THE

AMERICAN SINGING BOOK;

O R

A NEW AND EASY GUIDE TO THE ART OF

PSALMODY.

Designed for the USE of SINGING-SCHOOLS in AMERICA.

Containing in a plain and familiar Manner, the Rules of Psalmody, together with a N U M B E R OF PSALMOTY, &c.

Composed by DANIEL READ, Philo-Musico.

SING YE PRAISES WITH UNDERSTANDING. Pfalm XLVII, 7.

The SECOND EDITION, Corrected.

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TUFTS COLLEGE P R E F A C E.

AT the singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs, is a Duty incumbent upon all Denominations of Christians, is clearly evident from sacred Writ. This opinion is so prevalent among us, that to offer Arguments to support it, is unnecessary and superfluous.

Scripture also insorms us, that all the Daties of the Christian Church should be performed with Decency and in Order; and Singing being an important Part of Divine Worship, claim particular Attention, and ought to be conducted with great Propriety. This, however, will be impracticable, unless the Rules of Psalmody are well understood, and closely athered to. Hence the Necessay of Schools for the Instruction of Children and Youth, in this plant, and hence I have been induced to publish the Contents of the soliday Sheets, wherein I have endeavoured to lay down the Pules of Psalmody, in as plain and familiar a for our as possible. I have also midded a Number of Psalm-Tures, e.c. in all the Variety of Person, i loods of Pine, &c. necessay to be taught in Schools, and in all the different Metres more commanally used in the worshipping Assemblies of America.

That this Book might be afforded at a low Price, I have not inferted a large Humber of Tunes and Anthems, yet perhaps sufficient for the Use of common Singing-Schools.

That it may answer the End proposed, in being conducive to the Attainment of the Hnow-ledge of Singing, is the Ancere Will of 4788.

To the TEACHERS of MUSIC in the United States.

Gentlemen

H I S little Book is humbly presented for your candid Perusal and Acceptance. If at your Farit should be judged unworthy your Patronage, let it suffer either Death or Banishment. It carries with it however one Request, a Request no one will presume to say is unreasonable: viz. That it may not be condemned without an importial Examination and fair Trial. Not doubting your Inclinations to do it Justice, I submit it, and am happy in writing myself,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

And very humble Servant,

The Author.

ADVERTISEMENT.

A L L Words fet to Music in this Book, for which no Credit is given, were written by Dr. WATTS, and the Number of the Psalm or Hymn is commonly expressed over the Tune.

When the feveral Parts have Words different from each other, they are to be found under each Part; but when any Part has no Words directly under it, they are generally to be found between the Counter and Tenor.

The Author would esteem it as a peculiar Mark of Favour, if any Gentleman discovering Errors in this Book, would take the earliest Opportunity to give him Information.







A full and plain Explanation of the foregoing Rules.

Explanation of Lesson I. Page 5.

In this lesson, which contains what is commonly called the Gamut, the sive lines with their spaces marked with the letters A B C D &c. represent the five lines, and fix spaces, whereon music is written, the spaces above and below being included: The letters are the names by which those lines and spaces are called. And although there are more than seven places which are named by those letters, yet there are but seven letters used. viz. A B C D E F & G, every eighth letter being the same, and it ought to be remembered that they always keep the same order, in which they are placed in the scale; viz. that wherever G is found, the next letter above it is always A, the next B, and so on, always observing to reckon both lines and spaces.

N. B. These five lines and six spaces are called a Stave.

When notes afcend above, or descend below the stave, a ledger line is added, whose name may be readily known by attending to the order of the letters: for if a ledger line be added above the stave in tenor or treble, where the upper space is named G, its name must undoubtedly be A, the space then next above it B, and if another ledger line were added above the sirst (as is sometimes the case) its name will be C, and so on. The same rule holds good with regard to the other parts. See the example.

Pfalmody is generally composed in four parts, viz. Bass, Tenor, Counter, and Treble; their names, and the order in which they are placed, are snewn in the lesson, where they are linked together with a brace.

There are three cliss commonly used on these four parts; the G cliss used both in troble and tenor, and is placed on the second line from the bottom, which gives it the name G.

The C cliff is used in Counter, and is placed on the middle line, which gives it the name C.

The F cliff is used in Bass only, and is placed on the fourth-line from the bottom, which gives it the name F.

If either of those cliss were moved to another line, the letters in their order must all move with them; but this is not often the case, except in music set for the organ or harpsicherd: it is therefore best for those who are learning to sing, to learn the names of the lines and spaces as they are marked in the lesson.

Explanation of Lesson II. Page 5.

HE fecond lesson contains the fix musical notes, together with their respective ress, and the proportion they bear to each other.

I. A semibreve is the longest note commonly used in plasmody, and is called the measure note, because the time of

the others always bears a certain proportion to the time of the femibreve.

II. A minim is but half the length of a semibreve: viz. but half the time must be taken up in sounding a minim that is taken up in sounding a semibreve, when they are both in the same mood of time; so that it a semibreve be four seconds, a minim must be two, if a semibreve be two seconds, a minim must be one, &c.

III. A crotchet is but half the length of a minim, or one fourth of a femibreve.

IV. A quaver is but half the length of a crotchet, or one eighth of a femibreve.

V. A femiquaver is but half the length of a quaver, or one fixteenth of a femibreve.

VI. A demisemiquaver is but half the length of a femigraver, or one thirty-fecond of a femibreve.

The refts are marks of filence, of the same length in time as the notes for which they stand, and wherever they occur, the performer should suspend his voice so long as he would have been sounding their respective notes, excepting the rest set to the semibreve, which may more properly be called a bar rest.

See Page 7, and 16.

These

These notes are sometimes quicker and sometimes slower, as will be shewn in treating of the moods of time; but they always bear the lame preportion to each other, whatever the time may be, except when made longer by a point of addition. or shorter by a figure of diminution. A point of addition set at the right hand of any note, makes it half as long again; fortlat a rotated semilireve is equal to three minims, a pointed minim to three crotchets, a pointed crotchet to three quavers, &c. The figure a is called a figure of dimination, because when fet over or under three notes of any kind, a third part of the time of cace note is other time it, and they are to be tung in the same time that two of the fame notes should have been fing will out the figure; fo that time enotehers having the figure 3 directly over or under them, should be fung in the time of two crotelets, or one minim, which is the same thing, and bewife three quavers in the time of two, &c.

Explanation of Letion III. Page 5.

HIS le Con contains sundry other character and he and se. First, A flat finks a note half a tone, or in other words, I am note having a flut at the lest hand cold and cold and a lone lower than if the flut was not there, or if it is fet a pondicitor of the feven letters at the beginning to the it has the same effect upon all notes which occur on that letter through the stave, unless otherwise direct. The sac as exercion of sharps or naturals.

