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EXCELSIOR METHOD

FOR THE

BANJO

BY

G. L. LANSING

WHITE-SMITH MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.

BOSTON NEW YORK CHICAGO

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Oct. 29, 1926

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ELEMENTS OF MUSIC.

The principal characters used to express music are NOTES, which represent musical sounds, and RESTS, which represent silence.

These characters are written upon the STAFF, a union of 5 lines and the 4 spaces between.

THE STAFF.



NOTES AND RESTS.

The different kinds and their names.

NOTES.

Whole note. Half note. Quarter note. Eighth note. Sixteenth note. Thirty-second note. Sixty-fourth note.



RESTS.

Whole note rest. Half note rest. Quarter note rest. Eighth note rest. Sixteenth note rest. Thirty-second note rest. Sixty-fourth note rest.



Table showing the relative time-value of notes.

A Whole note is equal
in time-value to



2 Half notes

or



4 Quarter notes

or



8 Eighth notes

or



16 Sixteenth notes

or



32 Thirty-second notes.



(or 64 Sixty-fourth notes.)

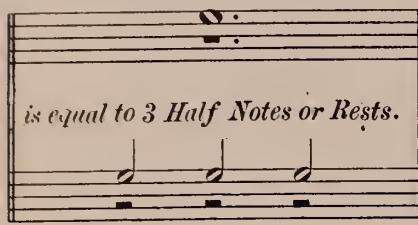
The same rule applies also to the Rests.

DOTTED NOTES AND RESTS.

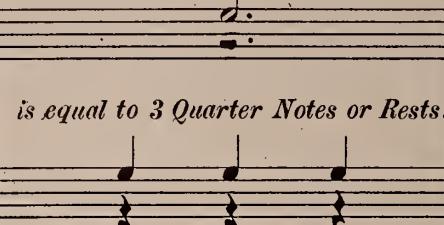
A Dot after a note or rest increases the time-value one half.

Dotted Notes and Rests and their Equivalents.

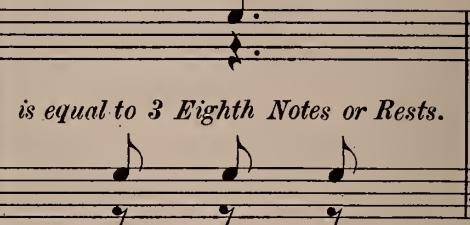
A dotted Whole Note or Rest



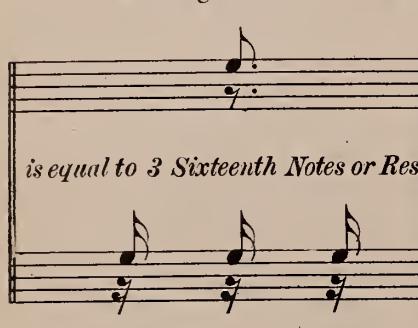
A dotted Half Note or Rest



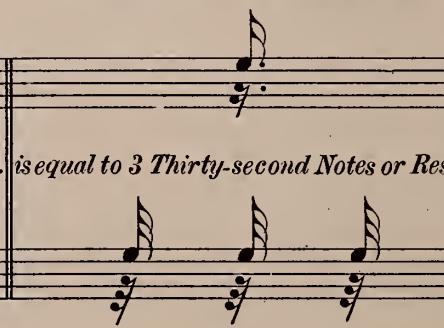
A dotted Quarter Note or Rest



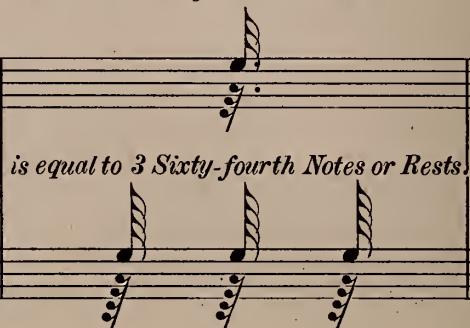
A dotted Eighth Note or Rest



A dotted Sixteenth Note or Rest



A dotted Thirty-second Note or Rest



A second dot after a note or rest adds to the time-value of the note or rest, one half the value of the first dot. Thus a double-dotted Half Note ($\text{d}..$) is equal to 3 Quarter Notes and 1 Eighth Note (q q q q), and a double-dotted Quarter Note ($\text{d}..$) to 3 Eighth Notes and 1 Sixteenth Note (e e e e) and so on. Double dotted Rests have the same relative time-values as corresponding notes.

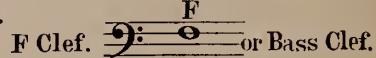
THE CLEF.

The CLEF is a character usually placed at the beginning of the Staff to indicate the Musical Pitch of the notes written thereon.

For all the higher instruments such as the FLUTE, VIOLIN, OBOE, CLARINET, CORNET, HORN, GUITAR, MANDOLIN and also the BANJO, FLAGEOLET, FIFE, CONCERTINA, ACCORDEON and some others, a Clef called the G Clef is used. It fixes the tone G upon the 2d line of the Staff.

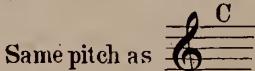
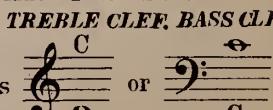
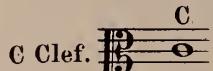


For instruments of a lower compass such as the VIOLONCELLO, DOUBLE BASS, BASSOON, TROMBONE, TUBA and others, a Clef called the F Clef is used. It fixes F upon the 4th line of the Staff.



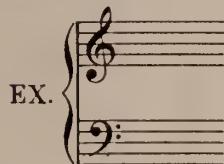
A Clef called the C Clef is used especially for the VIOLA and fixes C upon the middle line of the Staff.

This is called the Alto Clef. When placed on the 4th line it is called the Tenor Clef.



In Music for the Violoncello, Bassoon and some others, several of these clefs are sometimes used.

Music for the PIANO, ORGAN and HARP requires the use of both the G and the F Clefs, which are placed on separate Staves connected by what is called a BRACE.



TIME, MEASURE & BAR.

There are three kinds of Time, viz:— *Common, Triple & Compound* Time.

Examples of Common Time.	;	Examples of Triple Time.	;	Examples of Compound Time.
C or $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{2}{2}$		$\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{3}{2}$, $\frac{3}{8}$,		$\frac{6}{8}$, $\frac{9}{8}$, $\frac{12}{8}$, $\frac{6}{4}$

The lower of the two figures indicates the kind of a note, and the upper, how many of that kind of a note are contained in a measure. Thus, $\frac{3}{4}$ indicates that there are three quarter notes to a measure.

