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A  
TREATISE  
OF  
MUSIC,

Speculative, Practical, and Historical.

By ALEXANDER MALCOLM.

*Hail Sacred Art! descended from above,  
To crown our mortal Joys: Of thee we learn;  
How happy Souls communicate their Raptures;  
For thou'rt the Language of the Blest in Heaven:  
--- Divum hominumq; voluptas.*



EDINBURGH,  
Printed for the AUTHOR. MDCXXI.

WASATISE

OR

WASATISE

WASATISE

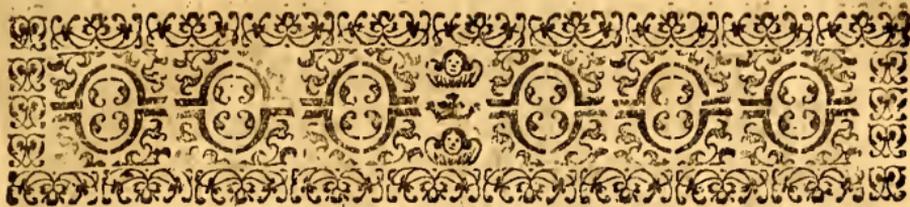
WASATISE

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A N

O D E

ON THE

*Power of MUSICK,*

Inscrib'd to

Mr. MALCOLM,

A S A

Monument of Friendship,

By Mr. MITCHELL.

I.



WHEN *Nature* yet in *Embrio* lay,

Ere Things began to be,

The ALMIGHTY from eternal Day

Spoke loud his deep Decree:

The Voice was tuneful as his Love,

At which Creation sprung,

And all th' *Angelick* Hosts above

The Morning Anthem sung:

## II.

At *Musick's* sweet prevailing Call,  
 Thro' boundless Realms of Space,  
 The Atoms danc'd, obsequious all,  
 And, to compose this wondrous Ball,  
 In Order took their Place.

How did the Piles of Matter part,  
 And huddled Nature from her Slumber start  
 When, from the Mass immensely steep,  
 The Voice bid Order sudden leap,  
 To usher in a World.

What heavenly Melody and Love  
 Began in ev'ry Sphere to move?  
 When Elements, that jarr'd before,  
 Were all aside distinctly hurl'd,  
 And *Chaos* reign'd no more.

## III.

*Musick* the mighty Parent was,  
 Empower'd by G O D, the sovereign Cause.  
*Musick* first spirited the lifeless Waste,  
 Sever'd the fullen, bulky Mass,  
 And active Motion call'd from lazy Rest.  
 Summon'd by *Musick*, *Form* uprear'd her Head,  
 From Depths, where Life it self lay dead,  
 While sudden Rays of everliving Light  
 Broke from the Abyfs of ancient Night,  
 Reveal'd the new-born Earth around and its fair  
 Influence spread.

G O D saw that all the Work was good;  
 The Work, the Effect of Harmony, its wondrous  
 Offsprings stood.

IV.

*Musick*, the best of Arts divine;  
Maintains the Tune it first began,  
And makes ev'n Opposites combine  
To be of Use to Man.

Discords with tuneful Concords move  
Thro' all the spacious Frame ;

*Below* is breath'd the Sound of Love,  
While mystick Dances shine *Above*,

And *Musick's* Power to nether Worlds proclaim.

What various Globes in proper Spheres,  
Perform their great Creator's Will ?

While never silent never still,

- Melodiously they run,

Unhurt by Chance, or Length of Years;

Around the central Sun.

V.

The little perfect World, call'd Man,

In whom the *Diapason* ends,

In his Contexture, shews a Plan

Of Harmony, that makes Amends;

By God-like Beauty that adorns his Race;

For all the Spots on Nature's Face.

He boasts a pure, a tuneful Soul,

That rivals the celestial Throng,

And can ev'n savage Beasts controul

With his enchanting Song.

Tho' diff'rent Passions struggle in his Mind ;

Where Love and Hatred, Hope and Fear are

joyn'd.

All, by a sacred Guidance, tend

To one harmonious End.

## VI.

Its great Original to prove,  
 And shew it bless'd us from above,  
 In creeping Winds, thro' Air it sweetly flotes,  
 And works strange Miracles by Notes.  
 Our beating Pulses bear each bidden Part,  
 And ev'ry Passion of the master'd Heart  
 Is touch'd with Sympathy, and speaks the Won-  
 ders of the Art.

Now Love, in soft and whispering Strains,  
 'Thrills gently thro' the Veins,  
 And binds the Soul in silken Chains.  
 Then Rage and Fury fire the Blood,  
 And hurried Spirits, rising high, ferment the  
 boiling Flood ;  
 Silent, anon, we sink, resign'd in Grief :  
 But ere our yielding Passions quite subside,  
 Some swelling Note calls back the ebbing  
 Tide,  
 And lifts us to Relief.

With Sounds we love, we joy, and we despair,  
 The solid Substance hug, or grasp delusive Air,

## VII.

In various Ways the Heart-strings shake,  
 And different Things they speak.  
 For, when the meaning Masters strike the  
*Lyre,*  
 Or *Hautboys* briskly move,  
 Our Souls, like Lightning, blaze with quick  
 Desire,  
 Or melt away in Love.  
 But when the martial *Trumpet*, swelling high,  
Rolls

Rolls its shrill Clangor thro' the ecchoing  
Sky;

If, answering hoarse, the fullen *Drum's* big  
Beat

Does, in dead Notes, the lively Call repeat ;  
Bravely at once we break o'er Nature's Bounds ;  
Snatch at grim Death, and look, unmov'd,  
on Wounds.

Slumb'ring, our Souls lean o'er the trembling  
*Lute* ;

Softly we mourn with the complaining *Flute* ;

With the *Violin* laugh at our Foes,

By Turns with the *Organ* we bear on the Sky ;  
Whilst, exulting in Triumph on *Æther* we  
fly,

Or, falling, grone upon the *Harp*, beneath a  
Load of Woes.

Each Instrument has magick Power

To enliven or destroy,

To sink the Heart, and, in one Hour,

Entrance our Souls with Joy.

At ev'ry Touch, we lose our ravish'd Thoughts ;  
And Life, it self, in quivering clings, hangs o'er  
the varied Notes,

### VIII.

How does the starting *Treble* raise

The Mind to rapt'rous Heights ;

It leaves all Nature in Amaze,

And drowns us with Delights.

But, when the manly, the majestick, *Bass*

Appears with awful Grace,

What solemn Thoughts are in the Mind in-  
fus'd?

And how the Spirit's rous'd?

In flow-plac'd Triumph, we are led around,  
And all the Scene with haughty Pomp is  
crown'd;

Till friendly *Tenor* gently flows,  
Like sweet, meandring Streams,  
And makes an Union, as it goes,  
Betwixt the Two Extremes.

The blended Parts in *That* agree,  
As Waters mingle in the Sea,  
And yield a Compound of delightful Melody.

### IX.

Strange is the Force of modulated Sound  
That, like a Torrent, sweeps o'er ev'ry Mound!

It tunes the Heart at ev'ry Turn;

With ev'ry Moment gives new Passions Birth;  
Sometimes we take Delight to mourn;  
Sometimes enhance our Mirth.

It sooths deep Sorrow in the Breast;

It lul's our waking Cares to Rest,

Fate's clouded Brow serenes with Ease,

And makes ev'n Madness please.

As much as Man can meaner Arts controul,  
It manages his master'd Soul,

The most invet'rate Spleen disarms,

And, like *Aurelia*, charms:

*Aurelia*! dear distinguish'd Fair!

In whom the Graces center'd are!

Whose Notes engage the Ear and Mind,

As Violets breath'd on by the gentle Wind;  
 Whose Beauty, *Musick* in Disguise!  
 Attracts the gazing Eyes,  
 Thrills thro' the Soul, like *Haywood's* melting  
 Lines,  
 And, as it certain Conquest makes, the savage  
 Soul refines,

## X.

*Musick* religious Thoughts inspires,  
 And kindles bright poetick Fires;  
 Fires! such as great *Hillarius* raise  
 Triumphant in their Blaze!  
 Amidst the *vulgar versifying* Throng,  
 His Genius, with Distinction, show,  
 And o'er our *popular Metre* lift his Song  
 High, as the Heav'ns are arch'd o'er Orbs below.  
 As if the Man was pure Intelligence,  
*Musick* transports him o'er the Heights of  
 Sense,  
 Thro' Chinks of Clay the Rays above lets in,  
 And makes Mortality divine.  
 Tho' Reason's Bounds it ne'er defies,  
 Its Charms elude the Ken  
 Of heavy, gross-ear'd Men,  
 Like Mysteries conceal'd from vulgar Eyes.  
 Others may *that* Distraction call,  
 Which *Musick* raises in the Breast,  
 To *me* 'tis Extasy and Triumph all,  
 The Foretastes of the Raptures of the Blest.  
 Who knows not this, when *Handel* plays,  
 And *Senesino* sings?

Our Souls learn Rapture from their Lays;  
 While rival'd Angels show Amaze,  
 And drop their golden Wings.

## XI.

Still, God of Life, entrance my Soul  
 With such Enthusiastick Joys;  
 And, when grim Death, with dire Con-  
 troul,

My Pleasures in this lower Orb destroys,  
 Grant this Request whatever you deny,  
 For Love I bear to Melody,  
 That, round my Bed, a sacred Choir  
 Of skilful Masters tune their Voice,  
 And, without Pain of agonizing Strife,  
 In Confort with the *Lute* conspire,  
 To untie the Bands of Life;  
 That, dying with the dying Sounds  
 My Soul, well tun'd, may raise  
 And break o'er all the common Bounds  
 Of Minds, that grovel here below the Skies.

## XII.

When Living die, and dead Men live,  
 And Order is again to *Chaos* hurl'd,  
 Thou, *Melody*, shalt still survive,  
 And triumph o'er the Ruins of the World.  
 A dreadful Trumpet never heard before,  
 By Angels never blown, till then,  
 Thro' all the Regions of the Air shall rore  
 That Time is now no more:  
 But lo! a different Scene!  
 Eternity appears.

Like

Like Space unbounded and untold by Years,  
 High in the Seat of Happiness divine  
 Shall Saints and Angels in full *Chorus*  
 joyn.

In various Ways,  
 Seraphick Lays  
 The unceasing Jubile shall crown,  
 And, whilst Heav'n ecchoes with his Praise,  
 The ALMIGHTY'S self shall hear, and look,  
 delighted, down.

## XIII.

Who would not wish to have the Skill  
 Of tuning Instruments at Will?  
 Ye Pow'rs, who guide my Actions, tell  
 Why I, in whom the Seeds of *Musick*  
 dwell,  
 Who most its Pow'r and Excellence admire  
 Whose very Breast, it self's, a *Lyre*,  
 Was never taught the heav'nly Art  
 Of modulating Sounds,  
 And can no more, in Confort, bear a Part  
 Than the wild *Roe*, that o'er the Mountains  
 bounds?  
 Could I live o'er my Youth again,  
 (But ah! the Wish how idly vain!)  
 Instead of poor deluding Rhime,  
 Which like a *Syren* murders Time,  
 Instead of dull, scholastick Terms,  
 Which made me stare and fancy Charms;  
 With *Gordon's* brave Ambition fir'd,  
 Beyond the tow'ring *Alps*, untir'd,

To

To tune my Voice to his sweet Notes, I'd  
 roam ;  
 Or search the Magazines of Sound,  
 Where *Musick's* Treasures ly profound,  
 With *M-----* here at Home.  
*M-----*, the dear, deserving Man,  
 Who taught in Nature's Laws,  
 To spread his Country's Glory can  
 Practise the Beauties of the Art, and shew its  
 Grounds and Cause.

\* \* \*  
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*T A B L E*



# T A B L E

O F

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- § 1. *Of the Name, with the various Definitions and Divisions of the Science.* Pag. 451.
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# INTRODUCTION.



Have no secret History to entertain my *Reader* with, or rather to be impertinent with, concerning the Occasion of my studying, writing, or publishing any Thing upon this

Subject: If the Thing is well done, no matter how it came to pass. And tho' it be somewhat unfashionable, I must own it, I have no Apology to make: My Lord *Shaftsbury*, indeed, assures me, that the Generality of Readers are not a little raised by the Submission of a confessing Author, and very ready on these Terms to give him Absolution, and receive him into their good Grace and Favour; whatever may be in it, I have Nothing of this Kind wherewith to bribe their Friendship; being neither conscious of *Laziness*, *Precipitancy*, or any other *wilful Vice*, in the Management of this Work, that should give me great Uneasiness about it; if there be a Fault, it lies somewhere else; for, to be plain, I have taken all the Pains I could.

I have always thought it as impertinent for an Author to offer any Performance to the World, with a flat Pretence of suspecting it, as it is ridiculous to commend himself in a conceited and saucy Manner; there is certainly something just and reasonable, that lies betwixt these Extremes; perhaps the best Medium is to say Nothing at all; but if one may speak, I think he may with a very good Grace say, he has designed well and done his best; the Respect due to Mankind requires it, and as I can sincerely profess this, I shall have no Anxiety about the Treatment my Book may meet with. The *Criticks* therefore may take their full Liberty: I can lose Nothing at their Hands, who examine Things with a true Respect to the real Service of Mankind; if they approve, I shall rejoyce, if not, I shall be the better for their judicious Correction: And for those who may judge rashly thro' Pride or Ignorance, I shall only pity them.

BUT there is one common Place of Criticism I would beg Leave to consider a little. Some People, as soon as they hear of a new Book upon a known Subject, ask what Discovery the Author has made, or what he can say, which they don't know or cannot find elsewhere? I might desire these curious Gentlemen to read and see; but that they may better understand my Pretences, and where to lay their Censures, let them consider, there are Two Kinds of Discoveries in Sciences; one is that of new *Theorems* and *Propositions*, the other is of the proper

Re-

*Relation and Connection* of the Things already found, and the easy Way of representing them to the Understanding of others; the first affords the Materials, and the other the Form of these intellectual Structures which we call Sciences: How useless the first is without the other, needs no Proof; and what an Odds there may be in the Way of explaining and disposing the Parts of any Subject, we have a Thousand Demonstrations in the numerous Writings upon every Subject. An Author, who has made a Science more intelligible, by a proper and distinct Explication of every single Part, and a just and natural Method in the Connection of the Whole; tho' he has said Nothing, as to the Matter, which was not before discovered, is a real Benefactor to Mankind: And if he has gathered together in one *System*, what, for want of knowing or not attending to their true Order and Dependence, or whatever other Reason, lay scattered in several Treatises, and perhaps added many useful Reflections and Observations; will not this Author, do ye think, be acquitted of the Charge of *Plagiarism*, before every reasonable Judge; and be reckoned justly more than a mere Collector, and to have done something new and useful? If you appeal to a very wise and learned ANCIENT, the Question is clearly determined. — *Etiam si omnia a veteribus inventa sunt, tamen erit hoc semper novum, usus & dispositio inventorum ab aliis.* SENECA *Ep.* 64. How far this Character of a new Author will be found in the following TREATISE, depends

pends upon the Ability and Equity of my Judges, and I leave it upon their Honour.

BUT you must have Patience to hear another Thing, which Justice demands of me in this Place. It is, to inform you, that the 13 *Ch.* of the following Book was communicated to me by a Friend, whose Modesty forbids me to name. The speculative Part, and what else there is, besides the Subject of that *Chapter*, were more particularly my Study: But I found, there would certainly be a Blank in the Work, if at least the more general Principles of Composition were not explained; and whatever Pains I had taken to understand the Writers on this Branch, yet for want of sufficient Practice in it, I durst not trust my own Judgment to extract out of them such a Compend as would answer my Design; which I hope you will find very happily supplied, in what my Friend's Genius and Generosity has afforded: And if I can judge any Thing about it, you have here not a mere Compend of what any Body else has done, but the first Principles of *harmonick Composition* explained in a Manner peculiarly his own.

AFTER so long a personal Conference, you'll perhaps expect I should say something, in this *Introduction*, to my Subject; but this, I believe, will be universally agreeable, the Experience of some Thousand Years giving it sufficient Recommendation; and for any Thing else I have little to say in this Place: The Contents you have in the preceeding Table, and I shall only make this short Transition to the Book it self.

THE *Original* and various *Significations* of the Word **MUSICK**, you'll find an Account of it in the Beginning of *Ch. 14.* For, an historical Account of the ancient *Musick* being one Part of my Design, I could not begin it better, than with the various Use of the Name among the *Ancients.* It shall be enough therefore to tell you here, that I take it in the common Sense; for that Science, which considers and explains those Properties and Relations of Sounds, that make them capable of exciting the agreeable Sensations, which the Experience of all Mankind assures us to be a natural Effect of certain Applications of them to the Ear. And, for the same Reason, I forbear to speak in this Place any Thing particularly of the *Antiquity, Excellency,* and various *Uses* and *Ends* of **MUSICK**, which I shall at large consider in the fore-mentioned *Chap.* according to the Sentiments and Experience of the *Ancients,* and how far the Experience of our Times agrees with that.



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**P**Age 55. l. 3. for D read C. p. 76. l. 32. for Two r. One. l. 33. Fundamental, r. acute Term. p. 77. l. 2. for 2. r. 1. acute Term, r. Fundamental. p. 125. l. 24.  $\frac{2}{3}$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$ . r.  $\frac{3}{5}$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$ . p. 146. l. 11. 2 : 5, r. 2 : 3. p. 158. l. 5. 3 r. 2. p. 182. l. 7. may r. many. p. 227. l. 18. in harmonical, r. inharmonical. p. 250. l. 24. 9th, r. 6th. p. 256. l. 1. c - c r. C - c. l. 5. D r. d. p. 258. of the Table, l. 3. A D. r. A d. l. 5. B F, r. B f. l. 6. F D, r. F d. l. 7. D C, r. D c. p. 295. l. 14.  $\vee$  r. b. p. 301. l. 11. r. Plate 2. Fig. 2. p. 319 l. 26. Tune or r. human. l. 30. dele in. p. 329. l. 16. a r. or. p. 338. l. 14. c r. e. p. 341. l. 11. a r. or. p. 356 l. 27. g $\otimes$ , e $\vee$  r. a $\vee$ , d $\otimes$ . p. 372. l. 20. raising, r. raising. p. 401. l. 26. at r. as. p. 424. l. 17. in r. the. p. 435. l. 7. ther. in the. p. 448. l. 16. this r. his. p. 452. l. 29. dele other. p. 458. l. 22. are r. is. l. 23. least r. best. p. 464. l. 15. re- r. reco-. p. 465. l. 26. their r. the. p. 466. l. 10. already r. afterwards. p. 507. l. 31. dia-pafon r. of dia-pafon. p. 538. l. 13. was r. were. p. 546. l. 13 mentioning r. repeating. p. 549. l. 11. Feer r. Feet. p. 550. l. 10. Objects r. Subjects. p. 552. l. 21. next r. last. p. 577. l. 20. r. *concentum absolutum* p. 578. l. 1. r. *auspicanti*. p. 605. l. 12. r. similar. p. 606. l. 26. moe r. more.

## A D D E N D A.

**P**Age 408. l. 8. after Bar. add or of any particular Note. p. 411. l. 1. after Crotchets, add in the Triples  $\frac{6}{4} \frac{12}{4} \frac{9}{4}$  p. 413. add at the End: And if  $\vee$  or  $\otimes$  is annexed to these Figures, it signifies lesser or greater, so 3 $\otimes$  is 3d g. and 6 $\vee$  is 6th l. p. 485. l. 11. after Memory, add, of which we have a notable Example.

Of the *original* and various *Significations* of the Word *Musick*, you'll have an Account in the Beginning of *Chap. 14*. For, an historical Account of the *ancient Musick* being one Part of my Design, I could not begin it better, than with the various Use of the Name among the *Ancients*. It shall be enough therefore to tell you here, that I take it in the common Sense, for that Science which considers and explains those Properties and Relations of Sounds, that make them capable of exciting the agreeable Sensations, which the Experience of all Mankind assures us to be a natural Effect of certain Applications of them to the Ear. And for the same Reason I forbear to speak, in this Place, any Thing particularly of the *Antiquity*, *Excellency*, and various *Uses* and *Ends* of *Musick*, which I shall at large consider in the fore-mentioned *Chapter*, according to the Sentiments and Experience of the *Ancients*, and how far the Experience of our Times agrees with that.

*Corrigenda.*

**P**Age 52. l. 16. read 3 : 2. p. 55. l. 3. *D. r.*  
*C.* p. 76. l. 32. two *r.* one. l. 33. funda-  
 mental *r.* acute Term. p. 77. l. 2. 2. *r.* 1.  
 acute Term *r.* fundamental. p. 125. l. 24. *r.*  
 $\frac{2}{3}$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$ . p. 146. l. 11. *r.* 2 : 3. p. 158. l. 5. 3.  
*r.* 2. p. 227. l. 18. *r.* in harmonical (as one  
 Word) p. 256. l. 1. *r.* *C--c.* l. 5. *D. r.* *d.* p.  
 295. l. 14. *r.* *b.* p. 301. l. 11. *r.* Plate 2 Fig. 2.  
 p. 319.

p. 319. l. 26. Tune or *r.* human. l. 30 *dele* in.  
 p. 341. l. 11. a *r.* or. p. 356. l. 27.  $g^{\#}$ , *el.* *r.*  
*al*,  $d^{\#}$ . p. 435. l. 7. the *r.* in the. p. 452. l. 29.  
*dele* other. p. 458. l. 22. are *r.* is. l. 23. least *r.*  
 best. p. 550. l. 10. Objects *r.* Subjects.

*Pray excuse a few smaller Escapes which the  
 Sense will easily correct.*

### *Addenda.*

**P**AGE 408. l. 8. after Bar, *add*, or of any parti-  
 cular Note. p. 411. l. 1. after Crotchets, *add*,  
 in the Triples  $\frac{6}{4}$   $\frac{12}{4}$   $\frac{9}{4}$ . p. 413. *add at the End*; and  
 if  $\vee$  or  $\times$  is annexed to these Figures, it signifies  
*lesser* or *greater*, so  $3^{\times}$  is *3d g*, and  $6^{\vee}$  is *6th l*. p.  
 415. l. 21. after Example, *add Plate 4. and mind,*  
*that all the Examples of Plates 4, 5, 6. belong*  
*to the 13 Chap.* p. 485. l. 11. after Memory, *add,*  
 we have a very old and remarkable Proof of this  
 Virtue of Musick.

*N. B.* In the Table of Examples Page 258. the different Characters of Letters are neglected; but the Numbers of each Example will discover what they ought to be, in Conformity to Fig. 5. Plate 1. from whence they are taken.

*N. B.* See Page 50. at Line 7. and consequently, &c. A wrong Conclusion has here escaped me, *viz.* that since the Chord passes the Point O, therefore it is accelerated. I own the only Thing that follows from its passing that Point is, that the Chord in every Point *d.* (of a single Vibration) has more Force than would retain it there: And the true Reason of Acceleration, is this, *viz.* in the outmost Point *L.* it has just as much Force as is equal to what would keep it there: This Force is supposed not to be destroyed, but at the next Point *d.* to receive an Addition of as much as would keep it in that Point, and so on through every Point till it pass the straight Line, and that it loses its Force by the same Degrees; from whence follows the Law of Acceleration mentioned.

*N. B.* See Plate 6. Example 35. the 2<sup>d</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Notes of the Bass ought to be each a Degree lower.

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# T R E A T I S E

O F

# M U S I C K .

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## C H A P . I .

Containing an Account of the *Object* and *End* of MUSICK, and the Nature of the Science, in the *Definition* and *Division* of it.

§ I. Of SOUND: *The Cause of it; and the various Affections of it concerned in Musick.*



MUSICK is a Science of Sounds; whose *End* is *Pleasure*. Sound is the *Object* in general; or, to speak with the *Philosophers*, it is the *material Object*. But it is not the *Business* of *Musick*, taken in a strict and proper Sense, to consider every Phenomenon and Property of Sound; that belongs to a more universal Philosophy: Yet, that we may understand what it is in Sounds

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upon

upon which the *Formality of Musick* depends, *i. e.* whereby it is distinguished from other Sciences, of which *Sound* may also be the Object: Or, What it is in Sounds that makes the particular and proper Object of *Musick*, whereby it obtains its End; we must a little consider the Nature of Sound.

SOUND is a Word that stands for every Perception that comes by the *Ear* immediately. And for the Nature of the Thing, it is now generally agreed upon among Philosophers, and also confirmed by Experience, to be the Effect of the mutual Collision, and consequent tremulous Motion in Bodies communicated to the circumambient Fluid of *Air*, and propagated thro' it to the Organs of Hearing.

A Treatise that were designed for explaining the Nature of *Sound* universally, in all its known and remarkable *Phænomena*, should, no doubt, examine very particularly every Thing that belongs to the Cause of it; *First*, The Nature of that Kind of Motion in Bodies (excited by their mutual Percussion) which is communicated to the Air; *then*, how the Air receives and propagates that Motion to certain Distances: And, *lastly*, How that Motion is received by the Ear, explaining the several Parts of that Organ, and their Offices, that are employed in *Hearing*. But as the Nature and Design of what I propose and have *essayed* in this Treatise, does not require so large an Account of Sounds, I must be content only to consider such *Phænomena* as belong properly to *Musick*,

*Musick*, or serve for the better Understanding of it. In order to which I shall a little further enlarge the preceding general Account of the Cause of *Sound*. And,

*First*, That *Motion* is necessary in the Production of *Sound*, is a Conclusion drawn from all our Experience. *Again*, that *Motion* exists, first among the small and insensible Parts of such Bodies as are *Sonorous*, or capable of *Sound*; excited in them by mutual Collision and Percussion one against another, which produces that tremulous Motion so observable in Bodies, especially that have a free and clear Sound, as Bells, and the Strings of musical Instruments; *then*, this Motion is communicated to, or produces a like Motion in the Air, or such Parts of it as are apt to receive and propagate it: For no Motion of Bodies at Distance can affect our Senses, (or move the Parts of our Bodies) without the Mediation of other Bodies, which receive these Motions from the Sonorous Body, and communicate them immediately to the Organs of Sense; and no other than a Fluid can reasonably be supposed. But we know this also by Experience; for a Bell in the exhausted Receiver of an Air-pump can scarcely be heard, which was loud enough before the Air was drawn out. In the *last Place*, This Motion must be communicated to those Parts of the Ear that are the proper and immediate Instruments of Hearing. The Mechanism of this noble Organ has still great Difficulties, which all the Industry of the most capable and curious Enquirers has not surmounted:

There are Questions still unsolved about the Use of some Parts, and perhaps other necessary Parts never yet discovered: But the most important Question among the Learned is about the last and immediate Instrument of Hearing, or that Part which last receives the sonorous Motion, and finishes what is necessary on the Part of the Organ. Consult these with the Philosophers and Anatomists; I shall only tell you the common Opinion, in such general Terms as my Design permits, *thus*: Next to the external visible Cavity or Passage into the Ear, there is a Cavity, of another Form, separate from the former by a thin Membrane, or Skin, which is called the Tympan or Drum of the Ear, from the Resemblance it has to that Instrument: Within the Cavity of this Drum there is always Air, like that external Air which is the Medium of Sound. Now, the external Air makes its Impression first on the Membrane of the Drum, and this communicates the Motion to the internal Air, by which it is again communicated to other Parts, till it reaches at last to the auditory Nerve, and there the Sensation is finished, as far as Matter and Motion are concerned; and then the *Mind*, by the Laws of its Union with the *Body*, has that Idea we call *Sound*. It is a curious Remark, that there are certain Parts fitted for the bending and unbending of the Drum of the Ear, in order, very probably, to the perceiving Sounds that are raised at greater or lesser Distances, or whose Motions have different Degrees of Force, like what we are more sensible

sensible of in the Eye, which by proper Muscles (which are Instruments of Motion) we can move outwards or inwards, and change the very Figure of, that we may better perceive very distant or near Objects. But I have gone far enough in this.

LEST what I have said of the Cause of Sound be too general, particularly with respect to the Motion of the sonorous Body; which I call the original Cause, let us go a little farther with it. That Motion in any Body, which is the immediate Cause of its sounding, may be owing to two different Causes; one is, the mutual Percussion betwixt it and another Body, which is the Case of Drums, Bells, and the Strings of musical Instruments, &c. Another Cause is, the beating or dashing of the sonorous Body and the Air immediately against one another, as in all Kind of Wind-instruments, Flutes, Trumpets, Hautboys, &c. Now in all these Cases, the Motion which is the Consequence of the mutual Percussion betwixt the whole Bodies, and is the immediate Cause of the sonorous Motion which the Air conveys to our Ears, is an invisible tremulous or undulating Motion in the small and insensible Parts of the Body. To explain this;

ALL visible Bodies are supposed to be composed of a Number of small and insensible Parts, which are of the same Nature in every Body, being perfectly hard and incompressible: Of these infinitely little Bodies are composed others that are something greater, but still insensible, and these are different, according to the different Figures

and Union of their component Parts: These are again supposed to constitute other Bodies greater, (which have greater Differences than the last) whose different Combinations do, in the last Place, constitute those gross Bodies that are visible and touchable. The first and smallest Parts are absolutely hard; the others are compressible, and are united in such a Manner, that being, by a sufficient external Impulse, compressed, they restore themselves to their natural, or ordinary, State: This Compression therefore happening upon the Shock or Impulse made by one Body upon another, these small Parts or Particles, by their restitutive Power (which we also call elastick Faculty) move to and again with a very great Velocity or Swiftnes, in a tremulous and undulating Manner, something like the visible Motions of grosser Springs, as the Chord of a musical Instrument; and this is what we may call the *Sonorous Motion* which is propagated to the Ear. But observe that it is the insensible Motion of these Particles next to the smallest, which is supposed to be the immediate Cause of Sound; and of these, only those next the Surface can communicate with the Air; their Motion is performed in very small Spaces, and with extreme Velocity; the Motion of the Whole, or of the greater Parts being no further concerned than as they contribute to the other.

And this is the Hypothesis upon which Monsieur *Perrault* of the Royal Society in *France*, explains the Nature and *Phænomena* of Sound, in his curious Treatise upon that Subject, *Essais de Physique*;

*Tom. II. Du Bruit.* How this Theory is supported I shall briefly shew, while I consider a few Applications of it.

OF those hard Bodies that sound by Percussion of others, let us consider a Bell: Strike it with any other hard body, and while it sounds we can discern a sensible Tremor in the Surface, which spreads more sensibly over the Whole, as the Shock is greater. This Motion is not only in the Parts next the Surface, but in all the Parts thro' the whole Solidity, because we can perceive it also in the inner Surface of the Bell, which must be by Communication with those Parts that are immediately touched by the striking Body. And this is proven by the ceasing of the Sound when the Bell is touched in any other Part; for this shews the easy and actual Communication of the Motion. Now this is plainly a Motion of the several small and insensible Parts changing their Situations with respect to one another, which being so many, and so closely united, we cannot perceive their Motions separately and distinctly, but only that Trembling which we reckon to be the Effect of the Confusion of an infinite Number of little Particles so closely joyned and moving in infinitely small Spaces. Thus far any Body will easily go with the Hypothesis: But Monsieur *Perrault* carries it farther, and affirms, That that visible Motion of the Parts is no otherwise the Cause of the Sound, than as it causes the invisible Motion of the yet smaller Parts, (which he calls *Particles*,

calls *Parts*, the least of all being with him *Corpuscles*.) And this he endeavours to prove by other Examples, as of Chords and Wind-instruments. Let us consider them.

TAKE a Chord or String of a Musical Instrument, stretched to a sufficient Degree for Sounding; when it is fixt at both Ends, we make it sound by drawing the Chord from its straight Position, and then letting it go; (which has the same Effect as what we properly call Percussion) the Parts by this drawing, whereby the Whole is lengthned, being put out of their natural State, or that which they had in the straight Line, do by their Elasticity restore themselves, which causes that vibratory Motion of the Whole, whereby it moves to and again beyond the straight Line, in Vibrations gradually smaller, till the Motion cease, and the Chord recover its former Position. Now the shorter the Chord is, and the more it is stretched in the straight Line, the quicker these Vibrations are: But however quick they are, Monsieur *Perrault* denies them to be the immediate Cause of the Sound; because, says he, in a very long Chord, and not very small, stretched only so far as that it may give a distinct Sound, we can perceive with our Eye, besides the Vibrations of the whole Chord, a more confused Tremor of the Parts, which is more discernible towards the Middle of the Chord, where the Parts vibrate in greater Spaces in the Motion of the Whole; this last Motion of the *Parts* which is caused by the first Vibrations of the Whole, does again occasion a  
Motion

Motion in the lesser Parts or *Particles*, which is the immediate Cause of the Sound. And this he endeavours to confirm by this Experiment, *viz.* Take a long Chord (he says he made it with one of 30 Foot) and make it sound; then wait till the Sound quite cease, and then also the visible Undulations of the whole Chord will cease: If immediately upon this ceasing of the Sound, you approach the Chord very softly with the Nail of your Finger, you'll perceive a tremulous Motion in it; which is the remaining small Vibrations of the whole Chord, and of the *Parts* caused by the Vibrations of the Whole. Now these Vibrations of the *Parts* are not the immediate Cause of Sound; else how comes it that while they are yet in Motion they raise no Sound? The Answer perhaps is this, That the Motion is become too weak to make the Sound to be heard at any great Distance, which might be heard were the Tympan of the Ear as near as the Nail of the Finger, by which we perceive the Motion. But to carry off this, Mr. *Perrault* says, That as soon as this small Motion is perceived, we shall hear it sound; which is not occasioned by renewing or augmenting the greater Vibrations, because the Finger is not supposed to strike against the Chord, but this against the Finger, which ought rather to stop that Motion; the Cause of this renewed Sound therefore is probably, That this weak Motion of the *Parts*, which is not sufficient to move the *Particles* (whose Motion is the First that ceases) receives some Assistance from the dashing

dashing against the Nail, whereby they are enabled to give the *Particles* that Motion which is necessary for producing the Sound. But lest it should still be thought, that this Encounter with the Nail may as well be supposed to increase the Motion of the Parts to a Degree fit for sounding, as to make them capable of moving the *Particles*; we may consider, That the *Particles* being at Rest in the *Parts*, and having each a common Motion with the whole *Part*, may very easily be supposed to receive a proper and particular Motion by that Shock; in the same Manner that Bodies which are relatively at Rest in a Ship, will be shaken and moved by the Shock of the Ship against any Body that can any thing considerably oppose its Motion. Now for as simple as this Experiment appears to be, I am afraid it cannot be so easily made as to give perfect Satisfaction, because we can hardly touch a String with our Nail but it will sound.

But Mr. *Perrault* finishes the Proof of his Hypothesis by the Phenomena of Wind-instruments. Take, for example, a *Flute*; we make it sound by blowing into a long, broad, and thin Canal, which conveys the Air thrown out of the Lungs, till 'tis dashed against that thin solid Part which we call the Tongue, or Wind-cutter, that is opposite to the lower Orifice of the foresaid Canal; by which Means the *Particles* of that Tongue are compressed, and by their restitutive Motion they communicate to the Air a Sonorous Motion, which being immediately thrown against the inner concave Surface of the Flute, and

and moving its *Particles*, the Motion communicated to the Air, by all these *Particles* both of the Tongue and inner Surface, makes up the whole Sound of the Flute.

