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THE

PASSION OF OUR LORD

ACCORDING TO S. MATTHEW.

SET TO MUSIC BY

JOHN SEBASTIAN BACH

EDITED BY

EDWARD ELGAR AND IVOR ATKINS.

Price Two Shillings and Sixpence.
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PREFACE.

No apology is offered for presenting a new edition of Bach's "St. Matthew Passion"; there must always be room for every effort to do justice, in an English form, to the noblest sacred work in existence.

In preparing this edition, our aim has been :-

(a) In the recitatives, to retain the words of the Authorised Version, and at the same time to reproduce Bach's declamation as closely as the English words allow. (b) In the other portions, to adopt a translation which should present, as clearly as possible, Bach's unique method of setting his libretto.

RECITATIVES.

In adapting the A.V. it has been thought well in a few cases to alter the sequence of the words in order to preserve some characteristic point of the German version, or Bach's illuminative treatment of important words, e.g., the end of No. 8, and again in No. 73, where the musical setting makes the transposition of some words imperative.

In one number (No. 54), owing to the directness of the English text, there are fewer syllables than in Luther's version. It was important to adhere to the actual words of the narrative without any repetition, and this has been done by a slight rearrangement of the musical passage.

In the punctuation of the recitatives, the Oxford Reprint (1911) of the 1611 Edition of the A.V. has been followed.

LIBRETTO.

Two translations were placed at our disposal by the publishers—those of Miss Johnston and Dr. Troutbeck. This edition aims at retaining all that is best in both. Where neither was completely satisfactory, our object has been to replace it by a translation more faithful to the original. The oldest English version, that of Miss Johnston, beautiful as it is in its simplicity, is marred occasionally by a departure from the sense of the original; for example, "O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross" (No. 35) is made to end with a doxology, instead of presenting the picture of Christ's suffering on the Cross, and in No. 29 the verse scheme does complete violence to Bach's musical phrases.

The libretto was the first consideration, and its revision has been the care of Mr. Ivor Atkins. From the outset, he was aided by the greatly-valued co-operation of Professor Charles Sanford Terry, M.A., who devoted himself unsparingly to the work

of comparison and adaptation.

Modern Bach criticism, as exemplified in the writings of Parry, Spitta, Pirro, Schweitzer, Heuss, and others, has made it abundantly clear that if justice is to be done to Bach's methods, in particular to his pictorial and dramatic treatment of the libretto, a very great responsibility must be felt in the right choice of words, and especially the placing of the words in an already-existing musical framework.

It is hoped that the occasional changes which have been made, however they may be judged from a literary point of view, will be found to be justified by the light which they throw upon the characteristic side of Bach's work, and above all on his unerring sense of the colour of words.

CHORALES.

Where the translations are not those of Miss Johnston or Dr. Troutbeck, they have been drawn, with some modifications, from various hymnologies, and are the work of Miss Frances Cox, Miss Catherine Winkworth, Dr. J. W. Alexander, and Sir Henry Baker. Others have been wholly or partly written by the Rev. Rodney Fowler, Miss H. Cam, and Professor C. S. Terry.

Special importance attaches to the Chorales. Picander, the writer of the lyrical portions of the libretto, was not entrusted with the choice of words for them. From various sources, Bach himself selected verses well-known and popular with Lutheran congregations, the aptness of which satisfied him as commentaries on the scenes immediately preceding them. In this edition the greatest care has been taken to provide a translation which shall reflect faithfully the particular commentary insisted upon by Bach, and in one instance we have been guided by the principle of familiarity which actuated him, and have included two verses of Sir Henry Baker's "O sacred Head surrounded," although it is a translation from the Latin original.

There can be no doubt that to carry out Bach's intentions, the Chorales should be accompanied in every instance by the orchestra, and should be sung with the natural expression called forth by the preceding scene. Such expression should be of a broad, corporate character, sympathy and sincerity alone being needed to secure it. To save space, the accompaniment, which is practically entirely reproduced from the voice parts, is not printed separately here.

CORO I. CORO II.