Scoul, de frarp is just the reverse of a flat. A the twice a flarp at the left hand of it must be sounded half a tone higher than if the tharp was not there, or if it is let upon cities of the feven etters at the beginning of a flave it has the fame effectiopes all notes which occur on that letter through the flave, unlets otherwise cirected by the intervention of flats

or naturals.

The , A natural when let at the left hand of any note influenced by a governing flat or sharp at the beginning of a slave. ref resistables primative found. Thus in the example annexed we find B made flat at the beginning, but the note which Stand open Bm. Ree long joh as if the e had been no flat there, became it is restored by the natural at the left hand of it.

A. B. Latt, for and naturals, when defined to off Bearticular notes on for called accidental flots, foarps, See by for vel, or we will as the beginning of a flave are called a terming flats and force, and barge influence not only on the level i . or porche . . they start, but on the eighth above and being, which is always the same letter; as was shown by je. 17. 2 ... the in Et're space next below the upper line in we twom, then E the lower line is also confidered as ma. ..., when jo used, always set on the sent letter in every part; so in the time Norwall, sharps way s

Fourth, A flur ties or links any number of notes together which should be sung to one syllable, when sung in words, but not when sung by notes, except when two or more notes which stand together on one and the same letter are slurred,

and then they should be sung as but one note.

N. B. Infinging flurred notes in words great care should be taken to pronounce the words properly, for which purpose observe these directions; keep your lips and teeth as under from the beginning to the end of the slur, warble the notes in your throat, sliding easily from one sound to another, without any kind of hitch or jolt (which is too often practised) and if possible don't stop to take breath until you have done; otherwise you break the slur and spoil the pronunciation.

Fifth, A direct is but of small use, it being only set at the end of a stave to shew the performer the place of the

fucceeding note in the next stave.

Sixth, A bar is used in music to divide the time into equal parts; so in the example annexed the first bar contains one semibreve, the second two crotchets and one minim, which are just equal in time to a semibreve: and the third one semibreve rest. For a more particular account of bars see the explanation of lesson 5th.

Seventh, A double bar shews the end of a strain, and is often preceded by a repeat +.

Eighth, A repeat denotes a repetition of the music from the note over which it stands to the next double bar or close; or in other words, when you meet with a repeat (which always is or ought to be set over each part) you must pass on until you come to the next double bar or close, and then cast your eye immediately back to the repeat, and begin at the note which stands directly under it, and proceed on as before.

* The space included between two bars is frequently termed a har. - + Donble bars when preceded by repeats have

Sometimes dots placed on each fide of them, to put the performer in mind of the repeat.

on F in bass, tenor, counter, and treble, and it is then properly said to be F sharp; and in the tune Westford, stats are set on B and E in every part, which is then said to be B and E stat. Governing stats and sharps are sometimes used in passing from one key to another in the middle of a stave; but then they are always set on the same letter in every part directly opposite to each other as at the beginning, by which means they may be distinguished from accidentals. Their use is then just the same as when set at the beginning of a stave. Naturals are also sometimes used in the same manner; as for instance, suppose a piece of music bas any number of governing stats or sharps, the composer may at any time restore those letters on which they stand to their primitive sound, by placing naturals on them, and on every part directly opposite to each other. In perhaps the best way in passing from one key to another, may be to insert the cliss anew on each part, at which all instuence of foregoing stats or sharps must be supposed to cease; and then the composer may add or omit stats or sharps as he pleases.

Alrest, A double ending is shown by the figures 1, 2, which are set over a tune (as in the example anexed) with a double bar standing between them. These are never used except there be a repeat, and then after you have gone back from the double line to the repeat, as directed above, you must the second time of performing the music omit the note or notes under tigure 1, or between agure 1 and the double bar, and perform those under figure 2, except they are tyed together with a line, and then both need be performed the second time.

NB. The note at actes under sig. care called the first ending and the note or notes under fig. 2 are called the second ending.

Towar, A close thews the end or conclusion of a piece of mulick.

Explanation of Leffon, IV. Page 6.

HERE are but four fyllables used as names for the notes in singing, viz. Mi, Fa, Sol, La, but the three last of them being repeated make up seven which answer to the seven letters; these names however are not confined to partite cular letters, but are moved from one place to another by the help of slats and sharps, which is called transposition, and is expressed as in the lesson. Three slats and three sharps are similarly to transpose mi into either of the seven letters, and yet more are sometimes used, for reasons which will be shewn hereaster. Mi may be also transposed into any one of the letner by either slats or sharps alone, as follows

	By FLATS,		By SHARPS.
	B	E	F F
	Band E	A	E and C C.
	BE and A	D	F C and G G
If	BEA and D be flat mi is in	G	If FCG and D be sharp mi-is in D
	BEAD and G	C	FCGD and A A
	BEADG and C	F	FCGDA and E E
	BEADGC and F	В	FCGDAE and B - B

N. B. The natural place for mi is in B, and when all the letters are made either flat or sharp mi again retires to its native

place.

The names of the notes always keep the same order, viz, mi, sa, sol, la, sa, sol, la, ascending, and the cantrary, viz, mi, la, sol, sa, la, sol, sa, descending, and although the place of mi only, is shewn in the lesson, the others may be known by

observing their order, for let mi be in either of the letters the note next above it is sa, the next sol, the next la &c. and the next below it is la, the next sol, the next sa, &c. So wher mi is in its natural place, B, all notes which st nd on C must be called fa, because they are next above mi, and all that stand on A must be called la because ext below mi; again it B is stat and consequently mi in E, then all notes which stand on F must be called fa, and all which stand on D must be called la, &c.

Learners should be careful, not only to call the notes by the right names, but to speak them plain and pronounce them properly. The letter a in the notes sa, and la, should be pronunced as in the words father*, lather, &c. The i, in mi,

should be founded short, or somewhat like ee, the o in sol should be sounded long as in soldier.

Explanation of Lesson V. Page 6.

HERE are nine different moods of time used in psalmody; four of them are called common time because they are measured by even numbers, as 2, 4, 8, &c. three are called triple time, because measured by threes, and the other two are called compound time because they are compounded of common and triple time.

Common Time Moods.

The first is called the adagio mood: has a semibreve for its measure note, every bar containing that or other notes or rest which amount to the same quantity of time; so in the example annexed the first bar is filled by a semibreve, the eccond by four crotchets, &c. And in order to give these notes or rests their proper time, a motion of the hand is need stary, which is called beating time, and every motion or swing of the hand is called a beat. This mood has sour beats in each bar, which should be beat two down and two up in the following manner, viz. First, lightly strike the ends of your singlers, secondly, the heel of your hand, thirdly, raise your hand a little and shut it up; fourthly, raise it still higher and throw in open at the same time, which compleats the bar. Every bar in this mood of time is performed in the same man, er, each teat exactly in one second of time.