Now to prove that only the very small *Particles* of the inner Surface and Edge of the Tongue are concerned in the Sound of the Flute, we must consider, That Flutes of different Matter, as Metal, Wood, or Bone, being of the same Length and Bore, have none, or very little sensible Difference in their Sound; nor is this sensibly altered by the different Thickness of the Flute betwixt the outer and inner Surface; nor in the last place, is the Sound any way changed by touching the Flute, even tho' it be hard pressed, as it always happens in Bells and other hard Bodies that sound by mutual Percussion. All this Mr. *Perrault* accounts for by his Hypothesis, thus: He tells us, That as the *Corpuscles* are the same in all Bodies, the *Particles* which they immediately constitute, have very small Differences in their Nature and Form; and that the specific Differences of visible Bodies, depend on the Differences of the *Parts* made up of these *Particles*, and the various Connections of these *Parts*, which make them capable of different Modifications of Motion. Now, hard Bodies that sound by mutual Percussion one against another, owe their sounding to the Vibrations of all their *Parts*, and by these to the insensible Motions of their *Particles*; but according to the Differences of the *Parts* and their Connections, which make

make them, either Silver, or Brass, or Wood, &c. so are the Differences of their Sounds. But in Wind-instruments (for example, Flutes) as there are no such remarkable Differences answering to their Matter, their Sound can only be owing to the insensible Motion of the Particles of the Surface; for these being very little different in all Bodies, if we suppose the Sound is owing to their Motions only, it can have none, or very small Differences: And because we find this true in Fact, it makes the Hypothesis extremely probable. I have never indeed seen Flutes of any Matter but Wood, except of the small Kind we call Flageolets, of which I have seen Ivory ones, whose Sound has no remarkable Difference from a wooden one; and therefore I must leave so much of this Proof upon Monsieur *Perrault's* Credit. As to the other Part, which is no less considerable, That no Compression of the Flute can sensibly change its Sound, 'tis certain, and every Body can easily try it. To which we may add, That Flutes of different Matter are sounded with equal Ease, which could not well be if their *Parts* were to be moved; for in different Bodies these are differently moveable. But I must make an End of this Part, in which I think it is made plain enough, That the Motion of a Body which causes a sounding Motion in the Air, is not any Motion which we can possibly give to the whole Body, wherein all the Parts are moved in one common Direction and Velocity; but it is the Motion of the several small and undistinguishable

Parts,

Parts, which being compressed by an external Force, do, by their elastick Power, restore themselves, each by a Motion particular and proper to it self. But whether you'll distinguish *Parts* and *Particles* as Mr. *Perrault* does, I leave to your selves, my Design not requiring any accurate Determination of this Matter. And now to come nearer to our Subject, I shall next consider the Differences and Affections of Sounds that are any way concerned in *Musick*.

*SOUNDS* are as various, or have as many Differences, as the infinite Variety of Things that concur in their Production; which may be reduced to these general Heads: *1st*, The Quantity, Constitution, and Figure of the sonorous Body; with the Manner of Percussion, and the consequent Velocity of the Vibrations of the Parts of the Body and the Air; also their Equality and Uniformity, or Inequality and Irregularness. *2dly*, The Constitution and State of the fluid Medium through which the Motion is propagated. *3dly*, The Disposition of the Ear that receives that Motion. And, *4thly*, The Distance of the Ear from the sonorous Body. To which we may add, *lastly*, the Consideration of the Obstacles that interpose betwixt the sonorous Body and the Ear; with other adjacent Bodies that, receiving an Impression from the Fluid so moved, react upon it, and give new Modification to the Motion, and consequently to the Sound. Upon all these do our different Perceptions of Sound depend.

THE Variety and Differences of Sounds, owing to the various Degrees and Combinations of the Conditions mentioned, are innumerable; but to our present Design we are to consider the following Distinctions.

I. *SOUNDS*, come under a specifick Distinction, according to the Kinds of Bodies from which they proceed: Thus, Metal is easily distinguished from other Bodies by the Sound; and among Metals there is great difference of Sounds, as is discernible, for Example, Betwixt Gold, Silver, and Brass. And for the Purpose in hand, a most notable Difference is that of stringed and Wind-instruments of Musick, of which there are also Subdivisions: These Differences depend, as has been said, upon the different Constitutions of these Bodies; but they are not strictly within the Consideration of *Musick*, not the *Mathematical* Part of it at least, tho' they may be brought into the *Practical*; of which afterwards.

II. EXPERIENCE teaches us, That some Sounds can be heard, by the same Ear, at greater Distances than others; and when we are at the same Distance from two Sounds, I mean from the sonorous Body or the Place where the Sound first rises, we can determine (for we learn it by Experience and Observation) which of the Two will be heard farthest: By this Comparison we have the Idea of a Difference whose opposite Terms are called *LOUD* and *LOW*, (or *strong* and *weak*.) This Difference depends both upon the Nature of different Bodies, and upon

upon other accidental Circumstances, such as their *Figure*; or the different Force in the Percussion; and frequently upon the Nature of the circumjacent Bodies, that contribute to the strengthening of the Sound, that is a Conjunction of several Sounds so united as to appear only as one Sound: But as the Union of several Sounds gives Occasion to another Distinction, it shall be considered again, and we have only to observe here that it is always the Cause of *Loudness*; yet this Difference belongs not strictly to the Theory of Musick, tho' it is brought into the Practice, as that in the First Article.

III. THERE is an Affection or Property of Sound, whereby it is distinguished into ACUTE, *sharp* or *high*; and GRAVE, *flat* or *low*. The Idea of this Difference you'll get by comparing several Sounds or Notes of a musical Instrument, or of a human Voice singing. Observe the Term, *Low*, is sometimes opposed to *Loud*, and sometimes to *acute*, which yet are very different Things: *Loudness* is very well measured by the Distance or Sphere of Audibility, which makes the Notion of it very clear. *Acuteness* is so far different, that a Voice or Sound may ascend or rise in Degree of *Acuteness*, and yet lose nothing of its *Loudness*, which can easily be demonstrated upon any Instrument, or even in the Voice; and particularly if we compare the Voice of a Boy and a Man.

THIS Relation of *Acuteness* and *Gravity* is one of the principal Things concerned in Musick, the Nature of which shall be particularly con-

considered afterwards ; and I shall here observe that it depends altogether upon the Nature of the sonorous Body it self, and the particular Figure and Quantity of it ; and in some Cases upon the Part of the Body where it is struck. So that, for Example, the Sounds of two Bells of different Metals, and the same Shape and Dimensions, being struck in the same Place, will differ as to *Acuteness* and *Gravity* ; and two Bells of the same Metal will differ in *Acuteness*, if they differ in Shape or in Magnitude, or be struck in different Parts: So in Chords, all other Things being equal, if they differ either in Matter, or Dimensions, or the Degree of Tension, as being stretched by different Weights, they will also differ in *Acuteness*.

BUT we must carefully remark, That *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, also *Loudness* and *Lowness* are but relative Things ; so that we cannot call any Sound *acute* or *loud*, but with respect to another which is *grave* or *low* in reference to the former ; and therefore the same Sound may be *acute* or *grave*, also *loud* or *low* in different Respects. Again, These Relations are to be found not only between the Sounds of different Bodies, but also between different Sounds of the same Body ; for different Force in the Percussion will cause a *louder* or *lower* Sound, and striking the Body in different Parts will make an *acuter* or *graver* Sound, as we have remarkably demonstrated in a Bell, which as the Stroke is greater gives a greater or *louder* Sound, and being struck nearer the open End, gives

gives the *graver* Sound. How these Degrees are measured, we shall learn again, only *mind* that these Degrees of *Acuteness* and *Gravity* are also called different and distinguishable *Tones* or *Tunes* of a Voice or Sound; so we say one Sound is in *Tune* with another when they are in the same Degree: *Acute* and *Grave* being but Relations, we apply the Name of *Tune* to them both, to express something that's constant and absolute which is the Ground of the Relation; in like manner as we apply the Name *Magnitude* both to the Things we call *Great* and *Little*, which are but relative Idea's: Each of them have a certain Magnitude, but only one of them is great and the other little when they are compared; so of Two Sounds each has a certain *Tune*, but only one is *acute* and the other *grave* in Comparison.

IV. THERE is a Distinction of *Sounds*, whereby they are denominated *long* or *short*; which relates to the *Duration*, or continued, and sensibly uninterrupted Existence of the *Sound*. This is a Thing of very great Importance in *Musick*; but to know how far, and in what respect it belongs to it, we must distinguish betwixt the *natural* and *artificial Duration* of Sound. I call that the *natural Duration* or *Continuity* of *Sound*, which is less or more in different Bodies, owing to their different Constitutions, whereby one retains the Motion once received longer than another does; and consequently the Sound continues longer (tho' gradually weaker) after the external Impulse ceases; so Bells of different Metals, all other Things being equal and

alike, have different Continuity of Sound after the Stroke: And the same is very remarkable in Strings of different Matter: There is too a Difference in the same Bell or String, according to the Force of the Percussion. This Continuity is sometimes owing to the sudden Reflection of the Sound from the Surface of neighbouring Bodies; which is not so properly the same Sound continued, as a new Sound succeeding the First so quickly as to appear to be only its Continuation: But this Duration of Sound does not properly belong to Musick, wherefore let us consider the other. The *artificial* Continuity of Sound is, that which depends upon the continued Impulse of the efficient Cause upon the sonorous Body for a longer or shorter Time. Such are the Notes of a Voice, or any Wind-instrument, which are longer or shorter as we continue to blow into them; or, the Notes of a Violin and all string'd Instruments that are struck with a Bow, whose Notes are made longer or shorter by Strokes of different lengths or Quickness of Motion; for a long Stroke, if it is quickly drawn, may make a shorter Note than a short Stroke drawn slowly. Now this kind of Continuity is properly the Succession of several Sounds, or the Effect of several distinct Strokes, or repeated Impulses, upon the sonorous Body, so quick that we judge it to be one continued Sound, especially if it is continued in one Degree of Strength and Loudness; but it must also be continued in one Degree of *Tune*, else it cannot be called one Note in Musick. And this leads me naturally

ly to consider the very old and notable Distinction of a twofold Motion of Sound, thus.

SOUND may move thro' various Degrees of *Acuteness* in a continual Flux, so as not to rest on any Degree for any assignable, or at least sensible Time; which the Ancients called the *continuous Motion* of Sound, proper only to Speaking and Conversation. Or, 2do. it may pass from Degree to Degree, and make a sensible Stand at every Pitch, so as every Degree shall be distinct; this they called the *discrete* or *discontinued Motion* of Sound, proper only to Musick or Singing. But that there may be no Obscurity here, consider, That as the Idea's of *Motion* and *Distance* are inseparably connected, so they belong in a proper Sense to *Bodies* and *Space*; and whatever other Thing they are applied to, it is in a figurative and metaphorical Sense, as here to Sounds; yet the Application is very intelligible, as I shall explain it. *Voice* or *Sound* is considered as one individual Being, all other Differences being neglected except that of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, which is not considered as constituting different Sounds, but different States of the same Sound; which is easy to conceive: And so the several *Degrees* or *Pitches* of *Tune*, are considered as several Places in which a Voice may exist. And when we hear a Sound successively existing in different Degrees of *Tune*, we conceive the Voice to have moved from the one Place to the other; and then 'tis easy to conceive a Kind of Distance between the

two Degrees or Places ; for as Bodies are said to be distant, between which other Bodies may be placed, so two Sounds are said to be at Distance, with respect to *Tune*, between which other Degrees may be conceived, that shall be *acute* with respect to the one, and *grave* with respect to the other. But when the Voice continues in one Pitch, tho' there may be many Interruptions and sensible Rests whereby the Sound doth end and begin again, yet there is no Motion in that Case, the Voice being all the Time in one Place. Now this Motion, in a simple and proper Sense, is nothing else but the successive Existence of several Sounds differing in *Tune*. When the successive Degrees are so near, that like the Colours of a Rainbow, they are as it were lost in one another, so that in any sensible Distance there is an indefinite Number of Degrees, such kind of Succession is of no use in *Musick* ; but when it is such that the Ear is Judge of every single Difference, and can compare several Differences, and apply some known Measure to them, there the Object of *Musick* does exist ; or when there is a Succession of several Sounds distinct by sensible Rests, tho' all in the same *Tune*, such a Succession belongs also to *Musick*.

FROM this twofold Motion explain'd, we see a twofold *Continuity* of Sound, both subject to certain and determinate Measures of *Duration* ; the one is that arising from the continuous Motion mentioned, which has nothing to do in *Musick* ; the other is the Continuity or uninterrupted Existence of Sound in  
one

one Degree of *Tune*. The Differences of Sounds in this respect, or the various Measures of *long* and *short*, or, (which is the same, at least a Consequence) *swift* and *slow*, in the successive Degrees of Sound, while it moves in the second Manner, make a principal and necessary Ingredient in *Musick*; whose Effect is not inferior to any other Thing concerned in the Practice; and is what deserves to be very particularly considered, tho' indeed it is not brought under so regular and determinate Rules as the Differences of *Tune*.

V. SOUNDS are either *simple* or *compound*; but there is a twofold Simplicity and Composition to be considered here; the First is the same with what we explain'd in the last Article, and relates to the Number of successive Vibrations of the Parts of the sonorous Body, and of the Air, which come so fast upon the Ear that we judge them all to be one continued Sound, tho' it is really a Composition of several Sounds of shorter Duration. And our judging it to be *one*, is very well compared to the Judgment we make of that apparent Circle of Fire, caused by putting the fired End of a Stick into a very quick circular Motion; for suppose the End of the Stick in any Point of that Circle which it actually describes, the Idea we receive of it there continues till the Impression is renewed by the sudden Return; and this being true of every Point, we must have the Idea of a Circle of Fire; the only Difference is, that the End of the Stick has actually existed in every Point of the Circle,

whereas the Sound has had Interruptions, tho' insensible to us because of their quick Succession; but the Things we compare are, the Succession of the Sounds making a sensible Continuity with respect to Time, and the Succession of the End of the Stick in every Point of the Circle after a whole Revolution; for 'tis by this we judge it to be a Circle, making a Continuity with respect to Space. The Author of the *Elucidationes Physicæ* upon *D' Cartes* Musick, illustrates it in this Manner, says he, As standing Corns are bended by one Blast of Wind, and before they can recover themselves the Wind has repeated the Blast, so that the Corn's standing in the same inclined Position for a certain Time, seems to be the Effect of one single Action of the Wind, which is truly owing to several distinct Operations; in like Manner the small Branches (*capillamenta*) of the auditory Nerve, resembling so many Stalks of Corn, being moved by one Vibration of the Air, and this repeated before the Nerve can recover its Situation, gives Occasion to the Mind to judge the whole Effect to be one Sound. The Nature of this kind of *Composition* being so far explain'd, we are next to consider what *Simplicity* in this Sense is; and I think it must be the Effect of one single Vibration, or as many Vibrations as are necessary to raise in us the Idea of Sound; but perhaps it may be a Question, Whether we ever have, or if we can raise such an Idea of Sound: There may be also another Question, Whether any Idea of Sound can exist in the Mind for an indivisible Space

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of Time ; the Reason of this Question is, That if every Sound exists for a finite Time, it can be divided into Parts of a shorter Duration, and then there is no such Thing as an absolute Simplicity of this Kind, unless we take the Notion of it from the Action of the external Cause of Sound, *viz.* the Number of Vibrations necessary to make Sound actually exist, without considering how long it exists ; but as it is not probable that we can ever actually produce this, *i. e.* put a Body in a sounding Motion, and stop it precisely when there are as many Vibrations finished as are absolutely necessary to make Sound, we must reckon the Simplicity of Sound, considered in this Manner, and with respect to Practice, a relative Thing; that being only simple to us which is the most simple, either with respect to the Duration or the Cause, that we ever hear; But whether we consider it in the repeated Action of the Cause or the consequent Duration, which is the Subject of the last Article, there is still another Simplicity and Composition of Sounds very different from that, and of great Importance in Musick, which I shall next explain.

A *simple Sound* is the Product of one Voice or individual Body, as the Sound of one Flute or one Man's Voice. A *compound Sound* consists of the Sounds of several distinct Voices or Bodies all united in the same individual Time and Measure of Duration, *i. e.* all striking the Ear together, whatever their other Differences may be. But we must here distinguish a *natural*

and *artificial Composition*; to understand this, remember, That the Air being put into Motion by any Body, communicates that Motion to other Bodies; the *natural Composition* of Sounds is therefore, that which proceeds from the manifold Reflexions of the First Sound, or that of the Body which first communicates founding Motion to the Air, as the Flute or Violin in one's Hand; these Reflexions, being many, according to the Circumstances of the Place, or the Number, Nature, and Situations of the circumjacent Bodies, make Sounds more or less *compound*. This is a Thing we know by common Experience; we can have a hundred Proofs of it every Day by singing, or founding any musical Instrument in different Places, either in the Fields or within Doors; but these Reflexions must be such as returning very suddenly don't produce what we call an *Eccho*, and have only this Effect, to increase the Sound, and make an agreeable Resonance; but still in the same Tune with the original Note; or, if it be a Composition of different Degrees of Tune, they are such as mix and unite, so that the Whole agrees with that Note. But this Composition is not under Rules of Art; for tho' we learn by Experience how to dispose these Circumstances that they may produce the desired Effect, yet we neither know the Number or different Tunes of the Sounds that enter into this Composition; and therefore they come not under the Musician's Direction in what is hereafter called the *Composition of Musick*; his Care being only about

bout the *artificial Composition*, or that Mixture of several Sounds, which being made by Art, are separable and distinguishable one from another. So the distinct Sounds of several Voices or Instruments, or several Notes of the same Instrument, are called *simple Sounds*, in Distinction from the *artificial Composition*, in which to answer the End of Musick, the *Simples* must have such an Agreement in all Relations, but principally and above all in *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, that the Ear may receive the Mixture with Pleasure.

VI. THERE remains another Distinction of Sounds necessary to be considered, whereby they are said to be *smooth* and *evenly*, or *rough* and *harsh*; also *clear* or *blunt*, *hoarse* and *obtuse*; the Idea's of these Differences must be sought from Observations; as to the Cause of them, they depend upon the Disposition and State of the sonorous Body, or the Circumstances of the Place. *Smooth* and *rough* Sounds depend upon the Body principally; We have a notable Example of a *rough* and *harsh* Sound in Strings that are unevenly and not of the same Constitution and Dimension throughout; and for this Reason that their Sounds are very grating, they are called false Strings. I will let you in few Words hear how Monsieur *Perrault* accounts for this. He affirms that there is no such Thing as a simple Sound, and that the Sound of the same Bell or Chord is a Compound of the Sounds of the several Parts of it; so that where the Parts are homogeneous, and the Dimensions or Figure uniform, there is always such a perfect Union  
and

and Mixture of all these Sounds that makes one uniform, smooth and evenly Sound ; and the contrary produces Harshness ; for the Likeness of Parts and Figure makes an Uniformity of Vibrations, whereby a great Number of similar and coincident Motions conspire to fortify and improve each other mutually, and unite for the more effectual Production of the same Effect. He proves his Hypothesis by the Phenomena of a Bell, which differs in *Tone* according to the Part you strike, and yet strike it any where there is a Motion over all the Parts ; he considers therefore the Bell as composed of an infinite Number of Rings, which according to their different Dimensions have different *Tones* ; as Chords of different Lengths have (*ceteris paribus*) and when it is struck, the Vibrations of the Parts immediately struck specify the *Tone*, being supported by a sufficient Number of consonant *Tones* in other Parts : And to confirm this, he relates a very remarkable Thing ; He says, He happen'd in a Place where a Bell sounded a *Fifth* acuter than the *Tone* it used to give in other Places ; which in all Probability, says he, was owing to the accidental Disposition of the Place, that was furnished with such an Adjustment for reflecting that particular *Tone* with Force, and so unfit for reflecting others, that it absolutely prevailed and determined the Concord and total Sound to the *Tone* of that *Fifth*. If we consider the Sound of a Violin, and all string'd Instruments, we have a plain Demonstration that every Note is the Effect of

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several more simple Sounds ; for there is not only the Sound resulting from the Motion of the String, but also that of the Motion of the Parts of the Instrument ; that this has a very considerable Effect in the total Sound is certain, because we are very sensible of the tremulous Motion of the Parts of the Violin, and especially because the same String upon different Violins sounds very differently, which can be for no other Reason but the different Constitution of the Parts of these Instruments, which being moved by Communication with the String increase the Sound, and make it more or less agreeable, according to their different Natures : But *Perrault* affirms the same of every String in it self without considering the Instrument ; he says, Every Part of the String has its particular Vibrations different from the gross and sensible Vibrations of the Whole, and these are the Causes of different Motions ( and Sounds ) in the *Particles*; which being mix'd and unite, as was said of the Sounds that compose the total Sound of a Bell, make an uniform and evenly Composition, wherein not only one Tone prevails, but the Mixture is smooth and agreeable; but when the Parts are unevenly and irregularly constitute, the Sound is harsh and the String from that called false. And therefore such a String, or other Body having the like Fault, has no certain and distinct *Tone*, being a Composition of several *Tones* that don't unite and mix so as to have one Predominant that specifies the *total Tone*.

AGAIN for *clear* or *hoarse* Sounds, they depend upon Circumstances that are accidental to the sonorous Body; so a Man's Voice, or the Sound of an Instrument will be hollow and hoarse, if it is raised within an empty Hoghead, which is clear and bright out of it; the Reason is very plainly the Mixture of other and different Sounds raised by Reflexion, that corrupt and change the Species of the primitive and direct Sound.

Now that Sounds may be fit for obtaining the End of *Musick* they ought to be *smooth* and *clear*; especially the First, because if they have not one certain and discernible *Tone*, capable of being compared to others, and standing to them in a certain Relation of *Acuteness*, whose Differences the Ear may be able to judge of and measure, they cannot possibly answer the End of *Musick*, and therefore, are no Part of the Object of it.

BUT there are also Sounds which have a certain *Tone*, yet being excessive either in Acuteness or Gravity, bear not that just Proportion to the Capacity of the Organs of Hearing, as to afford agreeable Sensations. Upon the Whole then we shall call that *harmonick* or *musical Sound*, which being *clear* and *evenly* is agreeable to the *Ear*, and gives a certain and discernible *Tune* (hence also called *tunable Sound*) which is the Subject of the whole Theory of Harmony.

THUS we have considered the Properties and Affections of Sound that are any way necessary

cessary to the Subject in hand ; and of all the Things mentioned, the Relation of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, or the *Tune* of Sounds, is the principal Ingredient in *Musick*; the Distinctness and Determinateness of which Relation gives found the Denomination of *harmonical* or *musical*: Next to which are the various Measures of *Duration*. There is nothing in Sounds without these that can make *Musick*; a just *Theory* whereof abstracts from all other Things, to consider the Relations of Sounds in the Measures of *Tune* and *Duration* ; tho' indeed in the *Practice* other Differences are considered ( of which something more may be said afterwards ) but they are so little, compared to the other Two, and under so very general and uncertain *Theory*, that I don't find they have ever been brought into the Definition of *Musick*.

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§ 2. *Containing the Definition and Division of Musick.*

**W**E may from what is already said affirm, That *Musick* has for its Object, in general, *Sound*; and particularly, *Sounds* considered in their Relations of *Tune* and *Duration*, as under that *Formality* they are capable of affording agreeable Sensations. I shall therefore define *MUSICK*, *A SCIENCE that teaches how SOUNDS, under certain Measures of TUNE and*

and TIME, may be produced; and so ordered or disposed, as in CONSONANCE (i. e. joynt sounding) or SUCCESSION, or both, they may raise agreeable Sensations.

PLEASURE, I have said, is the immediate End of *Musick*; I suppose it therefore as a *Principle*, That the Objects proposed are capable, being duly applied, to affect the Mind agreeably; nor is it a precarious Principle; Experience proves, and we know by the infallible Testimony of our Senses, that some *simple* Sounds succeed others upon the Ear with a positive Pleasure, others disagreeably; according to certain Relations of Tune and Time; and some *compound* Sounds are agreeable, others offensive to the Ear; and that there are Degrees and Variety in this Pleasure, according to the various Measures of these Relations. For what Pretences are made of the Application of *Musick* to some other Purposes than mere Pleasure or Recreation, as these are obtain'd chiefly by Means of that Pleasure, they cannot be called the immediate End of it.

FROM the *Definition* given, we have the Science divided into these two general Parts. *First*, The *Knowledge* of the MATERIA MUSICA, or, how to produce Sounds, in such relations of *Tune* and *Time* as shall be agreeable in *Consonance* or *Succession*, or both. I don't mean the actual producing of these Sounds by an Instrument or Voice, which is merely the *mechanical* or *effective* Part; But the Knowledge of the various Relations of *Tune* and *Time*, which

which are the essential Principles out of which the Pleasure sought arises, and upon which it depends. This is the pure *speculative* Part of *Musick*. *Second*, How these Principles are to be applied; or, how Sounds, in the Relations that belong to *Musick* (as these are determined in the First Part) may be ordered, and variously put together in *Succession* and *Consonance* so as to answer the End; which Part we rightly call **THE ART OF COMPOSITION**; and it is properly the *practical* Part of *Musick*.

SOME have added a Third Part, *viz.* The *Knowledge* of **INSTRUMENTS**; but as this depends altogether upon the First, and is only an Application or Expression of it, it could never be brought regularly into the Definition; and so can be no Part of the Division of the Science; yet may it deserve to be treated of, as a Consequent or Dependent of it, and necessary to be understood for the *effective* Part. As this has no Share in my Design, I shall detain you but while I say, in a few Words, what I think such a Treatise should contain. And *imo*, There should be a *Theory* of *Instruments*, giving an Account of their Frame and Construction, particularly, how, supposing them completely provided of all their *Apparatus*, each contains in it the *Principles* of *Musick* *i. e.* how the several Degrees of *Tune* pertaining to *Musick* are to be found upon the *Instruments*. The *Second Part* should contain the Practice of Instruments, in such Directions as might be helpful for the dextrous and nice handling of them, or the elegant Performance

of *Musick*: And here might be annex'd Rules for the right Use of the *Voice*. But after all, I believe these Things will be more successfully done by a living Instructor, I mean a skilful and experienced Master, with the Use of his Voice or Instrument; tho' I doubt not such might help us too by Rules; but I have done with this.

You must next *observe* with me, That as the *Art* of common *Writing* is altogether distinct from the Sciences to which it is subservient by preserving what would otherwise be lost, and communicating Thoughts at Distance; so there is an *Art* of *Writing* proper to *Musick*, which teaches how, by a fit and convenient Way of representing all the Degrees and Measures of Sound, sufficient for directing in the *executive Part* one who understands how to use his Voice or Instrument: The *Artist* when he has invented a Composition answering the Principles and End of *Musick*, may preserve it for his own Use, or communicate it to another present or absent. To this I have very justly given a Place in the following Work, as it is a Thing of a general Concern to *Musick*, tho' no Part of the Science, and merely a Handmaid to the Practice; and particularly as the Knowledge of it is necessary for carrying on my Design. I now return to the Division above made, which I shall follow in explaining this Science.

THE First general Branch of this Subject, which is the *contemplative Part*, divides naturally into these. *First*, the Knowledge of the Relations and Measures of *Tune*. *And Secondly*, of  
*Time*,

*Time.* The First is properly what the Ancients called HARMONICA, or the Doctrine of *Harmony* in Sounds; because it contains an Explication of the Grounds, with the various Measures and Degrees of the Agreement (*Harmony*) of Sounds in respect of their *Tune*. The other they called *Rythmica*, because it treats of the Numbers of Sounds or Notes with respect to *Time*, containing an Explication of the Measures of *long* and *short*, or *swift* and *slow* in the Succession of Sounds.

The Second general Branch, which is the PRACTICAL Part, as naturally divides into Two Parts answering to the Parts of the First: That which answers to the *Harmonica*, the Ancients called *Melopæia*; because it contains the Rules of making Songs with respect to *Tune* and *Harmony* of Sounds; tho' indeed we have no Ground to believe that the Ancients had any Thing like Composition in Parts. That which answers to the *Rythmica*, they called *Rythmopæia*, containing the Rules concerning the Application of the *Numbers* and *Time*. I shall proceed according to this natural Division, and so the *Theory* is to be first handled;

## C H A P. II.

*Of Tune, or the Relation of Acuteness and Gravity in Sounds; particularly, of the Cause and Measure of the Differences of Tune.*

§ 1. *Containing some necessary Definitions and Explications, and the particular Method of treating this Branch of the Science concerning Tune or Harmony.*

**F**IRST, The Subject to be here explained is, That Property of Sounds which I have called their *Tune*; whereby they come under the Relation of *acute* and *grave* to one another: For as I have already observed, there is no such Thing as *Acuteness* and *Gravity* in an absolute Sense, these being only the Names given to the Terms of the Relation; but when we consider the Ground of the Relation which is the *Tune* of the Sound, we may justly affirm this to be some thing absolute; every Sound having its own proper and peculiar *Tune*, which must be under some determinate Measure in the Nature of the Thing, (but the Denominations of *acute* and *grave* respect always another Sound.) Therefore as to *Tune*, we must remark that the only Difference can possibly be betwixt one *Tune* and another,

is in their Degrees, which are naturally infinite; *that is*, we conceive there is something positive in the Cause of Sound which is capable of less and more, and contains in it the Measure of the Degrees of *Tune*; and because we don't suppose a least or greatest Quantity of this, therefore we say the Degrees depending on these Measures are infinite: But commonly when we speak of these Degrees, we call them several Degrees of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, without supposing these Terms to express any fixt and determinate Thing; but it implies some supposed Degree of *Tune*, as a Term to which we tacitely compare several other Degrees; thus we suppose any one given or determinate Measure of *Tune*, then we suppose a Sound to move on either Side, and acquire on the one greater Measures of *Tune*, and on the other lesser, *i. e.* on the one Side to become gradually more *acute*, and on the other more *grave* than the given *Tune*, and this *in infinitum*: Why I ascribe the greater Measure to *Acuteness* will appear, when we see upon what that Measure depends. Now tho' these Degrees are infinite, yet with respect to us they are limited, and we take some middle Degree, within the ordinary Compass of the human Voice, which we make the Term of Comparison when we say of a Sound that it is very *acute* or very *grave*, or, as we commonly speak, very *high* or very *low*.

II. IF Two or more Sounds are compared in the Relation we now treat of, they are ei-

ther *equal* or *unequal* in the Degree of *Tune*: Such as are *equal* are called *Unisons* with regard to each other, as having one *Tune*; the *unequal*, being at Distance one from another (as I have already explain'd that Word) constitute what we call an *Interval* in *Musick*, which is properly the Difference of *Tune* betwixt Two Sounds. Upon this Equality or Difference does the whole Effect depend; and in respect of this we have these Relations again divided into,

III. *Concord* and *Discord*. *Concord* is the Denomination of all these Relations that are always and of themselves agreeable, whether applied in *Succession* or *Consonance* (by which Word I always mean a mere sounding together;) *that is*, If two simple Sounds are in such a Relation, or have such a Difference of *Tune*, that being sounded together they make a Mixture or *compound* Sound which the Ear receives with Pleasure, that is called *Concord*; and whatever Two Sounds make an agreeable Compound, they will always follow other agreeably. *Discord* is the Denomination of all the Relations or Differences of *Tune* that have a contrary Effect.

IV. *Concords* are the essential Principles of *Musick*; but their particular Distinctions, Degrees and Names, we must expect in another Place. *Discords* have a more general and very remarkable Distinction, which is proper to be explained here; they are either *concinuous* or *inconcinuous Intervals*; the *concinuous* are such as are apt or fit for *Musick*, next to and

in Combination with *Concords*; and are neither very agreeable nor very disagreeable in themselves; they are such Relations as have a good Effect in *Musick* only as, by their Opposition, they heighten and illustrate the more essential Principles of the Pleasure we seek for; or by their Mixture and Combination with them, they produce a Variety necessary to our being better pleased; and therefore are still called *Discord*, as the Bitterness of some Things may help to set off the Sweetness of others, and yet still be bitter: And therefore in the Definition of *Concord* I have said *always and of themselves agreeable*, because the *concinuous* could have no good Effect without these, which might subsist without the other, tho' less perfectly. The other Degrees of *Discord* that are never chosen in *Musick* come under the Name of *inconcinuous* and have a greater Harshness in them, tho' even the greatest *Discord* is not without its Use. Again the *concinuous* come under a Distinction with respect to their Use, some of them being admitted only in *Succession*, and others only in *Consonance*; but enough of this here.

V. Now to apply the Second and Third Article observe, *Unisons* cannot possibly have any Variety, for there must be Difference where there is Variety, therefore *Unisonance* flowing from a Relation of Equality which is invariable, there can be no Species or Distinction in it; all *Unisons* are *Concord*, and in the First and most perfect Degree; but an *Interval* depending upon a Difference of *Tune* or a Re-

same Parts or lesser Intervals, there may be a Difference of the Order and Position of them betwixt the Extremes.

IX. A most remarkable Distinction of *Systems* is into *concinuous* and *inconcinuous*. How these Words are applied to simple Intervals we have already seen; but to *Systems* they are applied in a twofold Manner, thus, In every *System* that is *concinuously* divided, the Parts considered as simple Intervals must be *concinuous* in the Sense of Article *Third*; but not only so, they must be placed in a certain Order betwixt the Extremes, that the Succession of Sounds from one Extreme to the other, may be agreeable, and have a good Effect in Practice. An *inconcinuous System* therefore is that where the simple Intervals are *inconcinuous*, or ill disposed betwixt the Extremes.

X. A *System* is either *particular*, or *universal*, containing within it every particular System that belongs to *Musick*, and is called, THE SCALE OF MUSICK, which may be defined, *A Series of Sounds rising or falling towards ACUTENESS OF GRAVITY from any given Sound, to the greatest Distance that is fit and practicable, thro' such intermediate Degrees, as make the Succession most agreeable and perfect, and in which we have all the concording Intervals most concinuously divided.*

THE right Composition of such a *System* is of the greatest Importance in *Musick*, because it will contain the whole Principles; and so the

Task

Task of this Part may be concluded in this, *viz.* To explain the Nature, Constitution and Office of the *Scale of Musick*; for in doing this, the whole fundamental Grounds and Principles of *Musick* will be explain'd; which I shall go through in this Order. 1<sup>mo</sup>. I shall explain upon what the *Tune* of a Sound depends, or at least something which is inseparably connected with it; and how from this the *relative Degrees of Tune*, or the *Intervals* and *Differences* are determined and measured. 2<sup>do</sup>. I shall consider the Nature of *Concord* and *Discord*, to explain, or at least show you what has been or may be said to explain the Grounds of their different Effects. 3<sup>tio</sup> and 4<sup>to</sup>. I shall more particularly consider the Variety of *Concords*, with all their mutual Relations: In order to which I shall deliver as succinctly as I can the *harmonical Arithmetick*. teaching how musical Intervals are compounded and resolved; in order particularly to find their Differences and mutual Relations, Connections with, and Dependencies one on another. 5<sup>to</sup>. I shall explain what may be called *The geometrical Part* of the Theory, or, how to express the *Degrees* and *Intervals* of *harmonick Sound* by the Sections and Divisions of right Lines. 6<sup>to</sup>. I shall explain the *Composition* and *Degrees* of *Harmony* as that Term is already distinguished from *Concord*. 7<sup>mo</sup>. I shall consider the *concinuous Discords* that belong to *Musick*; and explain their Number and Use; how with the *Concords* they make up the *universal System*, or constitute what we call *The Scale*

*Scale of Musick*, whose Nature and Office I shall very particularly explain ; wherein there will be several Things handled that are fundamental to the right understanding of the *practical Part*; particularly, 8vo. The Nature of *Modes and Keys in Musick* ( see the Words explain'd in their proper Place:) And 9no. The Consequences with respect to Practice, that follow from having a Scale of fix'd and determinate Sounds upon Instruments ; and how the Defects arising from this are corrected.