Bach divided his forces into two groups, each consisting of a separate orchestra, chorus, and soloists. Each group is referred to in the full score as Coro I. or Coro II., or when combined as Coro I. II. All the Recitatives and most of the Solos are assigned to Coro I. (i.e., to Orchestra and Soloists in the 1st group), and in this edition, unless otherwise specified (e.g., Nos. 12, etc.), Coro I. is to be understood.

TEMPI, EXPRESSION, ETc.

Bach very rarely indicated the tempi. Where he has done so, his directions are printed in italics. The editors are responsible for those in roman type.

Expression marks printed in italics are Bach's; those in other type are the editors'. As Bach did not use any of the following signs: $\longrightarrow \bigwedge > \longrightarrow$ or *cresc.* or *dim.*, those used will be recognized as editorial.

PHRASING.

The full score of the Bach Gesellschaft Edition has been followed. Bach's phrasing is a special study and, if interpreted with a modern, rigid sense of bar lines, frequently becomes stiff and distorted. The same phrasing is immediately rendered clear, when treated with the elasticity and freedom demanded by the outline, or, in many instances, by the sense of the words.

The phrasing of No. 35 is of particular importance; the semiquavers are slurred in two's, and, in each case, the second semiquaver should be played lightly. Following Gervaert, we have written out two bars in full, indicating the manner in which the phrasing should be interpreted.

ORNAMENTATION.

Unfortunately, very vague ideas are held as to the execution of Bach's ornaments, in spite of the valuable work done by Dannreuther (Mus. Orn. Vol. I.), who is the chief authority on the subject.

Though it is manifestly impossible to arrive at an interpretation which shall satisfy every one, yet it may be useful to indicate some cases where Bach's music has suffered much from ambiguity of interpretation.

No. 33 (p. 64). The passage written thus:—



should be performed thus:-



No. 47 (p. 112). The first four bars of the Violin Solo:--



which are more or less a key to the whole, should be executed thus:-



No. 76 (p. 186). Alto part, first bar, should be sung thus:—



In No. 78 we have inserted appoggiature where we think they were intended by Bach, and have placed them in parentheses so that they can easily be omitted by those who do not accept them. It is possible that the appoggiature which are found in the orchestral parts of No. 33 should be incorporated in the solo parts, but this opens up a large question, and we have preferred to leave the number as printed in the Bach Gesellschaft score.

SCENES.

In dividing the work into Scenes, we have followed Gevaert and Heuss in the main. There can be no doubt that such divisions are of the greatest help in making Bach's treatment of the Gospel narrative clear to the hearer.

Many valuable suggestions have been adopted from Parry's "Bach," Heuss's "S. Matthäus' Passion," Pirro's "L'Esthétique de J. S. Bach," and Schweitzer's monumental work, now fortunately accessible to English readers in Ernest Newman's translation.

No author has shown more clear understanding of the nobility and spirituality of Bach's Passion than Sir Hubert Parry, and the particular chapter which he devotes to this work has been of the greatest assistance to us; his general view of Bach must always be a source of inspiration to students of the master.

Numbers which may be omitted are indicated thus † In the recitatives the asterisk is used to indicate where the accompaniment of the strings ceases.

THE PIANOFORTE PART.

The pianoforte part is based upon the version of A. B. Marx, but an entire revision was rendered necessary to make it conform to the full score issued by the Bach Gesellschaft, which must now be taken to be the definitive edition. In one or two instances we have added the sign tr in parentheses in places where it is practically certain that a shake was intended.

Following Bach's direction Violoncelli concordant Violis, we have embodied the 'cello part played in No. 33 in the pianoforte arrangement. There is evidence that the 'cellos played in this number at Mendelssohn's revival of the work in 1829. The solo and chorus parts used on that occasion are still in existence, and an examination of them shows the necessary instrumental cues written at the 'cello pitch (an octave below the violas).

We acknowledge with gratitude help of various kinds received from Miss Ella Gibbs, Mr. Harry Evans, Miss I. Meiklejohn, Mr. A. E. Brent Smith, and others, and our special thanks are offered to Mr. Ernest Newman for many valuable suggestions.

EDWARD ELGAR. IVOR ATKINS.

ST. MATTHEW PASSION.