A MEASURE is that portion of a musical composition contained between two single bars. A BAR is a perpendicular line drawn through the staff, thus: A DOUBLE BAR is placed at the end of a piece of music; sometimes at the end of a section (strain) thereof. A DOUBLE BAR with dots, thus: is called a repeat, and signifies a repetition from the previous double bar, or the commencement of the piece.

ACCIDENTALS.

The Sharp (#), Flat (b), Natural (n), Double Sharp (x) and Double Flat (bb) are called ACCIDENTALS.

The # before a note *raises* it a Semitone (half tone).

The b before a note *lowers* it a Semitone.

The x " " " " Whole Tone.

The bb " " " " Whole Tone.

The n before a note removes a previous # or b.

The ## before a note that has been double-sharped *lowers* it a Semitone.

The bb " " " " double-flatted *raises* " " "

The Sharps and Flats placed next to the Clef are called the *Signature*. EX. or

NOTE: Each Sharp or Flat in the Signature affects that particular tone upon which it is placed so long as it remains in the Signature, unless changed by the introduction of other accidentals before the notes.

THE SCALE.

A SCALE is a series of Musical sounds, ascending or descending according to a system of tones and semitones. The first seven letters of the Alphabet are applied to the seven principal tones of the Scale. Also the Italian monosyllables *Do Re Mi Fa Sol La Si*.

It has already been shown that the G Clef fixes G upon the 2d line of the Staff. From this starting point all other tones can be determined. Notes extending above or below the regular degrees of the Staff are written upon what are called LEDGER LINES, and the spaces between.



Descending.

EX.

NOTE. Observe that the seven letters follow each other in regular alphabetical order, and that the eighth letter is always the same as the first, whichever one we begin with. It is therefore said to be an *Octave* (8 tones) higher or lower than the first, accordingly as we go up or down.

DIFFERENT KINDS OF SCALES.

The Scale is the basis of all music. There are three kinds in common use: the *Major Scale*, the *Minor Scale*, and the *Chromatic Scale*. The *Major Scale* consists of seven principal tones, viz: five whole tones, and two semitones. The semitones occur between the *third* and *fourth*, and the *seventh* and *eighth* degrees of the Scale. Degrees or intervals may be *Major*, *Minor*, or *Perfect*, viz; — Major 2^d, Minor 2^d, Major 3^d, Minor 3^d, Perfect 4th, Perfect 5th and so on up to the octaves.

The Major Scale.

SCALE OF C MAJOR.

The semitones are indicated by this sign

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
C D E F G A B C B A G F E D C
Do Re Mi Fa Sol La Si Do Si La Sol Fa Mi Re Do

All Major Scales have the same construction and the same order of intervals, ascending or descending.

The Minor Scale.

Every *Major Scale* has its relative *Minor*. The *Signature* is the same in each, and the Key-note is a *Minor Third* (tone and a half) below that of the relative Major Scale. Ex. It has also five tones and two semitones, but with a difference in the order of intervals. The semitones occur between the *second* and *third*, and *seventh* and *eighth* degrees of the scale *ascending*, and between the *fifth* and *sixth* and *second* and *third* degrees *descending*.

SCALE OF A MINOR. (Relative to C Major.)

Melodic Minor Scale.

1 2 3 4 5 6 #7 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
A B C D E F# G# A G# F# E D C B A

There are two kinds of Minor Scales in common use; the above which is called the *Melodic Minor Scale*, and the following which is called the *Harmonic Minor Scale*. Observe the difference in the arrangement of the semitones.

SCALE OF A MINOR.

Harmonic Minor Scale.

1 2 3 4 5 6 #7 8 #7 6 5 4 3 2 1
A B C D E F G# A G# F E D C B A

As the Student will meet both forms in his subsequent practice, an example of each has therefore been given.

THE CHROMATIC SCALE.

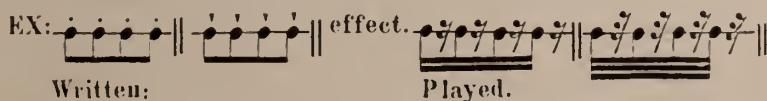
This Scale is composed of twelve semitones, and may be formed upon any degree of the scale, major or minor. In ascending, the Sharp, Double-sharp, or Natural is employed in its formation, but in descending, the Flat, Double-Flat, or Natural is used accordingly as there are sharps or flats in the signature.

C C[#] D D[#] E F F[#] G G[#] A A[#] B C
 B B^b A A^b G G^b F E E^b D D^b C

MISCELLANEOUS CHARACTERS.

Notes having a dot or dash over or under them are to be played short and detached. This is called *Staccato*.

Half staccato. Full staccato.



This sign called a *Hold*, placed over a note or rest, prolongs it beyond its exact value. It is sometimes placed at the end of a piece instead of the word *Fine*, which means the end.

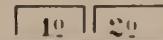
The character called a *Tie* when placed over two notes on the same degree of the staff makes them one continuous sound.

When placed over two notes on different degrees it is called a *Slur* and indicates that the notes it applies to are to be played in a smooth and connected manner.

Three notes played in the time of two of the same kind are called a *Triplet*, and are indicated thus:

A *Sextolet* is a group of six notes played in the time of four of the same kind. EX.

The called a *Sign*, directs the player back to where it was previously indicated, for the purpose of repeating a certain portion of the music.



A passage that repeats, sometimes has two endings indicated thus: That marked is to be played the first time and the other the second time.

Every measure has its natural or primary and secondary accents, besides other smaller subdivisions. When the natural accent is perverted and made to fall on an unaccented division of the measure it is called *Syncopation*.



When a stronger accent is required than that which naturally belongs to a note it is indicated by one or another of the following signs called *Accent Marks*. , , or called *Forzando*, *Rinforzando*, and sometimes , according to the degree of accent desired.

When a group of notes or a measure that is to be repeated, is written like the following, it is called *Abbreviation*.

Written. Played.

Written. Played.

Other forms. Written. Played.

ORNAMENTS.

The chief musical embellishments are the *Appoggiatura* (or Grace Note), the *Gruppetto* (or Turn), and the *Trill* (or Shake).

APPOGGIATURAS.

The Appoggiatura is a small note placed before a principal note for the purpose of ornamentation or effect. There are two kinds of Appoggiaturas in common use - the *Long* Appoggiatura, which takes one half of the time-value of the principal note before which it is placed and also receives the accent - and the *Short* Appoggiatura, which is played very quickly, the accent in this case falling on the principal note.

Long Appoggiaturas.

Written.

Played.

Short Appoggiaturas.

Written.

Played.

A group of Appoggiatura notes sometimes precedes a principal note. These notes are played very rapidly and the principal note receives the accent.

Examples:

and other forms.

THE GRUPPETTO (or Turn).