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§ 2. *Of the Cause and Measure of Tune ; or upon what the Tune of a Sound depends ; and how the relative Degrees or Differences of Tune are determined and measured.*

IT was first found by Experience, That many Sounds differing in *Tune*, tho' the Measures of the Differences were not yet known, raised agreeable Sensations, when applied either in *Consonance* or *Succession* ; and that there were Degrees in this Pleasure. But while the Measures of these Differences were not known, the Ear must have been the only Director; which tho' the infallible Judge of what's agreeable to its self ; yet perhaps not the best Provider: *Reason* is a superior Faculty, and can make use of former Experiences of Pleasure to contrive and invent new ones ; for, by examining the Grounds and Causes of Pleasure in one Instance,

stance, we may conclude with great Probability, what Pleasure will arise from other Causes that have a Relation and Likeness to the former; and tho' we may be mistaken, yet it is plain, that *Reason*, by making all the probable Conclusions it can, to be again examined by the Judgment of Sense, will more readily discover the agreeable and disagreeable, than if we were left to make Experiments at Random, without observing any Order or Connection, *i. e.* to find Things by Chance. And particularly in the present Case, by discovering the Cause of the Difference of *Tune*, or something at least that is inseparably connected with it, we have found a certain Way of measuring all their relative Degrees; of making distinct Comparisons of the Intervals of Sound; and in a Word, we have by this Means found a perfect Art of raising the Pleasure, of which this Relation of Sounds is capable, founded on a rational and well ordered *Theory*, which Sense and Experience confirms. For unless we could fix these Degrees of *Tune*, *i. e.* measure them, or rather their Relations, by certain and determinate Quantities, they could never be express'd upon Instruments: If the Ear were sufficient for this as to *Concords*, I may say, at least, that we should never otherwise have had so perfect an Art as we now have; because, as I hope to make it appear, the Improvement is owing to the Knowledge of the Numbers that express these Relations: Without which, again, how could we know what

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stretcht to  $D$ , or  $d$ , the elastick Force is the same Thing, and in the same Proportion at these Points, whatever the bending Force is; therefore the Proposition is true.

COROLLARY. The Vibrations of the same Chord are all performed in equal Time; *because* in the Beginning of each Vibration, the restituent or moving Force, is as the Space to be gone thro'; for it is as the half Space  $oD$ , but Halfs are as the Wholes.

SCHOLIUM. In the preceeding Experiment (which is Dr. *Gravesande's*) the Vibrations are taken very small, *that is*, at the greatest bending the Line  $oD$  is not above a Quarter of an Inch, the Chord being Two Foot and a Half long. And if the Proposition be but physically true with respect to the very small Vibrations, it will sufficiently answer our Purpose; for indeed Chords while they sound vibrate in very small Spaces.

BUT *again*, as to the *Corollary*, which is the principal Thing we have use for, it will perhaps be objected, that I have only considered the Motion of the Point  $o$  or  $D$ , without proving that the elastick Force in the rest of the Points are also proportional to the Distances; but as the whole bending Force is immediately applied to one Point, (tho' thereby it acts upon them all) the restitutive Force may be referred all to the same Point; *or*, we may consider the whole *Area*  $ABD$ , which is the Effect of the bending, as the Space to be run thro' by the whole Body or Chord  $ABD$ , and these *Areas* are as the  
Lines

Lines  $oD$ ,  $od$ , *viz.* The Altitudes of different Figures having the same common Base  $AB$ , and a similar Curve  $ADB$ , and  $AdB$ ; for strictly speaking the Chord is a Curve in its Vibrations; and if we take  $AD$ , and  $DB$  for straight Lines, as they are very nearly, and without any sensible Variation in such small Vibrations as we now suppose, then it will be more plain that these *Areas* are as the Lines  $oD$ ,  $od$ ; and because in this Way we consider the Action upon, and Reaction of all the Points of the Chord, *therefore* the Objection is removed.

BUT there remains one Thing more, *viz.* That the Conclusion is drawn from the Forces or Velocities in the several Points  $D$ ,  $d$ , as if they were uniform thro' all the Space; whereas in the Nature of the Thing they are accelerated from  $D$  to  $o$ , and in the same Proportion retarded on the other Side of  $o$ : The *Answer* to this is plainly, that since the Acceleration is of the same Nature in all the Vibrations, it must be the same Case with respect to the Time as if the Motion were uniform.

Now from the Consideration of this Acceleration, there is another *Demonstration* drawn of the preceeding *Corollary*; and that I may show it, let me *first* prove that there must be an Acceleration, and *then* explain the Nature of it. *First.* Suppose any one Vibration from  $D$  to  $o$ , in that the Point  $D$  must move into  $d$ ,  $d$ , successively, before it come to  $O$ ; and if there were no Acceleration, but that the Point  $D$ , in  
D
every

Progress were made in discovering the Relations of *Tune* capable to please; for in all Probability it was with this, as much more of our Knowledge, the first Discovery was by Accident, without any deliberate Enquiry, which Men could never think of till something accidental as to them made a First Discovery; nor could we at this Day be reasonably sure that some such Accident shall not discover to us a new *Concord*, unless we satisfied our selves by what we know of the Cause of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, and the mutual Relations of *concording Intervals*, which I am now to explain.

ACCORDING to the Method I have proposed in this *Essay*, you must expect in another Place, an Account of the First Enquirers into the Measures of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*; and here I go on to explain it as our own Experience and Reason confirms to us.

THIS Affection of Sounds depends, as I have already said, altogether upon the sonorous Body; which differs in *Tune*. *1mo.* According to the specifick Differences of the Matter; thus the Sound of a Piece of Gold is much *graver* than that of a Piece of Silver of the same Shape and Dimensions; and in this Case the *Tones* are proportional to the specifick Gravities, (*ceteris paribus*) *i. e.* the Weights of Two Pieces of the same Shape and Dimension. Or, *2do.* According to the different Quantities of the same specifick Matter in Bodies of the same Figure; thus a solid Sphere of Brass one Foot Diameter will sound *acuter* than one of the same Brass Two Foot

Foot Diameter; and here the *Tones* are proportional to the Quantities of Matter, or the absolute Weights.

BUT neither of these Experiments can reasonably satisfy the present Enquiry. There appears indeed no Reason to doubt that the same *Ratio's* of Weights (*cæteris paribus*) will always produce Sounds with the same Difference of *Tone*, *i. e.* constitute the same *Interval*; yet we don't see in these Experiments, the immediate Ground or Cause of the Differences of *Tone*; for tho' we find them connected with the Weights, yet it is far from being obvious how these influence the other; so that we cannot refer the Degrees of *Tone* to these Quantities as the immediate Cause; for which Reason we should never find, in this Method of determining these Degrees, any Explication of the Grounds of *Concord* and *Harmony*; which can only be found in the Relations of the Motions that are the Cause of Sound; in these Motions therefore must we seek the true Measures of *Tune*; and this we shall find in the Vibrations of Chords: For tho' we know that the Sound is owing to the vibratory Motion of the Parts of any Body, yet the Measures of these Motions are tolerably plain, only in the Case of Chords.

It has been already explained; that Sounds are produced in Chords by their vibratory Motions; and tho' according to what has been explained in the preceeding *Chapter*, these sensible Vibrations of the whole Chord are not the immediate

ate Cause of the Sound, yet they influence these insensible Motions that immediately produce it; and, for any Reason we have to doubt of it, are always proportional to them; and *therefore* we may measure Sounds as justly in these, as we could do in the other if they fell under our Measures. But even these sensible Vibrations of the whole Chord cannot be immediately measured, they are too small and quick for that; and therefore we must seek another Way of measuring them, by finding what Proportion they have with some other Thing: And this can be done by the different *Tensions*, or *Grossness*, or *Lengths* of *Chords* that are in all other respects, except any one of these mentioned, equal and alike; the Chords in all Cases being supposed evenly and of equal Dimensions throughout: And of all Kind of Chords Metal or Wire-strings are best to make the following Experiments with.

Now, in *general*, we know by Experience that in two Chords, all Things being equal and alike except the *Tension* or the *Thickness* or the *Length*, the *Tones* are different; there must therefore be a Difference in the Vibrations, owing to these different Tensions, &c. which Difference can only be in the Velocity of the Courses and Recourses of the Chords, thro' the Spaces in which they move to and again beyond the straight Line: We are therefore to examine the Proportion between that Velocity and the Things mentioned on which it depends. And *mind* that to prevent saying so oft *ceteris paribus*,

bus, you are always to suppose it when I speak of Two Chords of different *Tensions*, *Lengths*, or *Grossness*.

PROPOSITION I. *If the elastick Chord AB. (Plate I. Fig. I.) be drawn by any Point o, in the Direction of the Line oD, every Vibration it makes will be in a lesser Space as o d, till it be at perfect Rest in its natural Position A o B; and the elastick or restituent Force at each Point d of the Line oD (i. e. at the Beginning of each Vibration) will be in a simple direct Proportion of the Lines oD, o d, o d.*

DEMONSTRATION. That the Vibrations become gradually less till the Chord be at Rest, is plain; and that this must proceed from the Decrease of the elastick Force is as plain; lastly that this Force decreases in the Proportion mentioned, is proven by this Experiment made upon a Wire-string, viz. that being stretched lengthwise by any Weight, if several Weights are applied successively to the Point o, drawing the Chord in the same Direction as oD, they bend it so that the Distances oD, o d, to which the several Weights draw it, are in simple direct Proportion of these Weights: But Action and Reaction are equal and contrary, therefore the Resistance which the Chord by its Elasticity makes to the Weight, is equal to the Gravity or drawing Force of that Weight, i. e. the restituent Forces in the Points D, d, are as the Lines oD, o d; now it is the same Case whether the Chord be stretcht by Weight or any other Force; for when we suppose it stretcht

stretcht to D, or d, the elastick Force is the same Thing, and in the same Proportion at these Points, whatever the bending Force is; therefore the Proposition is true.

COROLLARY. The Vibrations of the same Chord are all performed in equal Time; *because* in the Beginning of each Vibration, the restituent or moving Force, is as the Space to be gone thro'; for it is as the half Space o D, but Halfs are as the Wholes.

SCHOLIUM. In the preceeding Experiment (which is Dr. *Gravesande's*) the Vibrations are taken very small, *that is*, at the greatest bending the Line o D is not above a Quarter of an Inch, the Chord being Two Foot and a Half long. And if the Proposition be but physically true with respect to the very small Vibrations, it will sufficiently answer our Purpose; for indeed Chords while they sound vibrate in very small Spaces.

BUT *again*, as to the *Corollary*, which is the principal Thing we have use for, it will perhaps be objected, that I have only considered the Motion of the Point o or D, without proving that the elastick Force in the rest of the Points are also proportional to the Distances; but as the whole bending Force is immediately applied to one Point, (tho' thereby it acts upon them all) the restitutive Force may be referred all to the same Point; *or*, we may consider the whole *Area* ABD, which is the Effect of the bending, as the Space to be run thro' by the whole Body or Chord A B D, and these *Areas* are as the  
Lines

Lines  $oD$ ,  $od$ , *viz.* The Altitudes of different Figures having the same common Base  $AB$ , and a similar Curve  $ADB$ , and  $AdB$ ; for strictly speaking the Chord is a Curve in its Vibrations; and if we take  $AD$ , and  $DB$  for straight Lines, as they are very nearly, and without any sensible Variation in such small Vibrations as we now suppose, then it will be more plain that these *Areas* are as the Lines  $oD$ ,  $od$ ; and because in this Way we consider the Action upon, and Reaction of all the Points of the Chord, *therefore* the Objection is removed.

BUT there remains one Thing more, *viz.* That the Conclusion is drawn from the Forces or Velocities in the several Points  $D$ ,  $d$ , as if they were uniform thro' all the Space; whereas in the Nature of the Thing they are accelerated from  $D$  to  $o$ , and in the same Proportion retarded on the other Side of  $o$ : The *Answer* to this is plainly, that since the Acceleration is of the same Nature in all the Vibrations, it must be the same Case with respect to the Time as if the Motion were uniform.

Now from the Consideration of this Acceleration, there is another *Demonstration* drawn of the preceding *Corollary*; and that I may show it, let me *first* prove that there must be an Acceleration, and *then* explain the Nature of it. *First.* Suppose any one Vibration from  $D$  to  $o$ , in that the Point  $D$  must move into  $d, d$ , successively, before it come to  $O$ ; and if there were no Acceleration, but that the Point  $D$ , in  
D
every

every Position of the Chord, as A d B, had no more elastick Force than is equal to a Force that could keep it in that Position; 'tis plain it could never pass the Point o; *because* these Forces are as the Distances, and therefore it is nothing in the Point o; but it actually passes that Point, and *consequently* the Motion is accelerated; and the Law of the Acceleration is this, In every Point of the same Vibration, the Point D is accelerated by a Force equal to what would be sufficient to retain it in that Position; but these Points being as the Distances od, od, the Motion of the Point D agrees with that of a Body moving in a *Cycloid*, whose Vibrations the Mathematicians demonstrate to be of equal Duration (*vid.* KEIL'S *Introductio ad veram physicam*) and therefore the Times of the Vibrations of the Chord are also equal (*vid.* GRAVESANDE'S *mathematical Elements of Physicks*. Book I. Chap. 26.)

BEFORE we proceed farther, I shall apply this Proposition to a very remarkable *Phenomenon*; that Experience and our Reasonings may mutually support one another. It is a very obvious Remark, That the Sound of any Body arising from one individual Stroke, tho' it grows gradually weaker, yet continues in the same *Tone*: We shall be more sensible of this by making the Experiment on Bodies that have a great Resonance, as the larger Kind of Bells and long Wire-strings.

Now since the *Tone* of a Sound depends upon the Nature of these Vibrations, whose Dif-

Differences we can conceive no otherwise than as having different Velocities; and since we have proven that the small Vibrations of the same Chord are all performed in equal Time; and lastly, since it is true in Fact that the *Tone* of a Sound which continues for some Time after the Stroke, is from first to last the same; it follows, I think, that the *Tone* is necessarily connected with a certain Quantity of Time in making every single Vibration; or, that a certain Number of Vibrations, accomplished in a given Time, constitutes a certain and determinate *Tone*; for this being supposed we have a good Reason of that *Phenomenon* of the Unity of *Tone* mentioned: And this mutually confirms the Truth of the *Proposition*, that the Vibrations are all made in equal Time; for this Unity of *Tone* supposes an Unity in that on which the *Tone* depends, or with which our Perception of it is connected; and this cannot be supposed any other Thing than the Equality of the Vibrations, in the Time of their Courses and Recourses: For the absolute Velocity, or elastick Force, in the Beginning of each Vibration is unequal, being proportional to the Power that could retain it in that Position.

AGAIN, if we could absolutely determine how many Vibrations any Chord, of a given *Length*, *Thickness* and *Tension*, makes in a given Time, this we might call a *fix'd Sound* or rather a *fix'd Tone*, to which all others might be compared, and their Numbers be also deter-

mined; but this is a mere Curiosity, which neither promotes the Knowledge or Practice of *Musick*; it being enough to determine and measure the *Intervals* in the Proportions and relative Degrees of *Tone*, as in the following *Propositions*.

PROPOSITION II. *Let there be Two elastic Chords A and C ( Plate 1. Fig. 2. ) differing only in Tension, i. e. Let them be stretcht Length-wise by different Weights which are the Measures of the Tension; the Time of a Vibration in the one is to that of the other inversely as the square Root of the Tensions or Weights that stretch them. For Example, if the Weights are as 4 : 9. the Times are as 3 : 4.*

DEMONSTRATION. If Two Chords C and A ( *Plate 1. Fig. 2.* ) differ only in *Tension*, they will be bended to the same Distance O D by Weights (similarly applied to the Points o) which are directly proportional to their *Tensions*; this is found by Experiment (*vid. Gravefande's Elements.*) Again, these Two Chords bended equally, may be compared to Two Pendulums vibrating in the same or like *Cycloid* with different accelerating Forces; in which Case, the Mathematicians know, it is demonstrated, that the Times are inversely as the square Roots of the *Tensions*, which are as the accelerating, *i. e.* the bending Forces, when they are drawn to equal Distances; but the Proposition is true whether the Distances O D be equal or not;

because all the Vibrations of the same Chord are of equal Duration by Prop. 1.

COROLLARY. *The Numbers of the Vibrations accomplished in the same Time are directly as the square Roots of their Tensions. For Example, If the Tensions are as 9 to 4. the Numbers of Vibrations in the same Time will be as 3 to 2.*

PROPOSITION III. *The Numbers of Vibrations made in the same Time by Two Chords, A and B (Plate I. Fig. 3.) that differ only in Thickness, are inversely as the square Roots of the Weights of the Chords, i. e. as the Diameter of their Bases inversely.*

DEMONSTRATION. We know by common Experience that the *thicker* and *grosser* any Chord is, being bended by the same Weight, it gives the more *grave* Sound; so that the *Tone* is as the *Thickness* in general: But for the particular Proportion, we have this *Experiment, viz.* Take Two Chords B and C (Plate I. Fig. 3.) differing only in *Thickness*; let the Weights they are stretched with be as the Weights of the Chords themselves, *i. e.* as the Squares of their Diameters; their Sounds are *unison*, therefore the Number of Vibrations in each will be equal in the same Time: And consequently if the thick Chord B be compared to another of equal Length A (in the same Figure) stretched with the same Weight, but whose *Thickness* is only equal to that of the smaller Chord C last compared to it; the Numbers of Vibrations of B and A will be

as the square Roots of the Weights of the Chords inverfely: That is, inverfely as the Diameters of their Bafes, or the Bores thro' which the Wire is drawn.

PROPOSITION IV. *If Two Chords A and B, in Plate 1. Fig. 2. differ only in their Lengths, the Time of a Vibration of the one is to that of the other as the Lengths directly; and confequently as the Number of Vibrations in the fame Time inverfely. For Example, Let the one be Three Foot and the other Two, the First will make Two Vibrations and the other Three in the fame Time.*

DEMON. 'Tis Matter of common Obfervation, that if you take any Number of Chords differing only in *Length*, their Sounds will be gradually *acuter* as the Chords are *shorter*; and for the Proportion of the *Lengths* and Vibrations, it will be plain from what has been already faid; for the fame *Tone* is constitute by the fame Number of Vibrations in a given Time; and we know by *Experience* that if Two Chords C and B ( *Plate 1. Fig. 2.* ) differing only in *Length*, are tended by Weights which are as the Squares of their *Lengths*, their Sounds are *unifon*; therefore they make an equal Number of Vibrations in the fame Time. But again, by *Proposition 2.* the Number of Vibrations of the longest of thefe Two Chords C, is to the Number in the fame Time, of an equal and like Chord A (in the fame *Figure*) left tended, as the square Roots of the *Tensions* directly; therefore if

A is

A is tended equally with the shorter Chord B (whose Vibrations are equal to those of the longer Chord D that's most tended)'tis plain the Number of Vibrations of these two must be as their Lengths, because these Lengths are directly as the square Roots of the unequal Tensions.

OBSERVE, that if we suppose this Proportion of the Time and Lengths to be otherwise demonstrated, then what is here advanced as an Experiment will follow as a Consequence from this *Proposition* and the Second. But I think this Way of demonstrating the *Proposition* very plain and satisfying. You may also see from what Considerations Dr. *Gravesande* concludes it. Or we may prove it independently of the Second *Proposition*, after the Manner of the First by the following

EXPERIMENT. *Viz.* If the same or equal Weight is similarly applied to similar Points O o, of Two elastick Chords A and B (*Plate 1. Fig. 2.*) that differ only in Lengths; the Points O, o will be drawn to the Distances O D, o d, that shall be as the Lengths of the Chords A, B; so that the Figures shall be similar, and the whole Areas proportional to the Lengths of the Chords.

Now the bending Forces in D and d are equal and equally applied, therefore the restituent Forces are equal; the Times consequently are as the Spaces, *i. e.* as the Areas or the Chords A, B, and this holds whatever the Difference of o d and O D is, since all the Vibrations

rations of the same Chord are made in equal Time; and therefore, *lastly*, the Numbers of Vibrations in a given Time are as these Lengths inverfely.

OBSERVE. From this Demonstration and the Experiment used in the former Demonstration, we fee the Truth of *Proposition 2.* in another View.

GENERAL Corollary to the preceeding *Propositions.* *The Numbers of Vibrations made in the same Time by any Two Chords of the same Matter, differing in Length, Thickness and Tension, are in the compound Ratio of the Diameters and Lengths inverfely, and the square Roots of the Tensions directly.*

Now let us sum up and apply what has been explained, and, *first*, We have concluded that the Differences of *Tone* or the *Intervals* of *harmonick Sound* are necessarily connected with the Velocity of the Vibrations in their Courses and Recourses, *i. e.* the Number of Vibrations made in equal Time by the Parts of the sonorous-Body: And because these Numbers cannot be measured in themselves immediately, we have found how to do it in Chords, by the Proportions betwixt them and the different *Tensions* or *Thickness* or *Lengths*; we have not sought any absolute and determinate Number of Vibrations in any Chord, but only the *Ratio* or Proportion betwixt the Numbers accomplished in the same Time, by several Chords differing in *Tension* or *Thickness* or *Length*, or in all these; *therefore* we have discovered the true

true and just Measures of the relative Degrees of *Tone*, not only in *Chords*, but in all other Bodies; for if it is reasonable to conclude, from the Likeness of Causes and Effects, that the same *Tone* is constitute in every Body, by the same Number of Vibrations in the same Time, it follows, that whatever Numbers express the *Ratio* of any Two Degrees in one kind of Body, they express the *Ratio* of these Two Degrees universally: But this would hold without that Supposition, because we can find Two Chords, whose *Tones* shall be *unison* respectively to any other Two Sounds; and therefore all the Conclusions we can make from the various Compositions and Divisions of these *Ratio*'s will be true of all Sounds, whatever Differences there be in the Cause.

It follows *again*, that in the Application of Numbers to the different *Tones* of Sound, whereby we express the Relations of one Degree to another, the *grave* is to the *acute* as the lesser Number to the greater, because the *graver* depends upon the least Number of Vibrations: But if we apply these Numbers to the Times of the Vibrations, then, the *grave* is represented by the greater Number, and the *acute* by the lesser.

If we express the same *Tones* by the Quantity of the different *Tensions* of Chords that are otherwise equal and like, then the *Ratio* will be different, because the *Tensions* are as the Squares of the Vibrations, and the *grave* will be to the *acute* as the lesser to the greater: But the Reason why we ought not to use these  
Num-

Numbers is, that tho' different *Tensions* make different *Tones*, yet we can only examine the Grounds of *Concord* and *Discord*, in the *Ratio's* of the Vibrations, which are immediately the Cause of Sound; and this is a more accurate Way, because these represent something that's common in all Sounds; and besides, being always lesser Numbers (*viz.* the square Roots of the other) are more convenient for the easy Comparison of *Intervals*. As to the *Diameters* or *Lengths* of different Chords, because they are in a simple Proportion of the Numbers of Vibrations, therefore the same Numbers represent either them or the Vibrations, but inversely; so that the *graver* Tone is represented by the *longer* or *grosser* Chord: And because *Experiments* are more easily made with Chords differing only in Lengths; and also because these Proportions are more easily conceived, and more sensibly represented by right Lines; therefore we also represent the Degrees of *Tone* by these Lengths, tho' in examining the Grounds of *Concord* we must consider the Vibrations, which are express'd by the same Numbers.

THIS brings to Mind a Question which *Vincenzo Galilei* makes in his Dialogues upon *Musick*; he asks, Whether the expressing of the Interval which we call an *Octave* by the *Ratio* of 1:2. be reasonably grounded upon this, That if a Chord is divided into Two equal Parts, the *Tone* of the Half is an *Octave* to that of the Whole? The Reasons of his Doubt he proposes thus,

thus, says he, There are Three Ways we can make the Sound of a Chord *acuter*, viz. by *shortning* it, by a *greater Tension*, and by making it *smaller*, *cæteris paribus*. By *shortning* it the *Ratio* of an *Octave* is 1 : 2. By *Tension* it is 1 : 4. and by lessening the *Thickness* it is also 1 : 4. He means in the last Case, when the Tones are measured by the Weights of the Chord. Now he would know why it is not as well 1 : 4. as 1 : 2. which is the ordinary Expression : I think this Difficulty we have sufficiently answered above ; for these Weights are not the immediate Cause of the Sound ; it is true we may say that the *acute* Term of the *Octave* is to the *grave* as 4. to 1. meaning only that the *acute* is produced by Four Times the Weight which determines the other ; and if *Intervals* are compared together by *Ratio's* taken this Way, we can compound and resolve them, and find their mutual Connections and Relations of Quantity, as truly as by the other Expressions ; but the Operations are not so easy, because they are greater Numbers : And then, if the Sounds are produced any other Way than by Chords of different *Tensions* or *Thickness*, the *Tones* are to one another as these Numbers in a very remote Sense ; for they express nothing in the Cause of these Sounds themselves, but only tell us, that Two Chords being made *unisons* to these Sounds, their *Tensions* or *Thickness* are as these Numbers : But, all Sounds being produced by Motion, when we express the *Tones* by the Numbers of Vibrations in the same Time, we represent something that's

that's proper to every Sound; this therefore is the only Thing that can be considered in examining the Grounds of *Concord* and *Discord*: And because the same Numbers express the Vibrations and Lengths of Chords, we apply them sometimes also to these Lengths, for Reasons already said.

WE have also gained this further Definition of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, viz. That *Acuteness* is a relative Property of Sound, which with respect to some other is the Effect of a greater Number of Vibrations accomplished in the same Time, or of Vibrations of a shorter Duration; and *Gravity* is the Effect of a lesser Number of Vibrations, or of Vibrations of a shorter Duration. And by considering that the Vibrations proceeding from one individual Stroke are gradually in lesser Spaces till the Motion cease, and that the Sound is always louder in the Beginning, and gradually weaker, therefore we may define *Loudness* the Effect of a greater absolute Velocity of Motion or a greater Vibration made in the same Time; and *Lowness* is the Effect of a lesser.

BEFORE I end this *Chapter*, let us consider a Conclusion which *Kircher* makes, in his *Musurgia universalis*. Having proven in his own Way, the Equidiurnity of the Vibrations of the same Chord, he draws this Conclusion, That the Sound of a Chord grows gradually more *grave* as it ceases (tho' he owns the Difference is not sensible) because the absolute Velocity of Motion becomes less, *i. e.* That Velocity where-  
by

by the Chord makes a Vibration of a certain Space in a certain Time. By this Argument he makes the Degrees and Differences of *Tune* proportional to the absolute Velocity: But if this is a good Hypothesis, I think it will follow, contrary to Experience, that two Chords of unequal Length (*cæteris paribus*) must give an equal *Tune*; for to demonstrate the reciprocal Proportion of the Lengths and the Number of Vibrations, he supposes the *Tension* or elastick Force, which is the immediate Cause of the absolute Velocity, to be equal when the Chords are drawn out to proportional Distance; for by this Equality the shorter Chord finishes its Vibrations in shorter Time, in Proportion as the Spaces are lesser, which are as the Lengths. *Again*, the Elasticity of the Chord diminishes gradually, so that in any assignable Time there is at least an indefinite Number of Degrees; and since the Elasticity has such a gradual Decrease, it seems odd that the Differences of *Tune*, if they have a Dependence on the absolute Velocity, should not be sensible. But in the other Hypothesis, where I suppose the Degrees of *Tune* are connected with and proportional to the Duration of a single Vibration, and consequently to the Number of Vibrations in a given Time, there can no absurd Consequence follow. I am indeed aware of a Difficulty that may be started, which is this, That the Duration of a single Vibration is a Thing the Mind has nothing whereby to judge of,

of, whereas it can easily judge of the Difference of absolute Velocity by the different Percussions upon the Ear; and the Defenders of this Hypothesis may further alledge, that the Vibrations that produce Sound are the small and almost insensible Vibrations of the Body; so far insensible at least that we can only discern a Tremor, but no distinct Vibrations; and we cannot, say they, be surprized if the Differences of *Tune* are insensible. But I suppose the Degrees of *Tune* of the first Vibrations are predominant, and determine the particular *Tune* of the Sound; and then it is no less unaccountable how Two Chords drawn out to similar Figures, as in *Prop. 4.* should not give the same *Tune*, and indeed it seems impossible to be otherwise in this Hypothesis, which yet is contrary to Experience; and for the Difficulty proposed in the other Hypothesis it is at least but a Difficulty and no Contradiction; especially if we suppose it depends immediately on a certain Number of Vibrations in a given Time, which is the Consequence of a shorter Duration of every single Vibration; and this again, I own, supposes there can be no Sound heard till a certain Number of Vibrations are accomplished, the contrary whereof I believe will be difficult to prove. I shall therefore leave it to the *Philosophers*, because I think the chief Demand of this particular Part is sufficiently answered, which was to know how to take the just Measures of the relative Degrees of *Tune*, and their Intervals or Differences. You'll remember too, what Reason I have already

already alledged for expressing the Degrees of *Tune* by the Numbers of Vibrations accomplished in the same Time; for whether the Cause of our perceiving a different *Tone* lies here or not, the only Way we have of accounting for the *Concord* and *Discord* of different *Tones*, is the Consideration of these Proportions, and whatever may be required in a more universal Enquiry into the Nature and *Phænomena* of Sound, this will be sufficient to such a Theory, as by the Help of Experience and Observation, may guide us to the true Knowledge of the Science of Musick.

BESIDES, in this Account of the Cause of the Differences of *Tune*, I follow the Opinion not only of the Ancients but of our more modern Philosophers; Dr. *Holder's* whole Theory of the natural Grounds and Principles of *Harmony*, is founded on this Supposition; take his own Words, *Chap. 2.* “ The First and great  
 “ Principle upon which the Nature of *harmoni-*  
 “ *cal* Sounds is to be found out and disco-  
 “ vered is this: That the *Tune* of a Note (to speak  
 “ in our vulgar Phrase ) is constituted by the  
 “ Measure and Proportion of Vibrations of the  
 “ sonorous Body; I mean, of the Velocity of  
 “ these Vibrations in their Recourses, for the  
 “ frequenter these Vibrations are, the more *a-*  
 “ *cute* is the *Tune*; the slower and fewer they  
 “ are in the same Space of Time, by so much  
 “ the more *grave* is the *Tune*. So that any  
 “ given Note of a *Tune* is made by one cer-  
 “ tain Measure of Velocity of Vibrations, *viz.*  
 “ such

“ such a certain Number of Courses and Re-  
 “ courses, *e. g.* of a Chord or String in such a  
 “ certain Space of Time, doth constitute such  
 “ a determinate Tune.

DOCTOR *Wallis* in the *Appendix* to his Edition of *Ptolomey's* Books of *Harmony*, owns this to be a very reasonable Supposition; yet he says he would not positively affirm, that the Degrees of *Acuteness* answer the Number of Vibrations as their only true Cause, because he doubted whether it had been sufficiently confirm'd by Experience. Now that Sound depends upon the Vibrations of Bodies, I think, needs no further Proof than what we have; but whether the different Numbers of Vibrations in a given Time, is the true Cause, on the Part of the Object, of our perceiving a Difference of Tune, is a Thing I don't conceive how we can prove by Experiments; and to the present Purpose 'tis enough that it is a reasonable Hypothesis; and let this be the only true Cause or not, we find by Experience and Reason both, that the Differences of *Tune* are inseparably connected with the Number of Vibrations; and therefore these, or the Lengths of Chords to which they are proportional, may be taken for the true Measure of different *Tunes*. The Doctor owns that the Degrees of *Acuteness* are reciprocally as the Lengths of Chords, and thinks it sufficiently plain from Experience; since we find that the shorter Chord (*ceteris paribus*) gives the more acute Sound, *i. e.* that the *Acuteness* increaseth

as the Length diminisheth; and therefore the *Ratios* of these Lengths are just Measures of the Intervals of *Tune*, whatever be the immediate Cause of the Differences, or whatever Proportion be betwixt the Lengths of the Chords and their Vibrations. So far he owns we are upon a good Foundation as to the arithmetical Part of this Science; but then in *Philosophy* we ought to come as near the immediate Cause of Things as possibly we can; and where we cannot have a positive Certainty, we must take the most reasonable Supposition; and of that we judge by its containing no obvious Contradiction; and then by its Use in explaining the Phenomena of nature; how well the present Hypothesis has explained the sensible Unity of *Tune* in a given Sound we have already heard, and the Success of it in the Things that follow will further confirm it.

I shall end this Part with observing, that as the Lengths of Chords determine the Measure of the Velocity of their Vibrations, and this determines the Measure of their *Gravity* and *Acuteness*, so 'tis thus that *Harmony* is brought under Mathematical Calculation; the True object of the Mathematical Part of *Musick* being the Quantity of the Intervals of Sounds; which are capable of various Additions, Subtractions, &c. as other Quantities are; tho' performed in a Manner suitable to the Nature of the Thing.

## C H A P. III.

*Of the Nature of CONCORD and DISCORD  
as contained in the Causes thereof.*

§ 1. *Wherein the Reasons and Characteristics of the several Differences of Concords and Discords are enquired into.*

**W**E have already considered the Reason of the Differences of *Tune*, and the Measures of these Differences, or of the *Intervals* of Sound arising from them: We now enquire into the Grounds and Reasons of their different Effects. When Two Sounds are heard in immediate Succession, the Mind not only perceives Two simple Ideas, but by a proper Activity of its own, comparing these Ideas, forms another of their Difference of *Tune*, from which arise to us various Degrees of Pleasure or Offence; these are the Effects we are now to consider the Reasons of.

BUT it will be fit in the First Place to know what is mean'd by the Question, or what we propose and expect to find; in order to this *observe*, That there is a great Difference betwixt knowing what it is that pleases us, and why we are pleased with such a Thing; Pleasure

sure and Pain are simple Ideas we can never make plainer than Experience makes them, for they are to be got no other Way; and for that Question, Why certain Things please and others not, as I take it, it signifies this, *viz.* How do these Things raise in us agreeable or disagreeable Ideas? Or, What Connection is there betwixt these Ideas and Things? When we consider the World as the Product of infinite Wisdom, we can say, that nothing happens without a sufficient Reason, I mean, that whatever is, its being rather than not being is more agreeable to the infinite Perfection of GOD, who knew from Eternity the whole Extent of Possibility, and in his *perfect Wisdom* chose to call to a real Existence such Beings, and make such a World, as should answer the best and wisest End. The Actions of the SUPREME BEING flow from *eternal Reasons* known and comprehensible only to his *infinite Wisdom*; and here lies the ultimate Reason and Cause of every Thing. To know how *perfect Wisdom* and *Omnipotence* exerted it self in the Production of the World; to find the *original Reason* and Grounds of the Relations and Connection which we see among Things, is altogether out of the Power of any created Intelligence; but not to carry our Contemplation beyond what the present Subject requires, I think the Reason of that Connection which we find by Experience betwixt our agreeable and disagreeable Ideas, and what we call the Objects of Sense, our *Philosophy* will never reach; and for any

Thing we shall ever find (at least in our mortal State) I believe it will remain a Question whether that Connection flows from any Necessity in the Nature of Things, or be altogether an arbitrary Disposition; for to solve this, would require to know Things perfectly, and understand their whole Nature; which belongs only to that GLORIOUS BEING on whom all others depend. We shall therefore, as to this Question, be content to say, in the *general*, that 'tis the Rule of our Constitution, whereby upon the Application of certain Objects to the Organ of Sense, considered in their present Circumstances, an agreeable or disagreeable Idea shall be raised in the Mind. We have a conscious Perception of the Existence of other Things besides our selves, by the irresistible Impressions they make upon us; if the Effect is Pleasure we pursue it farther; if it is Pain we far less doubt of the Reality: And so in our Enquiries into Nature, we must be satisfied to examine Observations already made, or make new ones, that from Nature's constant and uniform Operations we may learn her Laws. Things are connected in a regular Order; and when we can discover the *Law* or *Rule* of that Order, then we may be said to have discovered the *secondary Reason* of Things; for Example, tho' we are forced to resolve the Cause of *Gravitation* into the arbitrary Will of GOD; yet having once discovered this Rule in Nature, that all the Bodies within the Atmosphere of the Earth have a Tendency down-

ward

ward perpendicularly as to a common Centre within the Earth, and will move towards it in a Right Line, if no other Body interposes; upon this Principle we can give a good Reason why Timber floats in Water, and why Smoke ascends. I call it a *secondary Reason*, because it is founded on a Principle of which we can give no other Reason but that we find it constantly so. Accordingly in Matters of Sense we have found all we can expect, when we know with what Conditions of the Object and Organs of Sense our Pleasure is connected; so in the *Harmony* of Sounds we know by Experience what Proportions and Relations of *Tune* afford Pleasure, what not; and we have also found how to express the Differences of *Tune* by the Proportion of Numbers; and if we could find any Thing in the Relation of these Numbers, or the Things they immediately represent, with which *Concord* and its various Degrees are connected; by this Means we should know where Nature has set the Limits of *Concord* and *Discord*; we should with Certainty determine what Proportions constitute *Concord*, and the Order of Perfection in the various Degrees of it; and all other Relations would be left to the Class of *Discords*. And this I think is all we can propose in this Matter; so that we don't enquire why we are pleased, but what it is that pleases us; we don't enquire why, for Example, the *Ratio* of 1 : 2 constitutes *Concord*, and 6 : 7 *Discord*, i. e. upon what *original Grounds* agreeable or disagreeable Ideas are connected with these Relations; and the

proper Influence of the one upon the other ; but what common Property they agree in that make *Concord* ; and what Variation of it makes the Differences of *Concord* ; by which we may also know the Marks of *Discord* : In short, I would find, if possible, the distinguishing Character of *Concord* and *Discord* ; or, to what Condition of the Object these different Effects are annexed, that we may have all the Certainty we can, that there are no other *Concords* than what we know already ; or if there are we may know how to find them ; and have all possible Assistance, both from Experience and Reason, for improving the most innocent and ravishing of all our sensual Entertainments ; and as far as we are baffled in this Search, we must sit down content with our bare experimental Knowledge, and make the best Use of it we can. Now to the Question.