PART I.

PROLOGUE.

No. 1.

Come, ye daughters, share my mourning;
See Him! Whom? The Bridegroom Christ.
See Him! How? A spotless Lamb.
See it! What? His patient love.
Look! Look where? On our offence.
Look on Him. For love of us
He Himself His Cross is bearing.

CHORALE.

O Lamb of God most holy, Who on the Cross didst languish; O Saviour, meek and lowly, Who suffered bitter anguish; The sins of man Thou bearest, Our every grief Thou sharest. Have mercy on us, O Jesu.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PASSION.

No. 2.—RECIT.

When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said unto His disciples, Ye know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified.

No. 3.—CHORALE.

O blessed Jesu, how hast Thou offended, That now on Thee such judgement has descended? Of what misdeed hast Thou to make confession? Of what transgression?

THE RULERS CONSPIRE AGAINST CHRIST.

No. 4.—RECIT.

Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill Him. But they said,

No. 5.—CHORUS.

Not upon the feast, lest haply there be an uproar among the people.

THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY.

No. 6.—RECIT.

Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, there came unto Him a woman, having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on His head, as He sat at meat. But when His disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying,

No. 7.—CHORUS.

To what purpose is this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

No. 8.—RECIT.

When Jesus understood it, He said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? For she hath wrought a good work upon Me. For ye have the poor always with you, but Me ye have not always. For in that she hath poured this ointment on My Body, she did it for my burial. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this Gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told of her for a memorial.

No. q.—RECIT.

My Master and my Lord,
In vain do Thy disciples chide Thee
Because this pitying woman,
With ointment sweet, Thy flesh
For burial maketh ready.
O grant to me, beloved Lord,
The tears wherewith my heart o'erfloweth
An unction on Thy head may pour.

No. 10.—ARIA.

Grief for sin
Rends the guilty heart within.
May my weeping and my mourning
Be a welcome sacrifice.
Loving Saviour, hear in mercy!

THE TREASON OF JUDAS.

No. 11.—RECIT.

Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, and said, What will ye give me, and I will deliver Him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

No. 12.—ARIA.

Break in grief, Thou loving heart; For a son whom Thou hast nourished, Yea, a friend whom Thou hast cherished, Gathers cruel foes around Thee, And will like a serpent wound Thee.

THE PREPARATION OF THE PASSOVER.

No. 13.—RECIT.

Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto Him,

No. 14.—RECIT.

Where wilt Thou that we prepare for Thee to eat the Passover?

No. 15.—RECIT.

And He said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand, I will keep the Passover at thy house with My disciples. And the disciples did, as Jesus had appointed them, and they made ready the Passover. Now when the even was come, He sat down with the twelve. And as they did eat, He said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray Me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto Him,

CHORUS.

Lord, is it I?

No. 16.—CHORALE.

My sin it is which binds Thee, With anguish deep surrounds Thee, And nails Thee to the Tree; The torture Thou art feeling, Thy patient love revealing, 'Tis I should bear it, I alone.

THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST.

No. 17.—RECIT.

And He answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with Me in the dish, the same shall betray Me. The Son of Man goeth as it is written of Him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed: It had been good for that man, if he had not been born. Then answered Judas, which betrayed Him, and said, Master, is it I? He said to him, Thou hast said. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat, this is My Body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom.

No. 18.--RECIT.

Although our eyes with tears o'erflow, Since Jesus now must from us go, His gracious promise doth the soul uplift. His Flesh and Blood, O precious gift! He leaves us for our souls' refreshment. As He while in the world did love His own, So now, with love unchanging, He loves them still unto the end.

No. 19.—ARIA.

Jesus, Saviour, I am Thine, Come and dwell my heart within. All things else I count but loss, Glory only in Thy Cross. Dearer than the world beside Is the Saviour who hath died.

AT THE MOUNT OF OLIVES.

No. 20.—RECIT.

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives. Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of Me this night, for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

No. 21.—CHORALE.

Receive me, my Redeemer,
My Shepherd, make me Thine;
Of every good the fountain,
Thou art the spring of mine.
How oft Thy words have fed me
On earth with angels' food,
How oft Thy grace hath led me
To highest, Heavenly good.