The second is called the largo mood; has also a semibreve for a measure note containing that or other notes or rests which amount to the same quantity of time in each bar. This has also four beats in a bar which should be performed in the same

manner as in the Adagio, only a quarter quicker, viz. four beats in the time of three feconds.

* See M. Wooffer's Grammatical Liftuure, ist part, 2d Edition, page 31.

+ It is best to shut or partly shut the hand in the sound motion to distinguish it from the fourth, otherwise they would be book alike.

The third is called the Allegro mood; has also a semibreve for a measure note containing that or other notes or rests which amount to the same quantity of time in each bar; has but two beats in a bar, which should be beat one down and the other up, allowing one second to each beat.

'The fourth is called 2-4, or 2 from 4. This has a minim for a measure note, containing that or other notes or rests to the same amount in each bar; has but two beats in each bar which are beat one down and the other up. Four beats

in this mood are peformed in the same time as three in the Largo.

Triple Time Moods.

The first is called 3—2, or 3 to 2; has three minims or other notes or rests which make up the same quantity of time in each bar; has 3 beats in a bar the 2 sirst are beat down the other up, In beating this and the other two moods of triple time the motions should be made as follows, first, strike the ends of your singers, secondly, the heal of your hand, and thirdly, raise your hand up, which sind es the bar Each bear in this mood should be performed in one second of time.

The second is called 3--4, or 3 from 4; has three crotchets or other notes or rests which make up the same quantity of time in each bar; has three beats in each bar, the two sirst beat down and the other up. Each beat performed in the same time as

in the Largo.

The third is called 3--8, or 3 from 8; has three quavers or other notes or rests which make the same quantity of time in each bar. This has also three beats in a bar, two beat down and the other up, as quick again as in3-4.

Compound Moods.

The first is called 6--4, or 6 to 4; has fix crotchets or other notes or rests which make up the same quantity of time

in each bar; has two heats in a bar, the first heat down and the other up. One second of time to each heat,

The second is called 6--8, or 6 from 8; has six quavers or other notes or rests, which make up the same quantity of time in each bar; has two beats in a bar, the first down and the other up. A beat in this mood has the same time as in the Largo, N. B. The figures in the examples placed over the cars show the number of beats in each bar, and the letters placed under the

bars shew how they must be beat, viz. the letter d, shews when the hand must go down, and the letter u, when it must rife up.

The bar rest is properly so called because it is allowed to fill a bar in all moods of time.

Observe here, that the hand falls at the beginning and rises at the end of every bar in all moods of time,

That in the Adagio and Largo moods a semibreve is four beats, a minim two, a crotchet one, a quaver half &c.

That in the Allegro and 3--2 moods, a femibreve is two beats a crotchet half, &c.

That in the 2--4, 3--4, 3--8, and o- 3, moods, a semicore cannot be afect, because it will more than fill a bar.

That in 2--4 and 3--4, a minim is two beats a crotchet one, a quaver half. &c.

That in 3--8, where am nim can't be used a crotonet is two beats, a quaver one, &c.

That in 6-4, a pointed minim is one be t, crotes et shrue at a beat, &c. That in 6-3, a pointed croteint is one book, three gunver at a se t, &c.

Observe also.——That in those moods of time when we not marked with squres, a semibreve fills a bar; but in all those moods which are marked with signess, the upper to are expected a certain number of notes of some kind which fill a bar, and the under signer shows how many of rhat kind or reads equal a semi-breve; so in the mood marked 3 the upper signer being 3 shews that three notes of some kind show a parior that should not a definite figure 2, shows that two of them are equal to a semi-breve; now two minims are could be a semi-breve, therefore three minims all a bar in that

mood of time. The fame rule hold speed with regard to the outer me his mathea with figures.

The performing the feveral marks in date proper time, is a name which ongot to La attended to: and yet firgers often fail in this point. That forms not be the quicker and forms flower, all agree, yet he will fir govery modelaides, or for near alike that the difference is for very perceptable. This is many place appealing in facilities the date in of the composer and roles are mode. Odders again firg all monds too flow: this is for common that many who could to be good fing its will feareby a low it to be more in this penerally most prevalent in those companies where the spirit of music is on the decline, and the longue quarker deline in the fingues quarker deline to the model finging; they will then drag on be now the appeal of proceed of models indicated at the longue quarker deep to dear to the models and to dear the first of the contractions of the date of the contractions of the land; the contractions of indicated and performs who are possessed to so great a flare of coleniation. To eval to you man gove that young teachers of notice to avoid all these errors and to give each to ad its proper time I have added to be so that one is a contractions of indicated.

Take a leaden bail, the fize whereas is has beside, about no include d'uniter les audit as our : Orfion die has finall tight cord in fuch a manner as that it may having each way we near intermediate, and have the harmonial time, let the length of the cord from the course of the ball to the plan or and intermediate the information of the linguistic condition.

For the Lage, 3-4 and 6-8 made - 12 2 5 5 2 For 3-8

Then for every fiving or vibration of the ball, i. e. every time it croffes the perpendicular line or place of its natural fituation when at reft, count one beat, and for the different moods of time according to the different lengths of the cord as expressed above. * This is so easy a way of ascertaining the true time for each mood, it is presumed no one who defigns to be a finger will think it too much trouble to make trial of it.

Thete moods are however, Concurred varied from their true time, by arbitrary words, fuch as quick, flow &c. being placed over the tune or anthem, in which case no certain rules can be given, the following general directions however

may not be amils.

2

When the term flow occurs, let the manic be performed about one fixth flower than the true time, and when the term very flow occurs, about as much flower Itill, and contrary for the terms quick and very quick.

Explanation of Lesson VI, Page 7. Of Chufing Notes.

HEN notes are let directly over each other on the farme stave they are called chusing notes, and either of them may be sing, or both if there be voices enough. It never but one with the same voice, because the bars are always full vitnout reckoning the time of both. See the example.

When the notes are fer at an eigh h below in compoun bass, they are called the ground bass; and when there are a fufficient number of voices upon the bals as well as on the other parts good fingers may found the eighth below, when the notes are not fet, except when the tenor is below the bass; provided they can found the notes musically, and without making any difagreeable leaps. These ground notes when properly sounded are truly majestic.

N. B. When refts are placed directly over each other, the time of both is to be reckoned.

* Aubres generally agree that the Adagio, Altern, and 3-2 moods should be performed in the time of seconds, but they of an differ worth regard to the other moods; for familiar that the 2-4 mood must be beat as full again as te Alliero, othere fay only a third quiener. It was therefore impossible for me to lay down any certain rules for each mood, without diffe. entry from our or be other of these. I have therefore laid down the rules as conformably to the common cuftem as I toffilly coul, and although in fine of the moods, I was under the necessity of differing from some authors, yet at the same time I hald it as Apad presible duty, to fing all pieces of mills composed by those authors exactly according to their rules.