BY EXPERIENCE we know, that these *Ratios* of the Lengths of Chords, are all *Concord*, tho' in various Degrees, *viz.* 2 : 1, 3 : 2, 4 : 3, 5 : 4, 6 : 5, 5 : 3, 8 : 5, that is, Take any Chord for a Fundamental, which shall be represented by 1. and these Sections of it are *Concord* with the Whole, *viz.*  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{5}$ ,  $\frac{5}{6}$ ,  $\frac{3}{5}$ ,  $\frac{5}{8}$  ; for, as 2 to 1, so is 1 to  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and so of the rest. The first Five you see, are found in the natural Order of Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ; but if you go on with the same Series, thus, 7 : 6, 8 : 7, we find no more Agreement ; and for these Two 3 : 5, and 5 : 8, they depend upon the others, as we shall see. There are also other *Intervals* that are

*Concord* besides these, yet none less than  $2 : 1$ , (the *Octave*) or whose *acute* Term is greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; nor any greater than *Octave*, or whose *acute* Term is less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ , but what are composed of the *Octave* and some lesser *Concord*, which is all the Judgment of Experience.

I suppose it agreed to that the vibratory Motion of a Chord is the Cause, or at least proportional to the Motion which is the immediate Cause of its Sound; we have heard already that the Vibrations are quicker, *i. e.* the Courses and Recourses are more frequent, in a given Time, as the Chord is shorter; I have observed also that *acute* and *grave* are but Relations, tho' there must be something absolute in the Cause of Sound, capable of less and more, to be the Ground of this Relation which flows only from the comparing of that less and more; and whether this be the absolute Velocity of Motion, or the Frequency of Vibrations, I have also considered; and do here assume the last as more probable. We have also proven that the Lengths of Chords are reciprocally as the Numbers of Vibrations in the same Time; and therefore their *Ratios* are the true Measures of the *Intervals* of Sound. But I shall apply the *Ratios* immediately to the Numbers of Vibrations, and examine the Marks of *Concord* and *Discord* upon this Hypothesis.

Now then, the universal Character whereby *Concord* and *Discord* are distinguished, is to be sought in the Numbers which contain and express the *Intervals* of Sound: But not in these

Num-

bers abstractly; we must consider them as expressing the very Cause and Difference of Sound with respect to *Tune*, viz. the Number of Vibrations in the same Time: I shall therefore pass all these Considerations of Numbers in which nothing has been found to the present Purpose.

UNISONS are in the First Degree of *Concord*, or have the most perfect Likeness and Agreement in *Tune*; for having the same Measure of *Tune* they affect the Ear as one simple Sound; yet I don't say they produce always the best Effect in *Musick*; for the Mind is delighted with Variety; and here I consider simply the Agreement of Sounds and the Effect of this in each *Concord* singly by it self. *Unisonance* therefore being the most perfect Agreement of Sounds, there must be something in this, necessary to that Agreement, which is to be found less or more in every *Concord*. The Equality of *Tune* (expressed by a *Ratio* of Equality in Numbers) makes certainly the most perfect Agreement of Sound; but yet 'tis not true that the nearer any Two Sounds come to an Equality of *Tune* they have the more Agreement, therefore 'tis not in the Equality or Inequality of the Numbers simply that we are to seek this secondary Reason of the Agreement or Disagreement of Sounds, but in some other Relation of them, or rather of the Things they express.

IF we consider the Numbers of Vibrations made in any given Time, by Two Chords of equal *Tune*, they are equal upon the Hypothesis laid down; and so the  
Vi-

Vibrations of the Two Chords coincide or begin together as frequently as possible with respect to both Chords, *viz.* at the least Number possible of the Vibrations of each; for they coincide at every Vibration: And in this Frequency of Coincidence or united Mixture of the Motions of the Two Chords, and of the Undulations of the Air caused thereby, not in the Equality or Inequality of the Number of Vibrations, must we seek the Difference of *Concord* and *Discord*; and therefore the nearer the Vibrations of Two Strings accomplished in the same Time, come to the least Number possible, they seem to approach the nearer to the Condition, and consequently to the Agreement of *Unisons*. Thus far we reason with Probability, but let us see how Experience approves of this Rule.

If we take the natural Series 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and compare every Number to the next, as expressing the Vibrations (in the same Time) of Two Chords, whose Lengths are reciprocally as these Numbers; we find the Rule holds exactly; for 1 : 2 is best than 2 : 3, &c. and the Agreement diminishes gradually; so that after 6 the *Consonance* is unsufferable, because the Coincidences are too rare; but there are other *Ratio's* that are agreeable besides what are found in that continued Order, whereof I have already mentioned these Two, *viz.* 3 : 5, and 5 : 8 which with the preceding Five are all the *concording* Intervals within, or less than *Octave* 1 : 2. *i. e.* whose acute Term is greater than

than  $\frac{1}{2}$ , the Fundamental being 1. Now to judge of these by the Rule laid down, 3 : 5 will be prefer'd to 4 : 5, because being equal in the Number of Vibrations of the *acuter* Term, there is an Advantage on the Side of the Fundamental in the *Ratio* 3 : 5, where the Coincidence is made at every Third Vibration of the Fundamental, and 5<sup>th</sup> of the *acute* Term : Again as to the *Ratio* 5 : 8 'tis less perfect than 5 : 6, because tho' the Vibrations of the fundamental Term of each that go to one Coincidence are equal, yet in the *Ratio* 5 : 6 the Coincidence is at every 6 of the *acute* Term, and only at every 8 in the other Case. Thus does our Rule determine the Preference of the *Concords* already mentioned ; nor doth the Ear contradict it ; so that these *Concords* stand in the Order of the following Table, where I annex the Names that these Intervals have in Practice, and which I shall hereafter assume till we come to the proper Place for explaining the Original and Reason of them.

	Vibrations.	
	<i>acute, grave,</i>	
<i>Unison.</i>	1	: 1
<i>Octave.</i>	2	: 1
<i>Fifth.</i>	3	: 2
<i>Fourth.</i>	4	: 3
<i>Sixth greater.</i>	5	: 3
<i>Third greater.</i>	5	: 4
<i>Third lesser.</i>	6	: 5
<i>Sixth lesser.</i>	8	: 5
	<i>grave, acute.</i>	
	<u>Lengths. Now</u>	

Now you must *observe* that this Frequency of Coincidence does not respect any absolute Space of Time; for 'tis still an *Octave*, for Example, whatever the Lengths of the Chords are, if they be to one another as 1 : 2; and yet 'tis certain that a longer Chord, *ceteris paribus*, takes longer Time to every Vibration: It has a Respect to the Number of Vibrations of both Chords accomplished in the same Time: It does not respect the Vibrations of the *Fundamental* only, for then 1 : 2 and 1 : 3 would be equal in *Concord*, and so would these 4 : 7 and 4 : 5 which they are not nor can be; for where the *Ratios* differ there must the Agreement differ from the very Nature of the Thing, because it depends altogether on these *Ratios*; so that equal Agreement must proceed from an equal (*i. e.* from the same) *Ratio*; nor can it respect the *acuter* Term only, else 3 : 5 and 4 : 5 would be equal; therefore necessarily a Consideration must be made of the Number of Vibrations of both Chords accomplished in equal Time. And if from the known *Concords* within an *Octave*, we would make a *general Rule*, it is this, *viz.* that when the Coincidences are most frequent with respect to both Chords (*i. e.* with respect to the Numbers of Vibrations of each that go to every Coincidence) there is the nearest Approach to the Condition of *Unisons*: So that when in Two Cases we compare the similar Terms (*i. e.* the Number of Vibrations of the *Fundamental* of the one to that of the other,

and

and the *acute* Term of the one to the *acute* Term of the other) if both similar Terms of the one are less than these of the other, that one is preferable; and any one of the similar Terms equal and the other unequal, that which has the least is the preferable *Interval*, as we find by the Judgment of the Ear in all the *Concords* of the preceding Table.

Now if this be the true Rule of Nature, and an universal Character for judging of the comparative Perfection of Intervals, with respect to the Agreement of their Extremes in *Tune*; then it will be approved by Experience, and answer every Case: But it is not so, for by this Rule  $4:7$  or  $5:7$ , both *Discords*, are preferable to  $5:8$  a *Concord*, tho' indeed in a low Degree; and  $1:3$ , an *Octave* and *Fifth* compounded, will be preferable to  $1:4$  a double *Octave*, contrary to Experience. But suppose the Rule were good as to such Cases where both similar Terms of the one Case compared are less than these of the other, or the one similar Term equal and the other not; yet there are other Cases to which this Character will not extend, *viz.* when there is an Advantage (as to the Smalness of the Number of Vibrations to one Coincidence) on the Part of the *Fundamental* in one Case, and on the Part of the *acute* Term in the other; which Advantage may be either equal or unequal, as here  $5:6$  and  $4:7$ ; the Advantages are equal, the Coincidence in the First being made sooner, by Two Vibrations of the *Fundamental*, than in the Second

Second, which again makes its Coincidences sooner by 2 Vibrations of the *acute* Term. If we were to draw a Rule from this Comparison, where the Ear prefers 5 : 6 a 3d lesser, to 4 : 7 a *Discord*, then we should always prefer that one, of Two Cases whose mutual Advantages are equal, which coincides at the least Number of *Vibrations* of the *acute* Term. But Experience contradicts this Rule, for 3 : 8, an *Octave* and 4th compounded, is better than 4 : 7 ; so that we have nothing to judge by here but the Ear. If, *lastly*, the mutual Advantages are unequal, we find generally that which has the greatest Advantage in whatever Term is preferable, tho' 'tis uncertain in many Cases. Upon the Whole I conclude that there is something besides the Frequency of Coincidence to be considered in judging of the comparative Perfection of *Intervals* ; which lies probably in the Relation of the Two Terms of the Interval, *i. e.* of their Vibrations to every Coincidence ; so that it is not altogether lesser Numbers, but this joined with something else in the Form of the *Ratio*, which how to express so as to make a complete Rule, no Body, that I know, has yet found.

As to the *Concords* of the preceeding *Table* some have taken this Method of comparing them : They find the relative Number of Coincidences that each of them makes in a given Time, thus, Find the least common Dividend to all the Numbers that express the Vibrations of the Fundamental to one Coincidence ; take this for a Number of Vibrations made in any Time by a common fundamental Chord ; if

it is divided severally by the Numbers whose common Dividend it is, *viz.* the Terms of the several *Ratios* that express the Vibrations of the Fundamental to one Coincidence; the Quotes are the relative Numbers of Coincidences made in the same Time by the several Concords; thus, the common Dividend mentioned is 60, and it is plain while the common Fundamental makes 60 Vibrations, there are 60 Coincidences of it with the *acute Octave*, and 30 Coincidences with the *5th*, and so on as in the *Table* annexed.

THE Preference in this Method is according to greater Number of Coincidences, and where that is equal the Preference is to that *Interval* whose *acutest* Term has fewer Vibrations to one Coincidence. And so the

	<i>Ratios</i>	<i>Coin.</i>
<i>8ve,</i>	2 : 1	60
<i>5th,</i>	3 : 2	30
<i>4th,</i>	4 : 3	20
<i>6th gr.</i>	5 : 3	20
<i>3d gr.</i>	5 : 4	15
<i>3d less.</i>	6 : 5	12
<i>6th less.</i>	8 : 5	12

Order here is the same as formerly determined; but we are left to the same Difficulties and Uncertainty as before; for this Rule refers all to the Consideration of the Vibrations of the Fundamental to one Coincidence; and therefore of Two Cases that whose lesser Term is least will be preferable, whatever Difference there be of the other Term, which is contrary to Experience.

*Mersennus*, in his *Book I. of Harmony, Art. 1. of Harmonick Numbers*, has a Proposition which promises an universal Character, for distinguishing the Perfection of Intervals as to the

he Agreement of their Extremes in *Tune*: The  
 substance of the whole *Art*. I shall give you  
 briefly in the several *Propositions* of it, because  
 it may help to explain or confirm what I have  
 delivered; and then I shall examine that particular  
*Proposition* which respects the Thing directly  
 before us; he tells us, That, *1mo*. Every Sound  
 has as many Degrees of *Acuteness* as it consists  
 of Motions of the Air, *i.e.* as oft as the Tympan  
 of the Ear is struck by the Air in Motion. 'Tis  
 plain he means that the Degree of *Acuteness*  
 depends on the Number of Vibrations of the  
 Air, and consequently of the sonorous Body,  
 accomplished in a given Time, agreeable to  
 what I have said of it above, else I do not un-  
 derstand the Sense of the *Proposition*. *2do*.  
 The Perception of *Concord* is nothing but the  
 comparing of Two or more different Motions,  
 which in the same Time affect the auditory Nerve.  
*3tio*. We cannot make a certain Judgment  
 of any *Consonance* until the Air be as oft struck  
 in the same Time, by Two Chords, or other  
 Instruments, as there are Unites in each Num-  
 ber, expressing the *Ratio* of that *Concord*: For  
 Example, We cannot perceive a *5th*, till 2 Vibra-  
 tions of the one Chord, and 3 of the other are ac-  
 complished together, which Chords are in Length  
 as 3 to 2. *4to*. The greater Agreement and  
 Pleasure of *Consonance* arises from the more  
 frequent Union (or Coincidence) of Vibrations.  
 But, *observe*, this is said without determining  
 what this Frequency has respect to; and  
now incomplete a Rule it is, I think we have  
 already

already seen. 5<sup>to</sup>. That Number of Motions (or Vibrations) is the Cause that the *arithmetical* Division of *Consonancies* (or Intervals) has more agreeable Effects than the *harmonical*; but this cannot be understood till afterwards. Now follows the *Proposition* which is the 4<sup>th</sup> in *Mersennus*, but placed last here, because 'tis what I am particularly to examine. 6<sup>to</sup>. The more simple and agreeable *Consonancies* are generated before the more *compound* and *harsh*. Example. Let 1, 2, 3, be the Lengths of Three Chords, 1 : 2. is an *Octave*, 2 : 3 a 5<sup>th</sup>; and it is plain 1 : 3 is an *Octave* and 5<sup>th</sup> compounded, or a *Twelfth*. But the Vibrations of Chords are reciprocally as their Lengths, therefore the Chord 2 vibrates once while the Chord 1 vibrates twice, and then exists an *Octave*; but the 12<sup>th</sup> does not yet exist, because the Chord 3 has not vibrated once, nor the Chord 1 vibrated thrice (which is necessary to a 12<sup>th</sup>;) again for generating a 5<sup>th</sup>, the Chord 2 must vibrate thrice, and the Chord 3 twice, which cannot be unless the Chord 1 in the same Time vibrate 6 Times, and then the 12<sup>th</sup> will be twice produced, and the *Octave* thrice, as is manifest; for the Chord 2 unites its Vibrations sooner with the Chord 1 than with the Chord 3, and they are sooner consonant than the Chord 1 or 2 with 3. Whence many of the Mysteries of Harmony, *viz.* concerning the Preference of Concords and their Succession may be deduced, by the sagacious Practiser. Thus far *Mersennus*; and *Kircher* repeats his very Words,

But

BUT when we examine this Proposition by other Examples, it will not answer; and we are as far as ever from the universal Character sought. Take this Example, 2:3:6; the very same Intervals with *Mersennus's* Example; only here the *Octave* is betwixt the *Two*, greatest Numbers, which was formerly betwixt the *Two* lesser; now here the Chord 2 unites every Third Vibration with every Second Vibration of the Chord 3, and then the 5th exists; but also at every Third Vibration of the same Chord 2 there is a Coincidence of every single Vibration of the Chord 6 (because as 2 to 6 so 1 to 3) and then doth the 12th exist, and also the *Octave*, because at every second Vibration of the Chord 3, and every single Vibration of the Chord 6, there is an *Octave*; so that in 3 Chords whose Lengths are as 2:3:6, containing the *Octave:5th:12th*, all the Three are generated in the same Time, *viz.* while the Chord 2 makes Three Vibrations; for when the Chord 3 has made Two, precisely then the 5th exists; at the same Time also the Chord 6 has made 1 Vibration, and then doth the 12th first exist: But while the Chord 3 vibrates twice (*i. e.* while the Chord 2 vibrates thrice) the Chord 6 vibrates once, and not till then doth the *Octave* exist. From this Example 'tis plain the Proposition is not true in the Sense in which *Mersennus* explains it, or at least, that I can understand it in: It is true that taking the Series 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and comparing every Three of them immediately next other in the Manner

of the preceeding Example, the Preference will be determined the same way as has been already done, *viz.* *Octave* : *5th* : *4th* : *6th*, greater; *3d* greater, *3d* lesser, *6th* lesser: But yet it will not hold of the very same Concords taken another way, as is manifestly plain in the last Example. Take this other,  $6 : 4 : 3$ , containing a *5th*, *4th*, and *Octave*; while the Chord 4 makes 3 Vibrations, the Chord 3 makes 4 Vibrations; and then there is a *4th*: Also while the Chord 4 makes 3 Vibrations, the Chord 6 makes 2 Vibrations, and then there is a *5th*: So that we have here a *5th* and *4th* generated in the same Time; tho' if you take the same Concords in another Order, thus,  $2 : 3 : 4$ ; then the Rule will hold. Take lastly this Example: Suppose Three Chords  $a : b : c$ , where  $a : b$ , is as  $4 : 7$ , and  $b : c$  as  $5 : 6$ , while  $b$  vibrates 4 Times,  $a$  vibrates 7 Times, and then that *Discord*  $4 : 7$  exists; but the *3d* lesser,  $5 : 6$ , is not generated till  $b$  has vibrated 6 Times, so that the *Discord*  $4 : 7$  is generated before the *Concord*  $5 : 6$ . It will be so also if you take them thus; suppose  $a : b$  as  $8 : 5$ , and  $a : c$  as  $7 : 4$ , here the *Discord* exists whenever  $a$  has made 4 Vibrations, and the *Concord* not till  $a$  has made 5 Vibrations. Now if this were a just Rule, it would certainly answer in all Positions of the Intervals with respect to one another, which it does not; or there must be a certain Order wherein we ought to take them; but no one Rule with respect to the Order will make this Character answer to Experience in every Case.

Now

Now after all our Enquiry for an universal Character, whereby the Degrees of *Concord* may be determined, we are left to our Experience, and the Judgment of the Ear. We find indeed that where the radical Numbers which express any Interval are great, it is always gross *Discord*; and that all the *Concords* we know are express'd by small Numbers: And of all the *Concords* within an *Octave*, these are best which are contained in smallest Numbers; so that we may easily conclude that the frequent Coincidences of Vibrations is a necessary Condition in the Production of *Harmony*; but still we have no certain general Rules that afford an universal Character for judging of the Agreement of any Two Sounds, and of the Degree of their Approach to the Perfection of *Unisons*; which was the Thing we wanted in all this Enquiry: However, as to the Use of what we have already done, I think I may say, that in a Philosophical Enquiry, all our Pains is not lost, if we can secure our selves from false and incomplete Notions, and taking such for just and true; not that I say 'tis a wrong Notion of the Degrees of *Concord*, to think they depend upon the more and less frequent uniting the Vibrations, and the Ear's being consequently more or less uniformly moved; for that this Mixture and Union of Motions is the true Principle, or at least a chief Ingredient of *Concord*, is sufficiently plain from Experience; but I speak thus, because there seems to be something in the Proportion of the Two Motions that we have not

yet found, which ought to be known, in order to our having an universal Rule, that will infallibly determine the Degrees of *Concord*, agreeable to Sense and Experience. And if any Body can be satisfied with the general Reason and Principle of *Concord* and *Discord* already found, they may take this *Definition*, viz. *That Concord is the Result of a frequent Union and Coincidence of the Vibrations of Two sonorous Bodies, and consequently of the undulating Motions of the Air, which being caused by these Vibrations, are like and proportional to them; which Coincidence the more frequent it is with respect to the Number of Vibrations of both Bodies performed in the same Time, cæteris paribus, the more perfect is that Concord, till the Rarity of the Coincidence in respect of one or both the Motions become Discord.*

I can find no better or more particular Account of this Matter among our modern Enquirers; you have already heard *Mersennus*, and I shall give you *Dr. Holder's* Definition in his own Words, who has written chiefly on this One Point, as the Title of his Book bears: Says he,  
 “ *Consonancy* (the same I call *Concord*) is the  
 “ Passage of several tunable Sounds through the  
 “ Medium, frequently mixing and uniting in  
 “ their undulated Motions caused by the well  
 “ proportioned commensurate Vibrations of the  
 “ sonorous Bodies, and consequently arriving  
 “ smooth and sweet and pleasant to the Ear.  
 “ On the contrary, *Dissonancy* is from disproportionate Motions of Sounds, not mixing, but  
 “ jarring



strument; for if a Sound is raised *unison* or *octave* below the Tune of any open String of the Instrument, it will give its Sound distinctly. And we might make a pleasant Experiment with a strong Voice singing near a well tuned Harpsichord. We find the same *Phenomenon* by raising Sound near a Bell, or any large Plate of such Metal as has a clear and free Sound; or a large chrystal drinking Glas. Now our *Philosophers* make Use of the Hypothesis already laid down to explain this surprizing Appearance; they tell us, That, for Example, when one String is struck, and the Air put in Motion, every other String within the Reach of that Motion receives some Impression from it; but each String can move only with a certain determinate Velocity of Recourses in vibrating, because all the Vibrations from the greatest to the least are equidiurnal; again, all *Unisons* proceed from equal or equidiurnal Vibrations, and other *Concords* from other Proportions, which as they are the Cause of a more perfect Mixture and Agreement of Motion, *that is*, of the undulated Air, so much better is that *Concord* and nearer to *Unison*: Now the *unison* String keeping an exact equal Course with the founded String, because it has the same Measure of Vibrations, has its Motion continued and improved till it become sensible and give a distinct Sound; and other concurring Strings have their Motions propagated in different Degrees, according to the Commensurateness of their Vibrations with these of the founded String; the

*Octave*

*Octave* most sensibly, then the 5th; but after this the crossing of the Motions hinders any such Effect: And they illustrate it to us in this Manner; suppose a Pendulum set a moving, the Motion may be continued and augmented, by making frequent light Impulses, as by blowing upon it, when the Vibration is just finished and the Pendulum ready to return; but if it is touched before that, or by any cross Motion, and this done frequently, the Motion will be so interrupted as to cease altogether; so of Two *unison* Strings, if the one is forcibly struck it communicates Motion by the Air, to the other; and being equidiurnal in their Vibrations, they finish them precisely together; and the Motion of that other is improv'd by the frequent Impulses received from the Vibrations of the First, because they are given precisely when that other Chord has finished its Vibrations, and is ready to *return*; but if the Two Chords are unequal in Duration, there will be a crossing of Motions less or more, according to the Proportion of that Inequality; and in some Cases the Motion of the untouched String is so checked as never to be sensible, or at least to give any Sound; and in Fact we know, that in no Case is this *Phænomenon* to be found but the *Unison*, *Octave* and *Fifth*; most sensibly in the First, and gradually less in the other Two, which are also limited to this Condition, that the *graver* will make the *acuter* Sound, but not contrarily. And as this is a tolerable Explication of the Matter, it confirms in a great Degree the

Truth of the Equidiurnity of the Vibrations of the same Chord, and the Proportion of the Lengths and Duration of the Vibrations ; for we know that the Sound of the untouched Chord is weaker than that of the other, and its Vibrations consequently less ; now if they were not equidiurnal, and if the Proportion mentioned were not also true, we should not have so good a Reason of the *Phenomenon*, which joyned with the sensible Identity of the *Tune*, is sufficient without other Demonstrations to make it highly probable that the Vibrations are all performed in equal Time, and that the Duration of a single Vibration of the one is to that of the other directly, or the Number of Vibrations in a given Time reciprocally as the Lengths of the Chords (*cæteris paribus*.)

II. I cannot omit to mention in this Place, how the Gentlemen of the Academy of Sciences in *France* apply this Hypothesis of *harmonick Motion*, for explaining the strange Recovery of one who has been bitten by the *Tarantula*, the Effect of which is a Lethargy and Stupifying of the Senses ; I shall not here repeat the whole Story, but in short, the Recovery is by Means of *Musick* ; 'tis not every Kind that will recover the same Person, nor the same Kind every Person ; but having tried a great many various Measures and Combinations of *Tune* and *Time*, they hit at random on the Cure, which excites Motion in the Patient by Degrees, till he is recovered. To account for this, these *Philosophers* tell us, that there is a certain Aptness

in these particular Motions, to give Motion to the Nerves of that Person (for they suppose the Disease lies all there) in their present Circumstances, as one String communicates Motion to another, which neither a greater nor lesser, nor any other Combination can do; being excited to Motion the Senses return gradually.

III. THERE are other Instances of this wonderful Power, and, if I may call it so, sympathetick Virtue in sonorous Motions; I have felt a very sensible tremulous Motion in some Parts of my Body when near a bass Violin, upon the sounding of certain Notes strongly struck, tho' the Sound of a Cannon would not produce such an Effect. And from all our Observations we are assured that it is not a great or strong Motion in the Parts of one Body that is capable to produce Motion by this Kind of Communication in the Parts of another, but it depends on a certain inexpressible Likeness and Congruity of Motions; whereof take this one Example more, which is not less surprizing than the rest: If a Man raises his Voice *unison* to the Tune of a drinking Glass, and continue to blow for some time in it with a very intense or strong Voice, he shall not only make the Glass sound, but at last break it; whereas a Motion much stronger, if it is out of Tune to the Glass, will never make it sound and far less break it (I have known persons to whom this Experiment succeeded.) The Reason of this seems very probably to be, that when the Glass sounds, its Parts are put into a vibratory or tremulous Motion, which being continued long

by

by a strong Voice, their Cohesion is quite broken; but suppose another Voice much stronger, yet if 'tis out of Tune; there will be such a crossing of Motions that prevents both the Sound of the Glass and the breaking of it. It is a noted Experiment, that by pressing one's Finger upon the Brim of a Glass, and so moving it quickly round, it will sound; and to demonstrate that this is not effected without a very swift Motion of the insensible Parts of the Glass, we need but fill some Liquor into it, and then repeating the Experiment, we shall have the Liquor put gradually into a greater Motion, till the Glass sound very distinctly, and continuing it with a brisk Motion, the Liquor will be put into a very Ferment. The Consideration of this may perhaps make the Explication of the last Case more reasonable.

IV. DOCTOR *Holder*, to confirm his general Reason of *Consonancy* alledges some Experiments that happened to himself, particularly, “ says he, “ Being in an arched sounding Room “ near a shrill Bell of a House-clock, when the Alarm struck I whistled to it, which I did with “ Ease in the same Tune with the Bell; but “ endeavouring to whistle a Note higher or lower, “ the Sound of the Bell and its cross Motions “ were so predominant, that my Breath and “ Lips were checked, so that I could not “ whistle at all, nor make any Sound of it in “ that discording Tune. After I sounded a “ shrill whistling Pipe, which was out of Tune “ to the Bell, and their Motions so clashed that

“ that they seemed to found like switching one another in the Air.” To confirm this of the Doctor’s, there is a common Experiment, that if Two Sounds, suppose the Notes of a musical Instrument, are brought to unison *Octave* or *5th*, and then one of them raised or depressed a very little, there will be a Clashing of the Two Sounds, like a Beating, as if they strove together; and this will continue till they are restored to exact *Concord*, or carried a little further from it, for then also this Beating will cease, tho’ the *Discord* will perhaps increase. Now if we consider that *Concords* are such a Mixture and Agreement of Sounds that the compound seems not to partake more of the one Simple than of the other, but they are so evenly united that the one does not prevail over the other so as to be more observable; We see that this striving, in which we find an alternate prevailing of either Sound, ought naturally to happen when they are nearest to their most perfect Agreement, but when they are farther removed, the one has gained too much upon the other not to make that one most observable. All these Things serve to show us how necessary an Ingredient in the Cause of *Concord* the Union and Conicidence of the Motions is, and I shall beg a little more of your Patience to consider the following Illustration.

It is not an unpleasant Entertainment to contemplate the beautiful Uniformity of Nature in her several Productions; the Resemblance discovered among Things, if it don’t let us farther  
into

into the Knowledge of the Essence and original Reason of them, it does at least increase our Knowledge of the common Laws of Nature; and we are helped to explain and illustrate one Thing by another. To the Matter in Hand, we may compare *Sight* and *Hearing*, and to manage the Comparison to greatest Advantage, let us consider, *Sensation* is the same Thing with respect to the Mind that perceives, whatever be the Instrument of Sense, *i. e.* without distinguishing the external Sense (as *Philosophers* speak) the internal is the same, which is properly *Sensation*, as this implies a certain Mode of the Mind caused by the Admittance (or, with Mr. *Lock*, the actual Entrance) of an Idea into the Understanding by the Senses; which is a Definition plainly unconfined to one or other of the Five Ways whereby Ideas enter, when the Mind is said to perceive by the Senses; hence we have good Reason to think, that it is not improper to compare one Sense with another, as Seeing and Hearing; for though their Objects are different, and the Means whereby they make their Impression on the Mind be suited to them, by which Sensations very distinct are produced; yet they may be equally agreeable in their Kind, and have some common Principle in both Cases necessary to that Agreeableness. We believe that Nature works by the most simple and uniform Ways; accordingly we find by Experience that simple Ideas have a much easier Access than compound; and the more Difficulty the less Pleasure; yet the more easy are

are not always the most agreeable ; for as we have no Pleasure in what falls confusedly on the Senses, and wearies the Mind with the manifold and perplex'd Relations of its Parts ; neither does that afford much Pleasure that is too easily perceived, at least we are soon cloyed with it ; but a middle betwixt these Extremes is best.

*Again*, we know that Variety entertains, both of simple Ideas and these variously connected and joyned together : And because the Mind is best pleased with Order, Uniformity, and the distinct Relation of its Ideas, the compound Idea ought to have its Parts uniform and regularly connected, and their Relations so distinct that the Mind may perceive them without Perplexity : In short, when the Cause is most uniform, and involves not too great Multiplicity in the Sensation, the Idea will be entertained with the more Pleasure ; hence it is that a very intricate Figure, perplex'd with many Lines, and these not very regular, nor their *Ratios* distinct, does not please the Eye so well as a Figure of fewer Lines and in a more distinct Relation.

BUT the Comparison must run between the Eye and Ear in Perceptions that have something common : *Motion* is the Object of Sight very properly ; and tho' it be not so of Hearing immediately ; yet Sound being the immediate Product of Motion, we may conclude that if the Eye is gratify'd with the Uniformity of Motion, for the same Reason (whatever it be in its self) will the Ear be with Uniformity in Sounds ;

Sounds, which owe themselves to Motion, and are in a Manner nothing else but Motion forcing on us a Perception of its Existence by other Organs than the Eye, and therefore makes that different Idea we call *Sound*. In *Seeing* the Thing is plain; for if Two Motions are at once in our View, where the Sense attends to nothing but the Motion, then, as the Relation of the Velocities is more distinct, we compare the Motions, and view them with the greater Pleasure; but were the Relation less sensible, there could but little Pleasure arise from these Ideas: Thus, were it obvious that the one Motion were to the other as 2 : 1 or 3 : 2 uniformly and constantly, we could look on them with Delight; but were the *Ratio* less perceivable as 13 : 7; or the one being uniform Motion, and the other irregularly accelerate; the Mind would weary in the Comparison, and perhaps never reach it, therefore find no Pleasure: I do not say that in many Cases, which might be viewed with Satisfaction, we could be determinately sure what were the *Ratio* of Velocity; but from Experience we know, that the more commensurable the Extremes are to one another, it is the more agreeable, because distinct; therefore it is certain we perceive the one more than the other: And in many Cases there would be a Pain in viewing such Objects, the Irregularity of the Motion creating a Giddiness in the Brain, while we endeavour to entertain both the Motions; and by Experience we know

know, that to follow very quick Motions with the Eye, especially if circular, this is constantly the Effect. It is the same Way in Hearing, some simple Sounds are painful and harsh, because the Quickness of the Vibrations bears no Proportion to the Organs of Sense, which is necessary to all agreeable Sensation. But we have a particular Example that comes nearer the Purpose.

LET us view the Motion of Two Pendulums; if they are of equal Length, and let fall from equal Height they describe equal Arches; their Motions continue equal Time, and their Vibrations begin always together: The Motions of these Two Pendulums are like and equal, so that if we suppose the Eye to follow the one, and describe an equal Arch with it (which would be if the visual Ray in every Point of the Arch were perpendicular to the pendulum Chord) then that one would always eclipse the other, and the Eye perceive but one Motion; and suppose the Eye at a considerable Distance, it would not perceive Two different Motions, tho' it self moved not; consequently there could be no jarring of these Ideas: This is exactly the Case of Two Chords every way the same, and equally impelled to Motion; for their Vibrations give the Parts of the Air alike and equal Motion, so that the Ear is always struck equally and at the same Time, hence we perceive but one simple Sound; and with respect to the Effect it is no more a compound Idea than Two Bottles of Water from the same Fountain make

a compound Liquor, which only increase the Quantity; as the foreſaid Unifons only fill the Ear with a greater Sound increaſing the Intenſeneſs.

IF in the ſame Caſe we ſuppoſe the Eye ſo ſituated as to ſee diſtinctly the Motion of both Pendulums; or ſuppoſe the Pendulums fall from different Heights, then this Variety would afford a greater Pleaſure; for the Mind perceives a Difference, but a very diſtinct Relation; becauſe we ſee the Vibrations begin always at the ſame Time; and this explains the greater Pleaſure we have in *Unifons* which proceed from Chords differing in ſome Circumſtances, as if the one were more inteneſe or of a different Species; in which we perceive the Unity of Acuteneneſs, but theſe other different Circumſtances make them perceiveably diſtinct ſimple Sounds, which heightens the Pleaſure. If we carry this Compariſon further, we'll find; that if Two Pendulums of unequal Length be let fall together from ſimilar Points of their Arch, they begin not every Vibration together, but they will coincide more or leſs frequently, according to a certain Proportion of their Lengths, which is always reciprocally ſubduplicate; and tho' this is quite another Proportion than that of ſimple Chords which are in reciprocal ſimple Proportion of their Number of Vibrations to every Coincidence, yet the Illuſtration drawn from this Compariſon ſtands good, becauſe we conſider only the *Ratios* of the Number of Vibrations to each Coincidence in both Caſes; and in this we find it true in general, that the

more

more frequently the Vibrations coincide, the Prospect is the more agreeable; but it is also according to the Number of Vibrations of both Pendulums in the same Time, in so much that the same Numbers which make less or more Concord in Sound, will also give a greater or less pleasant Prospect, if the Pendulums are so proportioned, according to the known Laws of their Motion; and if the Pendulums seldom or never coincide, or begin their Vibrations together, there will be such a thwarting of the Images as cannot miss to offend the Sight.