PETER'S DENIAL FORETOLD BY CHRIST.

No. 22.—RECIT.

Peter answered, and said unto Him, Though all men shall be offended because of Thee, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night before the cock crow, thou shalt deny Me thrice. Peter said unto Him, Though I should die with Thee, yet will I not deny Thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.

No. 23.—CHORALE.

Here would I stand beside Thee;
Lord, bid me not depart!
From Thee I will not sever,
Though breaks Thy loving heart.
When bitter pain shall hold Thee
In agony opprest,
Then, then will I enfold Thee
Within my loving breast.

THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN.

No. 24.—RECIT.

Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go yonder and pray. And He took with Him Peter, and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful, and very heavy. Then saith He unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here and watch with Me.

No. 25.—RECIT.

O grief! how throbs His heavy-laden breast! His spirit faints, how pale His weary face!

He to the Judgment-hall is brought, There is no help, no comfort near.

The powers of darkness now assail Him, His chosen friends will soon forsake Him.

Ah! if my love Thy stay could be, If I could gauge Thy grief, and share it, Could make it less, or help to bear it, How gladly would I watch with Thee

CHORALE.

My Saviour, why must all this ill befall Thee? My sin, alas! from highest Heaven did call Thee. God took the debt from me, who should have paid it; On Thee He laid it.

No. 26.—ARIA.

I would beside my Lord be watching. By His Cross I am saved from sin and loss; His sorrows win my soul its ransom.

CHORUS.

And so our sin will fall asleep. The griefs that He for us endureth, How bitter, yet how sweet, are they.

CHRIST'S PRAYER IN THE GARDEN.

No. 27.—RECIT.

And He went a little farther, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt.'

No. 28.—RECIT.

The Saviour, low before His Father bending, To gain for man by His oblation A full salvation,
The love of God toward man commendeth. He now will drink the Cup
Unto its last and bitterest dregs,
Which with the sin of men is filled
And overflows. He will not shrink,
But suffer all that God hath willed.

No. 29.—ARIA.

Gladly would I take upon me Cross and Cup, and all His burden, Could I follow Christ my Lord.

Lo, our Lord,
In love our burden sharing,
Bears for us
The Cross with all its shame,
He has lightened all our sorrow.

No. 30.—RECIT.

And He cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done.

No. 31.—CHORALE.

O Father, let Thy will be done, For all things well Thou doest, In time of need refusest none, But helpest e'en the lowest. In deep distress Thou still dost bless, In wrath rememberest mercy; Who trusts in Thee Shall ever be In perfect peace and safety.

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST.

No. 32.—RECIT.

And He came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And He left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then cometh He to His disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest, behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray Me. And while He yet spake, lo Judas one of the twelve came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he that betrayed Him, gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is He, hold Him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, Master, and kissed Him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

CHRIST IS BOUND AND LED INTO THE CITY.

No. 33.—DUET AND CHORUS.

Behold, my Saviour now is taken, Moon and stars Have for grief the night forsaken, Since my Saviour now is taken. They lead Him hence; with cords they bind Him!

Loose Him! leave Him! bind Him not!

Have lightnings and thunders their fury forgotten? Then open, O bottomless pit, all thy terrors! Destroy them, o'erwhelm them, devour them, consume them With tumult of rage,
The treach'rous betrayer, the merciless throng.

THE DISCIPLES FORSAKE CHRIST.

No. 34.—RECIT.

And behold, one of them which were with Jesus, stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword, shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be? In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take Me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on Me. But all this was done, that the Scriptures of the Prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook Him, and fled.

THE CHRISTIAN SOUL BEWAILS THE FRAILTY OF MANKIND.

No. 35.—CHORALE.

O man thy grievous sin bemoan,
For which Christ left His Father's throne,
From highest heaven descending.
Of Virgin pure and undefiled,
He here was born, our Saviour mild,
For sin to make atonement.
The dead He raised to life again,
The sick He freed from grief and pain,
Until the time appointed,
That He for us should give His Blood,
Should bear our sins' o'erwhelming load,
The shameful Cross enduring.