Of Tones and Semitones.

There are said to be but seven sounds in nature, every eighth being in effect the same. These seven sounds are represented by the seven letters of the gamut. The distances or intervals between these sounds are not all equal, two of them, viz. between B and C and between E and F being but half the distance as between the others; there two are called semitones, the others whole tones. And, although this is the natural situation of the semitones, yet their situation is altered at pleasure by slats and sharps; thus when B is made flat it makes a whole tone between B and C and leaves but half a tone between A and B; so when F is sharp it makes a whole tone between E and F and but half a tone between F and G, These semitones are nevertheless always found between mi and sa and between la and fa.*

Every eighth or oftave contains twelve femitones; viz. the five whole tones being divided into femitones, and the two

natural semitones areas up twelve. See the example page 8th.

In this scale of semitones, the lower line G is made the foundation from which the others are reckoned, and is there-

* Hence appears the ground or reason of transposition, for if you observe you will find in raising the notes, there are not whole tones between the semitones as and mi sa; jo between the natural semitones B C and E F ascending are two public tones, but between E F and B C are three whole tones, otherefore where semain in their natural senation, the semitone misa suits to B C; but when B is made stat and the semitone is between A and B instead of B and C then there are three whole tones between that semitone and the next above, viz. E F and therefore mi mist be remived to E, because there is but two whole tones in ascending from the semitone E F to the semitone notice is but two advictors is between A and B. So if another state be adad on E it brings the semitone E F one degree lower, then of configurate three is but two whole tone, in ascending from A 3 to DE; therefore mi must then take place in A, and if a state be added on A it operates in the influence to another. Thus when a sharp is set one F it opens the situation of the semitores, casse the mi to move from one place to another. Thus when a sharp is set on F it opens the semicon E F, and makes a new one hat over F and G, then there is but two whole tones in ascending from F G to B C, therefore the mi must thin be in F, S. S. O spray here, that sits are always added upon the letter where mi is, and by opening the semitone but oven mi and sa, cause it to take place will the other senione will be substance and making a new one in the next place above, kring the mi to that very letter where the sharp is added.

fere called a unifon, because one and the same sound is a unifon. The right hand column of figures shews the number of semitones between G at the bottom and each of the other letters, both in their natural situation, and when made slat or sharp. Next above G you will find G sharp or A slat*, which is called a slat second, containing but one semitone; the next is A, which is a sharp second, containing two semitones; the next is B slat or A sharp, which is a slat third, containing three semitones; the next is B, which is a sharp third, containing four semitones; the next is C, which is a fourth, containing sive semitones. &c. &c. The slat second, third, sixth, and seventh are called lesser seconds, thirds &c. and the sharp second, third, fourth, sixth and seventh are called greater seconds, thirds, &c, which is the come a distinction, and the greater always contains a semitone more than the lesser.

N. B. The egoth is never greater or leffer, but always the fame, containing just twelve semitones; for if it contained one semitone less, it would be called a greater seventh, if a semitone more, it would be a leffer minth, which is the octave of a leffer second. The fifth also always contains just seven semitones, for if it contained one less, it would be the

fame with the greater fourth +.

Of Keys.

In all pieces of music there is one principal or governing tone on which all the others seem to depend, which is therefore called the key of the music. Now in order to find the key of the tune, observe the last note of the Eass, which always is or ought to be on the key; then all notes which stand on the fame letter in either part of the tune are said to be on the key, so that if the last note of the bass stand on A, then all the notes which stand on A in any part of the tune are said to stand on the key.

A key is always either flat or flarp: A flat key is always found in the place next below mi, and a flarp key in the place next above mi; so if the mi is in its natural place, B, and the last note of the base stand on A, it is a flat key,

* G for p and A flat are one and the same, because from A to G is but one tone, and when G is raised half a tone and A flat of bull atone, they must certainly meet half away; the same is true of the other awhole tones; but it is improper to show B r E, and is the series es next above are sirst made sharp, because B sharp is the same with C natural; and E sharp is the same with F natural; shi is improper to stat C or F, unless the letters next below are sirst made shar, because C stat is the same with B natural, and F stat is the same with E natural.

† It is granted a leffir fifth is found in one lave, viz. in ajcending from B to F, but then it is exactly the same as the

gresser fourth, containing just the jame number of jemitones.

but if on C, it is a sharp key. These are called the two natural keys, because the mi is then in its natural place, but when they are found in any of the other letters, they are then called artificial keys, although they are in fact the same,

only on different letters.

The difference between these two keys is occasioned by the different situation of the semitones, as may be seen in the example of keys page 8th, in which the two key notes are supposed to be even, as on the bottom line; then the second above is also even, but the third in the sharp key is half a tone higher than in the slat key, because from mi to sa is a semitone, and from sol to lais a whole tone, so likewise the fixth and seventh in the sharp key are half a tone higher than in the slat key.

N. B. Flat keys are most suitable for mournful and melancholy subjects, and sharp keys for gay and chearful subjects,

Of Trills and Marks of Distinction.

A Trill denotes that the note over which it stands is to be shaken in an easy and graceful manner, something after the manner shewn in the examples. Learners should sing all notes plain until they have arrived to some degree of perfection in the art of music, and even then should be exceedingly careful, and not (as some do) shake notes to pieces which should be sung plain. The practice of shaking pointed notes promiscuously is very erroneous.

Such notes as have the mark of distinction placed over them should beginn as distinctly as possible, and with some de-

gree of emphasi .

END of the Sixth LESSON.

. Explanation of the SCALE,

Exhibiting the Connection of the Four Parts, Page 7th.

HIS scale shows the order of the sour parts and their situation with regard to each other, for the lines and spaces which unite in one and the same letter at the right hand of the scale are always unisons; for i stance, A the upper line in the bass, A the space next below the middle line in the tenor, and A the second line from the bottom in the counter, all unite in one single A at the right hand, therefore they are unisons, and must be sounded even.

By.

By this scale also may be learned how to give each part of a tune its proper pitch from the key note: Suppose, for include, you would pitch the tune Newark, in which the bass begins on C which is the key of the tune, the tenor on C, the counter on C, and the treele on E; then turn to the scale, and after having found the letters on each part, trace them all out to the right hand, and count the distance of the three upper parts from the bass, and you will find the tenor is an eight, the counter a twellth, and tae the treele a seventeenth. A good pitch-pipe is a very reful influment for pitching the seventeenth in a good pitch-pipe is a very reful influment for pitching the seventeenth in young, for by fixing the letter on which is the key of the tune at the end of the pipe, and old wing, you have the true sound thereof, and then by help of the scale you will be able to give each part its proper pitch from the key; but then if a stat or sharp is set on the letter on which the key is, you must also make it stat on this place of diagly. In the cappears the property of using more than three stats or sharps in transposition*: for suppose you do not have a many cay in A, the rein which must then be in G may be brought there by making E, C and G sharp, and the bund for the countries of the state, but if the composition thinks the tune will then be half a tone lower, because A is made a left, and it is always to case when more than three stats or sharps are used, the key of the tune is half a tone lower or happer than it it had been brought to the same letter by the contrary character.