This musical embellishment is a group of notes (3 or 4, as the case may be) consisting of a principal note and the next note above and below it. It is indicated by the sign \approx . There are several forms of the Gruppetto as will be seen by the following examples.

Examples of the Gruppetto.

Principal notes.

When the sign is placed above a note

If between two notes it is

It is played thus:

played thus:

If after a dotted note

Thus:

When a note in the Gruppetto is to be sharped or flattened, either above or below the principal note, or both, the sign is expressed accordingly, in the following manner:

below:

Played:

b above:

Played:

b above and # below:

Played:

Written:

Played:

THE TRILL (or Shake).

The Trill is a rapid alternation of two notes a tone or a semitone apart. It is indicated by the sign *tr* placed above the principal note, the alternating note being the one next above it.* There are three kinds of trills - the *Perfect Trill*, (with finishing notes) - the *Imperfect Trill*, (without finishing notes) - and the *Mordente* or short trill, indicated thus

*Sometimes the next one below it.

Examples of the Trill.

Perfect Trill.

Written:

Principal note.
Principal note and alternating note.

Played:

Imperfect Trill.

Written:

Principal note without finishing notes.

Played:

Mordente (or Short Trill).

Written:

Finishing notes.
Finishing notes.

Played:

OTHER SIGNS.

Tremolo.

A very rapid repetition of the same tone is called *Tremolo*

Written:

Tremolo.

Played:

Arpeggios.

When chords are to be played in the manner of the Harp it is called *Arpeggio*.

Written:

Played:

p, piano means soft.

pp, pianissimo " very soft.

f, forte " loud.

ff, fortissimo " very loud.

mf, mezzo-forte " half or moderately loud.

fp, forte-piano " loud and immediately soft again.

fz, sf or > sforzando " sharply accented.

crescendo, cresc. or —————— " increasing in loudness.

diminuendo, dim. or —————— " decreasing in loudness.

Excelsior Method For THE BANJO

C Notation

The modern banjo consists of a rim varying in size from ten inches to twelve and one half inches in diameter. The head is drawn over the rim and kept very tight by brackets. The arm or neck upon which the fingerboard rests is firmly attached to the rim.

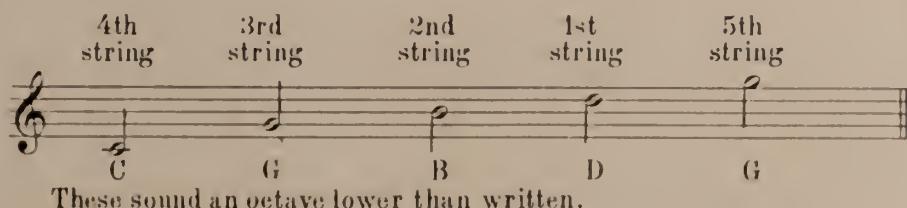
There are twenty two frets set into the fingerboard giving a range of three octaves from the open bass string to the upper fret. The raised piece of ivory or ebony over which the strings pass near the pegs is called the nut.

The tailpiece is at the extreme end of the rim.

The Strings and Bridge

The five strings of the Banjo are the 1st string, (D); the 2nd string, (B); the 3rd string, (G); the 4th string, (C); the 5th string, (G). The 1st and 5th are the same size; the 2nd string is a grade larger, and the 3rd string a grade larger still. The 4th string is made of white silk, wound with silver wire. The Bridge over which the strings pass should stand at exactly the same distance from the 12th fret, that the latter stands from the Nut.

The Strings



How To Tune The Banjo

First tune the 4th string by means of a pitch-pipe, piano, or other instrument to C, as shown in the diagram above. Then place the second finger on the seventh fret of the 4th string, and tune the 3rd string in unison with it, producing G. Next, place the second finger on the 3rd string, at the fourth fret and tune the 2nd string in unison with it, producing B. Next, place the second finger on the third fret of the 2nd string, and tune the 1st string in unison with it, producing D. Lastly, place the second finger on the fifth fret of the 1st string, and tune the 5th string in unison with it, producing G, an octave above the 3rd string.

Holding the Banjo

The performer should sit in a natural position, the right foot raised either on a footstool or by placing the heel against the chair leg. The rim of the banjo should rest on the right leg about four inches from the body. It is kept in place by a moderate pressure of the body on the upper part of the rim. The arm on neck of the instrument should be raised so that the pegs are in line with the chin. Support the neck at the nut in the hollow between the thumb and largest joint of the forefinger of the left hand, the thumb being on the upper side of the neck, at the nut, with the first and second fingers arched, directly over the first and second strings. The right forearm should rest on the rim, the little finger resting on the head about three inches in front of the bridge to steady it. The little finger remains on the head in all playing except in chords of four or five notes and in drum slides.

Sign, For Fingering

RIGHT HAND

- × indicates thumb
- “ 1st finger
- .. 2nd ”
- ... 3rd ”

LEFT HAND

- Figure 1 indicates 1st finger
- ” 2 ” 2nd ”
- ” 3 ” 3rd ”
- ” 4 ” 4th ”

Diagram of the Banjo Finger-board

Showing the Chromatic Scale on each String

The diagram illustrates the chromatic scale on a banjo's five strings across 22 frets. The strings are labeled D or 1st Str., B or 2nd Str., G or 3rd Str., C or 4th Str., and G or 5th Str. from top to bottom. The frets are numbered 1 through 22. An 'Open String' label is placed above the 1st and 2nd strings. A 'Nut' label is positioned above the 5th string. A vertical bracket labeled 'Frets' spans the width of the board. Below the board, a table provides the note names for each fret position on each string:

Fret	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22												
1st Str. D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C			
2nd Str. B	B \sharp	C	C	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A			
3rd Str. G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F		
4th Str. C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C	C \sharp	D \flat	D	D \sharp	E \flat	E	F	F \sharp	G	G \sharp	A \flat	A	A \sharp	B \flat	B	B \sharp	C

It was customary until recently to indicate the short string by a flag or but few of the writers of the present day use it. A cipher is now placed over the note.

Rules for Proper Tone Production

The thumb of the right hand should never bend after striking a note, but kept rigid. The fingers should be trained to pick the strings firmly. Never pick a string up but across, as by so doing the disagreeable twang is eliminated. Never permit the thumb to pass under the fingers, but keep it at least an inch in front of the first finger at all times.

Exercise On the Open String

Repeat several times

Encircled figures indicate the strings used.

Scale in C Major

4th String				3rd String		2nd String		1st String		5th Str.	1st String
C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Frets 0	2	4	5	0	2	0	1	0	2	3	0
Fingers 0	1	3	4	0	2	0	1	0	2	4	0
.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x

C Major Scale											
4th String				3rd String				2nd String			
C	B	A	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	G	F
10	9	7	0	3	2	0	1	0	2	0	5
4	3	1	x	4	2	..	x	2	x	4	3
..	..	..	x	..	..	..	.	..	x	1	.