PART II.

PROLOGUE.

THE DAUGHTER OF ZION SEEKS THE SAVIOUR.

No. 36.—ARIA.

Ah! Now is my Saviour gone! Whither went He? I would follow. Ah! my Lamb, the slayers hold Thee. Where now is my Saviour gone? Ah! how shall I find an answer To assure my anxious soul? Ah, where is my Saviour gone?

CHORUS.

Whither is thy beloved gone, O thou fairest among women? Whither is thy friend gone aside? For we would go with thee to seek Him.

IN THE COURT OF CAIAPHAS.

No. 37.—RECIT.

And they that had laid hold on Jesus, led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. But Peter followed him afar off, unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants to see the end. Now the chief priests and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none:

No. 38.—CHORALE.

How falsely doth the world accuse! How ready justice to refuse! How eager to condemn me! In danger's hour, Lord, show Thy power, From every ill defend me.

CHRIST'S SILENCE BEFORE CAIAPHAS.

No. 39.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

Yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses, and said, This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days. And the high priest arose, and said unto Him, Answerest Thou nothing? What is it, which these witness against Thee? But Jesus held His peace.

No. 40.—RECIT.

To witness false my Saviour answereth not, that thereby He may show us how, with Divine compassion moved, His will to suffering He will bow. So we, when called to suffer wrong, should strive to be like Him, and bear in silence our affliction.

No. 41.—ARIA.

Be strong! Endure! If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye, that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

No. 42.—RECIT.

And the high priest answered, and said unto Him, I adjure Thee by the living God, that Thou tell us, whether Thou be the Christ the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of Heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy: what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard His blasphemy. What think ye? They answered and said,

CHORUS.

He is guilty of death.

No. 43.—RECIT.

Then did they spit in His face, and buffeted Him, and others smote Him with the palms of their hands, saying,

CHORUS.

Now tell us, Thou Christ, who is he that smote Thee?

No. 44.—CHORALE.

O Lord, who dares to smite Thee, And falsely to indict Thee, Deride and mock Thee so? Thou dost not need confession, Who knowest not transgression As we and all our children know.

PETER'S DENIAL.

No. 45.—RECIT.

Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter,

CHORUS.

Surely thou also art one of them, for thy speech bewrayeth thee.

No. 46.—RECIT.

Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny Me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

No. 47.—ARIA.

Have mercy, Lord, on me,
Regard my bitter weeping.
Look on me,
Heart and eyes both weep to Thee
Bitterly.

No. 48.—CHORALE.

Lamb of God, I fall before Thee,
Humbly trusting in Thy Cross;
That alone be all my glory,
All things else I count but loss.
Jesu, all my hope and joy
Flow from Thee, Thou sov'reign good,
Hope, and love, and faith, and patience,
All were purchased by Thy Blood.

THE END OF JUDAS.

No. 49.—RECIT.

When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people, took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. And when they had bound Him, they led Him away, and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor. Then Judas, which had betrayed Him, when he saw that He was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, I have sinned, in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said,

CHORUS.

What is that to us? See thou to that.

No. 50.—RECIT.

And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself. And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.

No. 51.—ARIA.

Give, O give me back my Lord. See the silver, price of blood, At your feet in horror poured By the lost betrayer.

No. 52.—RECIT.

And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood unto this day. (Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the Prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of Him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value: and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.) And Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, saying; Art Thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest. And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto Him, Hearest Thou not how many things they witness against Thee? And He answered him never a word: insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.

No. 53.-CHORALE.

Commit thy way to Jesus,
Thy burdens and thy cares;
He from them all releases,
He all thy sorrow shares.
He gives the winds their courses,
And bounds the ocean's shore,
He suffers not temptation
To rise beyond thy power.

BARABBAS.

No. 54.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus, which is called Christ? For he knew that for envy they had delivered Him. When he was set down on the judgement seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream, because of Him. But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. The governor answered, and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas. Pilate said unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus, which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let Him be crucified.

No. 55.—CHORALE.

