in the early stages of piano playing. It will be found later that choice of finger forms one of the basic principles of technical proficiency.

READING DRILLS

The alert type of student will quickly discover that the melodies in the Introductory section of the book can more easily be played by observing the finger signs, or even "by ear".

This should *not* be discouraged; on the contrary, *anything* which tends to help the student play musically and expressively should be welcomed and encouraged.

Independence, however, is only attained at the Play By Note stage.

To develop this the student should be required to read the little tunes and melodic phrases away from the keyboard. That is, the teacher should treat each example as a Reading Drill—in addition to those specially provided.

This is accomplished by Clapping and Reciting. The student gives one clap of the hands to

each count in the bar and names the notes in time to the clapping.

By Clapping and Reciting daily, the ability to read "by note" will quickly overtake the tendency to play "by ear" or by finger signs.

PREPARATORY BOOK

As its title suggests, this book is a *preparatory* book in Piano Playing. It is designed especially for the Adult and its purpose is to lead the student *quickly but thoroughly* through the elements of piano study. At its conclusion the student may proceed to John Thompson's **Second Grade Book** and to continue thereafter in regular order with the succeeding books in his **Modern Course for the Piano**.

W. M. Co. 6101 (45588) Aohn Thompson

INTRODUCTORY SECTION

THE KEYBOARD

SHOWING MIDDLE C



Note that the black keys on the piano are arranged in groups of two's and three's.

Middle C is the logical key to learn first, for reasons apparent later on.

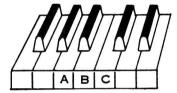
It is easily located as it lies immediately below the two-black-key group.

The C under the maker's name on your piano is known as Middle C.

First locate it on the keyboard then find all the other C's, using the two black keys as a guide.

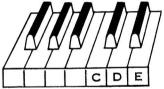
Next mark the letter name of all the C's on the chart above.

SHOWING A, B, C.



Using C as a guide, locate all the A's, B's, and C's on the keyboard then write the letter names of the new keys in their proper places on the keyboard chart at the top of the page.

SHOWING C, D, E.



Again using C as a guide, locate all the C's, D's and E's on the keyboard then write the names of the new keys on the chart at the top of the page.

SHOWING E, F, G.



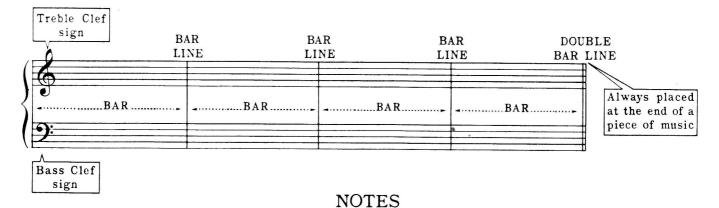
Using E as a guide, locate all the E's, F's and G's on the keyboard and, as before, mark the new keys on the chart above.

You have now learned and located all the white keys on the piano.

The names of the black keys will be presented in a later lesson.

ELEMENTS OF NOTATION

For the purpose of convenience, which will appear later, Music is divided by BARLINES into BARS.



Solid and Open-headed symbols placed on the lines or in the spaces are called NOTES.

The position of the notes (on various lines or spaces) indicates the Piano keys to be played.

The shape or design of the note determines its TIME VALUE.

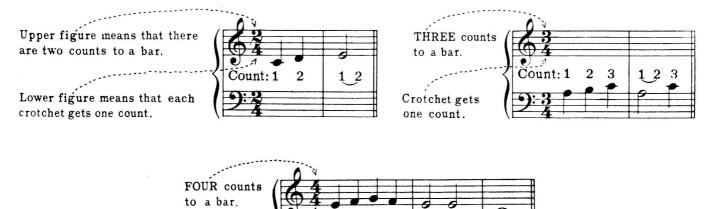
For example: J is a CROTCHET and is held for one count.

is a MINIM and is held for two counts.

o is a SEMIBREVE and is held for four counts.

TIME SIGNATURES

TIME SIGNATURES, shown at the beginning of a piece, tell how to count each bar.



NOTE TO TEACHERS

3

2 3 4

1234

To facilitate READING the teacher should insist that all examples, particularly in the Introductory section, be treated as READING DRILLS. This is accomplished by having the student first announce the TIME SIGNATURE, then follow by clapping the time (one clap to each crotchet; two claps to each minim, etc.) while reciting the letter-names of the notes.

This should be done each time before the example is played on the piano.

Crotchet gets one count.

TEACHER'S PAGE

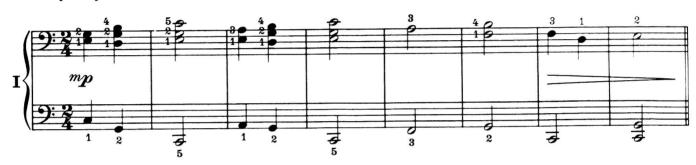
This page is for the teacher only.

It contains accompaniments to be played against the student's melodies on the opposite page, thus presenting the tunes in the form of duets.

The importance of *ensemble* playing cannot be over-emphasized. Not only does it make the little melodies more attractive, but it enables the teacher to control the *tempo*, influence the *rhythm* (accents, etc.) and encourage *tonal variation*, thus adding *expression* from the very beginning.

Accompaniment to No. 1 on opposite page

Played by Teacher

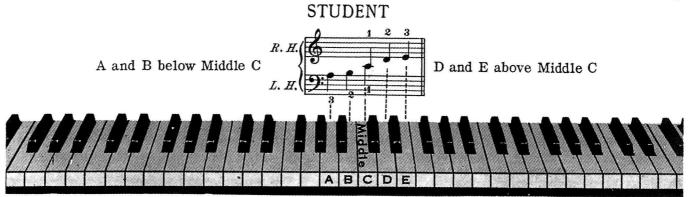


Accompaniment to No. 2 on opposite page



Accompaniment to No. 3 on opposite page





First as a Reading Drill (clapping and reciting)

Then play as written (counting aloud as directed by the Teacher)



READING DRILL

Not to be played

Add Bar Lines then clap and recite.



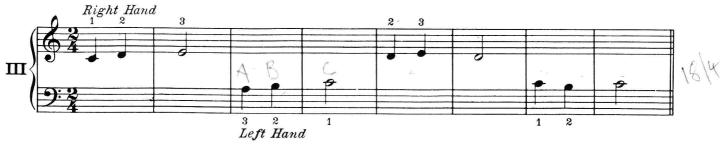


READING DRILL

Not to be played

Add Bar Lines then clap and recite.





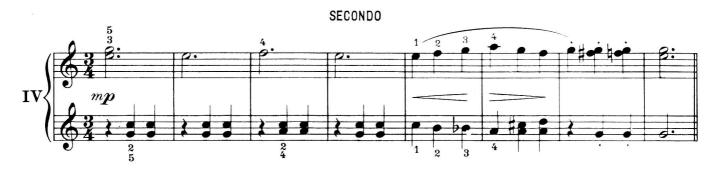
TEACHER'S PAGE

TEACHER'S NOTE—At this point explain the meaning and importance of ACCENTS, RHYTHM and TEMPO.

RHYTHM is often called the Soul of Music. The first step in setting the Rhythm is by means of the ACCENT.

ACCENT is a special emphasis placed upon certain beats in a bar—— at present on the first beat.

TEMPO means TIME. A steady, even TEMPO is necessary to *preserve* the rhythmical "swing". This means there will be no time to stop and hunt for notes, keys or fingers. After a piece has been learned it should be reviewed until it can be played fluently and easily without stops or hesitation.



Song of the Volga Boatmen

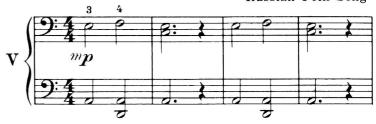
SECONDO

Russian Folk-Song

TEACHER'S NOTE

Be sure to remain insistent in the matter of clapping and reciting. It is the only way to ensure playing by note.

Now that the student has learned what accent means, it would be a good plan to include it in the Reading Drills by requiring an accented clap on the first of each bar while reciting the letter-names of the notes.