Of Transition.

Have given an example of transition page 8, in which the little notes Carred to the minimum of not be considered as adding anothing to be dime, the less being sell without ment, but only as notes solved a voice from one found to a totally anothing to a bounded as much lofter as they are finallier. Transition is rothing but gracefully thing from the action of another, in if performed well it remains the meledy rote against the total the total the total the rue found of the note, become in a little of the first from of the note, become in a first little and the first from of the note, become in a first little and the first first the condition and the specific the performers are factor.

rencone or Empoportion, Provis.

COMETO, These with a flight in make Indian to field in the range of the control of proportion, which are consequently to get to may, and to give only many in proportions: I have the consequently and the consequently.

5 Some of white E The ...

and in order to make the matter as plain as possible, have divided off the beats by a small stroke and set the figure 1 over the first beat in the bar, the figure 2 over the second, &c.

In the first example, the time being Allegro, a min m is placed between two crotchets, therefore the first crotchet and half the minim must be fung to the first beat, & the other half of the minim with the other crotchet to the second beat.

In the second example the time being the same, the bar is filled with a crotchet and a pointed minim; therefore the crotchet and half the minim must be sung to the first beat, and the other half of the minim with the point of addition makes the second beat. The other examples are different, but what has been said in explanation of the two first is sufficient to give any person, who has any right notion of keeping time, an idea of performing them.

Of the Eight Notes, Page 8.

HAVE made F sharp in this example of the eight notes, by which means they both begin and end on the proper key without going beyond the compass of the stave. The sounds of these can never be learned from the book alone, but but if they are ever learnt it must be by the assistance of a master or some other person to sound them in the ears of every pupil, for I know of no way to give a person who is unacquainted with music, an idea of theexast difference or space between two sounds without sounding them to him, any more than I do to give a blind mun an idea of colours.

General Directions for Learners.

It is necessary for all those who wish to attain to the art of finging, that they first get a good knowledge of the fix lessons, laid down in page 5, &c. Indeed it may be proper for any one, while learning the rules, to ende your to cultivate his voice, having a master to instruct him; but it is as inconsistent f r one to attempt singing any tune, till acquainted with the rules, as for a child ignorant of the alphabet to think of reading the bible with propriety. Some, I am sensible, who are unacquainted with the rules, have, by hearing others, learnt to sing a tune nearly right; so a child unable to read a single word may by observation joined with a strong memory, repeat several pages from an author; but as the latter cannot justly be called a reader; so neither can the former justly claim the title of singer.

After acquiring a good understanding of the rules, the learner may proceed to some plain tune, or the eight notes, if

the master directs, but should not attempt to sing any tune in words till he has first persectly learnt it by note.

The method of finging in a feft and easy manner is very advantageous to learners; it gives them an opportunity of

hearing

hearing the master's voice and imitating him, it is the best way to cultivate their own, and sometimes causes those voices which are harsh and unpleasant to become musical.

Great care should be taken to give every note its proper sound; to strike a note but one quarter of a tone from its true sound destroys the harmony. Young singers are apt to strike notes too stat; and when this is the case, the music will be

dull and infipid.

When a tune is well learnt by note it may be fung in words and every word must not only be pronounced according to the best rules of grammar, but spoken plain and distinct. Singers often fail in this point, by which means half the

beauty of the music is lost, the words not being understood.

There are several graces very ornamental in music, when used with propriety, three of which have been already mentioned, viz. the trill, mark of distinction and, transition. Another is called accent, which is a certain torce of voice upon particular notes. Authors generally say that in common time where the bar is divided into two parts the accent should be on the first, where it is divided into four parts, it should be on the third; in triple time it should be on the first beatin every bar; and in compound time on the first beat in each bar. Doubtless this is the best general rule that can possibly be given for the accent in music, and yet perhaps it is not best for singers to confine themselves strictly to this rule, because it sometimes renders the music unpleasing, on account of its disagreeing with the words. The music should always conform to the words rather than the words to the music, and to accent a note which falls on an unaccented syllable, because it stands in an accented part of a bar, is making the words conform to the music. Let singers a decrease pay some attention to the words we ich they sing, and endeavour to accent such notes as fall on accented syllables and emphasical words; particularly such words as strong, loud, noise, &c. should be sung with a strong voice, and sech words as small, mind, weak, &c. with a smaller voice.

Notwithstanding all that has been or can be said with regard to graces, the best way is to sing with east and freedom, and without confining yourself to any certain rules for gracing music, any further than can be adopted in a natural and easy manner, there being nothing forced or unnatural in good music.—Every singer should sag that price which is most mitable to his voice, which case learners should submit to the judgement of the master. Care should be taken, in singing companies, to have the parts properly proportioned; one haif the strength of voices should be taken, the other half divided upon the other parts.—A old should generally be sung softer, and a chosus which relieve a consider than the rest of the master. When the words soft, &c are placed over music some regard should be paid to mean. When there are re-

peated

peated in music, the strength of the voices should increase every time they are repeated, and when music is repeated in may be well to sing it louder the second time than the sirst. Low notes in the bass should generally be founded hall, and the high notes in any part, not full, but clear. In suging music the strength of the voices should increase as the parts fall in, and the pronunciation in such cases should be very distinct and emphatic.

Beating time is a matter too often neglected in schools, except the master takes particular care to have it performed, and yet it is a matter of no small consequence, for when one part or one voice gets behind or before the others, it makes a compleat jargon, and this will most generally be the case when beating time is not well attended to; but it properly

performed it is almost impossible that this should happen.

More might have been added by way of direction, &c. but left it should swell this book beyond its proper limits, the rest must be left to the discretion of the master.



