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PREFACE.

In judging of the relative merits of different modes of instruction, there are two principal considerations which must determine our opinion—the first having reference to the teacher, namely, the ease with which the instruction can be imparted; the second affecting the scholar, namely, the several advantages to be derived from that instruction.

On both these all-important points the preference over other styles of composition may fairly be claimed for Rounds, when systematically taught, as an introduction to the useful and delightful art of part-singing.

No one, who, in instructing children in music, has employed both rounds and harmonized airs, can doubt which style is more easily taught; and, even where there is no experience to guide, reason alone can determine the matter. In teaching a harmonized air, where there is but one instructor, which must be the case in a vast majority of schools, the natural mode of proceeding will be, first to teach the scholars the air in unison; this done, a portion of them must be untaught the air, before they can be made to sing the second part; and, again, another portion must be untaught the air, and as much of the second as they may have picked up by hearing that part taught, before they can be instructed in the third harmony; and should there be a fourth part, there must be another process of unteaching and teaching.

Now compare this series of tedious operations with the natural method of teaching a round. First, all are taught the piece in unison; then, having first accustomed the scholars' ears to the harmony by singing the other parts while they continue to sing together, the teacher takes a portion of the class and sings the second part with them; and, as they gain confidence, he gradually leaves them to sing by themselves. The same operation is repeated

J. ALFRED NOVELLO, PRINTER, DEAN STREET, SOHO, LONDON.

for the remaining parts. Should any division be unable to sing their part, they can be joined to another division until more perfect, and may then be started afresh by themselves. In this case there is nothing to unteach, and nothing to teach but what is taught at first in unison.

Equally with harmonized airs do rounds teach the peculiar character and phraseology of different harmonies, but with this advantage on the side of the latter, that all the scholars are taught to sing each part. But there is one excellence which especially attaches to rounds, and that most important indeed. It is almost impossible to sing a round, except of the most simple construction, without observing strict time. In a harmonized air or a psalm tune, the words being the same in each part and the notes corresponding, there may be a sort of mutual consent to sing with an 'utter disregard to all time and measure. But in a round, in consequence of the words being different, and there being no correspondence in the length of the notes in the different parts, this most injurious compact becomes impossible; and if attempted, the round must soon come to a close in discord and chaos. The result is that the singers are driven to sing *independently*, and are compelled, instead of waiting on their neighbour, to look for assistance in themselves, and this assistance they find supplied by the natural sense of time that lies within them. If children can but be made to employ that feeling of rhythm with which nature has endowed them, the first great step is made towards making them musicians; and there is no fear of their relapsing into that drawling, pointless, drowsy mode of singing, that has done so much towards bringing into disrepute our fine old congregational psalmody.

The chief ground for hoping that the following small collection of rounds may be found useful as an elementary book of musical instruction, is, that the majority of the pieces it contains *have been* found useful in this capacity. With the addition of a few of the more intricate compositions, it is a collection that has been used with success in a country village school.

The rounds are arranged according to their relative difficulty. It is hoped that by this arrangement, trouble in selection may be saved the teacher, as well as discouragement to the scholars. Nothing is more injurious in musical instruction, than an attempt to take too rapid strides. If children be taken out of their depth, they lose all heart and interest in the matter, and an unwilling scholar was never yet taught to sing.

Where the original words have been considered unfit for school instruction, they have been changed for others that it is hoped will be considered less objectionable. The fact of the original words being innocently humorous, has not been deemed sufficient reason for altering them. The round will not be learnt the more slowly because the first reading of the words may have caused a merry smile to pass round the class. The less the singing practice wears the rigid and forbidding aspect of a lesson, the more rapid and satisfactory will be the improvement—the more probable will it be that the child will grow into the man, who can help to render the thanksgiving of his Parish Church a decent and fitting sacrifice of Praise, and who shall be able to employ those spare hours that otherwise might perhaps be worse than wasted in idle gossip at the ale-house, in the rational and delightful amusement of glee-singing.

J. P. M.

v.

Collingham, near Wetherby, June, 1852.

N.B.—A second edition of the School Round Book being required, it is thought a fitting opportunity to endeavour to render the progression in difficulty in which it is drawn up, more gradual and also more regular and uniform, by publishing at the same time a second set of Fifty Rounds that may be used in conjunction with **k**.

The two sets are retained distinct and separate, both being progressionally arranged so that each is complete by itself; but, by numbers prefixed to the several pieces, the two are combined in one, and the progressional order is extended through both.

J. P. M.

iv.

CONTENTS.

(See also a Progressional Index, comprising both Sets, arranged in order of difficulty at page 47.)