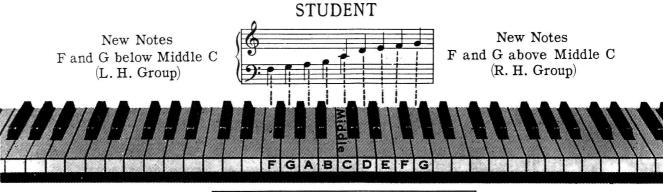


Repeat ad lib.



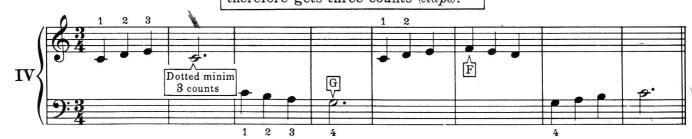
Chimes

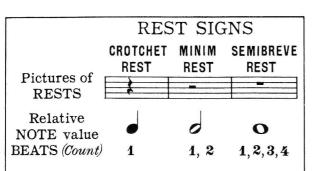






A dot after a note increases its Time Value by one half. A dotted minim therefore gets three counts (claps).





The REST sign in music notation is a sign of silence.

All notes have their equivalents in rest signs. Each beat of a bar must be accounted for either in notes or rests.

The SEMIBREVE REST is used to indicate a full bar's silence regardless of the number of beats it contains.

Song of the Volga Boatmen

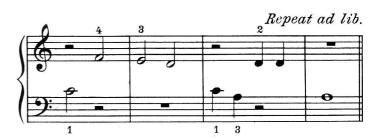
Russian Folk-Song

2

Minim
2 counts

4 counts

1 3 3 2 3 2



Chimes



14.

TEACHER

SECONDO



SECONDO





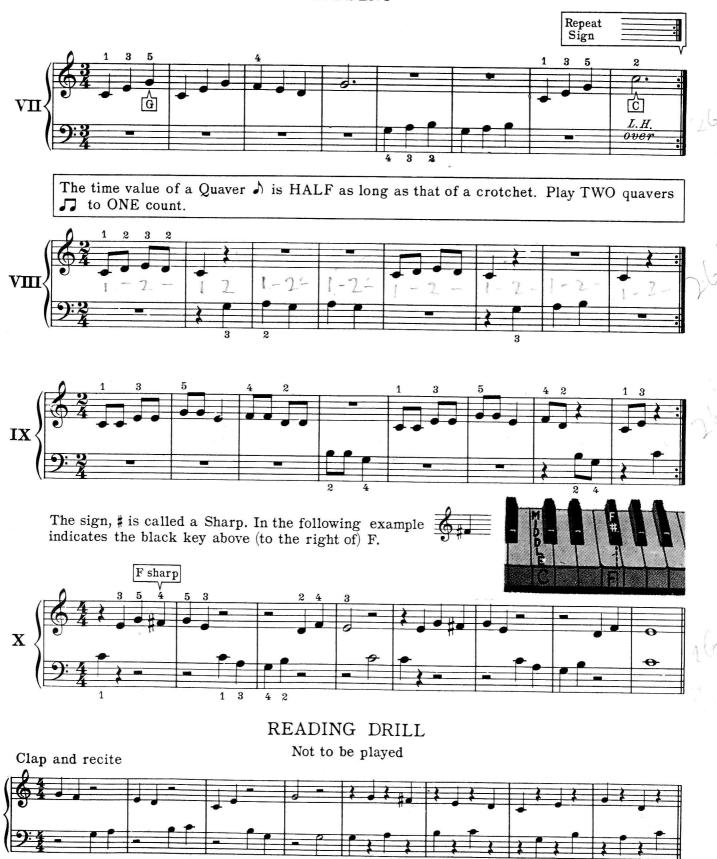
SECONDO



NOTE TO TEACHER

Since the student encounters the sharp sign for the first time in Example X, it would be well at this point to teach the names of the five black keys, using the sharp names only, (C # D # - F # G # A #). The flat names will be taken up later.

STUDENT











READING and FINGER DRILL



If additional material in duet form is desired at this point, the use of A TUNEFUL DUET ALBUM by John Thompson, Jr. is strongly recommended.

Written primarily as a supplementary book its use is ideal for the First Year student.

While the student's part is quite simple — mostly melody divided between the hands— the teacher's part is very elaborate, thus making the book very valuable for use in early recital appearances.

Home on the Range



STUDENT

FINGER DRILL

First each hand separately then hands together, one octave apart.



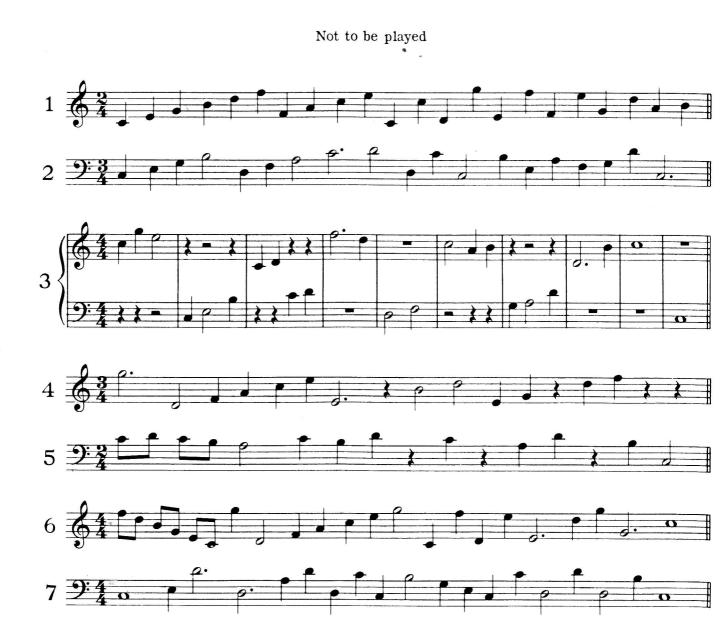
Home on the Range



STUDENT

SEVEN READING DRILLS

Draw Barlines as indicated by the Time Signatures then clap the Time and recite the letter-names of the notes.



TEACHER'S NOTE

The above Drills contain all the Notes, Rests, Time Values and Time Signatures learned so far. If the student is able to clap and recite each drill with accuracy and a fair amount of fluency, he is ready to proceed with the next section of the book.

Otherwise the Introductory section should be reviewed as often as necessary until the ability to read well is assured.

MATERIAL COVERED IN THE INTRODUCTORY SECTION

If the Introductory section has been carefully studied, the student is now thoroughly familiar with the following:

Keyboard—The names of all keys, black and white, on the keyboard.

Bars and Barlines—What they are and what they mean.

Treble and Bass Clef Signs—Their effect on the lines and spaces of the staff.

Time Values—The Semibreve, Minim, Dotted Minim, Crotchet, Quaver and their equivalents in Rests.

Time Signatures—Two-Four, Three-Four and Four-Four.



Accidentals—Sharp, Flat and Natural signs.

The Tie

The Repeat Sign

Reading—By the consistent practice of Clapping and Reciting the student should have acquired facility in reading the notes learned so far.

Melody and Rhythm—The musical experiences gained have by this time developed a sense of rhythm and melodic flow.

Harmony—Hearing the teacher's accompaniments cannot help but instil at least a "listening acquaintance" with Harmony.

In short, the student is now fully prepared to enter the Main section of the book which follows. From this point on, the hands will be required to play together. The examples will expand gradually in all directions, making more demands both musically and technically.

Teacher's Note: Quite often, in the case of students who have had preliminary training in music, it will be found unnecessary to go through the Introductory Section. This is, of course, solely for the teacher to decide.

THE ADULT PREPARATORY PIANO BOOK

MAIN SECTION

HOW TO STUDY

One of the most important aids to Piano Study is that of knowing how to practice.

Mastery is not gained through monotonous repetition.

"Practice makes perfect" is an old saw which has proven to be a fallacy.

To be effective it would have to be qualified as follows: "(Correct) practice (if repeated often enough) makes perfect"

IMPORTANCE OF ACCURACY

The importance of accuracy therefore, becomes at once apparent.

Never play anything faster than it can be played correctly.

Each time a mistake is made, some of the previous practice is undone.

The wise student naturally studies first each hand separately—later putting the hands together.

IMPORTANCE OF REVIEW

While studying the new lesson, don't overlook the importance of reviewing the work covered in previous lessons.

It is in repeating examples after they are learned that the greatest benefits are derived, especially those having to do with the technique of piano playing.