## C H A P. IV.

*Containing the Harmonical Arithmetick.*

**H**ERE I propose to explain as much of the *Theory* of Numbers as is necessary to be known, for making and understanding the Comparisons of *musical Intervals*, which are express'd by Numbers; in order to our finding their mutual Relations, Compositions and Resolutions. But I must premise Two Things. *First*. That I suppose the Reader acquainted with the more general and common Properties and Operations of Numbers; so that I shall but barely propose what of these I have Use for, without any Demonstration, and demonstrate Things that are less

less common. *Second.* That I confine my self to the principal and more necessary Things; leaving a Thousand Speculations that may be made, as less useful to my Design, and also because these will be easily understood when you meet with them, if the fundamental Things here explained be well understood.

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### § I. Definitions.

**I.** THERE is a twofold *Comparison* of Numbers, in both of which we distinguish an *Antecedent* or Number compared, and *Consequent* or Number to which the other is compared. By the *First* we find how much they differ, or by how many Units the *Antecedent* exceeds or comes short of the *Consequent*; which Difference is called the *arithmetical Ratio* (or *Exponent* of the *arithmetical Relation* or *Habitude*) of these Two Numbers: So if 5 and 7 are compared, their *arithmetical Ratio* is 2; and all Numbers that have the same Difference, whatever they are themselves, are in the same *arithmetical Habitude* to one another. By the *Second* Comparison we find how oft or how many Times the *Antecedent* contains (if greatest) or is contained (if least) in the other; and this Number is called the *geometrical Ratio* (or *Exponent* of the *geometrical Relation*) of the Numbers compared:

red; so compare 12 to 4, the *Ratio* is 3, signifying that 12 contains 4, or that 4 is contained in 12, thrice.

THE *geometrical Ratio* thus conceived is always the *Quote* of the greater divided by the lesser: But *observe* when the lesser is *antecedent* to the greater, the Sense of the Comparison is also this, *viz.* To find what Part or Parts of the greater that lesser is equal to; and according to this Sense the *geometrical Ratio* of Two Numbers is made universally the *Quote* of the *Antecedent* divided by the *Consequent*, and is express'd by setting the *Antecedent* over the *Consequent* Fraction-wise; so that if the *Antecedent* is greatest, the *Ratio* is an improper Fraction, equal to some whole or mix'd Number, and signifies that the *Antecedent* contains the *Consequent* as many Times, and Parts of a Time, as that *Quote* contains Units and Parts of an Unit. *Example.* The *Ratio* of 12 to 4 is  $\frac{12}{4}$  equal to 3 (for 12 contains 4 thrice.) The *Ratio* of 18 to 7 is  $\frac{18}{7}$  equal to  $2\frac{4}{7}$ , signifying that 18 contains 7 Two Times and  $\frac{4}{7}$  Parts of a Time, *i. e.*  $\frac{4}{7}$  Parts of 7; which is plainly this, that 18 contains 2 Times 7, and 4 over. But if the *Antecedent* is least, the *Ratio* is a proper Fraction, signifying that the *Antecedent* is such a Part of the *Consequent*; so the *Ratio* of 7 to 9 is  $\frac{7}{9}$ , *i. e.* that 7 is  $\frac{7}{9}$  Parts of 9.

IN what follows I shall take the *geometrical Ratio* of Numbers both ways, as it happens to be most convenient.

II. AN Equality of *Ratios* constitutes *Proportion*, which is *arithmetical* or *geometrical* as the *Ratio* is. A *Ratio* exists betwixt Two Terms, but *Proportion* requires at least Three; so these 1, 2, 3, are in *arithmetical Proportion*, or these, 2, 5, 8, because there is the same Difference betwixt the Numbers compared, which are 1 to 2, and 2 to 3, or 2 to 5, and 5 to 8. Again these are in *geometrical Proportion*, 2, 4, 8, or 9, 3, 1, because as 2 is a Half of 4, so is 4 of 8, also as 9 is triple of 3 so is 3 of 1.

OBSERVE, *imo*. In all *Proportion*, as there are at least Two Couple of Terms, so the Comparison must run alike in both, *i. e.* if it is from the lesser to the greater, or contrary, in the one Couple, it must be so in the other also; *thus* in 2, 6, 9 the *Proportion* runs, as 2 to 6 so is 6 to 9, or as 9 to 6 so 6 to 2.

2<sup>do</sup>. IF three proportional Numbers are right disposed, it will always be, as the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>d</sup>, so the 2<sup>d</sup> to 3<sup>d</sup>, as above; but 4 Numbers are in *Proportion* when the 1<sup>st</sup> is to the 2<sup>d</sup> as the 3<sup>d</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>, without considering the *Ratio* of the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup>; as here 2 : 4 : 3 : 6; for in a proper Sense *Proportion* is the Equality of the *Ratios* of Two or more Couples of Numbers, whether they have any common Term or not; and so, strictly, there must be Four Terms to make *Proportion*, tho' there need be but Three different Numbers.

III. From the last Thing explained we have a Distinction of continued and interrupted Pro-  
por-

*Continued Proportion* is when in a Series of Numbers there is the same *Ratio* of every Term to the next; as of the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>d</sup>; as here 1 : 2 : 3 : 4 : 5, which is *arithmetical* and 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, which is *geometrical*. *Interrupted* is when betwixt any Two Terms of the Series there is a different *Ratio* from that of the rest; as 2 : 5 : 6 : 9, *arithmetical*, where 2 is to 5 as 6 : 9 (*i. e.* differing by 3,) but not so 5 and 6, or 2, 4, 3, 6; *geometrical*, where 2 is to 4 as 3 to 6 (*i. e.* a *Half*;) but not so 4 to 3; and observe that of 4 Terms, if there is any Interruption of the *Ratio* it must be betwixt the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup>; else these 4 are not *proportional*.

IV. Out of these Two *Proportions* arises a Third Kind, which we call *harmonical Proportion*, thus constituted; of Three Numbers, if the 1<sup>st</sup> be to the 3<sup>d</sup> in *geometrical Proportion*, as the Difference of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup> to the Difference of the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup>, these Three Numbers are in *harmonical Proportion*. *Example.* 2 : 3 : 6 are *harmonical*, because 2 : 6 :: 1 : 3 are *geometrical*. And Four Numbers are *harmonical*, when the 1<sup>st</sup> is to the 4<sup>th</sup>, as the Difference of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup> to the Difference of the 3<sup>d</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, as here 24 : 16 : 12 : 9 are *harmonical*, because 24 : 9 :: 8 : 3 are *geometrical*.

AGAIN, of 4 or more Numbers, if every Three immediate Terms are *harmonical*, the Whole is a Series of *continual harmonical Proportionals* as 30 : 20 : 15 : 12 : 10. or if every 4 immediately next are *harmonical*, 'tis also a *continued Series*

*Series*, but of another Species, as 3, 4, 6, 9, 18, 36.

How this came by the Name of *harmonical Proportion* shall be shewn afterwards; and here I shall explain the fundamental Properties of this Kind, having first propos'd as much of the Doctrine of *arithmetical* and *geometrical Proportion* as is necessary for the Explanation of the other.

§ 2. Of *Arithmetical and Geometrical Proportion*.

**THEOREM I.** If any Number is given as the First of a Series of Proportionals, and also the common *Ratio*, the Series may be continued thus: *1mo.* In *arithmetical Proportion* by adding the *Ratio* (or common Difference) to the 1st Term given, and then to the Sum; and so on to every succeeding Sum; these several Sums are the Terms sought in an *increasing Series*, which may be continued in *infinitum*. But to make a *decreasing Series*, subtract the *Ratio* from the First Term, and from every succeeding Remainder; the several Remainders are the Terms sought. But 'tis plain this Series has Limits, and cannot descend in *infinitum*. *Example.* Given 3 for the 1st Term of an increasing Series, and 2 the *arithmetical Ratio*, or common Difference; the Series is 3, 5, 7, 9, &c. Or, given 8 the 1st Term, and

and 3 the common Difference in a decreasing Series, it is 8, 5, 2, and can go no further in positive Numbers. *2do.* In *geometrical Proportion*, by multiplying the given Term into the *Ratio* (which I take here for the Quote of the greater Term divided by the lesser) and that Product again by the *Ratio*, and so on every succeeding Product by the *Ratio*; the several Products make the Series sought increasing, but for a decreasing Series divide. *Example.* Given 2 the 1st Term, and 3 the *Ratio* for an increasing Series it is 2 : 6 : 18, 54, 162 &c. Or, given 24 the 1st Term and the *Ratio* 2, the decreasing Series is 24 : 12 : 6 : 3.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , &c. It is plain a *geometrical Series* may increase or decrease *in infinitum* in positive Numbers.

**THEOREM II.** If Three Numbers are in *arithmetical* or *geometrical Proportion*, the Sum of the Extremes in the first, and the *Product* in the second Case, is equal to double the middle Term in the 1st, and to the Square of the middle Term in the second Case. *Example.* 3 : 7 : 11 *arithmetical*, the Sum of the Extremes 3 and 11 is equal to twice 7, *viz.* 14. And in these, 4 : 6 : 9 *geometrical*, the *Product* of 4 and 9, *viz.* 36, is equal to the Square of 6, or 6 Times 6.

**COROLLARY.** Hence the Rule for finding a Mean proportional, either *arithmetical* or *geometrical*, betwixt Two given Numbers is very obvious, *viz.* Half the Sum of the Two given Numbers is an *arithmetical Mean*, and the Square Root of their *Product* is a *geometrical Mean*.

**THEOREM III.** If Four Numbers are in *Proportion arithmetical* or *geometrical*, whether *continued* or *interrupted*, the Sum of the Extremes in the first Case, and *Product* in the 2<sup>d</sup>, is equal to the Sum of the middle Terms in the 1<sup>st</sup> and the Product in the 2<sup>d</sup> Case. *Example.* In these,  $2 : 3 : 4 : 5$  *arithmetical*, the Sum of 2 and 5 is equal to the Sum of 3 and 4; and these *geometrical*  $2 : 5 : 4 : 10$ . the *Product* of 2 and 10 is equal to that of 5 and 4, viz. 20.

**COROLLARY.** If Four Numbers represented thus,  $a : b :: c : d$ , are *proportional* either *arithmetically* or *geometrically*, comparing  $a$  to  $b$  and  $c$  to  $d$ ; they will also be *proportional* taken *inversely*, thus,  $d : c :: b : a$ , or *alternately* thus,  $a : c :: b : d$ , or *inversely and alternately* thus,  $d : b :: c : a$ . The *reason* is obvious, because in all these Forms the Extremes and the middle Terms are the same, whose Sums, if they are *arithmetical*, or *Products* if *geometrical*, being equal, is a Sign of their Proportionality by this *Theorem*.

**THEOREM IV.** In a Series of *continued Proportionals*, *arithmetical* or *geometrical*, the Two Extremes with the middle Term, or the Extremes with any Two middle Terms at equal Distance from them, are also *proportional*. *Example.* 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 *arithmetical*, here 2, 5, 8, are *arithmetically proportional*, also 2, 4, 6, 8, or  $2 : 3 : 7 : 8$ . *Again* in this *geometrical* Series,  $2 : 4 : 8 : 16 : 32 :$

64 : 128, these are *geometrically proportional*  
 2 : 16, 128, or 2 : 8, 32 : 128.

THEOREM V. If Two Numbers in any *geometrical Ratio* are added to, or substracted from other Two in the same *Ratio* (the less with the less and greater with the greater) the *Sums* or *Differences* are in the same *Ratio*. *Example*, 6 : 3 :: 10 : 5 are *proportional*, the common *Ratio* being 2, and 6 added to 10 makes 16, as 3 to 5 makes 8, and 16 to 8 are in the same *Ratio* as 6 to 3 or 10 to 5; and again 16 being to 8 as 6 to 3, their *Differences* 10 and 5 are in the same *Ratio*.

THE Reverse of this *Proposition* is true, *viz.* That if to or from any Two Numbers be added or substracted other Two, then, if the *Sums* or *Differences* are in the same *geometrical Ratio* of the First Two, the Numbers added or substracted are in the same *Ratio*.

COROLLARY. If any Two given Numbers are equally multiplied or divided, *i. e.* multiplied or divided by the same Number, the Two *Products* or *Quotes* are in the same *Ratio* with the given Numbers, *i. e.* are *proportional* with them, *Example*. 3 and 5 multiplied each by 7 produce 21 and 35, and these are *proportional* 3 : 5, 21 : 35. *Again* 24 and 16, divided each by 8 *quote* 3 and 2 and these are *proportional* 24 : 16, 3 : 2.

IT follows also that if every Term of any continued Series is equally multiplied or divided it is still a *continued Series* in the same *Ratio*.

**THEOREM VI.** If Two Numbers in any *arithmetical Ratio* be added to other Two in the same *Ratio* (the less to the less and greater to the greater) the *Sums* are in a double *Ratio*, *i. e.* their *Difference* is double that of the respective Parts added; so, if to these  $3 : 5$ , you add these  $7 : 9$  the Sums are  $10, 14$  whose Difference  $4$  is double the Difference of  $3 : 5$  or  $7 : 9$ . And if to this Sum you add other Two in the same *Ratio*, the Difference of the last Sum will be triple the Difference of the First Two, and so on.

**OBSERVE.** If Two Numbers in any *arithmetical Ratio* are subtracted from other Two in the same *Ratio* (the less from the less, &c.) the *arithmetical Ratio* of the Remainders is  $o$ , so from  $7 : 9$  take  $3 : 5$  the Remainders are  $4, 4$ .

**COROLLARY.** If Two Numbers in any *arithmetical Ratio* be both multiplied by the same Number, the *Difference* of the *Products* shall contain the First *Difference*, as oft as the Multiplier contains Unity; so  $3, 5$  multiplied by  $4$  produce  $12, 20$ , whose Difference  $8$  is equal to  $4$  Times  $2$  (the Difference of  $3$  and  $5$ ) and so if any *continued arithmetical Series* has each Term multiplied by the same Number, the *Products* will make a *continued Series* with a Difference containing the former Difference as oft as the Multiplier contains Unity. But if divided, the Difference of the *Quotes* will be such a Part of the First Difference as the Divisor denominates.

THEOREM VII. If Two Numbers in any *Ratio arithmetical* or *geometrical*, be added to, or multiplied by other Two in any other *Ratio* of the same Kind (the lesser by the lesser, and the greater by the greater) the *Sums* in the one Case and *Products* in the other are in a *Ratio* which is the Sum or Product of the *Ratios* of the Numbers added, or multiplied: An *Example* will explain it, Let  $2 : 4$  and  $3 : 9$  be added in the Manner mentioned, the Sums are 5, 13, whose *arithmetical Ratio* or Difference is 8 the Sum of 2 and 6 the Differences of the Numbers given; or if they are multiplied, *viz.* 2 by 3, and 4 by 9, the Products 6 and 36 are in the *geometrical Ratio* of 6, equal to the Product of 2 and 3 the *Ratios* of the given Numbers.

THEOREM VIII. If any Two Numbers are multiplied by same Number, and the Products taken for the Extremes of a Series, they will admit of as many middle Terms as the Multiplier contains Units less one; and the whole Series will be in the *arithmetical Ratio* of the First Numbers; so let 3 and 7 be multiplied by 4 the Products are 12 and 28 (in the same *geometrical Ratio* as 3 and 7 by *Corollary* to *Theorem 5th*) and their *arithmetical Ratio* or Difference 16, is 4 Times as great as that of 3 and 7, which is 4 (by *Corol.* to *Theor.* 6.) and therefore they are capable of 3 such middle Terms as that the common Difference of the whole Series shall be 4; the Series is 12 : 16;

20 : 24 : 28. *Corollary.* Hence we have a Solution to this *Problem.*

**PROBLEM J.** To find an *arithmetical Series*, of a given Number of Terms, whose Extremes shall be in the *geometrical Ratio*, and the intermediate Terms in the *arithmetical Ratio* of Two given Numbers; the *Rule* is, Multiply the given Numbers by the Number of Terms less 1, and then fill up the middle Terms by the given *Ratio.* *Example.* Let 3 to 5 be given for the *Ratio* of the Extremes, and 10 for the Number of Terms; I multiply 3 and 5 by 9, which produces 27 and 45, and the Series is 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45.

LET us now compare the *arithmetical* and *geometrical* Proportions together.

**THEOREM IX.** If there is a Series of Numbers in continued *arithmetical Proportion*, then the *geometrical Ratios* of each Term to the next must necessarily differ; and from the least Extreme to the greatest, these *Ratios* still increase; but from the greatest they decrease, comparing always the lesser to the greater; but contrarily if we compare the greater to the lesser.

*Example.* In this *arithmetical Series* 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. the *geometrical Ratios* are  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{5}$ ,  $\frac{5}{6}$ , increasing from  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and consequently decreasing from  $\frac{5}{6}$ . Again, if we take a *continued geometrical Series*, the *arithmetical Ratios* or Differences increase from the least Extreme to the greatest, and contrarily from the greatest to the least. *Example.* 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, the *arithmetical Ratios* are 1, 2, 4, 8.

COROL

COROLLARY. It is plain, that if an *arithmetical Mean* is put betwixt Two Numbers, the *geometrical Ratios* betwixt that middle Term and the Extremes are unequal ; and that of the lesser Extreme to the middle Term is less than that of the same middle Term to the other Extreme. *Example.* 2, 4, 6 the two *geometrical Ratios* are  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{2}{3}$  comparing the lesser Number to the greater ; but it is contrary if we compare the greater to the lesser.

### § 3. Of Harmonical Proportion.

**T**HEOREM X. If Three or Four Numbers in *harmonical Proportion* are multiplied or divided by any the same Number, the *Products* or *Quotes* will also be in *harmonical Proportion* ; because as the *Products* or *Quotes* made of the Extremes are in the same *Ratio* of the Extremes, so the Differences of the *Products* of the intermediate Terms, tho' they are greater or lesser than the Differences of these Terms, yet they are proportionally so, being equally multiplied or divided. *Example.* If 6, 8, 12, which are *harmonical*, be divided by 2, the *Quotes* are 3, 4, 6, which are also *harmonical* ; and reciprocally, since 3, 4, 6, are *harmonical*, their *Products* by 2, *viz.* 6, 8, 12 are *harmonical*.

THEOREM,

**THEOREM XI.** If double the *Product* of any Two Numbers be divided by their *Sum*, the *Quote* is an *harmonical Mean* betwixt them. *Example.* Let 3 and 6 be given for the *Extremes* to find an *harmonical Mean*, their *Product* is 18, which doubled is 36; this divided by 9 (the *Sum* of 3 and 6) quotes 4, and these Three are in *harmonical Proportion*, viz. 3 : 4 : 6.

To them that have the least Knowledge of *Algebra*, the following *Demonstration* will be plain; suppose any Two Numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , and  $a$  the greater, let the *harmonical Mean* sought be  $x$ ; from the Definition of *harmonical Proportion*, we have this true in *geometrical Proportion*, viz.  $a : b :: a - x : x - b$ . And by *Theorem 3d*,  $ax - ab = ab - xb$ : Then,  $ax + bx = 2ab$ ; and lastly,  $x = \frac{2ab}{a+b}$  *W. W. D.*

**THEOREM XII.** Take any Two Numbers in Order, and call the one the *First Term*, and the other the *Second*; if you multiply them together, and divide the *Product* by the Number that remains, after the *Second* is subtracted from double the *First*, the *Quote* is a *Third* in *harmonical Proportion*, to be taken in the same Order. *Example,* Take 3 : 4 their *Product* is 12, which being divided by 2 (the *Remainder* after 4 is taken from 6 the double of the *First*) the *Quote* is 6, the *Third harmonical Term* sought: Or reversely, take 6, 4, their *Product* is 24, which divided by 8 (the *Difference* of 4 and 12) quotes 3, the *Third Term* sought.

DEMONSTRATION. Take  $a$  and  $b$  known Numbers, and  $a$  the greatest; let  $x$  be the Third Term sought, less than  $b$ ; then, since these are *harmonicall*, viz.  $a, b, x$ , these are *geometrical*, viz.  $a : x :: a - b : b - x$  (by *Definition 4. § 1. of this Chapter*) then, taking the Products of the Extremes and Means, we have  $ab - ax = ax - xb$ ; and  $ab = 2ax - xb$ . And lastly  $x = \frac{ab}{2a - b}$  *W. W. D.* The *Demonstration* proceeds the same way when  $a$  is supposed less than  $b$ , and  $x$  greater.

OBSERVE. When  $a$  is greater than  $b$ , then  $x$  can always be found because in the Divisor  $(2a - b)$   $2a$  is necessarily greater than  $b$ . But if  $a$  is less than  $b$ , it may happen that  $2a$  shall be equal to or less than  $b$ , and in that Case  $x$  is impossible. *Example.* Take 3 and 6, if a 3d greater than 6 be required it cannot be found; for  $2a$ , viz. twice 3, or 6, is equal to  $b$  or 6; and so the Divisor is 0; or if  $2a$  be greater than  $b$ , as here 3, 5, where twice 3 or 6 is greater than 5, then it is more impossible.

HENCE again observe, that from any given Number a Series of *continued harmonicall Proportionals* (of the 1st Species, i. e. where every 3 immediate Terms are *harmonicall*) may be found decreasing in *infinitum* but not increasing.

LASTLY, observe this remarkable Difference of the Three Kinds of Proportionals, viz. That from any given Number we can raise by *Theorem 1.* a *continued arithmetical Series* increasing in *infinitum*; but not decreasing. The *harmonicall* is decreasable but not increasable in *infinitum* by

by the present *Observe*; the *geometrical* is both (by *Theorem I.*)

**THEOREM XIII.** Take any Three Numbers in Order, multiply the 1<sup>st</sup> into the 3<sup>d</sup>, and divide the Product by the Number that remains after the middle or 2<sup>d</sup> is subtracted from double the 1<sup>st</sup>; and that Quote shall be a 4<sup>th</sup> Term in *harmonical Proportion* to the Three given.

*Example.* Take these Three, 9, 12, 16, a 4<sup>th</sup> will be found by the Rule to be 24.

**DEMONSTRATION.** Let any Three given Numbers be  $a, b, c$ , and  $a$  less than  $b$ , let the Number sought be  $x$  greater than  $c$ , then by *Definition 4<sup>th</sup>*, it is  $a : x :: b - a : x - c$ , and  $ax - ac = bx - ax$ , lastly  $x = \frac{ac}{2a - b}$ . The Demonstration is the same when  $a$  is greater than  $b$ , and  $x$  less than  $c$ . *Observe* here also that if  $b$  is equal to or greater than  $2a$ , then there can be no 4<sup>th</sup> found, so that  $x$  is impossible. But this can only happen when the Terms increase, *i. e.* when  $a$  is less than  $b$ , and  $c$  less than  $x$ . See this *Example*, 1, 2, 3, to which a 4<sup>th</sup> harmonical is impossible.

**THEOREM XIV.** Take any Series of *continued arithmetical Proportionals*, and out of these may be made a Series of *continued harmonical Proportionals* of the first Species, where every Two Terms shall be in a reciprocal *geometrical Proportion* of the correspondent Terms of the *arithmetical Series*. The *Rule* is, Take the Two first Couplets of the arithmetick Series, set them down in a reverse Order, (as in the Operation below) multiply each of the 1<sup>st</sup> Couple by the greater of the 2<sup>d</sup>, and the lesser of the one by the lesser

lesser of the other; and set down the Products; then, take the next Couplet, and multiply each of the last Products by the greater of this Couplet, and also the least of these Products by the least of this Couplet, and set down these new Products: Repeat this Operation with every Couplet, and the last Line of Products is the Series sought. The following *Example* and Operation will make it plain.

*Arithmetical Series.*  
 2 : 3 : 4 : 5 : 6, &c.  


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 3 : 2  
 4 : 3  


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 12 : 8 : 6  
 5 : 4  


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 60 : 40 : 24  
 6 : 5  


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 360 : 240 : 180 : 144 : 120, &c.

*Harmonical Series.*

*NOTE,* After this Operation is finished, the Series found may be reduced by equal Division, if possible; so the Series found in this *Example*, is reduced to this, 30, 20, 15, 12, 10.

**T**HE *Demonstration* of this Rule is easily made, *imo.* If we take any Three Numbers in *arithmetical Proportion*, and multiply them according to the Rule, 'tis manifest the Products will be *harmonical*; for the Two Extremes of the Three *arithmetical* being multiplied by the same middle Term, their Products (which are the Extremes of the Three *harmonical*) are in the same *geometrical Ratio*; and then the Two Extremes being multiplied together, and the Product made the middle Term, it must be an *harmonical*

H Mean;

*Mean*, because the *arithmetical Ratio* of the Two Couplets being equal, and the 1st Couplet being multiplied by the greater Extreme, and the other by the lesser Extreme, the Differences of the Products are increased in Proportion of these Multipliers (*viz.* the Extremes) consequently the Three Products are in *harmonical Proportion*, according to the *Theorem*. But the same being true of every Three Terms immediately next in the *arithmetical Series* thus multiplied; and it being also true by *Theorem 10.* that the Terms of any *harmonical Series* being equally multiplied the Products are also *harmonical*, and in the same *geometrical Ratio*, it will be evident that working according to the Rule we must have an *harmonical Series*.

THE *Reverse* of this *Theorem* is also true, *viz.* that if you take a Series of continued *Harmonicals* of the 1st Species, and multiply them in the Manner prescribed in the Rule, there will come out a Series of *Arithmetics*, whose every Two Terms shall be reciprocally in the *geometrical Ratio* of their correspondent *Harmonicals*. *Example.* Take 3, 4, 6, the Products according to the Rule are 24 : 18 : 12, or by Reduction 4 : 3 : 2, which are *arithmetical*; see the Operation. The *Reason* is plain, for the

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3 : 4 : 6 \\
 \hline
 4 : 3 \\
 \qquad 6 : 4 \\
 \hline
 24 : 18 : 12 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

Difference of the Two Couplets 4 : 3 and 6 : 4 being *geometrically* as the Extremes 3 : 6, when the 1st Couplet is multiplied by the greater Extreme, and the other by the least, the

Dif-

Differences of the Products must be equal; every Thing else is plain.

COROLLARY. From the *Demonstration* of this *Theorem* it follows, that taking any Series of whatever Nature, another may be made out of it, whose every Two Terms shall be respectively in a reciprocal *geometrical Proportion* of their Correspondents in the given Series.

THEOREM XV. In a Series of *continued Harmonicals* of the 1st Species, any Term with any Two at equal Distance from it are in *harmonic Proportion*. *Example*. 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, 60; because every Three immediate Terms are *harmonic*, therefore these are 10, 10, 15, 30; and these, 12, 20, 60. The Reason is easily deduced from the last. But of *Harmonic*s of the 2d Species, (See *Definition 4.*) it will not always hold that any Two with any other Two at equal Distance are also *harmonic*; an *Example* will demonstrate this: See here 3, 4, 6, 9, 18, 36, tho' every Four next other are *harmonic*, yet these are not so,  $3 : 6 : 9 : 36$ .

THEOREM XVI. If there are Four Numbers disposed in Order, whereof one Extreme and the Two middle Terms are in *arithmetical Proportion*, and the same middle Terms with the other Extreme are in *harmonic Proportion*, the Four are in *geometrical Proportion*, as here,  $2 : 3 : 4 : 6$ , which are *geometrical*, and whereof  $2 : 3 : 4$  are *arithmetical*, and 3, 4, 6 *harmonic*.

DEMONSTRATION. This *Theorem* contains 4 Cases. 1<sup>mo</sup>. If the First Three Terms are *arithmetical* increasing, and the last Three *harmonical*, the Four together are *geometrical*.

*Demonstration*. Let  $a : b : c : d$  be Three Numbers, whereof  $a, b, c$  are *arithmetical* increasing from  $a$ , and  $b, c, d$  *harmonical*; then are  $a, b, c, d$ , *geometrical*; for since out of the *Harmonicals* we have this *geometrical Proportion*, viz.  $b : d :: c - b : d - c$  and also  $b - a = c - b$  (since  $a, b, c$  are *arithmetical*) therefore  $b : d :: b - a : d - c$ ; and consequently (by *Theor. 5.*)  $b : d :: a : c$ , or

$a : b :: c : d$ . *W. W. D. Example.* 2, 3, 4, 6.

2<sup>do</sup>. If the First Three are *harmonical* decreasing, and the last Three *arithmetical*, the Four are *geometrical*; this is but the Reverse of the last Case, and needs no other Proof. 3<sup>tio</sup>. If

the First Three are *arithmetical* decreasing, and the other Three *harmonical*, the Four are *geometrical*, suppose  $a, b, c$  are *arithmetical* decreasing, and  $b, c, d$ , *harmonical*, then  $a, b, c, d$ , are *geometrical*, for out of the *Harmonicals* we have this *geometrical Proportion*, viz.  $b : d :: b - c (= a - b) : c - d$ , therefore  $b : d :: -a : c$ , and

$a : b :: c : d$ . *Example.* 8 : 6 :: 4 : 3. 4<sup>to</sup>.

If the first Three are *harmonical* increasing, and the other Three *arithmetical*, the Four are *geometrical*; this is the Reverse of the last.

OBSERVE. It must hold reciprocally that if Four Numbers are *geometrical*, and the first Three *arithmetical* or *harmonical*, the other Three must be contrarily *harmonical* or *arithmetical*; for to the same Three Numbers there can be but

one individual Fourth *geometrical*, and to the Two last of them but one individual Third *arithmetical* or *harmonical*, therefore the *Observe* is true.

**THEOREM XVII.** If betwixt any Two Numbers you put an *arithmetical* Mean, and also an *harmonical* one, the Four will be in *geometrical Proportion*. *Example.* Betwixt 2 and 6 an *arithmetical Mean* is 4, and an *harmonical* one is 3, and the Four are  $2 : 3 :: 4 : 6$  *geometrical*; the *Demonstration* you'll find here: Let  $a$  and  $b$  be Two given Numbers, an *arithmetical Mean* by *Theor.* 2. is  $\frac{a+b}{2}$  and an *harmonical Mean* by *Theor.* II.  $\frac{2ab}{a+b}$ , and these Four are *geometrical*  $a : \frac{a+b}{2} :: \frac{2ab}{a+b} : b$ , which is proven by the equal Products of the Extremes and Means.

§ 4. *The Arithmetick of Ratios geometrical, or of the Composition and Resolution of Ratios.*

**B**Y the preceeding *Definitions*; the Exponent of the *geometrical Relation* of Two Numbers is a proper Fraction, when we compare the lesser to the greater, signifying that the lesser is such a Part or Parts of the greater; so the *Ratio* of 2 to 3 is  $\frac{2}{3}$ , signifying that 2 is Two thirds of 3. Or, if we compare the greater to the lesser, it is an improper Fraction, which being reduced to its equivalent Whole

or mix'd Number, expreffes how many Times and Parts of a Time the greater contains the leffer ; fo the *Ratio* of 13 to 5 is  $\frac{13}{5}$  or  $2\frac{3}{5}$ , for 13 is equal to 2 Times 5, and 3 over : Or being kept in the fractional Form fignifies that the greater is equal to fo many Times fuch a Part of the leffer as that leffer denominates ; and this Difference of comparing the greater as *Antecedent* to the leffer, or the leffer to the greater, conftitutes Two different Species of *Ratios*.

ONE Number is faid to be compofed of others, when it is equal to the Sum of thefe others ; the *Compound* therefore muft be greater than any of thefe of which it is compofed ; and this is the proper Senfe of Composition of Numbers, fo 9 is compofed of 4 and 5, or 6 and 3, &c. alfo  $\frac{2}{7}$  is compofed of, or equal to the Sum of  $\frac{1}{7}$  and  $\frac{1}{7}$ . But tho' *Ratios* are Fractions proper or improper, as they exprefs what Part or Parts, or how many Times fuch a Part of one Number another Number is equal to ; yet in the *Arithmetick* propofed they are taken in a Notion very different from that of mere Numbers ; for if we take the *Exponents* of Two Relations as Numbers, and add them together, the Sum is a Number compounded of the Numbers added, but it is not a *Ratio* or the Exponent of a Relation compounded of the other Two *Ratios* ; fo that *Composition* and *Resolution* of *Ratios* is not adding and fubtracting them as Numbers. What it is fee in the following *Definition*, wherein I take the *Ratio* or *Exponent* of the *Relation* of Two Num-

Numbers to be the Quote of the *Antecedent* divided by the *Consequent*.

DEFINITION. One *Ratio* is said to be compounded of others, when it is equal to the *Ratio* betwixt the continual Product of the *Antecedents* of these others, and the continual Product of their *Consequents* multiplied as Numbers (*i. e.* by the Rules of common *Arithmetick*) or thus, one *Ratio* is compounded of others, when, as a Number, it is equal to the continual Product of these others considered also as Numbers.

*Example.* The *Ratio* of 1 to 2 is compounded of the *Ratios* of 2 to 3, and 3 to 4, because  $\frac{1}{2}$  is equal to  $\frac{2}{3}$  multiplied by  $\frac{3}{4}$ , also 40 to 147 is in the compound *Ratio* of these, *viz.* 2 : 3, 5 : 7 and 4 : 7.

THEOREM XVIII. Take any Series whatever, the *Ratio* of the First Term to the last considered as a Number, is equal to the continual Product of all the intermediate *Ratios* multiplied as Numbers, taking every Term in Order from the First as an *Antecedent* to the next. For *Example.* In this Series 3, 4, 5, 6, the *Ratio* of 3 and 6 is  $\frac{1}{2}$ , equal to the continual Product of these  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{5}$ ,  $\frac{5}{6}$ , for when all the *Numerators* are multiplied together, and all the *Denominators*, it is plain the Products are as 3 to 6, because all the other Multipliers are common to both Products; and it must be true in every Series for the same Reason.

COROLLARY. If the Series is in *continued geometrical Proportion*, the *Ratio* of the *Extremes* is equal to the common *Ratio* taken and

multiplied into it self, as a Number, as oft as there are Terms in the Series less one.

PROBLEM II. To find a Series of Numbers which shall be to one another (comparing them in Order each to the next) in any given *Ratios*, taken in any Order assigned. RULE. Multiply both Terms of the 1st *Ratio* by the *Antecedent* of the 2d, and the *Consequent* of this by the *Consequent* of the 1st; and thus you have the 1st Two *Ratios* reduced to Three Terms, which multiply by the *Antecedent* of the 3d *Ratio*, and the *Consequent* of this by the last of these Three, and you have the 1st Three *Ratios* reduced to 4 Terms: Go on thus, multiplying the last Series by the *Antecedent* of the next *Ratio*, and the *Consequent* of this by the last Term of that last Series. The Justness of the Rule appears from this, That the Terms of each *Ratio* are equally multiplied. *Example.* The *Ratios* of 2 : 3, of 4 : 5 and 6 : 7 are reduced to this Series 48 : 72 : 90 : 105. See the Operation.

$$2 : 3$$

$$4 : 5$$

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$$8. \quad 12. \quad 15$$

$$6 : 7$$

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$$48 : 72 : 90 : 105$$


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OBSERVE. From the Operation of this Rule it is plain, that the Extremes of the Series found are, *the One* equal to the continual Product of all the *Antecedents*, and *the other* to the continual Product of all the *Consequents* of the given *Ratios*; so that these Extremes are in the *compound Ratio* of the given Ones; which is other-  
wise

wise plain from the last *Proposition*, since all the intermediate Terms of this Series are in the *Ratios* given respectively. And it follows also, that where any Number of *Ratios* are reduced to a Series, tho' the Number of the Series will differ according to the different Orders, yet because the intermediate *Ratios* are the same in every Order, the Extremes must still be in the same *Ratio*.