No. Adieu, sweet Amarillis 33 17 I envy not 14 19 At summer morn 15 39 If all be true 28 3 Be you to others 7 24 Lost, he wanders 18 44 Blest, blest is he 32 40 May brings round 29 33 Busy, curious 25 18 May does every 14 30 By shady woods 25 16 Now when the summer's 13 22 Chairs to mend 17 6 Seven great towns 8 50 Come, buy my cherries 38 38 Still, still in our ears 28 7 Come, come, away 9 36 The oak from a small 26 32 Come, come, delightful 9 The Spring is come 10	
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7Come, come, away936The oak from a small2632Come, come, delightful9The Spring is come10	
32 Come, come, delightful 9 The Spring is come 10	
Spring 24 20 The wise man 16	
21 Come, follow 16 13 Thou poor bird 12	
28 Come, let us all 21 27 'Tis hum, drum 20	
46 Come, let us laugh 34 35 'Tis Providence 26	
11 Do, Re, Mi, Fa 11 43 True-hearted friendship 32	*
4 Early to bed 8 2 Turn again, Whittington 7	
29 Fair morn ascends 22 14 Turn not 12	
41 Give me the sweet 30 25 When the rosy 19)
8 Great Tom is cast 10 1 White sand and grey sand 7	/
34 God save the Queen 25 12 Who'll buy my posies 11	
48 Hail, green fields 36 31 Wilt thou lend 28	\$
23 Half-an-hour 18 37 Wind, gentle evergreen 27	r
15 Happy days 13 47 With horns and hounds 34	5
49 Hard is the fate 37 10 Would you be loved 10)
5 He who'd lead 8 42 Would you sing 3	L
26 How great is the pleasure 20	

Note.—When the Round should not end on the last notes of the several parts, this mark \uparrow is placed over a note to indicate the one which should be sustained for the final close.

1

SCHOOL ROUND-BOOK.





* When the Round should not end on the last notes of the several parts, this mark \frown is placed over a note to indicate the one which should be sustained for the final close.

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DR. HAYES.

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50.--ROUND. (See Nos. 95 to 97.) STEVENSON. mf 1 Come buy my cherries, pray kind la-dies, fresh from the gar-den, $\mathbf{2}$ 77 0 Fine ap-ples and choice pears, boys, for eat. 3 abundance sold by abundance, Fruit, in fruit in me. mf 4 3 Whey, fine sweet whey. come, mp. 3 ga - ther'd by me; All on a sum-mer's day, so gay you **•** cares, All on a sum-mer's day, so your get gay you mp. **A**11 a sum-mer's day, here vou see. on so gay you mpwhey, All on a summer's day, my taste 80 gay you 2 hear the Dublin cries. knives ground here bv me. 3 hear the Dublin cries. sweep, sweep, sweep, sweep. fine parsnips, fine carrots, and choice beans. hear the Dublin cries. hear the Dublin cries. fine ra-dish, fine lettuce, sold by me. (38)

THE hope that this little work may prove useful in instilling into young beginners the first principles of part-singing is chiefly founded on its progressional arrangement. This arrangement has been observed in both first and second sets, so that each by itself is complete. By combining the two, however, the progression in difficulty may be made twice as gradual, a matter that must needs be of great advantage where the scholars are either very young or slow in learning.

That the two sets may thus be used in conjunction, there is here added

A PROGRESSIONAL INDEX,

COMBINING

SETS I. AND II.

and the second	No.	
White sand and grey sand	1	All natu
Turn again, Whittington	2	The Ros
Be you to others	8	Do, Re,
Mark where the bee	51	Who'll b
Hark ! I bear	52	May the
Early to bed	4	'Tis blitl
He who'd lead	5	Thou, po
Now the last load	53	Merrily
Go learn of the ant	54	Good un
When Spring returns	55	Turn no
Buy my dainty	56	Happy d
Seven great towns	6	Bubblin
Cuckoo, hark!	57	Now wh
Come, come, away	7	I envy n
Great Tom is cast	8	Crooked
Smoothly glide	58	May doe
The Spring is come	9	At Sum
Fair morn	59	The wis
Would you be loved	10	Brighter

No. ire smiles 60 . . . 61 se's eye Mi, Fa ... ´11 **i** . . . buy my posies 12 . . . e Queen live ... 62 the May-day ... 63 ... oor bird -13 we shepherds 64 respected 65 • • • ... 14 15 dave g and splashing 66 nen the Summer's 16 ... 17 not d rifles 67 es everv ... 18 ... mer morn 19 ... se man 20 68 er the sun