FINGER DRILLS

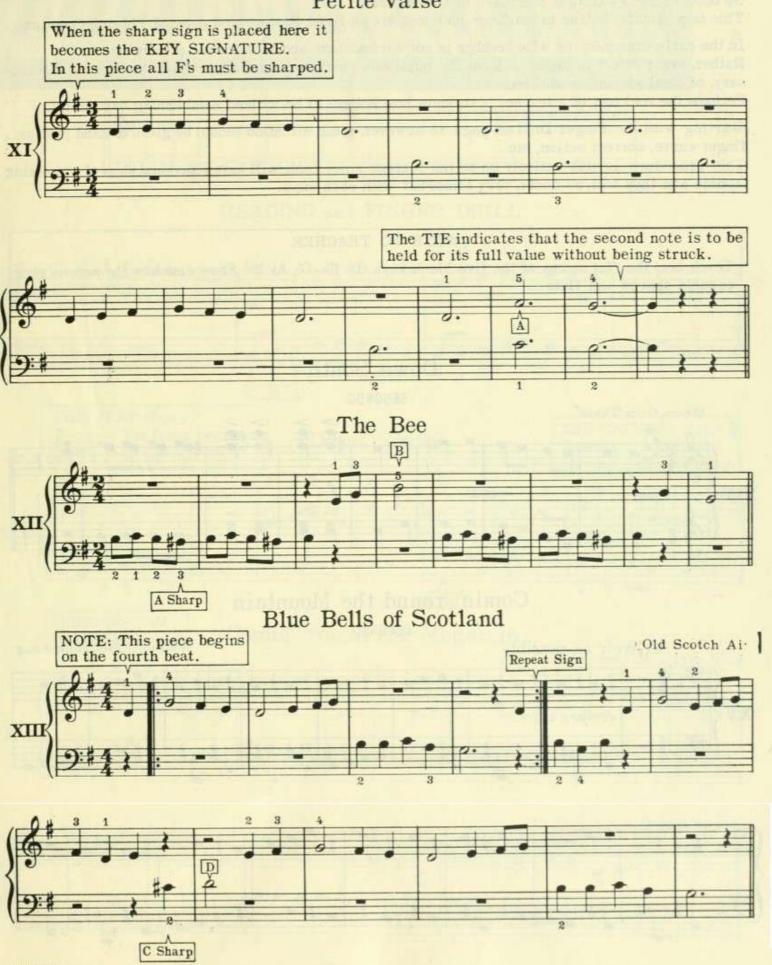
Don't neglect the Finger Drills. They are designed to develop Independence, Strength and Fluency of finger action. Daily repetition of the Drills will provide a "short-cut" to piano technique.

READING

If there is the slightest doubt about the student's ability to read the notes fluently, the practice o Clapping and Reciting should be continued.

Each hand separately of course from this point on.

Petite Valse



W.M.Co. 6101

TEACHER

No book in itself can take the place of the teacher.

This is particularly true in teaching such matters as Hand Posture and general Playing Conditions.

In the early examples the wise teacher is not too insistant about technical principles.

Rather, every effort is made to have the pupil think and feel musically, even at the expense, if necessary, of ideal playing conditions.

Perhaps the real test of a teacher is to know how lenient to be without establishing bad habits.

Starting with the Finger Drill on page 15 however, some attention should be given to hand position, finger curve, correct action, etc.

This procedure is left entirely up to the teacher since each will have individual ideas of presenting technic and they will, no doubt, vary somewhat with each pupil.

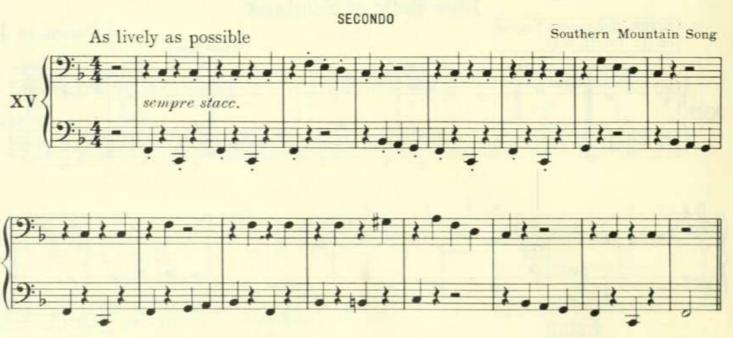
NOTE TO TEACHER

Teach here the flat names of the five black keys (Db Eb-Gb Ab Bb) Show also how the natural sign cancels sharps and flats.

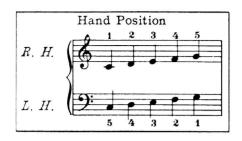
Down South



Comin' 'round the Mountain



THE PHRASE



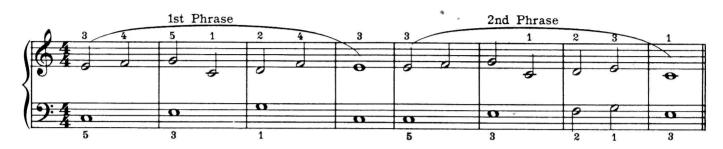
Music like language is expressed in phrases.

Single notes by themselves mean nothing.

Only when the notes are arranged into musical phrases do they take on a definite meaning.

Learn to think of your music phrase by phrase.

Notice how the first phrase is answered by the second in each of the following examples.



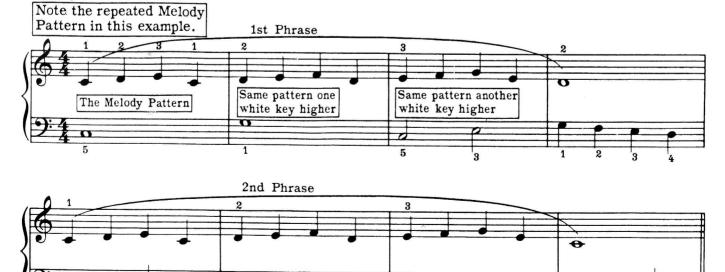
FINGER DRILL

First each hand separately then together an octave higher



MUSICAL FORM

Because it is built up of many well-ordered PATTERNS, Music is often compared to architecture. We have in music, *Melody Patterns, Rhythmical Patterns, Harmony Patterns* and, in piano music, *Finger Patterns*. The ability to recognize Patterns is very important. It makes for easier Sight Reading, quicker Memorizing and more intelligent Interpretation.



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FINGER DRILL

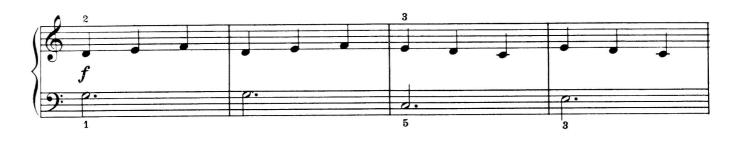


TONAL SHADING

"Contrast is the first law of all Art". One of the first steps in securing contrast is by means of tonal shading. Be sure therefore to learn the meaning of the expression marks indicated in the following piece. They are explained at the bottom of the next page.

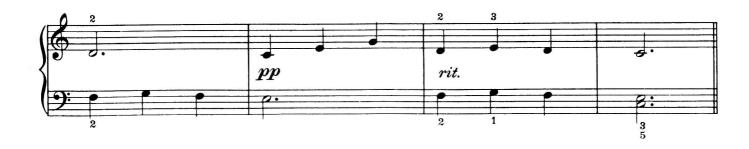
Swans on the Lake











THE MEANING OF THE EXPRESSION MARKS USED IN THIS PIECE

MODERATO - At a moderate rate of speed.

LEGATO - Bound together, smoothly connected.

mf = MEZZO FORTE - Moderately loud.

p = PIANO - Softly.

f = FORTE-Loud.

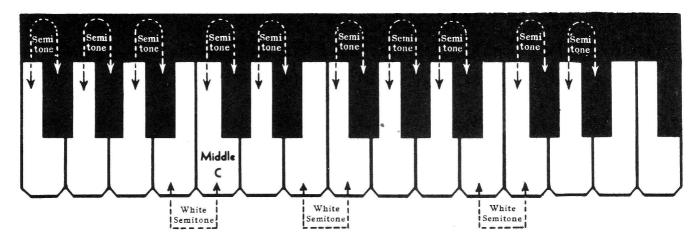
pp = PIANISSIMO - Very soft.

mp = MEZZO PIANO - Moderately soft.

rit. = RITARD. - Gradual slowing up of tempo.