Chords In C Major

Scale Exercises

The following five exercises should be practiced faithfully until the student has firmly located the notes and proper fingering. Repeat each exercise several times.

1

Fret Fingers

2

3

4

5

Melody-Banjo Shuffle

Left fingers

Alabama Echoes

The musical score consists of five staves of music. The first four staves are in common time (indicated by 'C') and the fifth staff is in 2/4 time (indicated by '2'). The key signature is common (no sharps or flats). The notation includes various note heads (open circles, solid dots, etc.), stems, and bar lines. The first four staves are identical, while the fifth staff shows a different melodic line.

*The slur indicates that the string is to be snapped without the aid of the right hand, pick D in the usual way and sound B by pulling the string with the 4th finger of the left hand.

The Slide

The slide is made by picking the first note then quickly sliding the finger to the following note on the same string. In slow movements both notes are sometimes picked but never when slide begins with a small note.

Waltz Petite

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in 3/4 time and the bottom staff is in common time (indicated by 'C'). The key signature is common. The notation includes various note heads, stems, and bar lines. The top staff features a 'slide' instruction above the second measure. The bottom staff has a circled '1' under the first measure and a circled '2' under the second measure. The piece concludes with a 'Fine.' and 'D.C. al Fine.' marking.

March Melody

The music consists of six staves of musical notation. The first staff starts with a dynamic of *mf*. The second staff begins with a bass clef. The third staff features a treble clef and includes measure numbers 1 and 2 above the staff. The fourth staff has a dynamic of *f*. The fifth staff contains a bass clef. The sixth staff concludes with a bass clef.

Scale in A Minor
(relative to C Major)

CHORDS in A MINOR

A scale and chord progression for A Minor. The scale notes are numbered 0 through 4. The chords shown are A minor (0), C major (1), E major (2), G major (3), and B major (4).

Banjo Juba

A MINOR

Sheet music for Banjo Juba in A Minor, 2/4 time. The melody is played on a banjo, indicated by the tablature style with numbers above the strings.

C MAJOR

Sheet music for Banjo Juba in C Major, 2/4 time. The melody is played on a banjo, indicated by the tablature style with numbers above the strings.

Scale In G Major



Chords In G Major

Students' Favorite

Lively

Fine.

D.C. al Fine.

Elevating the 4th String

In pieces marked Tune 4th String to D, or Elevate Bass String, it signifies that the Bass or 4th string is to be tuned one tone higher than the usual pitch.

Tune 4th String to D

Beauty Dream Waltz

Not too fast

Scale in E Minor (relative to G Major)

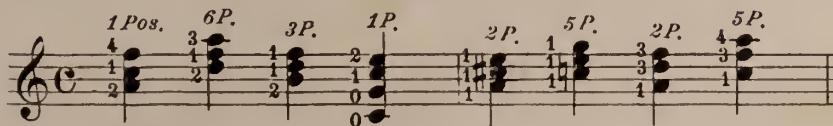
Etude in E Minor

The Positions

Position marks are determined by the fret at which the first finger of the left hand is located. In this work the terms Bar, Barre and Pos-Bar are not used as the writers of the present day have discontinued them.

Figures enclosed in a circle denote string. ③ ④

Examples



Elevate 4th string

The Spanish Fandango

3

mf

f

f

mf

ff

mf

f

p

f

ff

Scale in F Major

Chords in F Major

Honeymoon Caprice

Scale in D Minor

CHORDS in D MINOR

Danse Espa ol

G. L. LANSING
(For this Work)

The sheet music consists of ten staves of musical notation for a single instrument, likely a guitar or mandolin. The music is in 2/4 time and features a variety of dynamic markings such as *p*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, *ff*, *7P.*, *10P.*, *3P.*, *5P.*, *9P.*, *7P.*, *3P.*, *4P.*, *5P.*, *7P.*, *9P.*, *5P.*, *8P.*, *5P.*, *6P.*, *3P.*, *2R.*, and *D.C. al Fine*. The notation includes various strumming patterns, fingerings (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4), and rests. The music concludes with a final section labeled *Fine.* and *D.C. al Fine*.

Scale in D Major

Sheet music for Scale in D Major. The scale is played on a single line with fingerings: 1 3 4 0, 1 3 1 2 1 3 4 1 2 3 4 4 3 2 1 4 3 1 2 1 3 1 0 4 3 1. Measure endings are marked with '2P.'.

Chords in D Major

Sheet music for Chords in D Major. It shows a series of chords in D major: G7, C7, F7, B7, E7, A7, D7, G7.

Dancing Shadows

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. The first measure starts with a 7P. The second measure begins with a 2P. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4).

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7).

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7).

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7). The word 'Fine.' is written at the end.

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7).

Sheet music for 'Dancing Shadows'. Measures are grouped by parentheses: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7). The instruction 'D.C. al Fine.' is written at the end.

Scale in B Minor

Sheet music for Scale in B Minor. The scale is played on a single line with fingerings: 2P. 1 2 1 3 #1 3 4 4 2 1 4 1 2 1 3 1 0 4 3 2 1 0.

Chords in B Minor

Sheet music for Chords in B Minor. It shows a series of chords in B minor: G7, C7, F7, B7, E7, A7, D7, G7.

Scale in B♭ Major

Sheet music for Scale in B-flat Major. The scale is played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 3B., 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 2.

Chords in B♭ Major

Sheet music for Chords in B-flat Major. The chords are played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 3P., 4, 3P., 2.

Scale in G Minor

Sheet music for Scale in G Minor. The scale is played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 3, 1, 0, 1, 3, 4, 2, 1, 0, 1, 3, 2, 0.

Chords in G Minor

Sheet music for Chords in G Minor. The chords are played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 4, 3P., 3P., 4P., 1, 7P.

Scale in E♭ Major

Sheet music for Scale in E-flat Major. The scale is played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 3P., 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 4.

Chords in E♭ Major

Sheet music for Chords in E-flat Major. The chords are played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 4, 3P., 4P., 4, 3P.

Scale in C Minor

Sheet music for Scale in C Minor. The scale is played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 0, 1, 0, 1, 4, 0, 1, 3, 4.

Chords in C Minor

Sheet music for Chords in C Minor. The chords are played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 4, 0, 4, 0, 3, 3, 4, 1.

Scale in A♭ Major

Sheet music for Scale in A-flat Major. The scale is played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 1B., 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 0, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4.

Chords in A♭ Major

Sheet music for Chords in A-flat Major. The chords are played on a treble clef staff in common time. Fingerings: 1P., 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 0.