O wondrous love, that suffers this correction! The Shepherd dying for the flock's protection; The Master pays the debts His servants owe Him, And they betray Him!

No. 56.—RECIT.

And the governor said, Why, what evil hath He done?

No. 57.—RECIT.

To all men Jesus good hath done:
The blind man hath He given sight,
The lame man made to walk.
He told us of His Father's Word,
He cast the devils forth,
The mourners hath He comforted
In Him a friend the sinner found.
Save good, my Jesus nought hath done.

No. 58.—ARIA.

For love my Saviour now is dying, Of sin and guilt He knoweth nought. So eternal desolation And the sinner's righteous doom Shall not rest upon my spirit.

THE SCOURGING.

No. 59.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

But they cried out the more, saying, Let Him be crucified. When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it. Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us and on our children. Then released he Barabbas unto them, and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

No. 60.-RECIT. AND CHORUS.

O gracious God!
Behold, the Saviour standeth bound.
Now scourge they Him, and smite and wound Him!
Tormentors, stay your hands!
Are not your hearts with pity moved
To see such anguish meekly borne?
Ah, no! your hearts are hard,
And must be like the rock itself,
Nay, more unyielding still.
Have pity! stay your hands!

No. 61.—ARIA.

If my tears be unavailing,
Take the very heart of me.
Then, if vain be all my pleading,
When the sacred wounds are bleeding,
Let my heart a chalice be.

THE CROWNING WITH THORNS.

No. 62.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto Him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon His Head, and a reed in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews. And they spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head.

No. 63.—CHORALE.

O sacred Head, surrounded
By crown of piercing thorn!
O bleeding Head, so wounded,
Reviled, and put to scorn!
Death's pallid hue comes o'er Thee,
The glow of life decays,
Yet angel-hosts adore Thee,
And tremble as they gaze.

In this Thy bitter Passion,
Good Shepherd, think of me
With Thy most sweet compassion,
Unworthy though I be:
Beneath Thy Cross abiding,
For ever would I rest,
In Thy dear love confiding,
And with Thy presence blest.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS.

No. 64.—RECIT.

And after that they had mocked Him, they took the robe off from Him, and put His own raiment on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear His Cross.

No. 65.—RECIT.

In truth, to bear the Cross, our flesh and blood Are loth to be constrained; For that which works our chiefest good Most hardly is attained.

No. 66.—ARIA.

Come, healing Cross—O, joy to share it! My Saviour, lay on me its weight; And if the burden grow too great, Then help Thou me, O Lord, to bear it.

THE CRUCIFIXION.

No. 67.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, they gave Him vinegar to drink, mingled with gall: and when He had tasted thereof, He would not drink. And they crucified Him, and parted His garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. And sitting down, they watched

Him there: And set up over His head, His accusation written, This is Jesus the King of the Jews. Then were there two thieves crucified with Him: one on the right hand, and another on the left. And they that passed by, reviled Him, wagging their heads, and saying, Thou that destroyest the temple of God, and buildest it in three days, save Thyself: If Thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking Him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others, Himself He cannot save: If He be King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God, let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him: for He hath said, I am the Son of God.

No. 68.—RECIT.

The thieves also which were crucified with Him, cast the same in His teeth.

No. 69.—RECIT.

Ah, Golgotha! Unhappy Golgotha!
The Lord of Glory here 'mid shame and scorn must perish;
The blessèd Saviour of the world
Upon th' accursed Tree now hangs;
The Lord who heaven and earth created,
Of life and light is now bereft;
The Sinless here as sinner dieth.
Ah, how this grief doth pierce my soul!
Ah, Golgotha! Unhappy Golgotha!

No. 70.—ARIA.

See ye! See the Saviour's outstretched Hands! He would draw us to Himself. Come!

Come where?
In Jesu's bosom
Seek Redemption, seek ye mercy.
Seek them!

Where? In Jesu's bosom.

Live ye, die ye, rest ye here, Ye whom sin and guilt oppress. Rest ye!

Where? In Jesu's bosom.

THE DEATH OF CHRIST.

No. 71.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama, sabachthani, That is to say, My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me? Some of them that stood there, when they heard that said, He calleth for Elias. And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave Him to drink. The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save Him. Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

No. 72.—CHORALE.