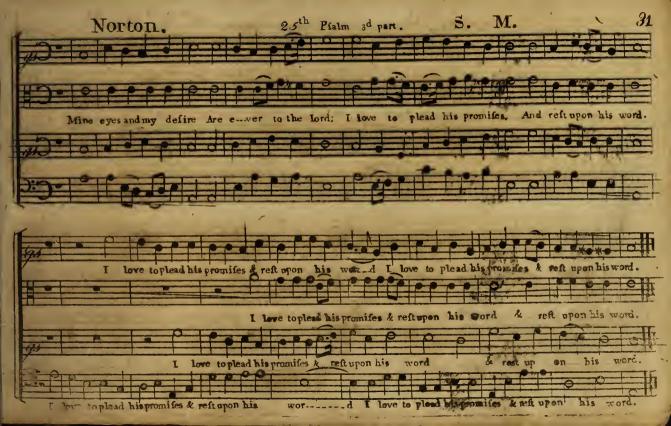


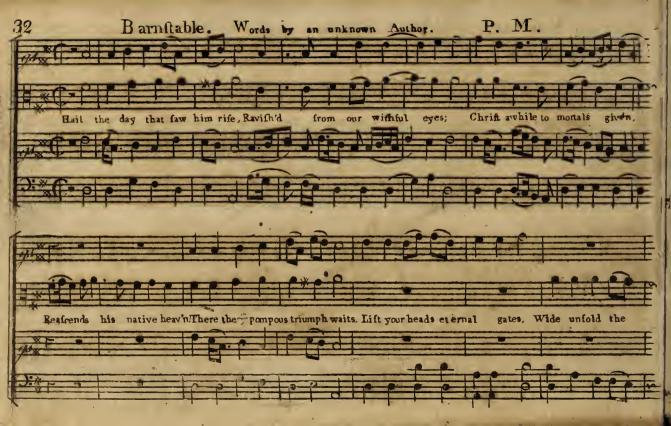






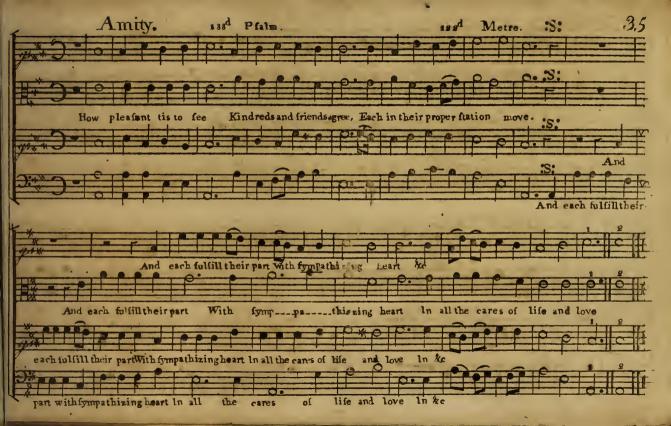


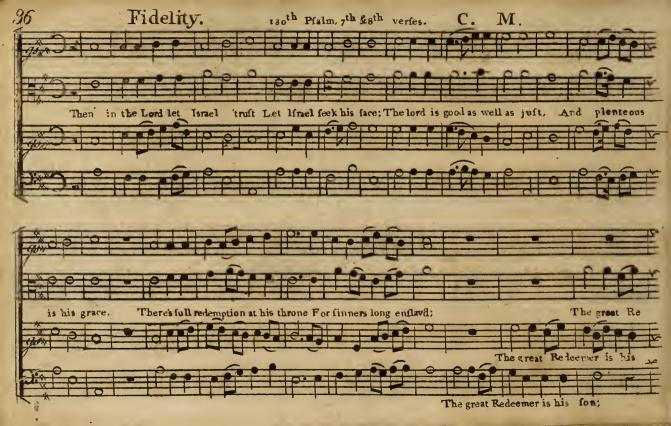




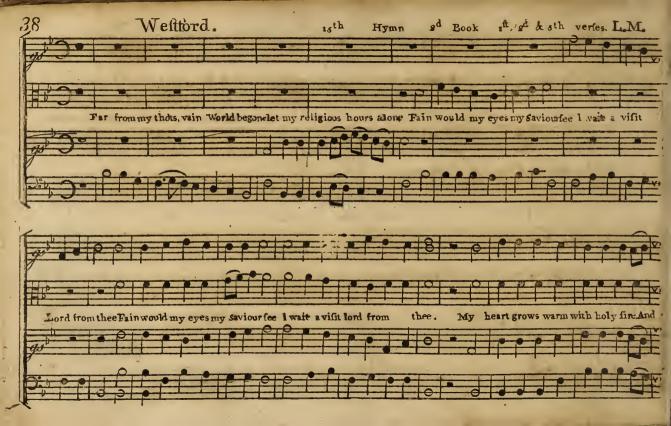


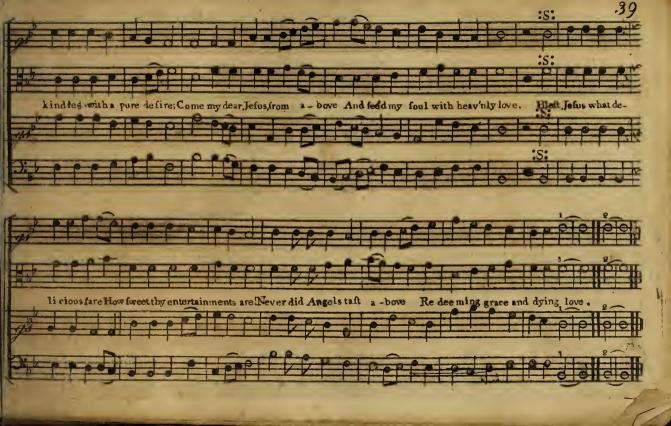




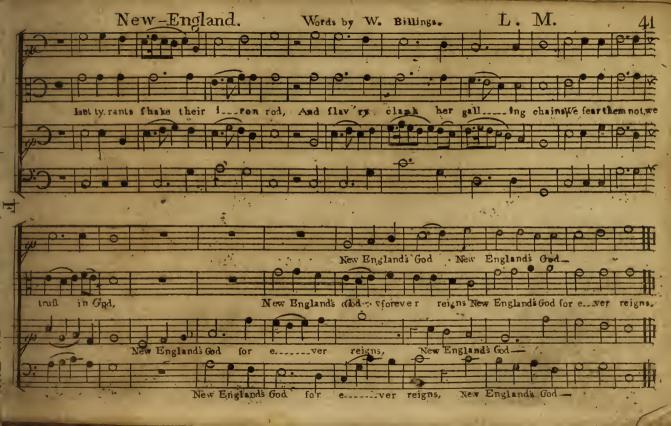






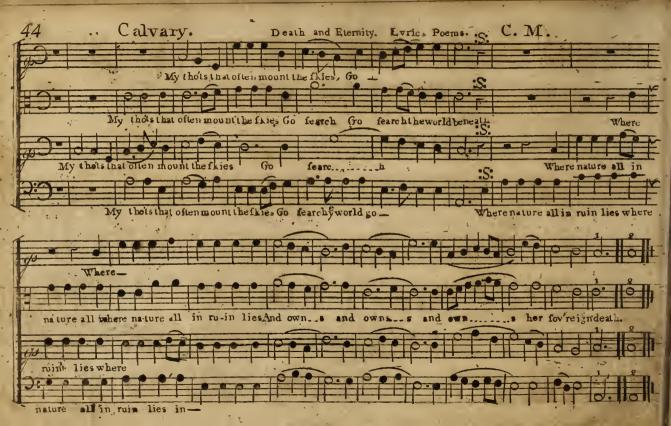




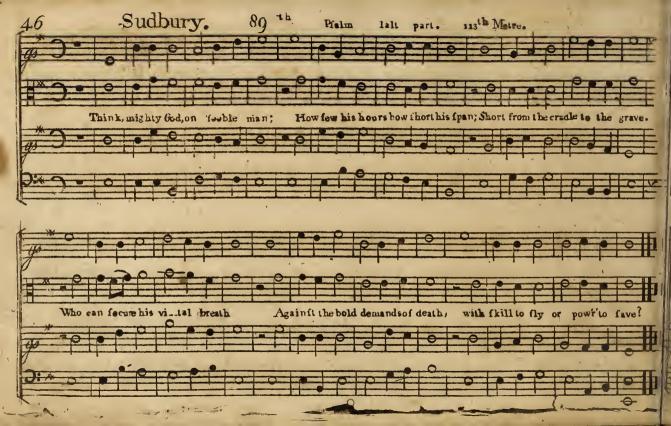




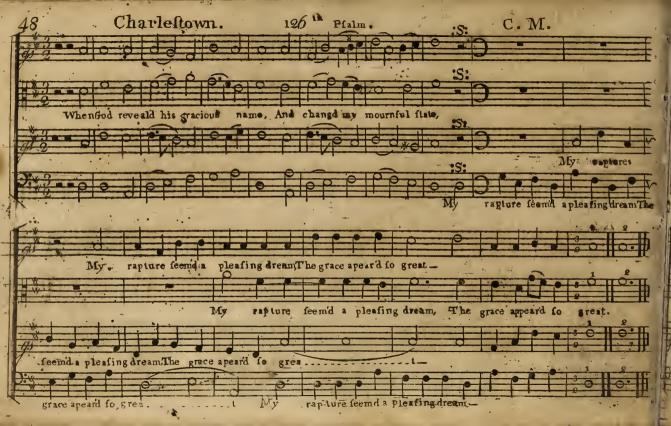




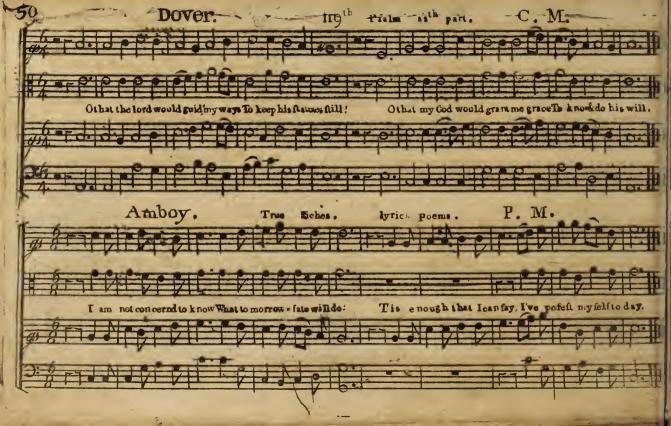


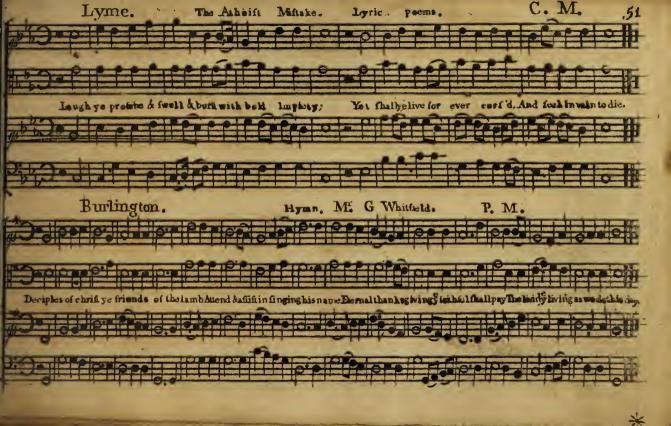