SEMITONES

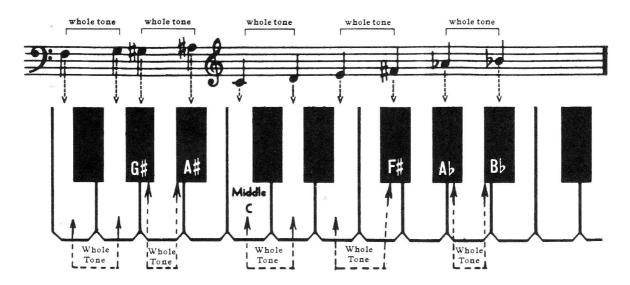
A SEMITONE is the distance between any Key and the NEXT nearest Key.



We find most of the SEMITONES are from a WHITE to a BLACK Key. There are, however, two WHITE SEMITONES—one between B and C and the other between E and F. Study them on this chart and locate them on the keyboard of your piano until they can be quickly recognized.

TONES

A WHOLE TONE is twice the distance of a semitone. Therefore, there will always be ONE KEY—either BLACK or WHITE lying between.



TONES and SEMITONES

Write the name of each INTERVAL (distance) below the following examples.

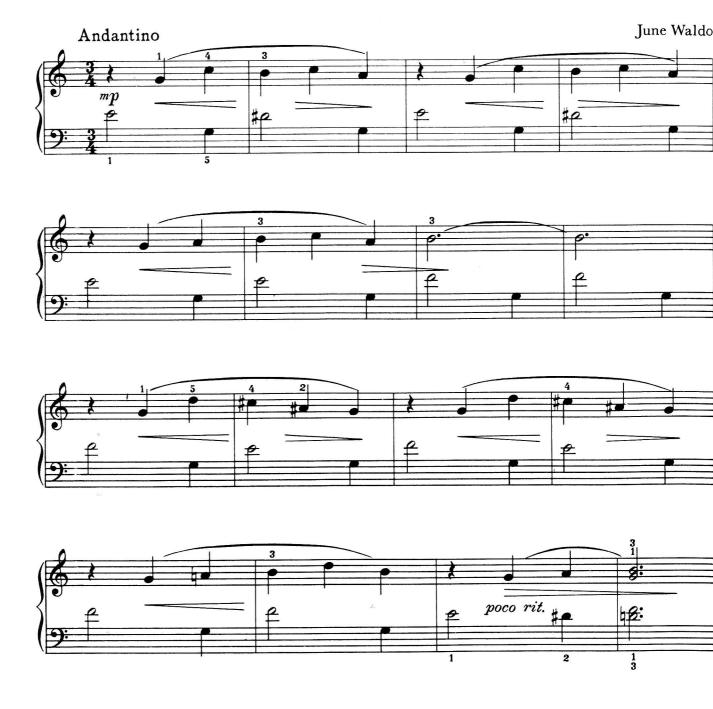


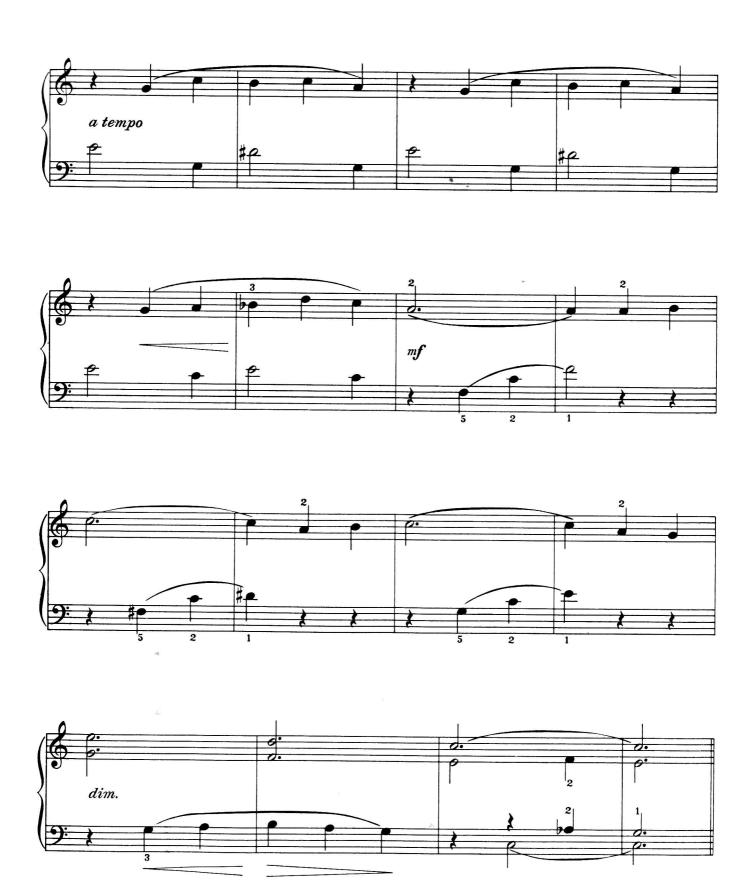
The melody in the right hand of STEPPING STONES passes through 16 semitones of which 8 are white key SEMITONES. Can you locate all of them?

DRILL FOR LEFT HAND



In the Swing

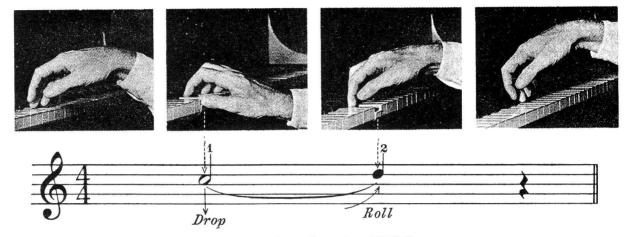




What bowing is to the violinist, breathing to the singer, enunciation to the speaker, phrasing is to the pianist.

A simple, two-note phrase properly executed, not only breathes and is separated from the next phrase, but produces a tonal inflection that adds to the beauty and interpretation of the music.

The proper attack for a two-note phrase is very easy to accomplish. Simply remember the words, DROP-ROLL, and the effect comes naturally. In the following example, play the first note of each phrase with a gentle drop of the arm. The second note is played with a rolling motion of the arm and hand in an inward and upward movement, using no finger action and releasing the note on the upward roll.



PHRASING IN TWOS

Hanon



Practise first each



This study (and all other Hanon Studies in this book) should be reviewed daily.

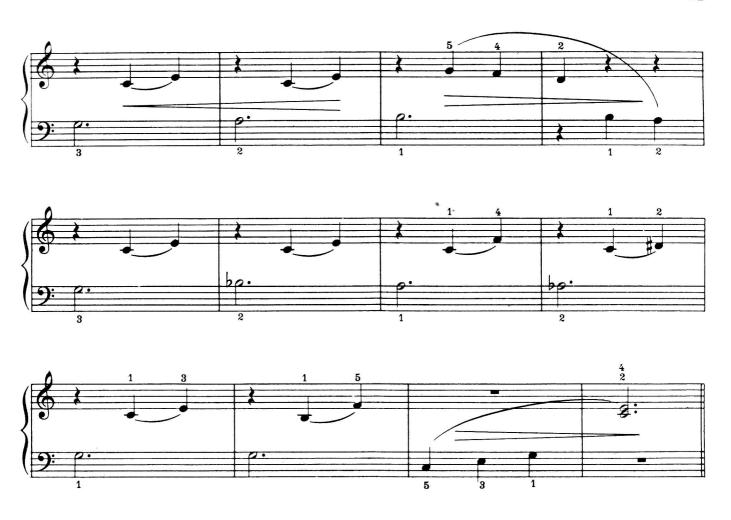
In this piece observe the following:

- 1. The melody lies in the left hand.
- 2. Melody progresses by semitones and whole tones. Analyze.
- 3. The accompaniment in the right hand is a series of two-note phrases. DROP-ROLL.