Exercises In Intervals of Thirds, Sixths, Octaves and Tenth

Thirds, on 1st and 2nd Strings

Sixths, on 1st and 3rd Strings

Octaves, on 1st and 4th Strings

Tenths on 1st and 4th Strings

Etude

Scale in F Minor

Sheet music for Scale in F Minor. The scale is played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 4, 0, 1, 3; 1, 3, 2, 3; 0, 1, 3; 1, 3, 2, 3; 1, 3, 2, 1; 1, 3, 1, 3; 1, 0, 4. The scale consists of eight notes: F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F.

Chords in F Minor

Sheet music for Chords in F Minor. The chords are played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat. Chords shown: F minor (F, A, C), G major (G, B, D), A major (A, C, E), B major (B, D, F#), C major (C, E, G), D major (D, F#, A), E major (E, G, B).

Scale in A Major

Sheet music for Scale in A Major. The scale is played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of no sharps or flats. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 3, 4. The scale consists of eight notes: A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Chords in A Major

Sheet music for Chords in A Major. The chords are played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of no sharps or flats. Chords shown: A major (A, C#, E), B major (B, D, F#), C# major (C#, E, G#), D major (D, F#, A), E major (E, G, B).

Scale in F# Minor

Sheet music for Scale in F# Minor. The scale is played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 1, 3, 1, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 0, 2, 0, 2, 1, 4. The scale consists of twelve notes: F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C.

Chords in F# Minor

Sheet music for Chords in F# Minor. The chords are played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp. Chords shown: F# minor (F#, A, C#), G major (G, B, D), A major (A, C#, E), B major (B, D, F#), C# major (C#, E, G#), D major (D, F#, A).

Scale in E Major

Sheet music for Scale in E Major. The scale is played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of no sharps or flats. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 1, 3, 3, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 4. The scale consists of eight notes: E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E.

Chords in E Major

Sheet music for Chords in E Major. The chords are played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of no sharps or flats. Chords shown: E major (E, G, B), F# major (F#, A, C#), G major (G, B, D), A major (A, C#, E), B major (B, D, F#), C# major (C#, E, G#).

Scale in C# Minor

Sheet music for Scale in C# Minor. The scale is played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 2, 3. The scale consists of twelve notes: C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G.

Chords in C# Minor

Sheet music for Chords in C# Minor. The chords are played on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps. Chords shown: C# minor (C#, E, G#), D major (D, F#, A), E major (E, G, B), F# major (F#, A, C#), G major (G, B, D), A major (A, C#, E).

The Chromatic Scale

Sheet music for the Chromatic Scale in positions 0-4. The scale is played on a single string, with each note's position indicated by a number above it. The first two positions are in G major (0, 1, 2, 3, 4), and the last two are in A minor (0, 1, 2, 3, 4). The notes are separated by rests, and some are connected by horizontal lines.

Chromatic Scale In Positions

Sheet music for the Chromatic Scale in various positions. It includes positions 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. The first measure shows "Keep first finger down". The positions are labeled with their respective numbers above the notes. The music is in common time.

Arpeggios

Sheet music for various arpeggios and broken chords. The music is divided into sections by double bar lines. The first section starts in G major (3/4) and moves to A minor (4/4). Subsequent sections change key signature to D major (3/4), E major (3/4), B major (3/4), F# major (3/4), C major (3/4), G major (3/4), and finally D major (3/4). Arpeggios are marked with circled numbers (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4) and specific labels like "13 P.", "12 P. 1", "12 P. 3", "7 P.", "14 P. 1", "10 P. 2", "10 P. 1", "10 P.", "15 P.", "6 P.", "3 P.", and "11 P.". Measures are grouped by parentheses below the staff.

The Tremolo

The Tremolo movement is the nearest approach to a sustained tone possible on the Banjo. When artistically performed it is very effective.

In playing Tremolo, rest the third finger of the right hand on the head about three inches from the bridge, elevate the hand so that only the point of the first finger will touch the strings.

The motion of the first finger should be forward and backward very fast on one, two or three strings according to the number of notes written.

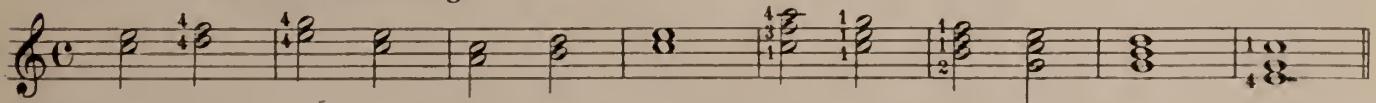
The notes with stems turned up are made tremolo, those turned down are all picked with the thumb as an accompaniment. When the tremolo is to be played without thumb accompaniment the stems may be written as usual.

Exercise

Tremolo on single strings.



Tremolo on two and three strings.



Melody With Accompaniment

My Old Kentucky Home

Musical notation for "My Old Kentucky Home". The piece is in common time (C) with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a melody line in the upper staff and an accompaniment line in the lower staff. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings like "5P." (pianissimo) appearing above certain notes. The accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords. The music is divided into four systems of four measures each.

Song Without Words

TREMOLO STYLE

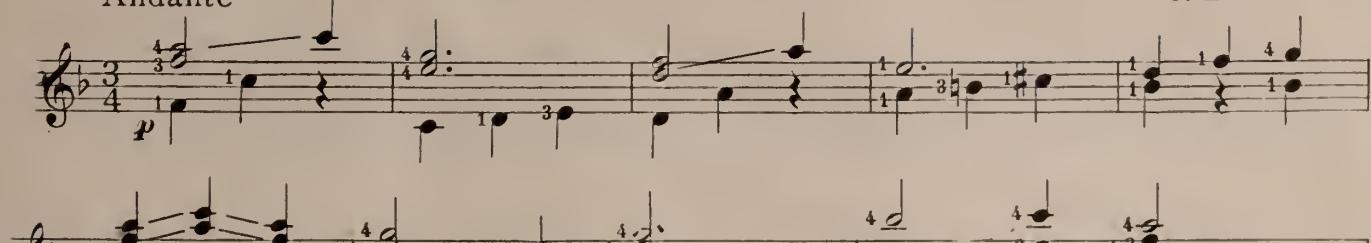
In the first part the melody is to be played with the thumb, therefor play the tremoloed accompaniment very softly. In the second strain play tremoloed notes louder picking the thumb notes softly.