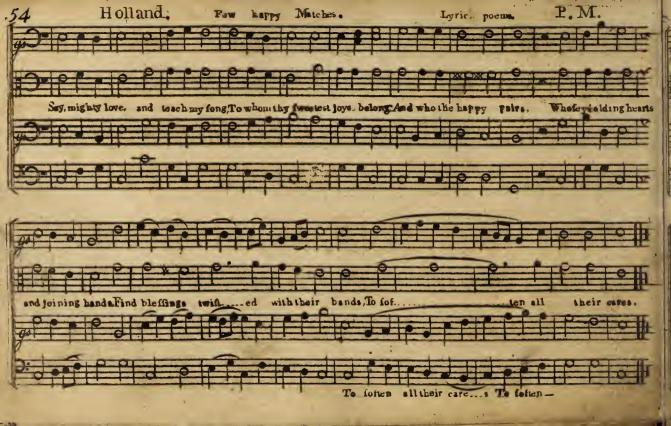




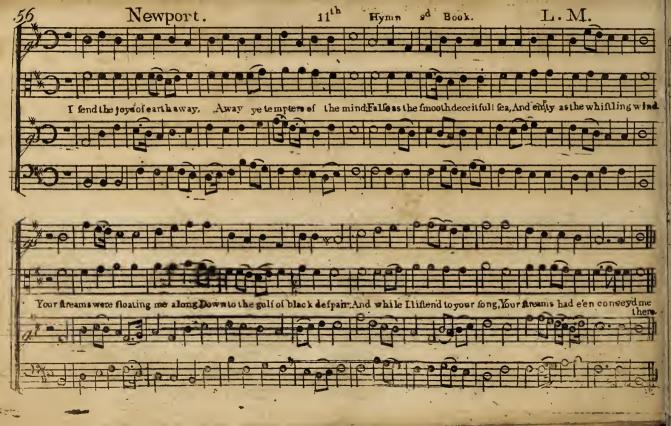




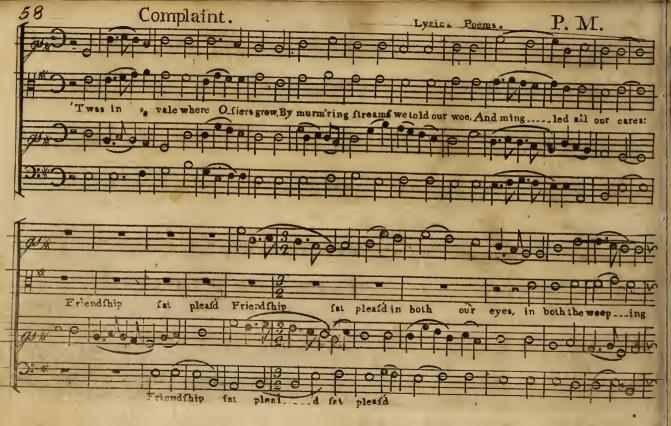


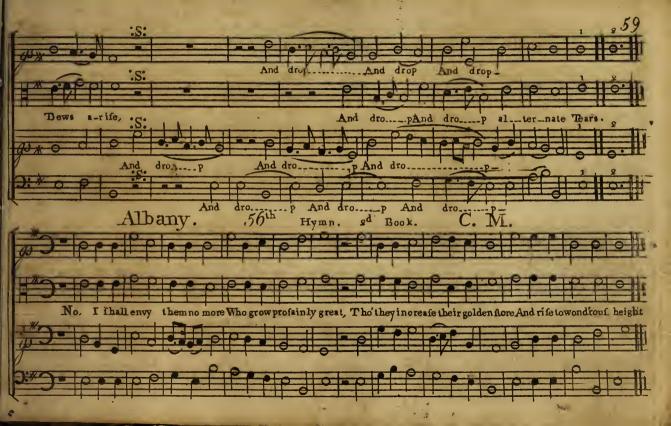


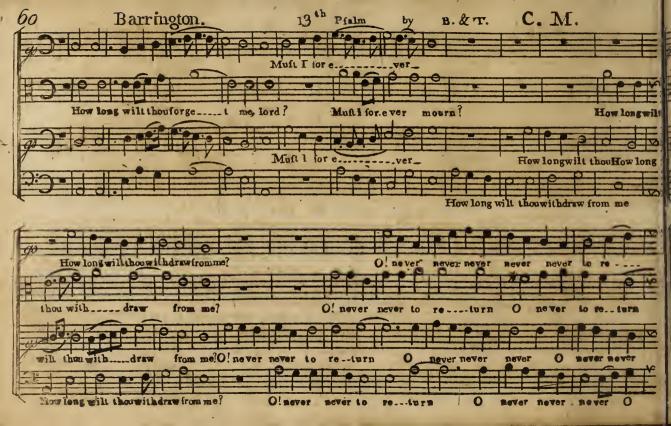








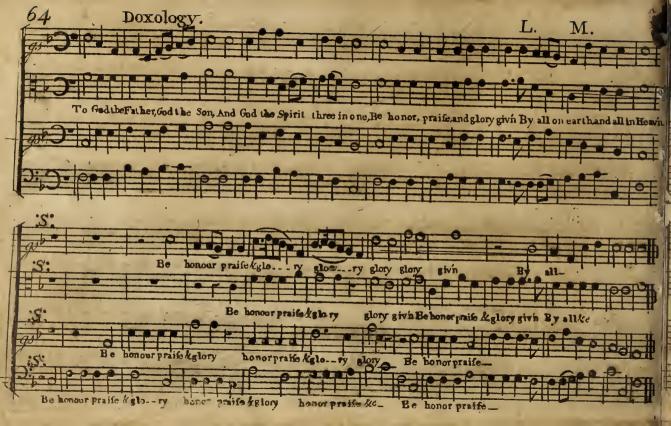




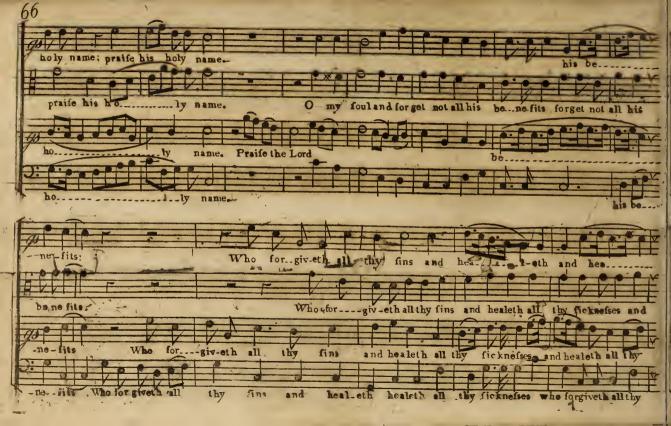


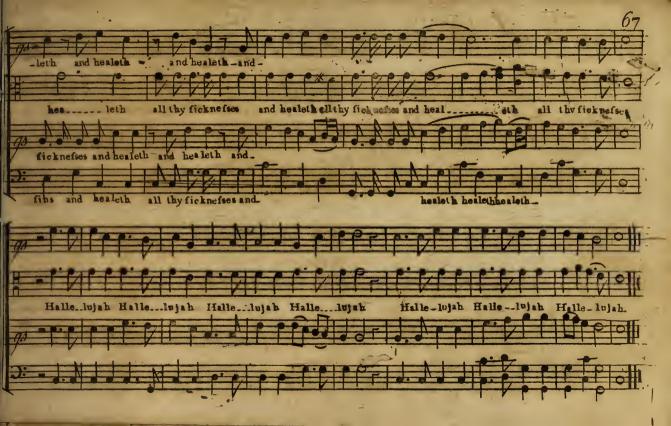


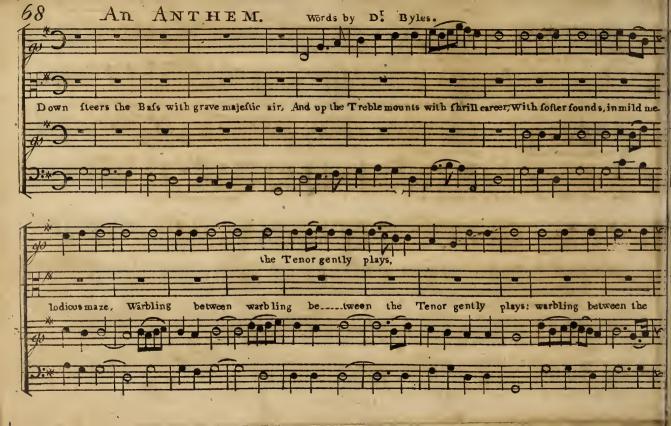




















INDEX.

Lunes names	Page	Innes names	Page	Tunes names	Dane
Mbiny	59	Freetown	34	Sabbath	Page
Mmloy	50	Happy City	55	Sherburne	37
Amit	35	Holland	54	Stafford	53
Annaolis	40	Human Frailty	30	Sudbury	49
Afia	52	Judgement	43	Victory	46
arrinton	60	Kingston	26	Vienna	57
larnst ble	32	Lifbon	61	Warren	45
Conningon	27	Lyme		Westford	29
Burlingon	51	Mortality	51	Windham	38
Calvary		Naples	29 28		55
harlestorn	44 48	Newark '		Winter	33
Complain	58		26	Zoar	25
erby -		New-England	. 41		
over	57	Newport	56	ANTHEMS.	
oxology	50	Norton	31		2 1
utham	-64	Norwalk	25	Down steers	the Bals 68
field	27 28	Pembrook	62	O praise the L	ord , 65
		Refurrection	4.2	K	
Eelity	, 36	Ripton	4.7	4	
			1		