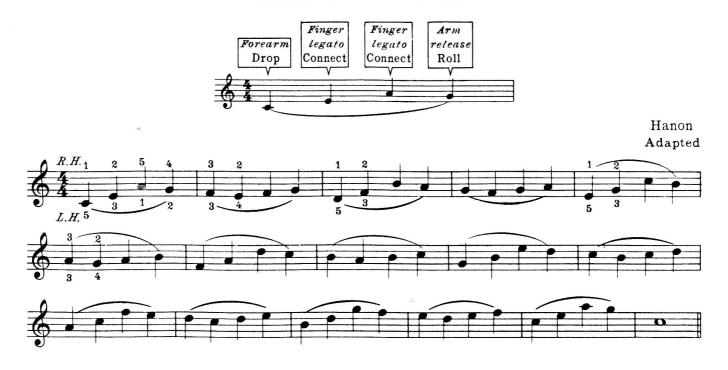
Swaying Silver Birches

(Petite Valse)





PHRASING IN FOURS



DANCE FORMS

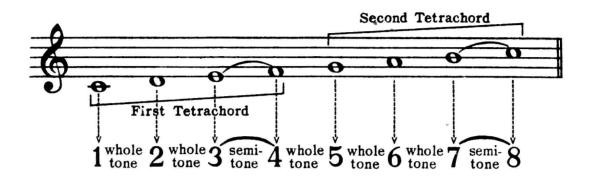
In music, RHYTHM is always uppermost. This is particularly true when playing *Dance Forms*. It is the rhythm that gives the dance its distinctive character. In a Dutch Dance the accent is a very heavy one. The first beat is usually phrased into the second and tossed off sharply. Imagine Dutch Children dancing in their wooden shoes and see if you can make this piece suggest the Land of Canals, Dykes and Tulips.



THE MAJOR SCALE

A SCALE is a succession of eight notes bearing letter-names in alphabetical order, the last note having the same letter-name as the first. The figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are called the degrees of the scale.

A MAJOR SCALE is a succession of WHOLE TONES and SEMITONES. The semitones occur between 3 and 4 and between 7 and 8 as follows.



The above chart shows how a MAJOR SCALE is composed of TWO TETRACHORDS, each tetrachord separated by a WHOLE TONE.

Play the scale of C MAJOR as follows, using the fingers indicated.

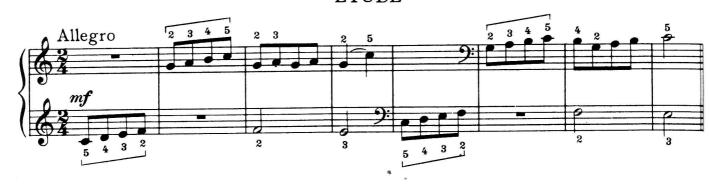


SCALE OF G MAJOR



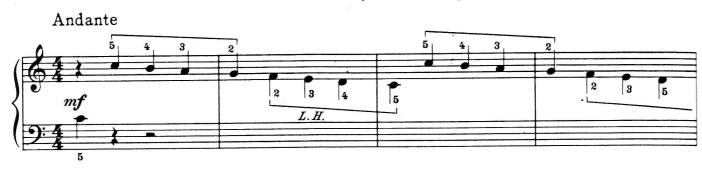
Note to Teachers: During the progress in this book, it is advisable to adhere to the above form—the scale divided between the hands—until scale construction in all keys has been thoroughly mastered. This obviates the necessity of passing the thumb under and the hand over—a procedure which is comprehensively taken up and illustrated by examples in the SECOND GRADE book.

ETUDE,

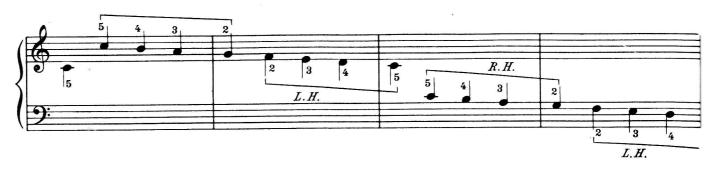


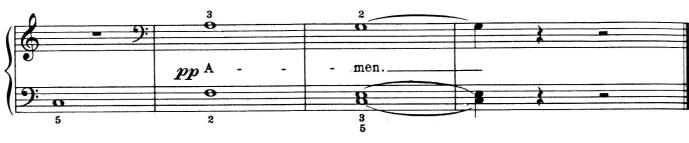
Church Bells

Scale of C major-descending









ETUDE



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CHORD BUILDING

A CHORD is a group of three or more notes.



We have played the C MAJOR TRIAD of which E is the 3rd. C is the ROOT.

Triads can be built upon all degrees of the scale. Every Triad is named for its Root.

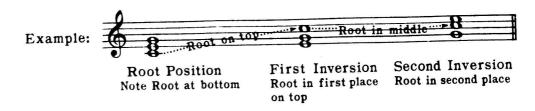


CHORD INVERSIONS

We have learned that a TRIAD contains a ROOT, a 3rd and a 5th. The order of these notes may change without changing the name of the chord.

When the lowest note is the ROOT, the triad is in the ROOT POSITION. When the lowest note is NOT the ROOT, the triad is said to be INVERTED.

C MAJOR TRIAD



BROKEN CHORD or ARPEGGIO

When the notes of a chord are separated and played in the following manner, it is known as a BROKEN CHORD or ARPEGGIO.

ARPEGGIO is an Italian word meaning, in the style of a harp.



ARPEGGIO DRILL



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DRILL
F Major Scale and Arpeggio



Marche Slave



While the actual study of Minor Scales and Minor Modes is not presented until the student has reached the SECOND GRADE BOOK in John Thompson's MODERN COURSE FOR THE PIANO, it has been deemed advisable to include a few examples in Minor Mode in this book.

They provide additional study in Ear Training and offer material for those teachers who prefer to teach Minor Scales in the first book.

The above example is in key of A minor.

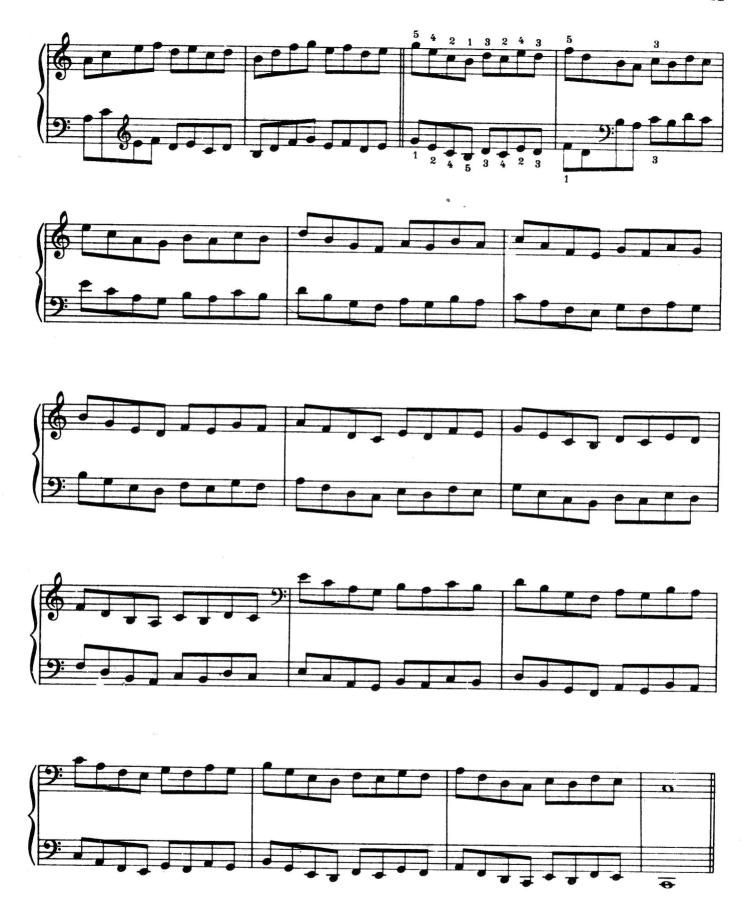
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FINGER LEGATO

Raise and drop the fingers with military precision. Keep the hand and arm perfectly quiet.

This touch develops independence and strength of finger, and produces clean, articulated passage playing.