Etude in Chords

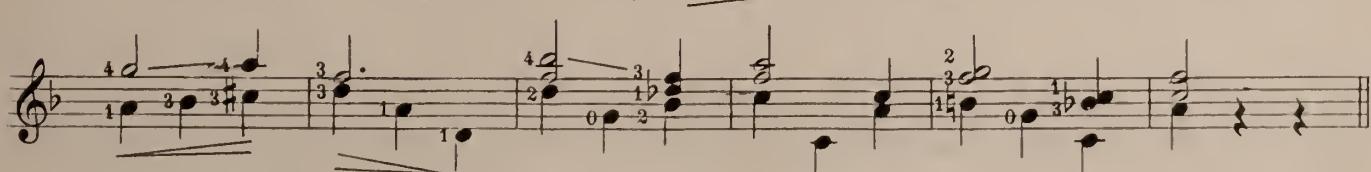
Serenade

Tremolo

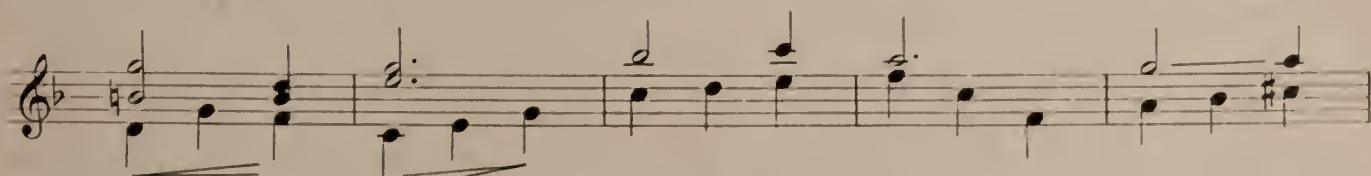
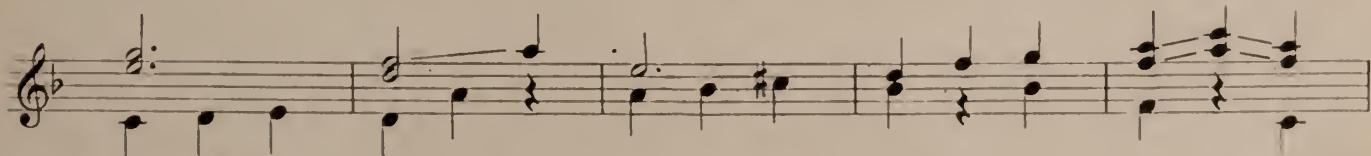
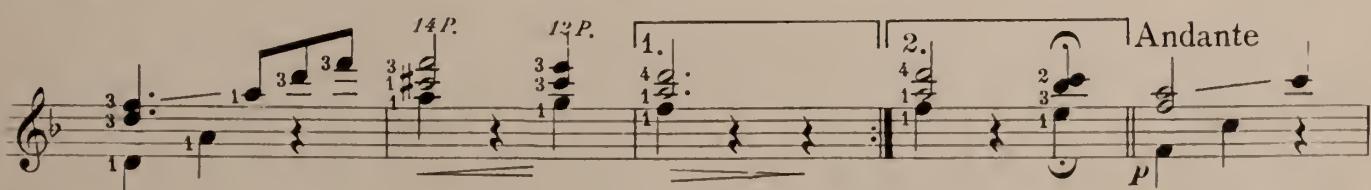
Andante



G. L. LANSING



Con Spirito



Etude

Tremolo 3 upper strings.



Exercise For Stretching The Fingers

The fingers should be kept down throughout the duration of each slur.

Four staves of musical notation for stretching the fingers. Each staff consists of two measures. The first measure of each staff contains slurs over groups of four notes, with fingerings indicating a continuous stretch from one note to the next. The second measure of each staff contains slurs over groups of three notes, also with fingerings.

Etude

A series of six staves of musical notation for an etude. The notation includes various dynamics (e.g., 10P., 7P., 5P., 6P.) and fingerings, showing a progression of musical ideas and techniques.

Exercises For Rapid Fingering

Allegro

Allegro

Allegro

Old Town Medley

(Virginia Reel)

Arr. by G. L. LANSING

(for this work)

Elevate 4th String

THE MAID ON THE GREEN

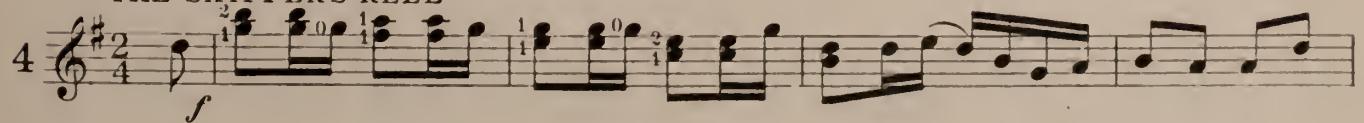
1

KITTY O'NEILLS JIG

2



THE SKIPPERS REEL



The Chieftain
March and Two-Step

GEO L. LANSING

ff

mf

f

p *Last time ff*

f

D.S.al Fine.

Piano Accomp. to this piece price 20 cents

15164-54

Bolero Mexicana

JOSE MARTINEZ

The sheet music consists of ten staves of musical notation for piano, arranged in two columns. The first column contains five staves, and the second column contains five staves. The music is in 3/4 time.

- Staff 1:** Dynamics include f , $6P.$, $\frac{1}{2}P.$, and *rall.*
- Staff 2:** Dynamics include *a tempo*.
- Staff 3:** Dynamics include f , 0 , $\frac{1}{2}P.$, and $\frac{1}{2}P.$
- Staff 4:** Dynamics include $cresc.$, fz , and p .
- Staff 5:** Dynamics include $4P.$, $6P.$, $7P.$, and $5P.$
- Staff 6:** Dynamics include mf and p .
- Staff 7:** Dynamics include *dolce* and mf .
- Staff 8:** Dynamics include fz and p .
- Staff 9:** Dynamics include ff .
- Staff 10:** Dynamics include fz .

A Georgia Glide
(Strut)

G. L. LANSING

3P.

5P.

mf

cresc.

f

1.

2.

p

2P.

f

1.

2.

Fine.

TRIO

mf

5P.

0 3 3

1 0 3 3 2 1

6P.

0 0

6P.

2 3 4

D.C. *fz* *al Fine.*

In Banjo Land
Characteristic

G. L. LANSING

Allegro

15164-0

Harmonics

The Harmonic Tones on the Banjo are found at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 12th, 16th and 19th Frets on the four regular Strings, and on the 17th Fret of the 5th String. They are made by laying a Finger (usually the 3rd) over the Fret designated. Do not press down, but lay the Fingers lightly on the Strings and pick firmly. The Left Hand should be raised immediately after picking the Harmonic.