THEOREM XIX. Every *Ratio* is composed of an indefinite Number of other *Ratios*; for, by *Corol.* to *Theor.* 5. if any Two Numbers are equally multiplied, the Products are in the same *geometrical Ratio*, and by *Corol.* to *Theor.* 6. their Difference contains the First Difference, as oft as the Multiplier contains Unity; therefore it is plain that these Products are the Extremes of a Series, which can have as many middle Terms as their Difference has Units less one; and consequently by taking the Multiplier greater you make the Difference of the Products greater, which admitting still a greater Number of middle Terms, reduces the *Ratio* given into more intermediate Ones: So take the *Ratio* of 2 : 3, multiply both Terms by 4, the Products are 8 : 12, and the Series is 8 : 9 : 10 : 11 : 12, but multiply by 7, the Series is 14 : 15 : 16 : 17 : 18 : 19 : 20 : 21.

OBSERVE. We may fill up the middle Terms very differently, so as to make many different Series betwixt the same Extremes: And hereby we learn how to take a View of all the

mean *Ratios*, of which any other is composed.

**THEOREM XX.** The *geometrical Ratio* of any Two Numbers taken as a proper Fraction, (*i. e.* making the lesser Number the *Antecedent*) is less than that of any other Two Numbers which are themselves respectively greater, and yet have the same *arithmetical Ratio* or Difference. *Example.* The *Ratio*  $2 : 3$  taken as a Fraction is  $\frac{2}{3}$  less than that of  $3 : 4$ , *viz.*  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or than  $5 : 6$ , *viz.*  $\frac{5}{6}$ .

**DEMONSTRATION.** Let  $a$  and  $a \times b$  represent any Two Numbers, let  $a \times c$  and  $a \times c \times b$  represent other Two which are respectively greater than the first Two, but have the same Difference  $b$ ; take them Fraction-wise thus,  $\frac{a}{a+b}$  and  $\frac{a+c}{a+c+b}$ , if we reduce them to one common Denominator, the new Numerators will be found  $aa \times ac \times ab$ , and  $aa \times ac \times ab \times bc$ , which is greater than the other by  $bc$ ; therefore the First Fraction, to which the Numerator  $aa \times ac \times ab$  corresponds, is least.

**PROBLEM III.** To reduce any Number of *Ratios* to one common *Antecedent* or *Consequent*. **RULE.** Multiply all their *Antecedents* continually into one another, that Product is the common *Antecedent* sought: Then multiply each *Consequent* into all the *Antecedents* (except its own) continually, and the last Product is the *Consequent* correspondent to the *Consequent* that was now multiplied. Or, multiply all the *Consequents* for a common *Consequent*, and each *Antecedent* into all the *Consequents* (except its own) for a new *Antecedent*. So

these

these *Ratios*,  $2 : 3$ ,  $3 : 4$ ,  $4 : 5$  reduced to one *Antecedent*, are  $24 : 36$ ,  $24 : 32$ ,  $24 : 30$ , which in one Series are  $24 : 36 : 32 : 30$ .

THE *Reason* of the Rule is plain from this; that the Terms of each *Ratio* are equally multiplied.

### ADDITION of RATIOS.

PROBLEM IV. To add one or more *Ratios* together, or to find the Compound of these *Ratios*.

RULE. Multiply all the *Antecedents* continually into one another, and all the *Consequents*; the Two Products contain the *Ratio* sought; which is plainly this; Take the *Ratios* Fraction-wise, (the *Antecedent* of each, whether 'tis greater or lesser than the *Consequent*, being the Numerator, and the *Consequent* the Denominator) and as fractional Numbers multiply them continually into another, the last Product is the *Exponent* of the *Relation* sought. *Example*. Add the *Ratios* of  $2 : 3$ ,  $5 : 7$  and  $8 : 9$ , the *Sum* or compound *Ratio* sought is  $80 : 189$ . The *Reason* of the Rule is plain from the *Definition* of a compound *Ratio* in § 4. of this Chapter.

OBSERVE *imo*. To understand in what Sense this Operation is called *Addition* of *Ratios*, we must consider that to compound Two or more *Ratios* is in effect this, *viz.* to find the Extremes of a Series whose intermediate Terms are respectively in the *Ratios* given; so to compound or add the *Ratios*,  $2 : 3$  and  $4 : 5$ ,

is to find the Extremes of Three Numbers, whereof the 1<sup>st</sup> shall be to the 2<sup>d</sup> as 2 to 3, and the 2<sup>d</sup> to the 3<sup>d</sup> as 4 to 5. Such a Series may in any Case be found by *Probl. 2.* and in this *Example* it is 8 : 12 : 15, for 8 is to 12 as 2 to 3, and 12 : 15 as 4 : 5, and 8 : 15 is the *compound Ratio* sought, which is called the *Sum* of the given *Ratios*, because it is the Effect of taking to the *Consequent* of the 1<sup>st</sup> *Ratio*, considered now as an *Antecedent*, a new *Consequent* in the 2<sup>d</sup> *Ratio*; and so of more *Ratios* added.

2<sup>do</sup>. There is no Difference, as to this *Rule*, whether all the *Ratios* to be added are of one Species or not, *i. e.* whether all the *Antecedents* are greater than their *Consequents*, or all less, or some greater some less. For in this Rank 3 : 4 : 5 : 2 the *Ratio* of 3 to 2 is compounded of the intermediate *Ratios* 3 : 4, 4 : 5, and 5 : 2 : tho' the last is of a different Species from the other Two; what Difference there is in the Application to *musical Intervals* shall be explained in its Place.

## SUBTRACTION of RATIOS:

PROBLEM V. To subtract one *Ratio* from another. RULE. Multiply the *Antecedent* of the Subtrahend into the *Consequent* of the Subtractor, that Product is *Antecedent* of the Remainder sought; then multiply the *Antecedent* of the Subtractor into the *Consequent* of the Subtrahend, and that Product is the *Consequent* of

of the Remainder sought; which is plainly this; Take the Two *Ratios* Fraction-wise, and divide the one by the other according to the Rules of Fractions. *Example.* To subtract the *Ratio* of 2 : 3 from that of 3 : 5; the Remainder is 9 : 10, for  $\frac{2}{3}$  divided by  $\frac{3}{5}$  quotes  $\frac{2}{10}$ .

THE *Reason* of this Rule is plain; for, as the Sense of Subtraction is opposite to Addition, so must the Operation be; and to subtract one *Ratio* from another signifies the finding a *Ratio*, which being added (in the sense of *Probl. 4.*) to the Subtractor, or *Ratio* to be subtracted, the Compound or Sum shall be equal to the Subtrahend; and therefore, as Addition is done by multiplying the *Ratios* as Fractions, so must Subtraction be done by dividing them as Fractions; and so in this Series 6 : 9 : 10, the *Ratio* 6 : 10 (or 3 : 5) is composed of 6 : 9 (or 2 : 3) and 9 : 10; which Composition is done by multiplying  $\frac{2}{10}$  into  $\frac{3}{9}$  whose Product is  $\frac{18}{30}$  or  $\frac{3}{5}$ ; So to subtract 6 : 9 or 2 : 3 from 6 : 10 or 3 : 5, it must be done by a reverse Operation dividing  $\frac{3}{5}$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$  whose Quotient is  $\frac{9}{10}$ .

OBSERVE. As in Addition, the *Ratios* added may be of the same or different Species, so it may be in Subtraction; but it is to be observed here that the Two given *Ratios* to be subtracted, being considered as Fractions, and both proper Fractions, then, the least being subtracted from the greater, the Remainder is a *Ratio* of a different Species, as in this Series, 5 : 2 : 7, for take  $\frac{2}{7}$  from  $\frac{5}{7}$  the Remainder is  $\frac{3}{7}$ : But take  
the

the greater from the lesser, and the Remainder is of the same Species; so  $\frac{2}{7}$  from  $\frac{3}{7}$  there remains  $\frac{1}{7}$ , as in this Series  $2 : 5 : 7$ . Again suppose both the given *Ratios* are improper Fractions (*i. e.* the *Antecedents* greater than the *Consequents*) if the least is subtracted from the greater, the Remainder is of the same Species; but the greater from the lesser and the Remainder is of a different Species. *Example.*  $\frac{2}{5}$  from  $\frac{7}{5}$  remains  $\frac{2}{5}$ , as in this Series  $7 : 5 : 2$ . But  $\frac{7}{5}$  from  $\frac{2}{5}$  remains  $\frac{2}{5}$ , as here  $7 : 2 : 5$ ; these Observations are all plain from the *Rule*.

### MULTIPLICATION of RATIOS.

PROBLEM VI. To multiply any *Ratio* by a Number. This Problem has Two *Cases*.

CASE I. To multiply any *Ratio* by a whole Number. *RULE.* Take the given *Ratio* as oft as the Multiplier contains Unity, and add them all by *Probl. 4th.* *Example.*  $2 : 3$  multiplied by 4, produces  $16 : 81$ ; or thus, Take the *Ratio* as a Fraction, and raise it to such a Power as the Multiplier expones, that is, to the Square if 'tis 2, to the *Cube* if 3, and so on.

FOR the Reason of the *Rule* consider, That as the multiplying any Number signifies the adding it to it self, or taking it so many Times as the Multiplier contains Unity, so to multiply any *Ratio* signifies the adding or compounding it with it self, so many Times as the Multiplier contains Unity, *i. e.* to find a new *Ratio* that shall be equal to the given one so oft compounded

ed, thus, to multiply the *Ratio* of 2 : 3 by the Number. 4 signifies the finding a *Ratio* equal to the compound *Ratio* of 2 : 3 taken 4 Times, which is 16 : 81; for 2 : 3, 2 : 3, 2 : 3, 2 : 3, being added by *Probl.* 4. amount to 16 : 81, and to fill up the Series apply *Probl.* 2.

OBSERVE. The Product is always a *Ratio* of the same Species with the given *Ratio*; as is plain from the *Rule*. And if you'll complete the Series by *Probl.* 2. *i. e.* turn the given *Ratio* so oft taken as the Multiplier expresses into a Series, it will be a *continued geometrical* one. Thus, 2, 3 multiplied by 4, produces 16, 81, and the Series is 16 : 24 : 36 : 54 : 81; and this Series shows clearly the Import of this Multiplication, that it is the finding the Extremes of a Series, whose intermediate Terms have a common *Ratio* equal to the given *Ratio*, and which contains that *Ratio* as oft repeated as the Multiplier contains 1.

CASE II. To multiply any *Ratio* by a Fraction, *that is*, to take any Part of a given *Ratio*. RULE. Multiply it by the Numerator of the Fraction, according to the last *Case*, and divide that Product which is also a *Ratio* by the Denominator, after the Method of *Case* 1. of the following *Probl.* the Quote is the *Ratio* sought. *Example.* To multiply the *Ratio* 8 : 27, by  $\frac{2}{3}$ . First, I multiply 8 : 27 by 2, the Product is 64 : 729, and this divided by 3, according to the next *Probl.* quotes the *Ratio* 4 : 9, so that the *Ratio* 4 : 9 is  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of the *Ratio* 8 : 27.

THE *Reason* of the Operation is this, since  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of 1 (i. e. of once the *Ratio* to be multiplied) is equal to  $\frac{1}{3}$  Part of 2 (or of twice the *Ratio* to be multiplied) therefore having taken that *Ratio* twice, I must take a Third of that Product, to have the true Product sought: And so of other *Cases*. The Sense of this *Case* will appear plain in this Series 8 : 12 : 18 : 27, which is in *continued geometrical Proportion*, the common *Ratio* being that of 2 : 3; consequently 8 : 27 : contains 2 : 3 Three Times; or 2 : 3 multiplied by 3 produces 8 : 27 : Also 8 : 18 (equal to 4 : 9) contains 2 : 3 twice, and consequently is equal to  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of 8 : 27.

OBSERVE. It produces the same Thing to divide the given *Ratio* by the Denominator of the given Fraction, and multiply the Quote (which is a *Ratio*) by the Numerator; because, for Example, 2 Times  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a Thing is equal to  $\frac{2}{3}$  of twice that Thing.

COROLLARY. To multiply a *Ratio* by a mix'd Number, we must multiply it separately, *First*, By the integral Part (by *Case* 1.) and then by the fractional Part (by *Case* 2.) and sum these Products (by *Probl.* 4.) or reduce the mix'd Number to an improper Fraction, and apply the *Rule* of the last *Case*. *Example*. To multiply 4 : 9 by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{2}$ , the Product is 8 : 27, for in this Series 8 : 12 : 18 : 27, it is plain 6 : 27 is 3 Times 2 : 3. And this is  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 4 : 9 (equal to 8 : 18) consequently 8 : 27 is equal to 3 Halfs or 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 4 : 9.

## DIVISION of RATIOS.

PROBLEM VII. To divide any *Ratio* by a Number. This *Probl.* has Three *Cases*:

CASE I. To divide any *Ratio* by a whole Number, *that is*, to find such a *Ratio* as being multiplied (or compounded into it self) as oft as the Divisor contains Unity, shall produce the given *Ratio*, RULE. Out of the *Ratio*, taken as a Fraction, extract such a Root as the Divisor is the Index of, *i. e.* the square Root if the Divisor is 2, the cube Root if the Divisor is 3, &c. and that Root is the *Exponent* of the *Relation* sought. *Example.* To divide the *Ratio* of 9 : 16 by 2, the square Root of  $\frac{9}{16}$  is  $\frac{3}{4}$  which is the *Ratio* sought.

THE *Reason* of this *Rule* is obvious, from its being opposite to the like Case in Multiplication; and is plain in this Series, 9 : 12 : 16, which is in the *continued Ratio* of 3 : 4. and since the multiplying 3 : 4 by 2, to produce 9 : 16, is performed by multiplying  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or squaring  $\frac{3}{4}$ , the Division of 9 : 16 by 2 to find 3 : 4, can be done no other ways than by extracting the square Root of  $\frac{9}{16}$ , which is  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; and so of other *Cases*; which will be all very plain to them who understand any Thing of the Nature of Powers and Roots. Or solve the *Probl.* thus; Find the first of as many *geometrical Means* betwixt the Terms of the given *Ratio* as the Divisor contains of Units less one, that compared with the lesser Term of the given *Ratio* con-

tains the *Ratio* sought; thus  $9 : 12$  is the Answer of the preceeding *Example*.

CASE II. To divide a *Ratio* by a Fraction, *that is*, to find a *Ratio* of which such a Part or Parts as the given Fraction expresses shall be equal to the given *Ratio*. RULE. Multiply it by the Denominator (by *Probl. 6. 1. Case*) and divide the Product by the Numerator (by *Case 1. of this Probl.*) the Quote is the *Ratio* sought. Or divide the *Ratio* by the Numerator, and multiply the Quote by the Denominator. *Example*. To divide  $4 : 9$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$  or to find  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of  $4 : 9$ , I take the *Cube* of  $\frac{4}{9}$ , it is  $\frac{64}{729}$ , whose square Root is  $\frac{8}{27}$  the *Ratio* sought. The *Reason* of the Operation is contained in this, that it is opposite to *Case 2. of Multiplication*. And because  $8 : 27$  multiplied by  $\frac{2}{3}$ , produces  $4 : 9$ , so  $4 : 9$  divided by  $\frac{2}{3}$  ought to quote  $8 : 27$ .

COROLLARY. To divide a *Ratio* by a mix'd Number; reduce the mix'd Number to an improper Fraction, and divide as in the last *Case*.

CASE III. To divide one *Ratio* by another, both being of one Species; *that is*, to find how oft the one is contained in the other; or how oft the one ought to be added to it self to make a *Ratio* equal to the other. RULE. Subtract the Divisor from the Dividend (by *Probl. 5.*) and the same Divisor again from the last Remainder; and so on continually, till the Remainder be a *Ratio* of Equality; and then the Number of Substractions is the Number

Number sought; or, till the Species of the *Ratio* change, and then the Number of Substractions less one is the Number of Times the whole Divisor is found in the Dividend, and the last Remainder except one is what the Dividend contains over so many Times the Divisor. *Example*. To divide the *Ratio* 16 : 81 by 2 : 3, I subtract 2 : 3 from 16 : 81, the Remainder is 48 : 162 equal to 8 : 27; from this I subtract 2 : 3, the 2<sup>d</sup> Remainder is 24 : 54, equal to 4 : 9; from this I subtract 2 : 3, the 3<sup>d</sup> Remainder is 12 : 18 or 2 : 3; from this I subtract 2 : 3, the 4<sup>th</sup> Remainder is 6 : 6 or 1 : 1, a *Ratio* of Equality; therefore the Quote sought is the Number 4, signifying that the *Ratio* 2 : 3 taken 4 Times, is equal to 16 : 54; as you see it all in this Series 16 : 24 : 36 : 54 : 81. *Example 2*. To divide 12 : 81 by 2 : 3, proceed in the same Manner as before, and you'll find the Remainders to be 2 : 9, 1 : 3, 1 : 2, 3 : 4, 9 : 8, and because the last changes the Species, I justly conclude that the *Ratio* 12 : 81 does not contain 2 : 3 five Times, but it contains it 4 Times and 3 : 4 over; for 2 : 3 multiplied by 4 produces 16 : 81, which added to 3 : 4 makes exactly 12 : 81, as in this Series 16 : 24 : 36 : 54 : 81 : 108 whose Extremes 16 : 108, (equal to 12 : 81) is in a *Ratio* compounded of 16 : 81 and 81 : 108 (equal to 3 : 4.)

OBSERVE. The Two *Ratios* given must be of one Species; because the Sense of it is, to find how oft the Divisor must be added to it self to make a *Ratio* equal to the Dividend;

and in multiplying, any *Ratio* by a whole Number, that *Ratio* and the Product are always of one Species, as was observed in *Probl.* 6. therefore 'tis plain that the *Ratio* of the Dividend, taken as a Fraction, must be lesser than the Divisor so taken, the *Antecedent* being least, *i. e.* these Fractions being proper, and contrarily if they are improper; the *Reason* is plain, because in an increasing Series, *i. e.* where all the *Antecedents* are lesser than their *Consequents*, the *Ratio* of the First to the least Extreme is less than the *Ratio* of any Two of the intermediate Terms, and yet, according to the Nature of *Ratios*, contains them all in it; but in a decreasing Series, *i. e.* where all the *Antecedents* are greater than the *Consequents*, the 1<sup>st</sup> to the least, or the greatest *Antecedent* to the least *Consequent*, is in a greater *Ratio* than any of the intermediate, and also contains them all: So in this Series  $2 : 3 : 4 : 5$ , the *Ratio*  $2 : 5$  contains all the intermediate *Ratios*, and yet  $\frac{2}{5}$  is less than  $\frac{2}{3}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{4}{5}$ ; but take the Series reversely, then  $\frac{5}{2}$  is greater than  $\frac{5}{3}$  or  $\frac{4}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

§5. *Containing an Application of the preceding Theory of Proportion to the INTERVALS of Sound.*

IT has been already shewn that the Degrees of *Tune* are proportional to the Numbers of Vibrations of the sonorous Body in a given Time, or their Velocity of Courses and Recourses; which being proportional, in Chords, to their Lengths (*cæteris paribus*) we have the just Measures of the relative Degrees of *Tune* in the *Ratios* of these Lengths; the *grave* Sound being to the *acute* as the greater Length to the lesser.

THE Differences of *Tune* make *Distance* or *Intervals* in *Musick*, which are greater and lesser as these Differences are, whose Quantity is the true Object of the mathematical Part of *Musick*. Now these *Intervals* are measured, not in the simple Differences, or *arithmetick Ratios* of the Numbers expressing the Lengths or Vibrations of Chords, but in their *geometrical Ratios*; so that the same Difference of *Tune*, *i. e.* the same *Interval* depends upon the same *geometrical Ratio*; and different Quantities or *Intervals* arise from a Difference of the *geometrical Ratios* of the Numbers expressing the Extremes, as has been already shewn; *that is,*

equal *geometrical Ratios* betwixt whatever Numbers, constitute equal *Intervals*, but unequal *Ratios* make unequal *Intervals*.

BUT now *observe*, that in comparing the Quantity of *Intervals*, the *Ratios* expressing them must be all of one Species; otherwise this Absurdity will follow, that the same Two Sounds will make different *Intervals*; for *Example*, Suppose Two Chords in Length, as 4 and 5, 'tis certainly the same *Interval* of Sound, whether you compare 4 to 5, or 5 to 4, yet the *Ratios* of 4 : 5 and 5 : 4 taken as Numbers, and express'd Fraction-wisely would differ in Quantity, and therefore different *Ratios* cannot without this Qualification make in every Case different *Intervals*.

IN what Manner the Inequality of *Intervals* are measured, shall be explained immediately; and here take this general Character from the Things explained, to know which of Two or more *Intervals* propos'd are greatest. *If all the Ratios are taken as proper Fractions, the least Fraction is the greatest Interval.* But to see the Reason of this, take it thus; The *Ratios* that express several *Intervals* being all of one Species, reduce them (by *Probl. 3.* of this *Chap.*) to one common *Antecedent*, which being lesser than the *Consequents*, that *Ratio* which has the greatest *Consequent* is the greatest *Interval*. The Reason is obvious, for the longest Chord gives the *gravest* Sound, and therefore must be at greatest Distance from the common *acute* Sound. Or contrarily, reduce them to one common *Consequent* greater than the *Antecedents*,

dents, and the lesser Antecedent expresses the *acuter* Sound, and consequently makes with that common fundamental or *gravest* Sound, the greater *Interval*.

IT follows that if any Series of Numbers are in *continual arithmetical Proportion*, comparing each Term to the next, they express a Series of *Intervals* differing in Quantity from first to last; the greatest *Interval* being betwixt the Two least Numbers, and so gradually to the greatest, as here  $1 : 2 : 3 : 4$ .  $1 : 2$  is a greater *Interval* than  $2 : 3$ , as this is greater than  $3 : 4$ . The Reason why it must hold so in every Case is contained in *Theor.* 20. where it was demonstrated that the *geometrical Ratio* of any Two Numbers taken as a proper Fraction (*i. e.* making the lesser the Antecedent) is less than that of any other Two Numbers, which are themselves respectively greater, and yet have the same *arithmetical Ratio* or Difference: And by what has been explained we see that the lesser proper Fraction makes the greater *Interval*.

THUS we can judge which of any *Intervals* proposed is greatest, and which least, in general; but how to measure their several Differences or Inequalities is another Question; that whose Extremes make the least Fraction is the greatest *Interval*, and so, in general, the Quantities of several *Intervals* are reciprocally as these Fractions; but this is not always in a simple Proportion. For *Example*, The Interval  $1 : 2$ , is to the Interval  $1 : 4$  exactly as  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  (or as 1 to 2) the Quantity of the last being double the other.

But 2 : 3 to 4 : 9 is not as  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{4}{9}$ , but as 1 to 2, as shall be explained. Sounds themselves are expressed by Numbers, and their Intervals are represented by the *Ratios* of these Numbers, so these *Intervals* are compared together by comparing these *Ratios*, not as Numbers, but as *Ratios*; and I suppose every given *Interval* is expressed by expressing distinctly the Two Extremes, *i. e.* their relative Numbers.

I shall now explain the *Composition* and *Resolution* of *Intervals*, which is the Application of the preceeding *Arithmetick* of *Ratios*; and this I shall do, *First* in general, without Regard to the Difference of *Concord* and *Discord*, which shall imploy the rest of this *Chapter*; and in the next make Application to the various *Relations* and *Compositions* of *Concords*; and after that of *Discords* in their Place.

IN what Sense *Ratios* are said to be added and substracted, &c. has been explained, but in the *Composition* of *Intervals* we have a more proper Application of the true Sense of adding and substracting, &c. The Notions of Addition and Substraction, &c. belong to Quantity; concerning which it is an *Axiom*, that the Sum, or what is the Result of Addition, must be a Quantity greater than any of the Quantities added, because it is equal to them all; And in substracting we take a lesser Quantity from a greater, and the Remainder is less than that greater, which is equal to the Sum of the Thing taken away and the Remainder. A mere Relation cannot properly be called

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Quantity, and therefore the *geometrical Ratio* of Numbers can be no otherwise called Quantity than as by taking the *Antecedent* and *Consequent* Fraction-wise, they express what Part or how many Times such a Part of the *Consequent* the *Antecedent* is equal to; and then the greater Fraction is always the greater *Ratio*. But the *Composition* of *Ratios* is a Thing of a quite different Sense from the *Composition* of mere Numbers or Quantity; for in Quantities; Two or more added make a Total greater than any of them that are added; but in the *Composition* of *Ratios*, the *Compound* considered as a Number in the Sense abovementioned, may be less than any of the component Parts. Now we apply the Idea of Distance to the Difference of Sound in *Acuteness* and *Gravity* in a very plain and intelligible Manner, so that we have one universal Character to determine the greater or lesser of any Intervals proposed; according to which Notion of Greatness and Littleness all Intervals are added and subtracted, &c. and the Sum is the true and proper Compound of several lesser Quantities; and in Subtraction we actually take a lesser Quantity from a greater; but the Intervals themselves being expressed by the *geometrical Ratio* of Numbers applied to the Lengths of Chords (or their proportional Vibrations) the Addition and Subtraction, &c. of the Quantities of Intervals is performed by Application of the preceding *Arithmetick* of *Ratios*.

NOTE. In the following *Problems* I constantly apply the Numbers to the Lengths of Chords, and so the lesser of Two Numbers that express any *Interval* I call the *acute* Term and the other the *grave*.

### ADDITION of *INTERVALS*.

PROBLEM VIII. To add Two or more *Intervals* together. RULE. Mutiply all the *acute* Terms continually, the Product is the *acute* Term sought; and the Product of the *grave* Terms continually multiplied, is the *grave* Term sought; *that is*, Take the *Ratios* as proper Fractions; and add them by *Probl. 4*. *Example*. Add a 5th  $2 : 3$  and, a 4th  $3 : 4$ , and a 3d g.  $4 : 5$ , the Sum is  $24 : 60$  equal to  $2 : 5$ . a 3d g. above an *Octave*.

OBSERVE. This is a plain Application of the RULE for adding of *Ratios*, and to make it better understood, suppose any given Sound represented by *a*, and another Sound, *acuter* or *graver* in any *Ratio*, represented by *b*; if again we take a Third Sound, still *acuter* or *graver* than *b*, and call it *c*, then the Sound of *c* being at greater Distance from *a*, towards *Acuteness* or *Gravity*, than *b* is, the *Interval* betwixt *a* and *c* is equal to the other Two betwixt *a b* and *b c*. And so let any Number of *Intervals* be proposed to be added, we are to conceive some Sound *a* as one Extreme of the *Interval* sought; to this we take another Sound *b acuter* or *graver* in any given *Ratio*; then a Third Sound *c acuter* or *graver* than *b* in

another given *Ratio*, and a 4th Sound *d* acuter or graver than *c*, and so on; every Sound always exceeding another in *Acuteness* or *Gravity*, and all of them taken the same way, *i. e.* all acuter, or all graver than the preceeding, and consequently than the first Sound *a*; and then the first and last are at a Distance equal to the Sum of the intermediate Distances. For *Example*. If 5 Sounds are represented by *a, b, c, d, e* exceeding each other by certain *Ratios* of *Acuteness* or *Gravity* from *a* to *e*, the Interval *a : e* is equal to the Sum of the Intervals *a : b, b : c, c : d, d : e*.

Now that the Rule for finding the true Distance of *a : e* is just, you'll easily perceive by considering that Intervals are represented by *Ratios*; therefore several *Intervals* are added by compounding the *Ratios* that express them; for if the given *Intervals* or *Ratios* are reduced, by *Probl. 2.* to a Series continually increasing or decreasing, wherein every Number being antecedent to the next, they shall contain in Order the *Ratios* given, *i. e.* express the given *Intervals*, 'tis plain the *Ratio* of the Extremes of this Series shall be composed of all the intermediate (which are the given) *Ratios*, and therefore be the Sum of them according to the true Sense in which *Intervals* are added, as it has been explained; so in the preceeding *Example*, in which we have added a 5th *2 : 3*, a 4th *3 : 4* and a 3d *g. 4 : 5*, the Compound of these *Ratios* is *24 : 60* or *2 : 5*; for take them in the Order proposed they are

are contained in this simple Series,  $2 : 3 : 4 : 5$ , which represents a Series of Sounds gradually exceeding each other in *Gravity* from 2 to 5 by the intermediate Degrees or *Ratios* proposed; so that  $2 : 5$  being the true Sum of these *Intervals*, and the true *Compound* of the given *Ratios*, shews the *Rule* to be just.

AGAIN take Notice, that tho' in the *Composition* of *Ratios* it is the same Thing whether they are all of one Species or not, yet in their Application to *Intervals* they must be of one Kind. I have already shewn what Absurdity would follow if it were otherwise, but you may see more of it here; suppose Three Sounds represented by  $4 : 5 : 3$ , tho'  $4 : 3$  is the true *Compound* of these *Ratios*  $4 : 5$  and  $5 : 3$ , yet it cannot express the Sum of the *Intervals* represented by these; for if 4 represent one Extreme and 5 the middle Sound (*graver* than the former) 3 cannot possibly represent another Sound at a greater Distance towards Gravity, because 'tis *acuter* than 5, and therefore instead of adding to the Distance from 4, it diminishes it; but it is the same *Interval* (tho' in some Sense not the same *Ratio*) whether the lesser or greater is *antecedent*; and the Sum of these Two *Intervals* cannot be represented but by the Extremes of a Series continually increasing or decreasing from the least or greatest of the Numbers proposed, because they cannot otherwise represent a Series of Sounds continually rising or falling, the *Ratio* of the Extremes of which Kind of Series can only be  
*cal*

called the Sum of the intermediate Distances or Interval of Sound; and so the preceeding Example must be taken thus, 3 : 4 : 5, where 3 : 5 is not only the *compound Ratio* of 3 : 4 and 4 : 5, but expresses the true Sum of the *Intervals* represented by these *Ratios*.

It is plain then from this Explication, that in Addition of *Intervals* the Sum is a greater Quantity than any of the Parts added, as it ought to be, according to the just Notion of the Quantity of *Intervals*; but it would be otherwise and absurd if the *Ratios* expressing *Intervals* were not taken all one way; so in the preceeding Example tho' 4 : 3 is the Compound of 4 : 5 and 5 : 3, yet considered as a Fraction  $\frac{3}{4}$  it is greater than  $\frac{3}{5}$ , and consequently a lesser *Interval*, by the Character already established.

PROBLEM IX. To add Two or more *Intervals*, and find all the intermediate Terms; a certain Order of their Succession being assigned, from the *gravest* or the *acuteft* Extreme.

RULE. If the given *Intervals* are to proceed in Order from the *acuteft* Term, make the lesser Numbers *Antecedents*; if from the *gravest*, make the greater *Antecedents*, and then apply the Rule of *Probl. 2.*

EXAMPLE. To find a Series of Sounds, that from the *acuteft* to the *gravest* shall be in Order (comparing the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>d</sup>, and the 2<sup>d</sup> to the 3<sup>d</sup>, and so on) a 3<sup>d</sup> g : 4<sup>th</sup> : 3<sup>d</sup> l : 5<sup>th</sup> : Working by the Rule I find this Series 120 : 150 :

200 : 240 : 360, or reduced to lower Terms by Division they are 12 : 15 : 20 : 24 : 36. See the Operation here. But if the same *Intervals* are

$$4 : 5 \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 3d \text{ gr.}$$

$$\underline{3 : 4 \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 4th.}$$

$$12 : 15 : 20$$

$$\underline{5 : 6 \quad - \quad - \quad 3d \text{ less.}}$$

$$60 : 75 : 100 : 120$$

$$\underline{2 : 3 - 5th.}$$

$$120 : 150 : 200 : 240 : 360$$

to proceed in that Order from the *gravest* Extremes, the Series is 90 : 72 : 54 : 45 : 30.

OBSERVE. In adding several *Intervals* in a continued Series, the Sum or *Ra-*

*tio* of the Extremes must always be the same, whatever Order they are taken in ; because in any Order the *Ratio* of the Extremes is the true Compound of all the intermediate *Ratios*, or the *Ratios* added, which being individually the same, only in a different Order, the Sum must be the same ; but then according to the different Orders the Series of Numbers will be different, so if we add a *4th* 3 : 4, *3d gr.* 4 : 5

$$3 : 4 : 5 : 6$$

$$4 : 5 : 6 : 8$$

$$5 : 6 : 8 : 10$$

$$16 : 8 : 10 : 20$$

$$12 : 15 : 20 : 24$$

$$15 : 20 : 24 : 30$$

and a *3d less.* 5 : 6, they can be taken in Six different Orders, which are contained in these Six different Series, which contain all the different Orders both from *Grav-*  
*ity* and *Acuteness*.

## SUBTRACTION of INTERVALS.

PROBLEM X. To subtract a lesser *Interval* from a greater. RULE. Multiply the *acute* Terms of each of the given *Intervals* by the *grave* Term of the other, and the Two Products are in the *Ratio* of the Difference sought, *that is*, take the *Ratios* given as proper Fractions, and subtract them by *Probl* 5.

EXAMPLE. Subtract a *5th*  $2 : 3$  from an *Octave*  $F : 2$ , the Remainder or Difference is a *4th*  $3 : 4$ . See the *Intervals* in this Series (made by reducing both the *Intervals* given to a common Fundamental by *Probl*. 3)  $6 : 4 : 3$  the Extremes  $6 : 3$  are *Octave*, the intermediate *Ratios* are  $6 : 4$  a *5th*, and  $4 : 3$  a *4th*, therefore any one of them taken from *Octave* leaves the other.

THE *Reason* and Sense of the Rule is obvious; for as Subtraction is opposite to Addition, so must the Operation be; and this is a plain Application of the Subtraction of *Ratios*, with the same Limitation as in Addition, *viz.* that the *Ratios* must be taken both one way, so that we take always a lesser Quantity from a greater, and the Remainder is less than that greater, according to the true Character whereby the greater and less *Intervals* are distinguished.

OBSERVE. The Difference of any Two *Intervals* expresses the mutual Relation betwixt any Two of their similar Terms, *i. e.* Suppose any Two *Intervals* reduced to a common *acute*  
or

or *grave* Term, their Difference is the *Interval* contained betwixt the other Two Terms; and the *Ratio* expressing it is called the mutual Relation of the Two given *Intervals*; so the Difference or mutual Relation of an *Octave* and *5th* is a *4th*.

## MULTIPLICATION of INTERVALS.

BECAUSE it is the same *Interval* whether the greater or lesser Number be *Antecedent* of the *Ratio*, and in all Multiplication the Multiplier must be an absolute Number, therefore Multiplication of *Intervals* is an Application of *Probl. 6.* without any Variation or Limitation. I need therefore only make Examples, and refer to that *Problem* for the *Rule*.

PROBLEM XI. *Case 1.* To multiply an *Interval* by a whole Number. *Example.* To multiply a *5th*  $2 : 3$  by  $4$ . the Product is  $16 : 81$  the *4th* Power of  $2$  and  $3$ ; and the Series of intermediate Terms being filled up is  $16 : 24 : 36 : 54 : 81$ , expressing  $4$  *Intervals* in the continued *Ratio* of  $2 : 3$ .

CASE II. To multiply an *Interval* by a Fraction. *Example.* Multiply the *Interval*  $8 : 27$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$ , the Product, *i. e.*  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of the given *Interval* is  $4 : 9$ , for  $\frac{2}{3}$  is the Square of the cube Root of  $\frac{8}{27}$ . See this Series,  $8 : 12 : 18 : 27$ , in the continued *Ratio* of  $2 : 3$ , where  $8 : 18$  (or  $4 : 9$ ) is plainly  $2$  Thirds of  $8 : 27$ .