Be near me, Lord, when dying, O part not Thou from me! And to my succour flying, Come, Lord, and set me free! And when my heart must languish In death's last awful throe, Release me from mine anguish, By Thine own pain and woe.

ST. MATTHEW PASSION.

AFTER THE CRUCIFIXION.

No. 73.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

And behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain, from the top unto the bottom and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent. And the graves were opened, and there arose many bodies of the saints which had slept, and came out of the graves after His resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God. And many women were there (beholding afar off) which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto Him. Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children. When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus: Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered.

AT THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS.

No. 74.—RECIT.

At evening, hour of calm and peace
Was Adam's fall made manifest;
At evening, too, the Lord's redeeming love;
At evening homeward turned the dove
And bore the olive-leaf as token.
O beauteous time! O evening hour!
Our lasting peace is now with God made sure,
For Jesus hath His Cross endured.
His body sinks to rest.
Go, loving servant, ask thou it—
Go, be it thine, the lifeless Saviour's Body.
O wondrous Gift! O precious, holy burden!

No. 75.—ARIA.

Make thee clean, my heart, from sin, Unto Jesus give thee welcome. So within my cleansed breast Shall He rest, Dwelling evermore within me. World, depart; let Jesus in!

THE BURIAL.

No. 76.—RECIT. AND CHORUS.

And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and he departed. And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre. Now the next day that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while He was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Therefore command the grave to be made sure, until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch, go your way, make it as sure as you can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

No. 77.-RECIT. AND CHORUS.

And now the Lord to rest is laid,
His task is o'er; for all our sins He hath atoned.
O weary, broken Body!
See, with repentant tears we would bedew it,
Which our offence to such a death has brought.
While life shall last, O let Thy sufferings claim our love,
Since Thou for man salvation sure hast wrought.
Lord Jesu, fare Thee well.

No. 78.—CHORUS.

In tears of grief, dear Lord, we leave Thee. Hearts cry to Thee, O Saviour dear. Lie Thou softly, softly here. Rest Thy worn and bruisèd Body. At Thy grave, O Jesu blest, May the sinner, worn with weeping, Comfort find in Thy dear keeping, And the weary soul find rest. Sleep in peace, Sleep Thou in the Father's breast.

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THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

According to Saint Matthew.

PART I.

PROLOGUE.







The words 'Whom' 'How' etc: should not be sung in a hard, dry forte. They should be sung with sympathy and made to sound as questions.





























THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PASSION.



THE RULERS CONSPIRE AGAINST CHRIST.













Nº 10. ARIA.







THE TREASON OF JUDAS.







THE PREPARATION OF THE PASSOVER.







THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST.



















PETER'S DENIAL FORETOLD BY CHRIST.









Bach's direction.

























Nº 28. RECITATIVO. Coro II.





















CHRIST IS BOUND AND LED INTO THE CITY.































THE CHRISTIAN SOUL BEWAILS THE FRAILTY OF MANKIND.



The semiquaver figure should be phrased throughout as in bars 1 and 2.



























PART II. PROLOGUE.

THE DAUGHTER OF ZION SEEKS THE SAVIOUR.

Nº 36. ARIA e CORO.











IN THE COURT OF CAIAPHAS.















Nº 42. RECITATIVO.











PETER'S DENIAL.

































BEFORE PILATE.



(Coro I.II. Rise.)































(Coro I. II. Sit.)

THE SCOURGING.













THE CROWNING WITH THORNS.

























THE CRUCIFIXION.



























THE DEATH OF CHRIST.







The accompaniment to this Recitative is assigned to the Continuo.















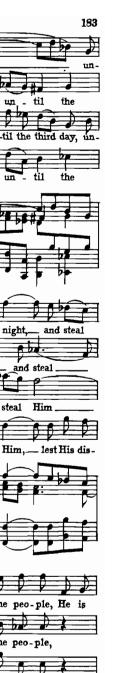












































APPENDIX.

The original closing Choral of Part I, used at the first performance, Good Friday (15 April) 1729.