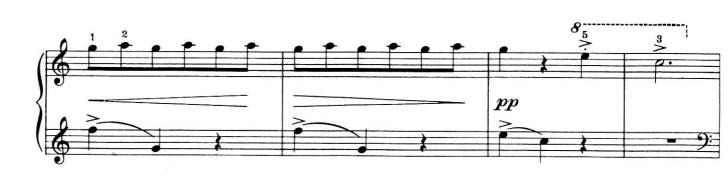




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DRILL
Broken Chord with Inversions









W.M.Co. 6101

DRILL

D Major Scale and Arpeggio



DRILL
A Major Scale and Arpeggio



Air from Mozart's Sonata in A Major



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ETUDE

Sharp rhythm.
Smooth finger legato.
Observe phrasing.

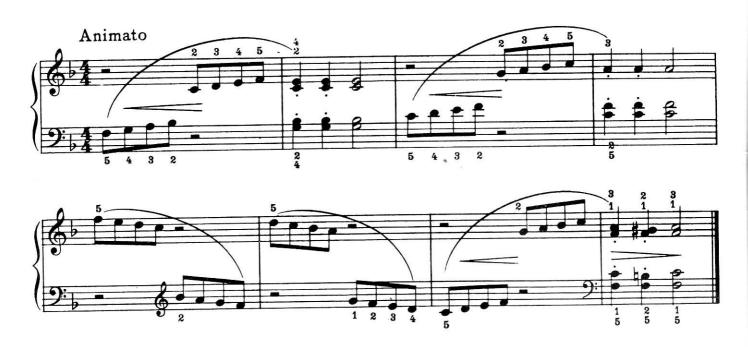


Moccasin Dance

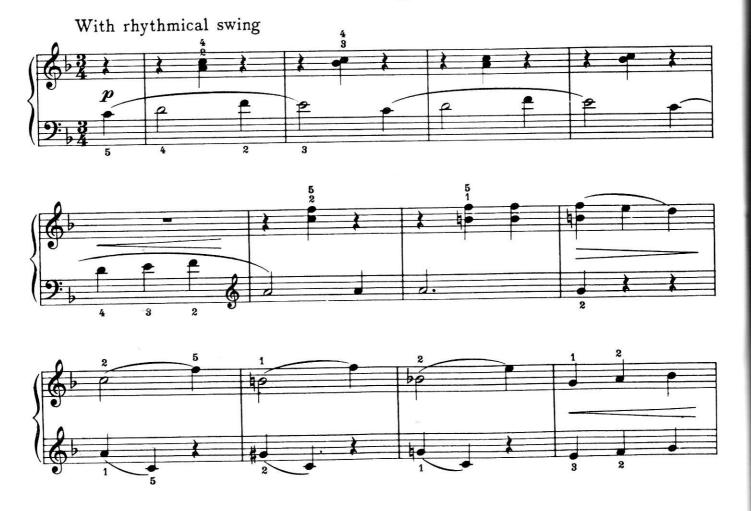


Another example in the Minor Mode. MOCCASIN DANCE is in the Key of A minor

ETUDE



The Dancing Lesson





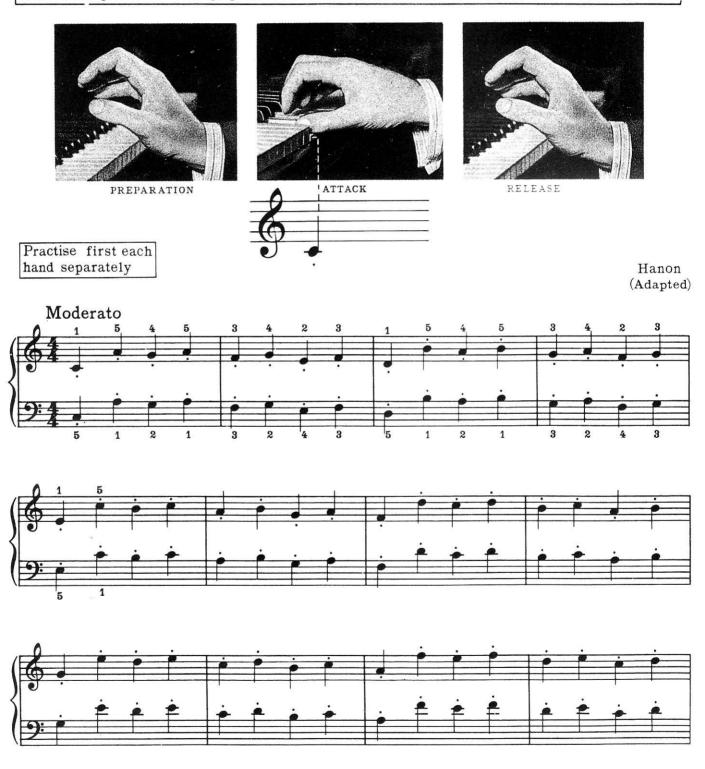
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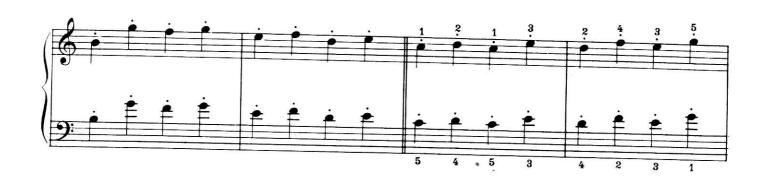
WRIST STACCATO

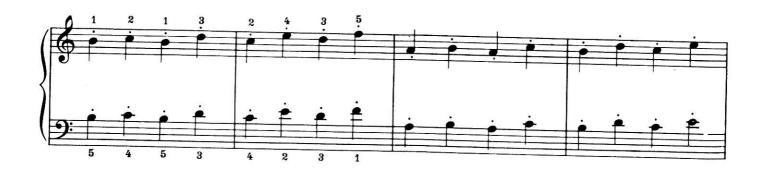
In this attack the Wrist is the hinge. No finger action is used and the hand bounces up and down. Be sure the effort is given in the motion toward the keys and not on the up-stroke.

A stiff wrist is usually the result of raising the hand too high (on the up-stroke).

This touch produces a crisp, percussive staccato.