NOTE. If these Two Cases are joyned we can multiply any *Interval* by any mixt Number: Or we may turn the mixt Number to an improper Fraction, and apply the *2d Case*, Co-

COROLLARY. From the Nature of Multiplication it is plain, that we have in these Cases a *Rule* for finding an *Interval*, which shall be to any given one, as any given Number to any other; for 'tis plain if we take these given Numbers in form of a Fraction, and by that Fraction multiply the given *Interval*, we shall have the *Interval* sought, which is to that given as the Numerator to the Denominator; so in the preceding *Example*, the *Interval* 4 : 9 is to 8 : 27 as 2 to 3. But observe, if the Root to be extracted cannot be found, then the *Problem*, strictly speaking, is impossible, and we can express the *Interval* sought only by irrational Numbers. *Example*. To multiply a 4th 3 : 4 by  $\frac{2}{3}$ , i.e. to take  $\frac{2}{3}$  Parts of it, it can only be expressed by the *Ratio* of the Cube Root of 9 to the Cube Root of 16, or the Square of the Cube Root of 3, to the Square of the Cube Root of 4. And the best we can do with such Cases, if they are to be reduced to Practice, is to bring the Extraction of the Root as near the Truth as may serve our Purpose without a very gross Error.

BUT if 'tis propos'd to find Two *Intervals* that are as Two given Numbers, this can easily be done by multiplying any *Interval*, taken at Pleasure, by the Two given Numbers severally; 'tis plain the Products are in the *Ratio* of these Numbers.

DIVISION of *INTERVALS*.

HERE also there is nothing but the Application of *Probl. 7.* to which I refer for the *Rules*, and only make *Examples*.

PROBLEM XII. *Case I.* To divide an *Interval* by a whole Number, *i. e.* to find such an *aliquot Part* of that *Interval* as the given Number denominates.

*Example.* Divide the *Interval*  $4 : 9$  by 2, *that is*, find the Half of it; the Answer is a 5th  $2 : 5$ , for Two 5ths make  $4 : 9$ , as in this Series,  $4 : 6 : 9$ .

CASE II. To divide an *Interval* by a Fraction, *that is*, to find an *Interval* that shall be to the given one, as the Denominator of the Fraction to the Numerator.

*Example.* Divide the *Interval*  $1 : 4$  by  $\frac{2}{3}$ , the Quote is  $1 : 8$ , which is to  $1 : 4$ , as 3 to 2. See this Series, 1, 2, 4, 8.

NOTE. To divide by a mixt Number, we can turn it to an improper Fraction, and do as in *Case 3.*

OBSERVE. As Multiplication and Division are directly opposite, so we have by Division as well as by Multiplication, a *Rule* to find an *Interval*, which shall be to a given one, as any given Number to another: Thus, if the *Interval* sought must be greater than the given one make the least of the given Numbers the Numerator, and the other the Denominator of a Fraction, by which divide the given *Interval*  
bu

but if the sought *Interval* must be lesser than the given, make the greater Number the Numerator ; which is all directly opposite to the Rule of Multiplication : And, as I have already observed in Multiplication, if the Roots to be extracted by the Rule cannot be found, then there is no *Interval* that is accurately to the given one as the Two given Numbers.

CASE III. To divide one *Interval* by another, *that is*, to find how oft the lesser is contain'd in the greater. *Rule.* Subtract (by *Probl. 10.*) the lesser from the greater, and the same Divisor from the last Remainder continually till the Remainder be a *Ratio* of Equality, or change the Species; the Number of Subtractions, if you come to a *Ratio* of Equality, is the Number of Times the whole Divisor is to be found in the Dividend : But if the Species change, the Number of Subtractions preceeding that in which the Remainder changed, is the Number sought : But then, there is a Remainder which belongs also to the Quote, and it is the Remainder of the Operation preceeding that which changed ; so that the Dividend contains the Divisor so oft as that Number of Subtractions denotes and contains that Remainder over, which is properly the Remainder of the Division.

EXAMPLE I. To find how oft the *Interval*  $64 : 125$  contains  $4 : 5$ . By the *Rule* I find Three Times.

EXAMPLE II. To find how oft an *8ve*  $1 : 2$  contains a *3d g.*  $4 : 5$ . you'll find Three Times,

and this *Interval* over, *viz.*  $125 : 128$ . For, *First*, I substract  $4 : 5$  from  $1 : 2$ , the first Remainder is  $5 : 8$ ; from this I substract  $4 : 5$ , the *2d* Remainder is  $25 : 32$ ; from this I substract  $4 : 5$ , the *3d* Remainder is  $125 : 128$ ; from this I substract  $4 : 5$ , the *4th* Remainder is  $625 : 512$ , which is of a different Species, the Antecedent being here greatest, which in the other *Ratio* is least; therefore the Quote is 3, and the *Ratio* or *Interval*  $125 : 128$  over. See the Proof in this Series,  $64 : 80 : 100 : 125 : 128$ . which is in the continued *Ratio* of  $4 : 5$ .  $64 : 125$  is equal to Three times  $4 : 5$ , and  $64 : 128$  is equal to  $1 : 2$ .

THUS far only I proceeded with the Answer in *Case 3.* of *Probl. 7.* for dividing of one *Ratio* by another. Now I add, that if we would make the Quote complete and perfect, so that it may accurately shew how many Times and Parts of a Time the Dividend contains the Divisor, (if 'tis possible) then proceed thus, *viz.* Take the Remainder preceeding that which changed, by it divide the given Divisor, until you come to a *Ratio* of Equality, or till the Species change, and then take the Remainder (preceeding that which changed of this Division) and by it divide the last Divisor; and so on continually till you find a Division that ends in a *Ratio* of Equality; then take the given Dividend and Divisor, and the Remainders of each Division, and place them all in order from Left to Right, as in the following Example. Now, each of these *Ratios* having been divided by the

next

next towards the right Hand, they have all been Dividends except the least (or that next the right) therefore over each I write the Quote or whole Number of Times the next lesser was found in it; then numbring these Dividends and Quotes from the Right, I set the first Quote under the first Dividend, and multiplying the first Quote by the second, and to that Product adding 1, I set the Sum under the 2<sup>d</sup> Dividend: Again, I multiply that last Sum by the 3<sup>d</sup> Quote, and to the Product add the Quote set under the first Dividend; and this Sum I set under the 3<sup>d</sup> Dividend; again, I multiply the last Sum by the 4<sup>th</sup> Quote, and to the Product add the Number set under the 2<sup>d</sup> Dividend, and I set this Sum under the 4<sup>th</sup> Dividend; and so on continually, multiplying the Number set under every Dividend by the Quote set over the next Dividend (on the Left), to the Product I add the Number set under the last Dividend (on the Right): When all this is done, the Numbers that stand under each Dividend, express how oft the last Divisor (which is the first Number on the Right of the Series of Dividends) is contained in each of these Dividends; and consequently these Dividends are to one another as the Number set under them: Therefore, in the last Place, if the Numbers under the given Dividend and Divisor are divided, the greater of them by the lesser, the Quote signifies how oft the *Interval* given to be divided contains the other given one.

EXAMPLE. Divide the *Interval* 1 : 2048 by 1 : 16. According to the *Rule* I subtract 1 : 16 from 1 : 2048, and have two Subtractions, with a Remainder 1 : 8 (for the 4th Subtraction changes the Species) then I subtract 1 : 8 from 1 : 16, and after one Subtraction there remains 1 : 2 (the 2d Subtraction changing.) Again I subtract 1 : 2 from 1 : 8, and after Three Subtractions there remains a *Ratio* of Equality. Now place these according to the *Rule*, as in the following Scheme, and divide 11 by 4, the Quote

2	1	3	1 : 2048,	1 : 16,	1 : 8,	1 : 2	1 : 2048,	contains
11.	4	3					the Divisor	1 :
							16,	2 and $\frac{2}{4}$

shews, that the given Dividend 1 : 2048, contains the Divisor 1 : 16, 2 and  $\frac{2}{4}$  Parts of a Time, *i. e.* that it contains 1 : 16 twice ; and moreover. 3 4th Parts of 1 : 16, which you may view all in this *Series* 1 : 2 : 4 : 8 : 16 : 32 : 64 : 128 : 256 : 512 : 1024 : 2048, in the *continual Ratio* of 1 : 2 ; in which we see 1 : 16 contained two Times, as in these three Terms 1 : 16 : 256, then remains 256 : 2048, equal to 1 : 8. which you see is equal to 3 4th Parts of 1 : 16, *viz.* three Times 1 : 2, which is a 4th of 1 : 16, as you see in the *Series*.

FOR a more general *Demonstration*, suppose any *Quantity*, *Number* or *Interval*, represented by *a* and a lesser by *b* ; let *a* contain *b* Two Times (which Two is set over *a*) and *c* the Remainder. Again let *b* contain *c* Three times (which Three is set over *b*) and *d* the

Re-

Remainder. Then let  $c$  contain  $d$  Five times (which Five is set over  $c$ ) and  $e$  the Remainder. Lastly, Let  $d$  contain  $e$  Four times (set over  $d$ ) and no Remainder (*i. e.* a Ratio of Equality.) Now because  $d$  contains  $e$  Four

times, I set 4 under  $d$ , then  $c$  containing  $d$  Five times, and  $d$  containing  $e$  Four times, therefore  $c$  must contain  $e$  as many

times as the Product of Five into Four, *viz.* Twenty times; but because  $c$  is equal to Five times  $d$  and to  $e$  over, and  $e$  is contained in the Remainder, *viz.* it self once, therefore  $e$  is contained in  $c$  Twenty one times. Again  $b$  contains  $c$  Three times and  $d$  over, and  $c$  contains  $e$  Twenty one times precisely, therefore  $b$  must contain  $e$  as oft as the Sum of Three times 21, *viz.* 63 and 4 which is 67; then  $a$  contains  $b$  Two times and  $c$  over, also  $b$  contains  $e$  Sixty seven times, therefore  $a$  contains  $e$  as oft as the Sum of Two times Sixty seven, *viz.* 134 and 21, which is 155. The other Inferences are plain, *viz.* 1mo. That each of those Intervals  $a : b : c$ , &c. are to one another, as the Numbers set under them; for these are the Numbers of Times they contain a common Measure  $e$ . And consequently, 2do. If any of these Numbers be divided by another, the Quote will shew how oft the Interval under which the Dividend stands, contains the other.

COROLLARY. Thus we have found a Way to discover the Ratio betwixt any Two Inter-

vals, if they are commensurable; so in the preceding *Example*, the *Interval* 1 : 2048 is to 1 : 16, as the Number 11 to 4. But *observe*, if the *Divisions* never came to a *Ratio* of Equality, the given *Intervals* are not commensurable, or as Number to Number; yet we may come near the Truth in Numbers, by carrying on the *Division* a considerable Length.



## CHAP. V.

*Containing a more particular Consideration of the Nature, Variety and Composition of CONCORDS, in Application of the preceeding Theory.*

**W**E have already distinguished and defined *simple* and *compound Intervals*, which we shall now particularly apply to that Species of *Intervals* which is called **CONCORD**.

**DEFINITION.** A *simple CONCORD* is such, whose *Extremes* are at a *Distance* less than the *Sum* of any *Two* other *Concords*. A *compound CONCORD* is equal to *Two* or more *Concords*. This in general is agreeable to the common *Notion* of *simple* and *compound*; but the *Definition* is also taken another *Way* among the *Writers* on *Musick*; thus an *Octave*

I : 2, and all the lesser *Concords* ( which have been already mentioned ) are called *simple* and *original* CONCORDS; and all greater than an *Octave* are called *compound* CONCORDS, because all *Concords* above an *Octave* are composed of, or equal to the Sum of one or more *Octaves*, and some single *Concord* less than an *Octave*; and are ordinarily in Practice called by the Name of that *simple Concord*; of which afterwards,

§ I. Of the original CONCORDS, their Rise and Dependence on each other, &c.

See these *original Concords* again in the following *Table*, where I have placed them in Order, according to their Quantity.

*Table of simple*  
CONCORDS.

5 : 6 a 3d l.	LET us now first examine
4 : 5 a 3d g.	the <i>Composition</i> and <i>Relations</i>
3 : 4 a 4th.	of these <i>original Concords</i> a-
2 : 3 a 5th.	mong themselves.
5 : 8 a 6th l.	IF we apply the preceeding
3 : 5 a 6th g.	Rules of the Addition and Sub-
1 : 2 a 8ve.	straction of <i>Intervals</i> to these
	<i>Concords</i> , we shall find them
	divided into <i>simple</i> and <i>compound</i> , according to
	the

the first and more general Notion, in the Manner expressed in the following *Table*.

Simple.		Compound.	Proof in Numb.
5 : 6. a 3d l.	5th. 6th l. 6th g. 8ve.	composed of { 3d g. & 3d l. 4th, 3d l. 4th, 3d g. 5th, 4th. or 6th g. 3d l. or 6th l. 3d g. or 3d g. 3d l. 4th.	4. 5. 6.
4 : 5. a 3d g.			5. 6. 8.
3 : 4. a 4th.			3. 4. 5.
			2. 3. 4.
			3. 5. 6.
			4. 5. 8.
			4. 5. 6. 8.

The 3d l. 3d g. and 4th, are equal to the Sum of no other *Concords*; for the 3d l. is it self the least *Interval* of all *Concords*. The 3d g. is the next, which is equal to the 3d l. and a Remainder which is *Discord*. The 4th is equal to either of the 3ds and a *Discord* Remainder; and these Three are therefore the least Principles of *Concord*, into which all other *Intervals* are divisible: For the Composition of the 5th, 6th and 8ve, you see it proven in the Numbers annexed; and that they can be compounded of no other *Concords*, you'll prove by applying the Rules of Addition and Substraction.

As to the Proofs in Numbers which are annex'd, they demonstrate the Thing, taking the component Parts in one particular Order; but it is also true in whatever Order they are taken, as is proven in *Probl. 2. Chap. 4.* Or see all the Variety in this *Table*; in the last Column of which you see the Names of all the component Parts set down in the several Orders of which

which they are capable, either from the *acuteſt* Term or the *graveſt*.

*TABLE* of the various Orders of the harmonical Parts of the greater Concords.

5th, 2 : 3	{ 4 . 5 . 6 10 . 12 . 15	3d g. 3d l. 3d l. 3d g.
6th, l. 5 : 8	{ 5 . 6 . 8 15 . 20 . 24	3d l. 4th. 4th. 3d l.
6th, g. 3 : 5	{ 3 . 4 . 5 12 . 15 . 20	4th, 3d g. 3d g. 4th.
See I : 2	{ 2 . 3 . 4 3 . 4 . 6	5th, 4th. 4th, 5th.
	{ 3 . 5 . 6 5 . 6 . 10	6th g. 3d l. 3d l. 6th g.
	{ 4 . 5 . 8 5 . 8 . 10	3d g. 6th l. 6th l. 3d g.
	{ 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 4 . 5 . 6 . 8	4th, 3d g. 3d l. 3d g. 3d l. 4th.
	{ 5 . 6 . 8 . 10 10 . 12 . 15 . 20 12 . 15 . 20 . 24 15 . 20 . 24 . 30	3dl. 4th. 3d g. 3dl. 3d g. 4th. 3d g. 4th. 3dl. 4th, 3d l. 3d g.

Here you may observe, that the Varieties of the Composition of Octave by Three Parts, viz. 3d g. 3d l. 4th, include the other Three Ways by Two Parts ; and also all the Varieties of the Composition of the 5th and 6th.

WE have already, by Addition of the various *Concords* within an *Octave*, found and proven that the *5th*, *6ths* and *8ve*, are equal to the Sum of lesser *Concords*, as in the preceeding *Table* : Now we shall consider, by what *Laws* of Proportion these *Intervals* are resolvable back into their component Parts ; or, how to put such middle Numbers betwixt the Extremes of these *Intervals*, that the intermediate *Ratios* shall make *harmonical Intervals* ; by which we shall have a nearer View of the Dependence of these *original Concords* upon one another.

OF the Seven *original Concords* we examine their *Composition* among themselves, *i. e.* what lesser ones the greater are equal to ; therefore the *Octave* being the greatest, its *Resolutions* must include the *Resolutions* of all the rest.

PROPOSITION I. If betwixt the Extremes of an *Octave* we place an *arithmetical Mean* (by *Corol. to Theor. 2. Chap. 4.*) it shall resolve it into Two *Ratios*, which are the *Concords* of *5th* and *4th* ; and the *5th* shall be next the lesser Extreme : So betwixt 1 and 2 an *arithmetical Mean* is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ; or because 1 and 2 can have no middle Term in whole Numbers ; therefore if we multiply them by 2, the Products 2 and 4 being in the same *Ratio*, can receive one *arithmetical Mean* (by *Theor. 8th*) which Mean is 3, and the Series 2 : 3 : 4, *viz.* a *5th* and a *4th*.

PROPOSITION II. If betwixt the Extremes of an *Octave* we take an *harmonical Mean*, by *Theor. 11th*, the intermediate *Ratios* shall be

a 4th and a 5th, and the 4th next the lesser Extreme; so betwixt 1 : 2 an *harmonical Mean* is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; or multiplying all by 3, to bring them to whole Numbers, the Series is 3, 4, 6, which is *harmonical*.

COROLLARY. 'Tis plain, that if betwixt the Extremes of the *Octave* we put Two *Means*, one *arithmetical* and one *harmonical*, the Four Numbers shall be in *geometrical Proportion*, as here, 6, 8, 9, 12. The *Reason* is, that the 4th and 5th are the Complements of each other to an *Octave*; and therefore a 4th to the lower Extreme leaves a 5th to the upper, and contrarily: And in this Division of the *Octave*, we have the Three Kinds of *Proportion*, ARITHMETICAL, HARMONICAL and GEOMETRICAL, mixt, for 6 : 9 : 12. viz. the 5th, 4th, and 8ve, are *arithmetical*; 6 : 8 : 12, the 4th, 5th, and 8ve, are *harmonical*; and 6 : 8 : 9 : 12, *geometrical*.

OBSERVE. The 5th and 4th are the Result of the immediate and most simple Division of the *Octave* into Two Parts: The 4th is not resolvable into other *Concords*, since the only lesser *Concords* are the 3d g. and 3d l. and either of these taken from a 4th, leaves a *Discord*; and therefore 'tis in vain to seek any *mean Terms* that will resolve it into *Concords*. 'Tis natural therefore next to enquire into the *Resolutions* of the 5th, which by a remarkable Uniformity, we find reducible into its constituent lesser *Concords* by the same Laws of Proportion.

PROPOSITION III. An *arithmetical Mean* put betwixt the Extremes of a *5th*, resolves it into a *3d g.* and a *3d l.* with the *3d g.* next the lesser Extreme, as here,  $2 : 2\frac{1}{2} : 3$ . which multiplied by 3 are reduced to these whole Numbers  $4 : 5 : 6$ .

PROPOSITION IV. An *harmonical Mean* put betwixt the Extremes of a *5th*, resolves it into a *3d g.* and *3d l.* with the *3d l.* next the lesser Extreme; as  $2 : 2\frac{2}{3} : 3$ , which multiplied by 3 are reduced to these,  $10 : 12 : 15$ .

COROLLARY. The same Thing follows here as from the two first Propositions, *viz.* That taking both an *arithmetical* and *harmonical Mean* betwixt the Extremes of a *5th*, the Four Numbers are in *geometrical Proportion*, as in these, 20, 24, 25, 30.

Now out of the various Mixtures of these simple Divisions of the *8ve* and *5th*, we can bring not only all the *Resolutions* of the *6th*, and the other *Resolutions* of the *8ve*, but all the Varieties with respect to the Order in which the Parts can be taken, as follows, *viz.*

1<sup>mo</sup>. IF with the *arithmetical* Division of the *Octave*, we mix the *arithmetical* Division of the *5th*, *i. e.* if we put an *arithmetical Mean* betwixt the Extremes of the *Octave*, and then another *arithmetical Mean* betwixt the lesser Extreme and the last *mean* Term found, and reduce all the 4 to whole Numbers, then we have this Series 4, 5, 6, 8, in which we have the *Octave* resolved into its three constituent *Concords*, *3d greater*, *3d lesser*, and *4th*; and within

within that Series the 5th resolved into its two constituent *Concords*, 3d greater, and 3d lesser : And if we consider the *Extremes* of the *Octave* with the least of the two middle Terms 5, then these 4, 5, 8 shew us the *Octave* resolved into a 3d g. and a 6th l. *Lastly*. It shews us the 6th l. resolved into a 3d l. and a 4th, viz. 5, 6, 8.

2do. IF we mix the *harmonical* Division of *Octave*, with the *arithmetical* Division of the 5th, i. e. if we put an *harmonical Mean* betwixt the *Extremes* of *Octave*, and then an *arithmetical Mean* betwixt the greatest *Extreme* and middle Term last found, as in this Series, 3, 4, 5, 6, then we have the *Resolution* of the *Octave* into a 6th g. and 3d l. as in these 3, 5, 6 ; also the 6th g. resolved into a 4th and 3d g. in these, 3, 4, 5 ; and taking the whole Series, we have a 2d Order of the *Three Parts* of the *Octave*.

WE have seen all the *harmonical* Parts of the *Octave* and 5th, and both the 6ths ; and as to the Variety of Order in which these may be placed betwixt the *Extremes*, it may all be found by other Mixtures of the Parts of the *Octave*, and 5th or 6th ; as you'll easily find by comparing the 6 Orders of the *Composition* of *Octave* by 3 *Concords*, in the preceding *Table*.

OR, you may find them all in one Series, if you'll divide the *Octave* thus, viz. Put both an *arithmetical* and *harmonical Mean* betwixt its *Extremes*, and you'll have a 4th and 5th to each of the *Extremes* ; both of which 5ths divide  
arith-

*arithmetically* and also *harmonically*, and at every Division reduce all to a Series of whole Numbers; and 'tis plain you'll have a Series of 8 Terms, among which you'll have Examples of the 7 *original Concords* with their *Compositions*, and all the different Orders in which their Parts can be taken. Or, you may make the Series by taking the 7 *Concords*, and reducing them to a common *Fundamental*, by *Problem 3.* the Series is 360 : 300 : 288 : 270 : 240 : 225 : 216 : 180. See *Plate 1. Fig. 4.* wherein I have connected the Numbers so as all the *Composition* may be easily traced.

THERE is this remarkable in that Series, that you have all the *Concords* in a Series, both ascending toward *Acuteness* from a common *Fundamental*, or greatest Number 360, and descending towards *Gravity*, from a common *acute* Term 180. and for that Reason the Series has this Property, that taking the Two Extremes, and any other Two at equal Distance, these 4 are in *geometrical Proportion*.

*Nota.* IF betwixt the Extremes of any *Interval* you take Two middle Terms, which shall be to the Extremes in the *Ratios* of any Two component Parts of that *Interval*, *i. e.* if the two middle Terms divide the *Interval* into the same Parts only in a different Order, the Four Numbers are always *geometrical*.

Now, from the Things last explained, we shall make some more *particular Observations* concerning

concerning the *Dependence* of the *original Concords* one upon another.

THE *Octave* is not only the greatest Interval of the Seven *original Concords*, but the first in Degree of Perfection; the Agreement of whose Extremes is greatest, and in that respect most like to *Unisons*: As it is the greatest *Interval*, so all the lesser are contained in it; but the Thing most remarkable is, the Manner how these lesser *Concords* are found in the *Octave*, which shews their mutual Dependences; by taking both an *harmonical* and *arithmetical Mean* betwixt the Extremes of the *Octave*, and then both an *arithmetical* and *harmonical Mean* betwixt each Extreme, and the most distant of the Two Means last found, *viz.* betwixt the lesser Extreme, and the first *arithmetical Mean*, also betwixt the greater Extreme and the first *harmonical Mean* we have all the lesser *Concords*: Thus if betwixt 360 and 180 the Extremes of *Octave*, we take an *arithmetical Mean*, it is 270, and an *harmonical Mean* is 240; then betwixt 360, the greatest Extreme, and 240, the *harmonical Mean*, take an *arithmetical Mean*, it is 300, and an *harmonical Mean* is 288; again, betwixt 188 the lesser Extreme of the *Octave*, and 270 the first *arithmetical Mean*, take an *arithmetical Mean*, it is 225, and an *harmonical* it is 216, and the whole Numbers make this Series, 360 : 300 : 288 : 270 : 240 : 216 : 180.

OBSERVE. The immediate Division of the *Octave* resolves it into a 4th and 5th; the *arithmetical*

*arithmetical* Division puts the 5th next the lesser Extreme, as here 2, 3, 4, and the *harmonic* puts it next the greater Extreme, as here 3 : 4 : 6 ; and you may see both in these four Numbers 6, 8, 9, 12. Again the immediate Division of the 5th produces the Two 3ds ; the *arithmetical* Division puts the lesser 3d, and the *harmonic* the greater 3d next the lesser Extreme ; as in these 4, 5, 6, and 10, 12, 15 ; or see both in one Series, 20, 24, 25, 30. The two 6ths are therefore found by Division of the *Octave*, tho' not by any immediate Division. The same is true also of the two 3ds ; so that all the other *simple Concords* are found by Division of the *Octave*. The 5th and 4th arise immediately and directly out of it, and the 3ds and 6ths proceed from an accidental Division of the *Octave* ; for the 3ds arise immediately out of the 5th, which having one Extreme common with the *Octave*, the mean Term which divides it directly, divides the *Octave* in a Manner accidentally.

N o w, if we consider how perfectly the Extremes of an *Octave* agree, that when they are sounded together, 'tis impossible to perceive two different Sounds ; so great is their Likeness, and the Mixture so evenly, that it is impossible to conceive a greater Agreement ; we see plainly there is no Reason to expect that there should be any other *Concord* within the Order of Nature that comes nearer, or so near to the Perfection of *Unisons* : And if we consider again, how these Seven *original Concords* gradually decrease

decrease from the *Octave* to the lesser *6th*, which has but a small Degree of *Concord*; and with that Consideration joyn this of the mutual Dependence of these Seven *Concords* upon one another, and especially how they all rise out of the Division of the *Octave*, according to a most simple Law, *viz.* The taking an *arithmetical* and *harmonical Mean* betwixt its Extremes which gives the Two *Concords* next in Perfection to the *Octave*, whereof the *5th* is best; and the same Law being applied to this, discovers all the rest of the *Concords*; for out of the *5th* arise immediately the two *3ds*, whose Complements to *Octave* are the two *6ths*; and for that Reason these *6ths* and *3ds* are said to rise accidentally out of the *Octave*; (and afterwards we shall see how by the same Law, some other principal *Intervals* belonging to the System of *Musick* are found.) Upon all these Considerations we may be satisfied, that we have discovered the true natural System of *Concords* within the *Octave*; and that we have no reasonable Ground to believe there are any more, nor even a Possibility of it, according to the present State and Order of Things.

Now as to the Order of their Perfection, we have already stated them according to the Ear thus, *Octave*, *5th*, *4th*, *6th gr.* *3d gr.* *3d less.* *6th less.* In which Order we find this Law, That the best *Concords* are express'd by least Numbers. Yet, as I observed, this is not an universal Character; and we are only certain of this from Experience, that the frequent Coincidence of Vi-

brations, is a necessary Part of the Cause of *Harmony*; Sense and Observation must supply the rest, in determining the Preference of *Concords*; and so we take these 7 *original Concords* in the Order mentioned; and upon what Considerations they are otherways ranked by practical *Musicians*, shall be explain'd in its proper Place.

YET before I go further, let us notice this one Thing concerning the Difference of the *arithmetical* and *harmonical* Division. An *arithmetical* or *harmonical Mean* put betwixt the Extremes of any *Interval*, divides it into two unequal Parts; the *arithmetical* puts the greatest *Interval* next the lesser Extreme, the *harmonical* contrarily, as in these,  $2 : 3 : 4$ , and  $3 : 4 : 6$ , where the *Octave* is divided into its constituent *5th* and *4th*; or the Resolutions of the *5th*, as here  $4 : 5 : 6$ , and  $10 : 12 : 15$ . Now let us apply these Numbers either to the Lengths of Chords or their Vibrations, and we find this Difference, that applied to the Vibrations, the *arithmetical* Division puts the best *Concord* next the *fundamental*, or *grave Extreme*, and the *harmonical* puts it next the *acute Extreme*; but contrarily in both when applied to the Lengths of Chords. As these two Divisions resolve the *Octave* or *5th* into the same Parts, they are in that respect equal; but if we suppose the Extremes of the *Octave* or *5th*, with their *arithmetical* or *harmonical Means*, to be sounded all together, there will be a considerable Difference; and that Division  
which

which puts the best *Concord* lowest is best, which is the *arithmetical* if the Numbers are applied to the Vibrations, but the *harmonical* if applied to the Lengths of Chords. The observing this shall be enough here; I shall more fully explain it when I treat of *compound Sounds*, under the Name of *Harmony*. This however we find true, That *geometrical Proportion* affords no *simple Concords* (how it comes among the *compound* shall be seen presently) and it has no Place in the Relation and Dependence of the *original Concords*, but so far as a Mixture of the *arithmetical* and *harmonical* produces it, as in these, 6, 8, 9, 12. And here I shall observe, That the *harmonical* Proportion received that Denomination from its being found among the Numbers, applied to the Length of Chords, that express the chief *Concords* in *Musick*, viz. the *Octave*, *5th*, and *4th*, as here, 3, 4, 6. But this Proportion does not always constitute *Concords*, nor can possibly do, because betwixt the Extremes of any *Interval* we can put an *harmonical Mean*, yet every *Interval* is not resolvable into Parts that are *Concords*; therefore this Definition has been rejected, particularly by *Kepler*; and for this he institutes another Definition of *harmonical Proportion*, viz. When betwixt the Extremes of any *Ratio* or *Interval*, one or more middle Terms are taken, which are all *Concord* among themselves, and each with the Extremes, then that is an *harmonical* Division of such an *Interval*; so that *Octave*, *6th* and *5th* are capable

of being *harmonically* divided in this Sense ; all the Variety whereof you see in a Table at the Beginning of this Chapter : And these middle Terms will be in some Cases *arithmetical* Means, as  $1 : 2 : 3$  ; in some *geometrical*, as 1, 2, 4 ; in some *harmonical* (in the first Sense) as  $3 : 4 : 6$  ; and in others they will depend on no certain *Proportion*, as 5, 6, 8.

HITHERTO we have considered the *Resolution* and *Composition* of *Intervals*, as they are express'd by *Ratios* of Numbers ; but there are other Ways of deducing the Relation and Dependence of the *Concords*, not from the Division or Resolution of a *Ratio*, but the Division of a simple Number, or rather of a Line express'd by that Number, which may be call'd the *geometrical* Part of this *Theory*. But it will be better if I first consider and explain the remaining *Concords* belonging to the *System* of *Musick*, which are particularly called *compound Concords*,

§ 2. Of COMPOUND CONCORDS; and of the Harmonick Series; with several Observations relating to both simple and compound Concords.

**H**ITHERTO we have taken it upon Experience, That there are no *concording Intervals* greater than *Octave*, but what are composed of the 7 *original Concords* within an *Octave*; the *Reason* of which is deduced from the Perfection of the *Octave*. We have seen already how all the other *simple* and *original Concords* are contained in, and depend upon the *Octave*, and derive their Sweetness from it, as they arise more or less directly out of it: We have observed, that it has in all Respects the greatest Perfection of any *Interval*, and comes nearest to *Unisons*; and tho' there seems to be something still wanting, to make a general Character, by which we may judge of the Approach of any *Interval* to the perfect Agreement of *Unisons*, yet 'tis plain the *Octave* 1 : 2 comes nearest to it; for 'tis contained not only in the least of all Numbers, but that Proportion is of the most perfect Kind, *viz. Multiple*; and of all such it is the most simple, which makes the greatest Degree of Commensurateness or Agreement in the Motions of the Air that produce these Sounds. Let me add this

other Remark, That if Wind-instruments are overblown, the Sound will rise first to an *Octave*, and to no other *Concord*; why it should not as well rise to a 4th, &c. is owing probably to the Perfection of *Octave*, and its being next to *Unison*. Again, take into the Consideration that surprising *Phenomenon* of Sound being raised from a Body which is touched by nothing but the Air, moved by the sonorous Motion of another Body; particularly that if the Tune of the untouched Body be *Octave* above the given Sound, it will be most distinctly heard; and scarcely will any other but the *Octave* be heard.

FROM this simple and perfect Form of the *Octave*, arises this remarkable Property of it, that it may be doubled, tripled, &c. and still be *Concord*, i. e. the Sum of Two or more *Octaves* are *Concord*, tho' the more compound will be gradually less agreeable; but it is not so with any other *Concord* less than *Octave*, the Double, &c. of these being all *Discords*; and as continued *geometrical Proportion* constitutes a Series of equal *Intervals*, so we see that such a Series has no Place in *Musick* but among *Octaves*, the Continuation of other *Concords* producing *Discord*. These Things remarkably confirm to us the Perfection of the *Octave*: There is such a Likeness and Agreement betwixt its Extremes, that it seems to make a Demonstration *a priori*, that whatever Sound is *Concord* to one Extreme of the *Octave*, will be so to the other also; and in Experience it is so.

We have seen already, that whatever Sound betwixt the Extremes of an *Octave*, is *Concord* to the one, is in another Degree *Concord* to the other also; for we found that the *Octave* is resolvable into *Concords*. Again, if we add any other *simple Concord* to an *Octave*, we find by Experience that it agrees to both its Extremes; to the nearest Extreme it is a *simple Concord*, and to the farthest it is a *compound Concord*: Now, take this for a Principle, That whatever agrees to one Extreme of *Octave*, agrees also to the other, and we easily conclude, That there cannot be any *concording Interval* greater than an *Octave*, but the *Compounds* of an *Octave* and some lesser *Concord*: For if we suppose the Extremes of any *Interval* greater than an *Octave* to be *Concord*, 'tis plain we can put in a middle Term, which shall be *Octave* to one Extreme of that *Interval*, consequently the other Extreme shall be also *Concord* with this middle Term, and be distant from it by an *Interval* less than an *Octave*; and therefore if we add a *Discord* to one Extreme of an *Octave*, it will be also *Discord* to the other; the same will apply also to the *Compounds* of Two or more *Octaves*; but the Agreement will still be less as the Composition is greater.

I cannot but mention here how *D' Cartes* concludes this Principle to be true; he observes, what I have done, *That the Sound of a Whistle or Organ-pipe will rise to an Octave, if 'tis forcibly blown; which proceeds,*  
*says*

says he, *from this, That it differs least from Unison. Hence again, says he, I judge that no Sound is heard, but its acute Octave seems some way to eccho or resound in the Ear; for which Reason it is that with the grosser Chords (or those which give the graver Sound) of some stringed Instruments (he mentions the Testudo) others are joynd an Octave acuter, which are always touched together, whereby the graver Sound is improven, so as to be more distinctly heard.* From this he concludes it plain, *That no Sound which is Concord to one Extreme of an Octave, can be Discord to the other.* From all this we see how the Octave comprehends the whole System of ConCORDS, (excepting the Unison) because they are all contained in it, or composed of it and these that are cotained in it.

THE Author already mentioned of the *Elucidationes Physicæ* upon *D' Cartes's Compend of Musick*, advances an *Hypothesis* to explain how this happens, which *D' Cartes* affirms, *viz.* That the *Fundamental* never sounds but the *acute Octave* seems to do so too. He supposes that the Air contains in it several Parts of different Constitution, capable, like different Chords, of different Measures of Vibrations, which may be the Reason, says he, that the human Voice or Instruments, and chiefly these of Metal never sound, but some other *acuter* Sounds are heard to resound in the Air.