Exercise

Musical notation for an exercise on the 4th string. The key signature is C major (no sharps or flats). The first measure shows notes at the 12th fret (labeled "12 Har."), 17th fret (labeled "17 H."), and 12th fret (labeled "12 H."). Subsequent measures show notes at the 5th, 4th, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 12th frets. Fingerings are indicated below the strings: (3), (2), (1), (5), (1), (2), (3). The 4th string is labeled at the bottom.

Some writers indicate the Notes in Harmonics on Open Strings for all Notes at the 12th Fret and write all others as though they were the regular Tones produced.

Three staves of musical notation for the 4th string. The top staff uses a key signature of C major. The middle staff uses a key signature of G major (one sharp). The bottom staff also uses a key signature of G major. Each staff contains measures with various harmonic patterns, including notes at the 12th, 17th, 12th, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 12th frets. Fingerings are indicated below the strings: (3), (2), (1), (5), (1), (2), (3) for the first staff; (3), (2), (1), (3), (2), (1), (2), (3) for the second staff; and (3), (2), (1), (3), (2), (1), (2), (4), (3) for the third staff. The 4th string is labeled at the bottom of each staff.

Right Hand Harmonics

When Right Hand Harmonics are well executed the effect is beautiful. To do this well requires much patient practice. The 1st Finger of the Right Hand should be *arched* so that the point lays on the String at the required Fret, the String being picked with the Thumb underneath. Form the Harmonic as far away from the 12th Fret as the Note required is from the Nut, for instance if C is desired, simply lay the tip of 1st Finger over 4th String at 12th Fret and pick the String with the Thumb.

If D is desired, finger it with the Left Hand as usual and form the Harmonic at the 14th Fret.

Scale in Right Hand Harmonics

Musical notation for a scale in right hand harmonics on the 4th string. The key signature is C major. The scale consists of notes at the 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 12th, 14th, 12th, 13th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, and 22nd frets. The 4th string is labeled at the bottom.

Melody

Musical notation for a melody using right hand harmonics on the 4th string. The key signature is C major. The melody consists of notes at the 16th, 14th, 12th, 14th, 12th, 13th, 12th, 16th, 17th, 12th, 17th, 16th, 17th, 16th, 14th, 14th, 12th, and 12th frets. The 4th string is labeled at the bottom.

Old Time Reel

Musical score for "Old Time Reel" in 2/4 time, treble clef. The score is divided into four staves. The first staff starts with dynamic *f*. The second staff begins with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The third staff features a dynamic marking of *10P.*. The fourth staff concludes with a dynamic marking of *Fine.*

Fishers' Hornpipe

Musical score for "Fishers' Hornpipe" in 2/4 time, treble clef. The score is divided into four staves. The first staff starts with dynamic *mf*. The second staff begins with a dynamic marking of *7P.*. The third staff features a dynamic marking of *7R.*. The fourth staff concludes with a dynamic marking of *D.C. al Fine.*

Dixie Maid
Fox Trot

LEO CATLIN

Dixie Maid
Fox Trot

LEO CATLIN

mf

f

8P.

6P.

4P.

9P.

10P.

3P.

7P.

5P.

9P.

10P.

3P.

7P.

mf

D.C. al Fine.

Iona
Intermezzo

G. L. LANSING

Allegretto

f

cresc.

fz

mf

3P.

8P.

12P.

17P.

4P.

2R.

cresc.

6P.

4P.

3P.

2P.

5P.

3P.

a tempo

p

fz Fine.

cresc.

f

ms

2P.

6P.

f

TRIO

ms

f

4P.

5P.

9P.

s

ms

p

6P.

fz

D. S. al Fine.

Old Pennyroyal
(Country Dance)

SI STEBBINS
Arr. by G. L. Lansing

10P. 4

D. C. al then *Trio*

TRIO

fz *fz*

Etude in F Major

3P. 4

5P. 1 4

10P. 1 4

15P. 1 4

4P. 3P.

Wooden Shoes
Dance Characteristic

BANJO SOLO

S. GIBSON COOKE
Arr. by G. L. Lansing

Allegro

Piano Accomp. to this piece price 40 cents

15164-54

5 P.

mf

sf *sf*

cresc. *ff*

ff *ff* *largemente* *ff*

5 P. *7 P.* *10 B.*

sffz
D.C. al Coda

CODA *C* *ff*

Waltz In A Flat

1P.

4P.

3P.

8P.

7P.

5P.

8P.

10P.

Minstrel Medley

Arr. by G. L. LANSING

Allegro

1. 2.

Fast

15164-54

Minor Gigue

Observe slurred notes

By E. M. HALL

Left hand only - - -

trem.

“Cold Chill!” Blues

LEO CATLIN

The sheet music consists of ten staves of musical notation for a blues piece. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature varies between common time and 2/4. The music includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, *dim.*, and *p*. Fingerings are indicated above the notes, such as "5P.", "2P.", "7P.", etc. The piece concludes with a final dynamic *f* followed by the text "The Chill!"

1. *f*

2. *mf*

3. *dim.*

4. *p*

5. *f* The Chill!

March Militaire

G. L. LANSING

March Militaire

G. L. LANSING

15164-54

Waltz Medley

For 2 BANJOS

Arr by G. L. LANSING

1st BANJO

2nd BANJO

8P.

6P.

p

f

Fine.

6P. 3
f

9P.
ff fz

10P.
p

rit. f a tempo

D.Cal Fine.

Golden Bird
Polka di Concert

INTRO.

Andante

Trem.

The musical score consists of two staves of music for a solo instrument, likely a piano or harp. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a dynamic of *p*. It features a series of chords and eighth-note patterns, with measure 4 containing a melodic line marked *8P.* and measure 10 marked *cresc.* Measure 12 is marked *f*. The bottom staff begins with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a dynamic of *p*. It contains a continuous series of eighth-note chords. The tempo changes to "Tempo di Polka" at the start of the second page, indicated by a large bracket above the staff. The dynamic becomes *pp*, and the tempo marking *tr.* appears above the staff. The music continues with various rhythmic patterns and dynamics, including *mf*, *3P.*, *4P.*, *8P.*, *dim.*, and *rit.*

4

p

10P.

mf

5P.

ff

fz

p

5P.

9P.

D. S. to ♫

CODA

s

8P.

6P.

15164-54

The Plectrum Style of Playing

Playing with a pick or plectrum is not difficult after one has mastered the legitimate method given in the preceding pages. The pupil should use a stiff plectrum made of tortoise shell or composition rubber. This is held between the thumb and first finger of the right hand, firmly but not so tightly that the rigidity is transmitted to the wrist which must always remain flexible. In playing always arch the wrist, and begin by playing softly. Continue to play softly until the tremolo is mastered.

As the 5th or short string is never used in this style of playing it is well to lift the 5th string from the slot in the bridge when using the plectrum letting it rest against the outer edge of the bridge.