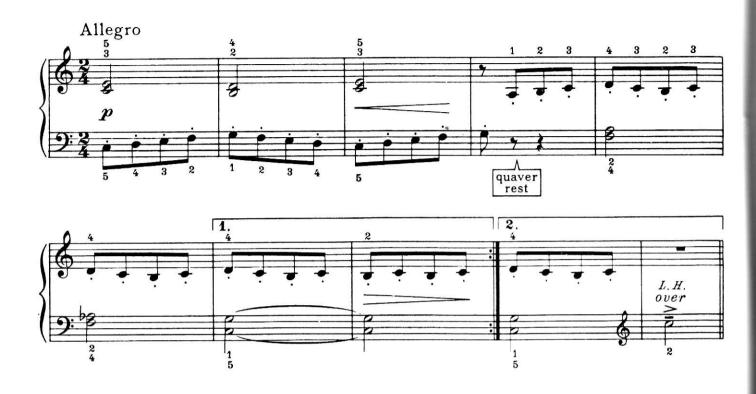






ETUDE

Wrist Staccato



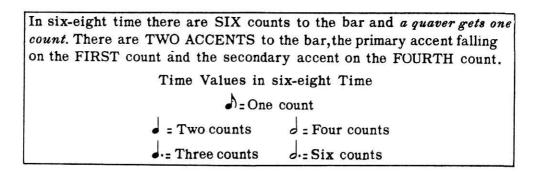
The Woodpecker

Wrist Staccato





SIX-EIGHT TIME





ETUDE
Staccato and Legato



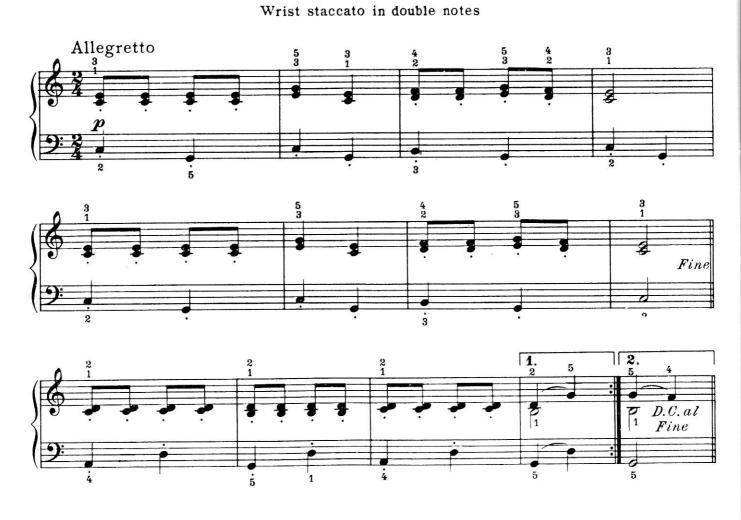
The Cuckoo Clock

Two-note phrasing



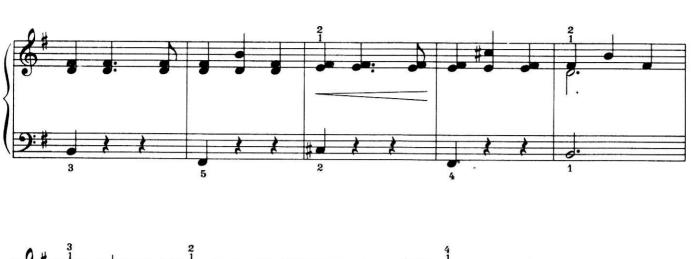
W.M.Co. 6101

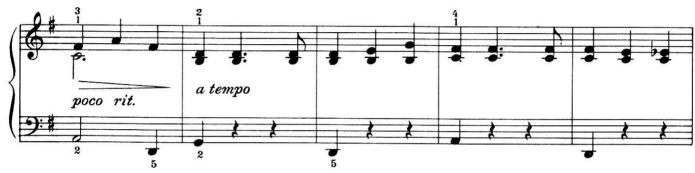
ETUDE

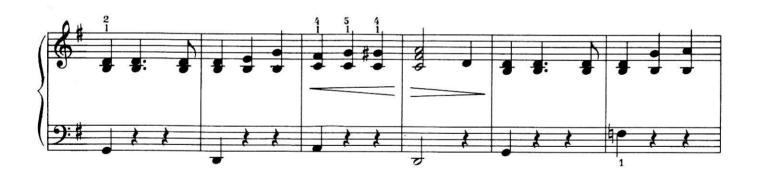


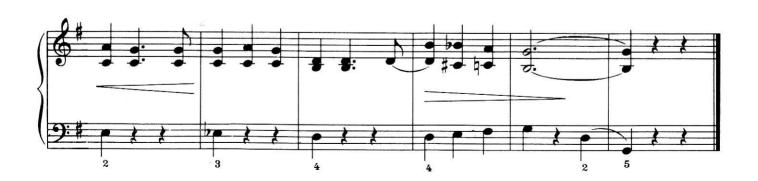
Valse





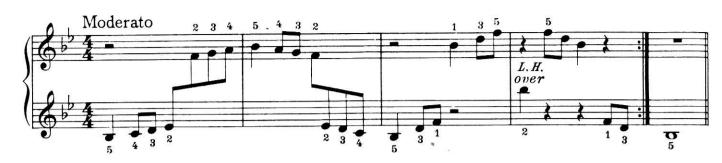






DRILL

B Flat Major Scale and Arpeggio



Nocturne

A NOCTURNE is a Night Song. It is a composition written in lyric style suggesting the peace of evening. In the following example the melody should be played with a smooth, singing tone.

Make the phrases "breathe" on the second and fourth lines.

Play the left hand throughout with a light touch so as not to obscure the right hand melody.



DRILL

Transpose the drill on opposite page to the key of E flat major

• Pause

Etude in E Flat Major



Emphasize the drone effect of the bass in imitation of Irish bag-pipes.

ETUDE

On an Irish Green

Finger-Legato, Phrasing and Melody Playing





A left hand study.

Make distinction between
Staccato and Sostenuto.

Rain Dance

ETUDE

For Left Hand Alone



SYNCOPATION

The tying over of the *last* half of the first beat into the *first* half of the second beat results in a rhythmical effect known as SYNCOPATION. The effect will be aided by giving a slight emphasis to the notes marked,

A Spanish Fiesta



DRILL
E Major Scale and Arpeggio



The left hand part represents the drone of the bass viols which were often used to make the music to which the peasants danced on the village green.

Peasant Dance



Keep an unbroken legato and play with as much expression as possible.

ETUDE

The Lonesome Pine

Extended Broken Chords



NEW FORM OF THE BROKEN CHORD

This example employs still another form of the broken chord used as accompaniment.

The HARMONY PATTERNS should be practised first like this:

Then in broken form like this:

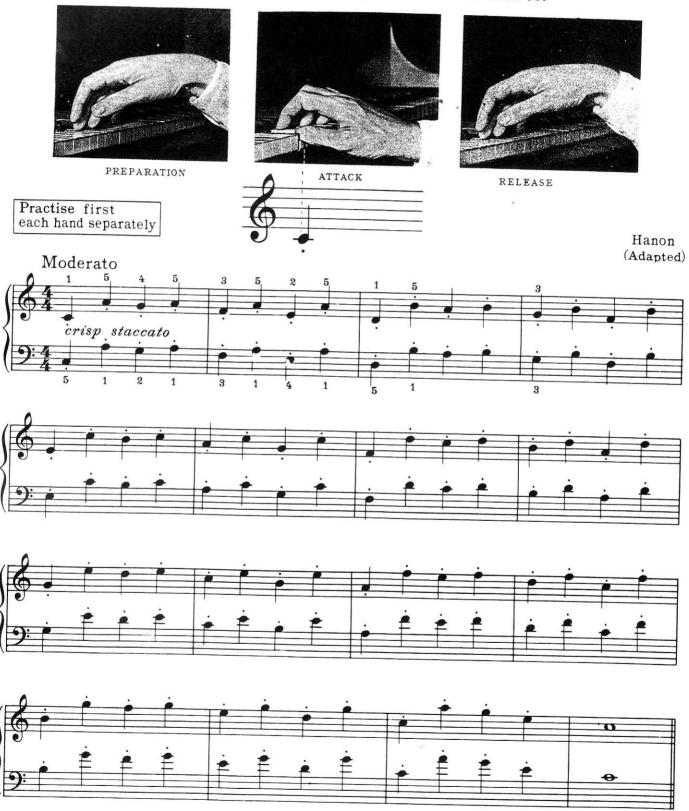
Long, Long Ago



In this touch the elbow is the hinge.

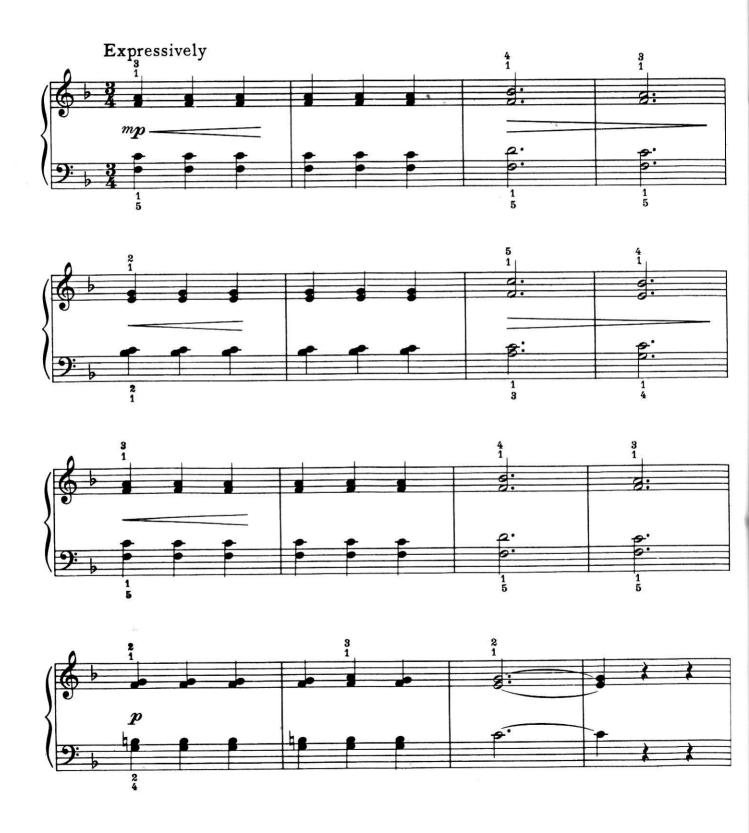
When in mid-air the hand hangs loosely from the wrist. At the moment of impact with the keys, the wrist drops to normal (level) position.

This touch makes more use of the Weight Principle than wrist staccato and the result is a staccato with more depth of tone. It is used mostly for chords and octaves.



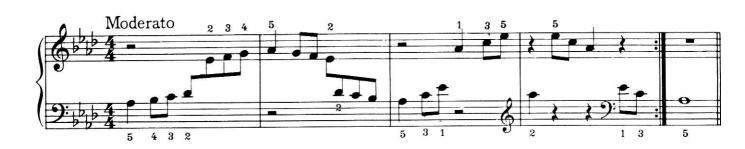
Twilight Song

Forearm Chord Playing





DRILL A Flat Major Scale and Arpeggio



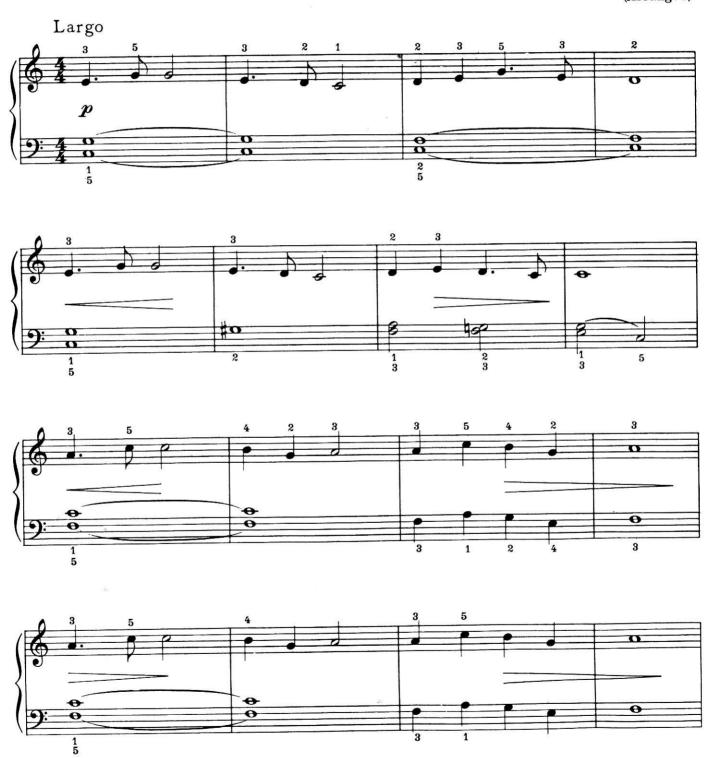
To a Skyscraper





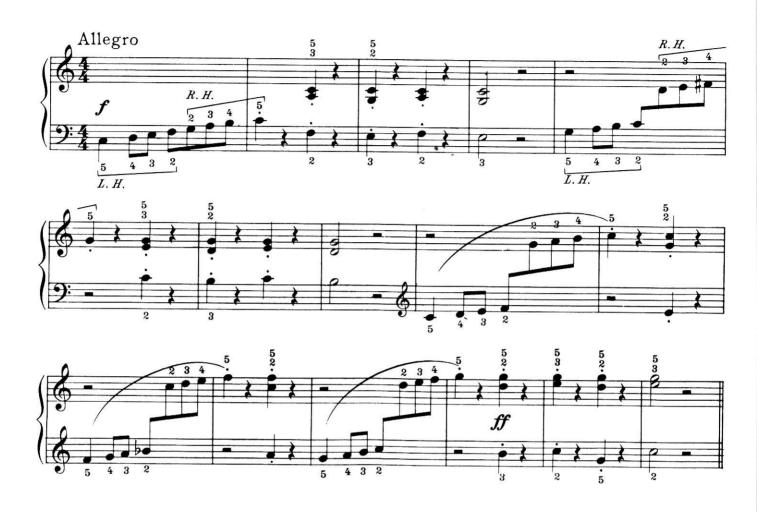
Air from Dvořák's "New World" Symphony

Lois Long (Arranged)





ETUDE

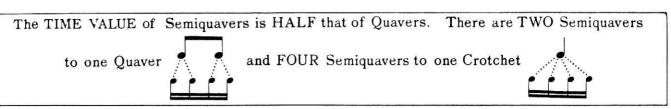


Dublin Town





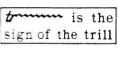
SEMIQUAVERS



John Peel

D'ye ken John Peel with his coat so gay? D'ye ken John Peel at the break of day? D'ye ken John Peel when he's far away With his hounds and his horn in the morning?





THE TRILL



W.M.Go. 6101

Sweet and Low

Joseph Barnby (Arranged)



Under the Leaves



GLOSSARY OF TERMS, SIGNS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS BOOK

Signs or Abbreviations	Terms	Meaning
>	accent	To emphasize or stress a certain note or beat.
	allegretto	Light and lively
	allegro	Fast
	andante	Slow
	andantino	Slow—but not as slow as andante.
	animato	With animation
	arpeggio	In the style of a harp—broken chord.
	a tempo	Resume original tempo.
	crescendo	A gradual increase in the tone.
D .C.	Da Capo	Return to beginning.
D.C. al Fine	Da Capo al Fine	Return to the beginning and play to Fine.
	diminuendo	A gradual decrease in the tone.
	espressivo	Expressively.
Fine	Finale	The end.
f	forte	Loud.
$f\!f$	fortissimo	Very loud.
9,500 (15)	largo	Very slowly.
	legato	Connected, bound together.
$m m{f}$	mezzo forte	Moderately loud.
$mm{p}$	mezzo piano	Moderately soft.
	moderato	At a moderate tempo.
	molto	Much.
4	Nocturne	Night Song.
8va	Octavo above	Play all notes under this sign one octave higher than written.
\circ	Pause	To hold or pause, according to taste.
\boldsymbol{p}	piano	Softly
pp	pianissimo	Very softly
	росо	Little
rit.	ritard.	A gradual slowing of the tempo.
Ē	sostenuto	Sustained—with singing quality
ė ,	staccato	Detached
·I	tempo	Time—rate of speed.
3	triplet	Three notes to be played in the time normally given to two.

Other titles in the John Thompson series:

John Thompson's Adult Piano Course Book One: Preparatory Book

WMR000077

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John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course Revised Edition Part 1

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This course is designed to present the easiest possible approach to piano playing, complete with an amusing family of characters and illustrations to help emphasise the information being taught. Part one is devoted to developing fluency in reading by note, the biggest hurdle for most young children. The range is purposely limited. Only five notes up and five notes down from middle C are presented and time values do not go beyond crotchets. Each book of the course contains its own writing exercises, sightreading drills, review work and later, technical studies. Accompaniments for teacher or parent are supplied with most of the examples.

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Part three of this easy and fun approach to learning the piano begins by showing the importance of playing and listening to music phrase by phrase rather than note by note. Examples of touch follow in proper sequence.

John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course Revised Edition Part 4

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The primary purpose of part four is to allow the pupil to develop efficiency and fluency in the application of knowledge gained in the earlier books. Several new keys are introduced, leger lines are presented, the dotted crotchet is explained, and there is simple use of the pedal.

John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course: First Classics

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Graded to work alongside the Easiest Piano Course, these pieces are ideal for pupils reaching part two and upwards. They are invaluable for securing basic technique at the same time as developing musicality and enjoyment.

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Fun repertoire for beginner pianists complementing the Easiest Piano Course. Twenty-six pieces including 'We Three Kings', 'I Saw Three Ships' and 'Jingle Bells'.

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Fun repertoire for beginner pianists to complement the Easiest Piano Course. Includes nursery rhymes, Christmas songs, carols and folk songs.

John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course: First Folk Tunes

WMR000550

Fun repertoire for beginner pianists to complement the Easiest Piano Course. A comprehensive collection of 26 songs from around the world, including such favourites as 'Rio Grande', 'Men Of Harlech' and 'Sky Boat Song'.

John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course: First Nursery Rhymes

WMR000220

Fun repertoire for beginner pianists to complement the Easiest Piano Course. Includes 'Little Boy Blue', 'Ladybird, Ladybird', 'Bobby Shaftoe', 'Jelly On A Plate' and 'Georgie Porgie'.