Almost any song arranged for piano can be played on the banjo in this manner.

Signs for Plectrum Strokes

Down Stroke



Up Stroke



On account of the absence of the 5th string it is necessary to use a different system of fingering on the first string.

Scale in C Major

All down strokes.

Etude Down and Up Strokes

Plectrum Exercises

Moderato

1. 

Allegro

2. 

Vivace

3. 

4. 

5. 

5. 

The Plectrum Tremolo

For sustaining tones the tremolo is indispensable. The following exercises lead up to the perfect tremolo.



The Tremolo



Tremolo Exercise

Etude

All notes played tremolo

Important Exercises

To maintain even strokes it is often necessary to make several notes on each string.

Finger all notes on 4th string

Musical notation for finger exercises on the 4th string. The string is tuned C-G-D-A. The exercise consists of six measures of eighth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 0, 1, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. Subsequent measures show various eighth-note patterns, some with grace notes and slurs.

Finger on 3rd string

Musical notation for finger exercises on the 3rd string. The string is tuned G-D-A-E. The exercise consists of four measures of eighth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 0, 1, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 0, 1, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4. The first two measures show a descending scale pattern. The third and fourth measures show eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

1st string

Musical notation for finger exercises on the 1st string. The string is tuned C-G-D-A. The exercise consists of five measures of eighth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 1, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4; 3, 4; 2, 3, 4; 3, 2, 1. The first three measures show a descending scale pattern. The fourth and fifth measures show eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Musical notation for finger exercises on the 1st string. The string is tuned C-G-D-A. The exercise consists of three measures of eighth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 0, 1, 3, 4; 2, 1, 0; 2. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. The second and third measures show eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Musical notation for finger exercises on the 1st string. The string is tuned C-G-D-A. The exercise consists of three measures of eighth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 0, 1, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3; 1, 2, 3. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. The second and third measures show eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Exercise for Speed

Musical notation for speed exercises. The exercise consists of four measures of sixteenth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 4, 1, 2, 1. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. Subsequent measures show sixteenth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Musical notation for speed exercises. The exercise consists of four measures of sixteenth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 4, 1, 2, 1. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. Subsequent measures show sixteenth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Musical notation for speed exercises. The exercise consists of four measures of sixteenth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 4, 1, 2, 1. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. Subsequent measures show sixteenth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

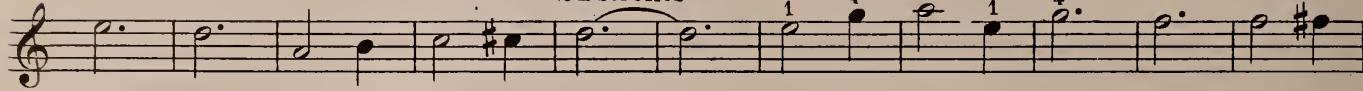
Musical notation for speed exercises. The exercise consists of four measures of sixteenth-note patterns. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 2, 1, 2, 4; 4, 1, 2, 1. The first measure shows a descending scale pattern. Subsequent measures show sixteenth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes.

Easy Melodies
Plectrum Style

WALTZ

Trem.

24 strokes



FOX TROT

8 P.

Scale in G Major
(with plectrum)

59



As the other scales are fingered practically the same as indicated in finger style of playing, they will not be given in this part of the work.

Etude in G Major

To make strokes even play D on 2nd string as indicated

Banjoists' Delight March

* The slur is often written to indicate tremolo

Spanish Galopade

PIRINE

Plectrum Style

The musical score for "Spanish Galopade" in "Plectrum Style" by PIRINE is composed of eight staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic of *f*, followed by a grace note and a *rall.* (rallentando) instruction. The second staff begins with a dynamic of *p*, followed by a *trem.* (tremolo) instruction. The third staff starts with a dynamic of *f*, followed by an *accel.* (accelerando) instruction. The fourth staff features two endings, labeled "1." and "2.", with a "Fine." instruction at the end of ending 2. The fifth staff starts with a dynamic of *f*. The sixth staff starts with a dynamic of *p*. The seventh staff starts with a dynamic of *3P.* (pianissimo). The eighth staff starts with a dynamic of *p*, followed by a *D.S. al Fine,* then *Trio* instruction.

All The Rage

(One-Step)

Plectrum style
Allegro

LEO CATLIN

The musical score consists of six staves of music:

- Staff 1:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It features a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Staff 2:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It includes a section marked with an asterisk (*) and a melodic line with grace notes.
- Staff 3:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It shows a rhythmic pattern with sixteenth-note pairs.
- Staff 4:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It contains measures labeled "1." and "2." with corresponding chords.
- Staff 5:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It features a steady eighth-note pattern.
- Staff 6:** Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. It concludes with a melodic line and a final measure labeled "Fine."

TRIO: The score transitions to a Trio section in 2/4 time, key signature of B-flat major (two flats). The dynamic is *mf*, and the tempo is *3P.* The music continues with a melodic line and a final measure labeled "D.S. al Fine."

Minerva
Waltz

LEO CATLIN

Plectrum style

Sheet music for "Minerva Waltz" by Leo Catlin, Plectrum style. The music is arranged in eight staves. The first staff starts with a dynamic *p*. Subsequent staves include dynamics such as *5P.*, *6P.*, *f*, *p*, *cresc.*, and *D.C. at Fine.*. The music features various note heads and stems, with some notes having numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) above them. The piece concludes with a final dynamic *Fine.*

Arkansas Traveller

Sheet music for "Arkansas Traveller". The music is arranged in six staves. It includes fingerings such as (2), (3), 4, 3, 1, 1, 4, 3, 1, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 4, 3, 2, 0, 4, 3, 2, 0, and 4. The piece concludes with a dynamic *Fine.*

BANJO (Plectrum style)

Allegro moderato

In Moon-Land
Intermezzo, Two-StepHARRIE A. PECK
Arr. by G. L. Lansing

mf *piu lento*

mf *accel.*

ff

f

7p

p dolce

D.S. al *then Trio*

mf *piu lento*

ff

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THE CADET'S DREAM.

PATROL.

BANJO SOLO.

C Notation.

.20

G. L. LANSING.

The sheet music consists of 12 staves of musical notation for banjo solo. The key signature is C major. The time signature varies throughout the piece. The first staff begins with a dynamic of '8' and includes a 'Drums' part. Subsequent staves feature various performance techniques such as 'ppp - pp', '4 P.', '4 B.', 'p - mf', '2 P.', 'f - ff', 'fff', '10 P.', and '3'. The music is divided into sections by bar lines and measures, with some sections labeled '1.' and '2.'

Piano Accomp. to this piece price 20 cents

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