IN the Beginning of this *Chapter* I observed two different Senses in which *ConCORDS* were called *simple and compound*: The *Octave* and all

all within it are called *simple* and *original Concords*; and all greater than an *Octave*, are *compound*, because all such are composed of an *Octave*, and some lesser *Concord*. Now, the *3ths*, *6ths* and *Octave* are also composed of the *3ds* and *4ths* which are the most *simple Concords*; but then all the 7 *Concords* within an *Octave* have different *Effects* in *Musick*, whereas the *compound Concords* above an *Octave* have all in *Practice* the same *Name* and *Effect* with these *simple* ones, less than an *Octave*, of which with the *Octave* they are composed; so a *5th* and an *Octave* added make 1 : 3, and is called *compound 5th*. Now as there are 7 *original Concords*, so these 7 added to *Octave*, make 7 *compound Concords*; and added to two *Octaves*, make other 7 more *compound*, and so on. We have seen already, in *Prob. 8.* how to add *Intervals*, and according to that *Rule* I have made the following *Table of Concords*, which place in *Order*, according to the *Quantity* of the *Interval*, beginning with the least. I suppose 1 to be a common *fundamental Chord*, and express the *acute Term* of each *Concord* by that *Fraction* or *Part* of the *Fundamental* that makes such *Concord* with it, and have reduced each to its *radical Form*, *i. e.* to the lowest *Number*; so an *Octave* and *5th* added, is in the *Ratio* 2 : 6, equal by *Reduction* to 1 : 3; and others.

*Follows the general Table of CONCORDS,*

*Octaves*

Octaves	Simple Concords	Compounds above one Octave	Compounds above two Octaves.	$\frac{1}{16}$ &c.
	1: 2	1: 4	1: 8	
6th g.	: $\frac{3}{5}$	: $\frac{3}{10}$	: $\frac{3}{20}$	
6th l.	$\frac{5}{8}$ : 5	$\frac{5}{16}$ : 10	$\frac{5}{32}$ : 20	&c.
5th	: $\frac{2}{3}$	: $\frac{1}{3}$	: $\frac{1}{6}$	
4th	$\frac{3}{4}$ : 4	$\frac{3}{8}$ : 8	$\frac{3}{16}$ : 16	
3d g.	: $\frac{4}{5}$	: $\frac{2}{5}$	: $\frac{1}{5}$	
3d l.	$\frac{5}{6}$ : 6	$\frac{5}{12}$ : 12	$\frac{5}{24}$ : 24	

THESE *Compounds* are ordinarily called by the Name of the *simple Concord* of which they are composed, tho' they have also other Names, of which in another Place.

IF this Table were continued infinitely, 'tis plain we should have all the possible *harmonical Ratios*, and in their radical Forms; 'tis also certain, that there should be no other Numbers found in it than these, 1, 3, 5, and their Multiples by 2, *i. e.* their Products by 2, which are 2, 6, 10, and the Products of these by 2; *viz.* 4, 12, 20, and so on *in infinitum*, multiplying the last Three Products by 2. The Reason of which is, that in this Series 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, we have no other Numbers but 1, 3, 5, and their Products by 2; and we have here also all the Numbers that belong to the *simple original Concords*; and if we consider how the *Compounds* are raised by adding an *Octave* continually, we see plainly that

no new Number can be produced, but the Product of these that belong to the *simple Concords* multiplied by 2 continually. All which Numbers make up this Series, *viz.* 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20, 24, 32, 40, 48, 64, 80, &c. which is continued after the Number 5, by multiplying the last Three by 2, and their Products *in infinitum* by 2; whereby 'tis plain, we shall have all the Multiples of these original Numbers 1, 3, 5, arising from the continual Multiplication of them by 2. And this I call the HARMONICAL SERIES, because it contains all the possible *Ratios* that make *Concord*, either *simple* or *compound*: And not only so, but every Number of it is *Concord* with every other, which I shall easily prove: That it contains all possible *Concords* is plain from the Way of raising it, since it has no other Numbers than what belong to the preceeding general *Table of Concords*; and that every Number is *Concord* with every other is thus proven: After the Number 5 every Three Terms of the Series are the Doubles of the last Three; but the Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, are *Concord* each with another, and consequently each of these must be *Concord* with every other Number in the Series, since all the rest are but Multiples of these; for whatever *Concord* any lesser Number of these 5 makes with another of them that is greater, it will with the Double of that greater make an *Octave* more, and with the Double of the last another *Octave* more, and so on: Thus, 2 to 3, is a *5th*, and 2 to 6 is a *5th* and *8ve*; but, comparing any greater

greater Number of these Five with a lesser, whatever *Concord* that is, it will with the Double of that lesser be an *8ve* less, providing that Double be still less than the Number compared to it, (so 5 to 2 is a *3d g.* and *8ve*, and 5 to 4 is only a *3d g.*) But if 'tis greater, then it will be the Complement of the first *Concord* to *8ve*, i.e. the Difference of it and *8ve*, (so 5 to 6 is a *3d l.* the Complement of a *6th g.* 5 : 3 to an *8ve*) and taking another Double it will be an *8ve* more than the last, and so on. Now the 'Thing being true of these Five Numbers compared together, and with all the other Numbers in the Series, it must hold true of all these others compared together, because they are only Multiples of the first. The Use of this *harmonick Series* you'll find in the next *Chapter*. I shall end this with some further Observations relating to the *harmonical Numbers*, and the whole *System* of *Concords* both *simple* and *compound*.

IN the preceeding *Chapter* I have endeavoured to discover some Character, in the Proportion of *musical Intervals*, whereby their various Perfections may be stated, tho' not with all the Success to be wished; so that we are in a great Measure left to Sense and Experience. We have seen that the principal and chief *Concords*, are contain'd within the first and least of the natural Series of Numbers; the *Octave*, *5th*, *4th*, and *3ds*, in the natural Progression 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; and the Two *6ths* arise out of the Division of the *Octave*, and are contain'd in these Numbers 3, 5, 8. Considering what a necessary Condition

dition of *Concord*, frequent Union and Coincidence of Motion is, we have concluded, that the smaller Numbers any Proportion consists of, *cæteris paribus*, the more perfect is the *Interval* expressed by such a Proportion of Numbers. But then I observed, that besides this Smalness of the Numbers on which the Coincidence depends, there is something still a Secret in the Proportion or Relation of the Numbers that represent the Extremes of an *Interval*, that we ought to know for making a general Character, whereby the Degrees of *Concord* may be determined; so  $4 : 7$  is *Discord*, and yet  $5 : 6$  is *Concord*, and  $5 : 8$ . Now again we see in this *Table of Concords*, that the Smalness of the Numbers does not absolutely determine the Preference, else  $1 : 3$  an *Octave* and *5th*, would be better than  $1 : 4$  a double *Octave*, which it is not, and so would all the other *compound 5ths in infinitum*. Again, the *compound 3d*  $1 : 5$  would be better than either the *compound Octave*  $1 : 8$ , or the *compound 5th*  $1 : 6$ , which is all contrary to Experience; and this demonstrates, that there must be something else in it than barely the Smalness of the Numbers. *D' Cartes* observes here, that the *3d*  $1 : 6$ , compos'd of Two *Octaves*, is better than either the *simple 3d*,  $4 : 5$ , or the first *Compound*  $2 : 5$ ; and gives this Reason, *viz.* that  $1 : 5$  is a multiple Proportion, which the others are not; and o<sup>t</sup> of multiple Proportion, he says, the best *Concord's* proceed, because it is the most simple Form, and easily perceived: By the same Reason all the

the *compound 5ths* are better than the *simple 5th*; and *D' Cartes* himself makes the first *compound 5th*  $1 : 3$  the most perfect, because it is Multiple, and in smaller Numbers than the *simple 5th*. But we must observe, that every multiple Proportion will not constitute *Concord*, so  $1 : 9$  is gross *Discord*, being equal to Three *Octaves*, and this *Discord*  $8 : 9$ . Now consider either the Numbers or their multiple Proportion, and this of  $1 : 9$  should be better than  $3 : 8$ , or than  $3 : 16$ ; yet it is otherwise, for these are *compound 4ths*, which are *Concord*; we must therefore refer this to some other thing, in the Relation of the Numbers, that we cannot express.

OBSERVE next how *D' Cartes* states these *Concords*; he puts them in this Order, *Octave*, *5th*, *3d g.* *4th*, *6th g.* *3d l.* *6th l.* and gives this Reason, *viz.* That the Perfection of any *Concord* is not to be taken from its *simple Form* only, but from a joyn't Consideration of all its *Compounds*; because, says he, it can never be heard alone so simply, but there will be heard the Resonance of its *Compound*; as in the *Unison*, or a single given Sound, the Resonance of the *acute Octave* is contained; and therefore he places the *3d g.* before the *4th*, because being contain'd in lesser Numbers, it is more perfect. But we must observe again, that as *Concord* does not depend altogether upon multiple Proportion, neither does it upon the Smalness of the Numbers; for then *D' Cartes* should have put the *5th* before the *Octaves*, because all its

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*Componuds* are contained in lesser Numbers than the *Octaves*. We see then how difficult it is to deduce the Perfection of the *Concords* from the Numbers that express them.

LET us consider this other Remark of *D'Cartes*, he observes that only the Numbers 2, 3, 5, are strictly *musical* Numbers, all the other Numbers of the Table being only *Compounds* or *Multiples* of these Three, which belong in the first Place to the *Octave*, 5th, and 3d g. which he calls *Concords* properly, and *per se*, as he calls all others *accidental*, for Reasons I shall show you immediately.

Now, tho' the *compound* 5ths are contain'd in lesser Numbers than the *Octaves*, perhaps the Preference of the *Octaves* is due to the radical Number 2, which belongs originally and in the first Place to that *Concord*; whereas the *compound* 5ths depend on the Number 3 which is more complex: But we shall leave this Way of Reasoning as uncertain and chimerical; yet this we have very remarkable, that the first six of the natural Series of Numbers, *viz.* 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, are *Concords* comparing every one with every other, which is true of no other Series of Numbers, except the *Equimultiples* of these 6, which, in respect of *Concord*, are the same with these. Again, if each of these Numbers be multiplied by it self, and by each of the rest, and these Products be disposed in a Series, each Number of that Series with the next constitutes some *Interval* that belongs to the System of *Musick*, tho' they are not at all *Concord*, as

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will

will appear afterwards : That Series is 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. 9. 10. 12. 15. 16. 18. 20. 24. 25. 30. 36. It would be of no great Use to re-  
 pete what wonderful Properties some Authors have found in the Number 6, particularly *Kircher*, who tells us, that it is the only Number that is absolutely *harmonical*, and clearly represents the *divine Idea* in the Creation, about which he employs a great deal of Writing. But these are fine imaginary Discoveries, that I shall leave every one to satisfy himself about, by consulting their Authors or Propagators.

ANOTHER Thing remarkable in this *System* of *Concords* is, that the greatest Number of Vibrations of the *Fundamental* cannot be above 5, or, there is no *Concord* where the *Fundamental* makes more than 5 Vibrations to one Coincidence with the *acute Term* : For since it is so in the *simple Concords*, it cannot be otherwise in the *Compounds*, the *Octave* being  $\frac{1}{2}$ , which by the *Rule* of Addition can never alter the lesser Number of any *simple Concord* to which it is added. It is again to be remarked, that this Progress of the *Concords* may be carried on to greater Degrees of Composition *in infinitum*; but the more *compound* still the less agreeable, if you'll except the Two Cases abovementioned of the *5th*  $1 : 3$ , and *3d*  $1 : 5$  ; so a single *Octave* is better than a double *Octave*, and this better than the Sum of 3 *Octaves*, &c. and so of *5ths* and other *Concords*. And mind, tho' a *compound Octave* is the Sum of 2 or more *Octaves*, yet by a *compound 5th* or other *Concord*,

*cord*, is not meant the Sum of Two or more *5ths*, but the Sum of an *Octave* and *5th*, or of Two *Octaves* and a *5th*, &c. Now, tho' this Composition of *Concords* may be carried on infinitely, yet 3 or 4 *Octaves* is the greatest Length we go in ordinary Practice; the old Scales of *Musick* were carried no further than 2, or at most 3 *Octaves*, which is fully the Compass of any ordinary Voice: And tho' the *Octave* is the most perfect *Concord*, yet after the Third *Octave* the Agreement diminishes very fast; nor do we go even so far at one Movement, as from the one Extreme to the other of a triple or double *Octave*, and seldom beyond a single *Octave*; yet a Piece of Musick may be carried agreeably thro' all the intermediate Sounds, within the Extremes of 3 or 4 *Octaves*; which will afford all the Variety of Pleasure the *Harmony* of Sounds is capable to afford, or at least we to receive: For we can hardly raise Sounds beyond that Compass, either by Voice or Instruments, that shall not offend the *Ear*. *Chords* are fittest for raising a great Variety of Degrees of Sound; and if we suppose any *Chord*  $\frac{1}{2}$  Foot long, which is but a small Length to give a good Sound, the Fourth *Octave* below must be Eight Foot, which is so long, that to give a clear Sound, it must have a good Degree of Tension; and this will require a very great Tension in the  $\frac{1}{2}$  Foot *Chord*: Now if we go beyond the Fourth *Octave*, either the *acute* Term will be too short, or the *grave* Term too long; and if in this the Length be supplied by the Gross-

ness of the *Chord*, or in the other the Shortness be exchanged with the Smalness, yet the Sound will by that means become so blunt in the one, or so slender in the other, as to be useles.

*D' Cartes* supposes we can go no further than Three *Octaves*; but he must mean only, that the Extremes of any greater *Interval* heard without any of the intermediate Terms, have little *Concord* to our Ears; but it will not follow, that a Piece of *Musick* may not go thro' a greater Compass, especially with many Parts.



## C H A P. VI.

*Of the Geometrical Part of Musick; or, how to divide right Lines, so as their Sections or Parts one with another, or with the Whole, shall contain any given Interval of Sound.*

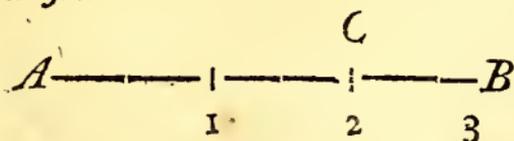
**T**HE *Degrees* of Sound with respect to *Tune*, are justly exprest by the Lengths of Chords or right Lines; and the Proportions which we have hitherto explained being found, first by Experiments upon Chords, and

and again confirmed by Reasoning ; the Division of a right Line into such Parts as shall constitute one with another, or with the Whole, any *Interval* of Sound is a very easy Matter : For in the preceeding Parts we have all along supposed the Numbers to represent the Lengths of *Chords*; and therefore they may again be easily applied to them, which I shall explain in a few *Problems*.

§ I. *Of the more general Division of Chords.*

PROBLEM. **T**O assign such a Part of any  
 I. right Line, as shall constitute any *Concord* ( or other *Interval* ) with the Whole.

*Rule.* Divide the given Line into as many Parts, as the greatest Number of the *Interval* has *Units*; and of these take as many as the lesser Number; this with the Whole contains the *Interval* sought. *Example.* To find such a Part of the Line *A B*, as shall be a *5th* to the Whole. The *5th* is 2 : 3, therefore I divide the Line into Three Parts, whereof 2, *viz.* *AC*, is the Part sought ; that is, Two Lines, whose Lengths are as *AB* to *AC*, *ceteris paribus*, make a *5th*.



COROLLARY. Let it be proposed to find Two or more different Sections of the Line *A B*. that shall be to the Whole in any given Proportion. 'Tis plain, we must take the given *Ratios*, and reduce them to one *Fundamental* (if they are not so) by *Probl. 3. Chap. 4.* and then divide the Line into as many Parts as that *Fundamental* has *Units*; so, to find the Sections of the Line *A B*. that shall be *Octave*, *5th* and *3d g.* I take the *Ratios*  $1 : 2$ ,  $2 : 3$ , and  $4 : 5$ , and reduce them to One *Fundamental*, the Series is  $30 : 24$ ,  $20 : 15$ . the *Fundamental* is 30, and the Sections sought are 24 the *3d g.* 20 the *5th*, and 15 the *Octave*.

PROBLEM II. To find several Sections of a Line, that from the least gradually to the Whole, shall contain a given Series of *Intervals*, in a given Order, *i. e.* so as the least Section to the next greater shall contain a certain *Interval*, from that to the next shall be another, and so on. *Rule.* Reduce all the *Ratios* to a continued Series, by *Probl. 2. Chap. 4.* Then divide the Line into as many Parts as the greatest Extreme of that Series; and number the Parts from the one End to the other, and you have the Sections sought, at the Points of Division answering the several Numbers of the Series. *Example.* To find several Sections of the Line *A B*, so that the least to the next greater shall contain a *3d g.* that to the next greater a *5th*, and that to the Whole an *Octave*. The Three *Ratios*  $4 : 5$ ,  $2 : 3$ ,  $1 : 2$ , reduced to One Series, make  $8 : 10 : 15 : 30$ . So the Line

*A*



*Example.* To divide the Line  $AB$  into 4 Parts, which shall contain among them, from the least to the greatest, a 3<sup>d</sup> g. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, I take the *Ratios*  $4 : 5$ ,  $3 : 4$  and  $2 : 3$ , which reduced to one Series, it is  $12 : 15 : 20 : 30$ , whose Sum is 77; let the Line be divided into 77 Parts; and if you first take off 12, then 15, then 20, and lastly 30 Parts, you have the Parts sought equal to the Whole.

THE preceding *Problems* are of a more general Nature, I shall now particularly treat of the *harmonical Division of Chords*,

## § 2. Of the harmonical Division of Chords,

I Explained already Two different Senses in which any *Interval* is said to be *harmonically* divided; the *First*, When the Two Extremes with their Differences from the middle Term are in *geometrical Proportion*; the 2<sup>d</sup>, when an *Interval* is so divided, as the Extremes and all the middle Terms are *Concord* each with another. Now, we are to consider, not the *harmonical Division* of an *Interval* or *Ratio*, but the Division of a single Number or Line, into such Sections or Parts as, compared together and with the Whole, shall be *harmonical* in either of the Two Senses mentioned, *i. e.* either with respect to the Proportion of their Quantity, which is the first Sense, or of their

Qua-

Quality or *Tune*, which is the second Sense of *harmonical* Division.

PROBLEM IV. To find Two Sections of a Line which with the whole shall be in *harmonical* Proportion of their Quantity. To answer this Demand, we may take any Three Numbers in *harmonical* Proportion, as 3, 4, 6, and divide the whole Line into as many Parts as the greatest of these Three Numbers (as here into 6), and at the Points of Division answering the other two Numbers (as at 3 and 4) you have the Sections sought. And an infinite Number of *Examples* of this Kind may be found, because betwixt any Two Numbers given, we can put an *harmonical Mean*, by *Theor. II. Chap. 4.*

NOTE. The *harmonical* Sections of this *Problem* added together, will ever be greater than the Whole, as is plain from the Nature of that Kind; and this is therefore not so properly a Division of the Line as finding several Sections, or the Quotes of several distinct Divisions.

These Sections with the Whole, will also constitute an *harmonical* Series of the 2d Kind, but not in every Case; for *Example*, 2, 4, 6, is *harmonical* in both Senses; also 2 : 3 : 6; but 21, 24, 28 is *harmonical* only in the First Sense because there is no *Concord* amongst them but betwixt 21, 28, (equal to 3 : 4.)

To know how many Ways a Line may be divided *harmonically* in both Senses, shall be presently explained.

PROBLEM V. To find Two Sections of a Line, that together and with the Whole shall be *har-*

*harmonical* in the Second Sense; *that is*, in respect of Quality or *Tune*. *Rule*. Take any Three Numbers that are *Concord* each with another, and divide the Line by the greatest, the Points of Division answering the other Two give the Sections sought: Take, for Example, the Numbers 2, 3, 8, or 2, 5, 8; and apply them according to the *Rule*.

I observed in the former *Problem*, That the Two Sections together are always greater than the whole Line; but here they may be either greater, as in this *Example*, 2, 3, 4, or less, as in this *Example*, 1, 2, 5, or equal, as here, 2, 3, 5, which last is most properly Division of the Line, for here we find the true constituent Parts of the Line: They may also be *harmonical* in the first Sense, as  $2 : 3 : 6$ , or otherwise as  $2 : 3 : 4$ .

Now, to know all the Variety of Combinations of Three Numbers that will solve this *Problem*, we must consider the preceding *general Table of Concords*, Pag. 172. and the *harmonic Series* made out of it, which contains the Numbers of the *Table* and no other. I have shewn that all the Numbers of the *Table of Concords*, are *Concords* one with another, as well as these that are particularly connected: We have also seen that, tho' the *Table* were carried on *in infinitum*, the lesser Number of every *Ratio* is one of these, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5; and the greater Number of each *Ratio* one of these, 2. 3. 5. or their Products by 2. *in infinitum*. 'Tis plain therefore, that if we suppose this *Table of Concords*

*cords* carried on *in infinitum*, we can find in it infinite Combinations of Three Numbers that shall be all *Concord*. For *Example*, Take any Two that have no common Divisor, as 2 : 3, you'll find an Infinity of other Numbers greater to joyn with these ; for we may take any of the Multiples *in infinitum* of either of these Two Numbers themselves; or the Number 5, or its Multiples : But if we suppose the Table of *Concords* limited (as with respect to Practice it is) so will the Variety of Numbers sought be: Suppose it limited to Three *Octaves*, then the *harmonicall Series* goes no farther than the Number 64, as here, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. 10. 12. 16. 20. 24. 32. 40. 48. 64, &c. and as many Combinations of Three Numbers as we can find in that Series, which have not a common Divisor, so many Ways may the *Problem* be solved. But besides these we must consider again, that as many of the preceeding Combinations as are *arithmetically* proportional (such as 2. 3. 4, and 2. 5. 8) there are so many Combinations of correspondent *Harmonicals* (in the first Sense) which will solve this *Problem*. These joyned to the preceeding, will exhaust all the Variety with which this *Problem* can be solved, supposing 3 *Octaves* to be the greatest *Concord*. Again, we are to take Notice, that of that Variety there are some, of which the Two lesser Numbers will be exactly equal to the greatest, as 1. 2. 3. tho' the greater Numbers are otherwise,

I shall now in Two distinct *Problems* show you, *First*, The Variety of Ways that a Line may be cut, so as the *Sections* compared together and with the Whole shall be *harmonical* in both the Senses explained; and *2do*. How many Ways it may be divided into Two Parts equal to the Whole, and be *harmonical* in the Second Sense; for these can never be *harmonical* in the First Sense, as shall be also shewn.

PROBLEM VI. To find how many Ways 'tis possible to take Two Sections of a Line, that with the Whole shall constitute Three Terms *harmonical* both in Quantity and Quality.

FROM the *harmonical Series* we can easily find an Answer to this Demand: In order to which consider, *First*, That every Three Numbers in *harmonical Proportion* (of Quantity) have other Three in *arithmetical Proportion* corresponding to them, which contain the same *Intervals* or *geometrical Ratios*, tho' in a different Order; and reciprocally every *arithmetical Series* has a correspondent *Harmonical*, as has been explained in *Theor. 14. Chap. 4.* Let us *next* consider, That there can no Three Numbers in *arithmetical Proportion* be taken, which shall be all *Concord* one with another, unless they be found in the *harmonical Series*: Therefore it is impossible that any Three Numbers which are in *harmonical Proportion* (of Quantity) can be all *Concord* unless their correspondent *Arithmeticals* be contain'd in the *harmonical Series*. Hence 'tis plain, that as many Combinations of Three Numbers in *arithmetical Proportion* as

can

can be found in that Series, so many Combinations of Three Numbers in *harmonical Proportion* are to be found, which shall be *Concord* each with another; and so many Ways only can a Line be divided *harmonically* in both Senses.

AND in all that Series 'tis impossible to find any other Combination of Numbers in *arithmetical Proportion*, than those in the following *Table*; with which I have joynd their *correspondent Harmonicals*.

<i>Arithmet.</i>			<i>Harmon.</i>		
1 .	2 .	3	2 .	3 .	6
2 .	3 .	4	3 .	4 .	6
3 .	4 .	5	12 .	15 .	20
4 .	5 .	6	10 .	12 .	15
1 .	3 .	5	3 .	5 .	15
2 .	5 .	8	5 .	8 .	20

Now, to show that there are no other Combinations to be found in the Series to answer the present Purpose,

observe, the Three *arithmetical* Terms must be in radical Numbers, else tho' it may be a different *arithmetical Series*, yet it cannot contain different *Concords*, so 4 : 6 : 8 is a different Series from 2 : 3 : 4, yet the *geometrical Ratios*, or the *Concords* that the Numbers of the one Series contain, being the same with these in the other, the correspondent *harmonical* Series gives the same Division of the Line. Now by a short and easy Induction, I shall show the Truth of what's advanced : Look on the *harmonical Series*, and you see, *imo.* That if we take the Number 1, to make an *arithmetical Series* of Three

Three Terms, it can only be join'd with 2 : 3, or 3 : 5, for if you make 4 the middle Term, the other Extreme must be 7, which is not in the Series; or if you make 5 the Middle, the other Extreme is 9, which is not in the Series: Now all after 5 are even Numbers, so that if you take any of these for the middle Term, the other Extreme in *arithmetical Proportion* with them, must be an odd Number greater than 5, and no such is to be found in the Series: Therefore there can be no other Combination in which 1 is the lesser Extreme, but these in the *Table*.

2do. Take Two for the least Extreme, and the other Two Terms can only be 3 : 4, or 5 : 8; for there is no other odd Number to take as a middle Term, but 3 or 5; and if we take 4 or any even Number, the other Extreme must be an even Number, and these Three will necessarily reduce to some of the Forms wherein 1 is concerned, because every even Number is divisible by 2, and 2 divided by 2 quotes 1.

3tio. Take 3 for the lesser Extreme, the other Two Terms can only be 4, 5; for if 5 is the middle Term, the other Extreme must be 7, which is not in the Series: But there are no other Numbers in the Series to be made middle Terms, 3 being the lesser Extreme, except even Numbers; and 3 being an odd Number, the other Extreme must be an odd Number too, but no such is to be found in the *Series* greater than 5.

4to. The Number 4 can only joyn with 5, 6, for all the rest are even Numbers, and where  
the

the Three Terms are all even Numbers, they are reducible. *5to.* There can be no Combination where 5 is the least Extreme, because all greater Numbers in the *Series* are even; for where one Extreme is odd, the other must be odd too, the middle Term being even. *Lastly.* All the Numbers above 5 being even, are reducible to some of the former Cases: *Therefore* we have found all the possible Ways any Line can be divided, that the Sections compared together and with the Whole, may be *harmonical* both in Quantity and Quality, as these are explain'd.

PROBLEM VII. To divide a Line into Two Parts, equal to the Whole, so as the Parts among themselves, and each with the Whole shall be *Concord*; and to discover all the possible Ways that this can be done. For the first Part of the *Problem*, 'tis plain, that if we take Three Numbers which are all *Concord* among themselves, and whereof the Two least are equal to the greatest, then divide the given Line into as many Parts as that greatest Number contains *Units*, the Point of Division answering any of the lesser Numbers solves the *Problem*: So if we divide a Line *AB* into Three Parts, one Third *AC*, and Two Thirds *CB*, or *AD* and *DB* are the Parts sought, for all these are *Concord* 1 : 2, 2 : 3, 1 : 3.  $A \overset{1}{\text{---}} \overset{2}{\text{---}} \overset{3}{\text{---}} B$

I shall next shew how many different Ways this *Problem* can be solved; and I affirm, that there can be but Seven Solutions contained in

the following *Table*, in which I have distinguished the Parts and the Whole.

THAT these are *har-  
monical Sections* is plain,  
because there are no other  
Numbers here but what  
belong to the *harmonical  
Series*; and 'tis remarkable  
too, that there are no o-  
ther here but what belong  
to the *simple Concords*.  
But then to prove, that  
there can be no other *har-  
monical Sections*, consider

1	✕	1 =	2
1	✕	2 =	3
1	✕	3 =	4
1	✕	4 =	5
1	✕	5 =	6
2	✕	3 =	5
3	✕	5 =	8
<i>Parts.</i>		<i>Whole.</i>	

that no other Number can possibly be any radical Term of a *Concord*, besides these of the preceding *harmonical Series*. Indeed we may take any *Ratio* in many different Numbers, but every *Ratio* can have but one radical Form, and only these Numbers are *harmonical*; so 5 : 15 is a *compound 5th*, yet 15 is no *harmonical* Number, because 5 : 15 is reducible to 1 : 3; also 7 : 14 is an *Octave*, yet neither 7 nor 14 are *harmonical*, since they are reducible to 1 : 2. Now since all the possible *harmonical Ratios*, in their radical Forms, are contained in the *Series*, 'tis plain, that all the possible *harmonical Sections* of any Line or Number are to be found, by adding every Number of the *Series* to it self, or every Two together, and taking these Numbers for the Two Parts, and their Sum for the whole Line. Now let us consider how many of such Additions will produce *harmonical Sections*,

*Etions*, and what will not : It is certain, that if the Sum of any Two Numbers of the Series be a Number which is not contain'd in it, then the Division of a Line in Two Parts, which are in Proportion as these Two Numbers, can never be *harmonical* ; for *Example* the Sum of 3 and 4 is 7, which is not an *harmonical Section*, because 7 is no *harmonical* Number, or is not the radical Number of any *harmonical Ratio*. Again 'tis certain, That if any Two Numbers, with their Sum, are to be found all in the Series, these Numbers constitute an *harmonical Section*. But observe, if the Numbers taken for the Parts are reducible, they must be brought to their radical Form ; for the *Concords* made of such Parts as are reducible, must necessarily be the same with these made of their radical Numbers ; so if we take 4 and 6 their Sum is 10, and 4 : 6 are harmonical Parts of 10 ; but then the Case is not different from 2. 3. 5. *Next*, We see that all the Numbers in that Series after the Number 5, are Compounds of the preceeding Numbers, by the continual multiplying of them by 2 ; therefore we can take no Two Numbers in that Series greater than 5, (for Parts) but what are reducible to 5, and some Number less, or both less ; and if we take 5 or any odd Number less, and a Number greater than 5, they can never be harmonical Parts, because their Sum will be an odd Number, and all the Numbers in the Series greater than 5, are even Numbers ; therefore that Sum is not in the Series ; and if we take

an even Number less than 5, and a Number greater, the Sum is even and reducible; therefore all the Numbers that can possibly make the Two Parts of different *harmonical* Sections, are these, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5; and if we add every Two of these together, we find no other different *harmonical* Sections but these of the preceding Table, because their Sum is either odd or reducible; and when the Parts are equal, 'tis plain there can be but one such Section, which is 1 : 1 : 2, because all other equal Sections are reducible to this.

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§ 3. *Containing further Reflections upon the Division of CHORDS.*

WE have seen, in the last *Table*, that the *harmonical* Divisions of a Line depend upon the Numbers 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8; and if we reflect upon what has been already observed of these 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. *viz.* That they are *Concord*, comparing every one with every other, we draw this Conclusion, That if a Line is divided into 2 or 3, 4, 5 or 6 Parts, every Section or Number of such Parts with the Whole, or one with another, is *Concord*; because they are all to one another as these Numbers 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. I shall add now, that, taking in the Number 8, it will still be true of the Series, 1. 2. 3.

4. 5. 6. 8. that every Number with every other is *Concord*; and here we have the whole *original Concords*. And as to the Conclusion last drawn, it will hold of the Parts of a Line divided into 8 Parts, except the Number 7, which is *Concord* with none of the rest. So that we have here a Method of exhibiting in one Line all the *simple and original Concords*, viz. by dividing it into 8 equal Parts, and of these, taking 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. and comparing them together, and with the whole 8.

BUT if it be required to show how a Line may be divided in the most simple Manner to exhibite all these *Concords*; here it is: Divide the Line *AB* into Two equal Parts at *C*; then divide the Part *CB* into Two equal Parts at *D*; and again the Part *CD* into Two equal Parts at *E*. 'Tis plain that *AC* or *CB*, are each a Half of *AB*; and *CD* or *BD* are each equal to a 4th Part of the Line *AB*; and *CE* or *ED* are  $A \text{---} \overset{C}{|} \text{---} \overset{E}{|} \text{---} \overset{D}{|} \text{---} B$ , each an 8th Part of *AB*; therefore *AE* is equal to Five 8th Parts of *AB*; and *AD* is Six 8th Parts, or Three 4th Parts of it; and *AE* is therefore Five 6th Parts of *AD*. Again, since *AD* is Three 4th Parts of *AB*, and *AC* is a Half, or Two 4ths of *AB*, therefore *AC* is Two 3d Parts of *AD*; then, because *AE* is Five 8th Parts of *AB*, and *AC* Four 8ths (or a Half) therefore *AC* is Four 5ths of *AE*. Lastly, *EB* is Three 8ths of *AB*. Consequently *AC* to *AB* is an *Octave*; *AC* to *AD* a 5th; *AD* to *AB*, a 4th; *AC*

to  $AE$  a 3<sup>d</sup> g.  $AE$  to  $AD$  a 3<sup>d</sup> l.  $AE$  to  $EB$  a 6<sup>th</sup> g.  $AE$  to  $AB$  a 6<sup>th</sup> l. which is all agreeable to what has been already explained; for  $AC$  and  $AB$  containing the *Octave*, we have  $AD$  an *arithmetical Mean*, which therefore gives us the 5<sup>th</sup>, with the acute Term  $AC$ , and a 4<sup>th</sup> with the lower Term  $AB$  of the *Octave*. Again,  $AE$  is an *arithmetical Mean* betwixt the Extremes of the 5<sup>th</sup>  $AC$  and  $AD$ , and gives us all the rest of the *Concords*.

It will be worth our Pains to consider what *D' Cartes* observes upon this Division of a Line: But in order to the understanding what he says here, I must give you a short Account of some general Premises he lays down in the Beginning of his Work. Says he, 'Every Sense is capable  
' of some Pleasure, to which is required a cer-  
' tain Proportion of the Object to the Organ :  
' Which Object must fall regularly, and not very  
' difficultly on the Senses, that we may be able  
' to perceive every Part distinctly: Hence,  
' these Objects are most easily perceived, whose  
' Difference of Parts is least, *i. e.* in which there  
' is least Difference to be observed; and there-  
' fore the Proportion of the Parts ought to be  
' *arithmetical* not *geometrical*; because there  
' are fewer Things to be noticed in the *arith-*  
' *metical Proportion*, since the Differences are  
' every where equal, and so does not weary the  
' Mind so much in apprehending distinctly e-  
' very Thing that is in it. He gives us this  
' Example: Says he, The Proportion of these  
' Lines

Lines  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{5}{4}$  is easier distinguished by the  
 Eye, than the Proportion of these  $\frac{2}{8}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{4}{8}$   
 because in the first we have nothing to notice  
 but that the common Difference of the Lines  
 is 1. He makes not the Application of this  
 expressly to the Ear, by considering the Number  
 of Strokes or Impulses made upon it at the same  
 Time, by Motions of various Velocities; and  
 what Similitude that has to perceiving the Dif-  
 ference of Parts by the Eye: He certainly  
 thought the Application plain; and takes it also  
 for granted, That one Sound is to another in  
*Tune*, as the Lengths of Two Chords, *ceteris pa-*  
*ribus*. From these Premisses he proceeds to  
 find the *Concords* in the Division of a Line, and  
 observes, That if it be divided into 2, 3, 4, 5,  
 or 6 equal Parts, all the Sections are *Concord*;  
 the first and best *Concord Octave* proceeds from  
 dividing the Line by the first of all Num-  
 bers 2, and the next best by the next Num-  
 ber 3, and so on to the Number 6. But  
 then, says he, we can proceed no further,  
 because the Weakness of our Senses cannot easi-  
 ly distinguish greater Differences of Sounds: But  
 he forgot the 6th lesser, which requires a Divi-  
 sion by 8, tho' he elsewhere owns it as *Concord*.  
 We shall next consider what he says upon the  
 preceeding Division of the Line *A B*, from  
 which he proposes to show how all the other  
*Concords* are contained in the *Octave*, and pro-  
 ceed from the Division of it, that their Nature  
 may be more distinctly known. Take it in his

own Words, as near as I can translate them.  
 “ *First* then, from the Thing premised it is  
 “ certain, this Division ought to be *arithmetical*,  
 “ or into equal Parts, and what that is which  
 “ ought to be divided is plain in the Chord  $AB$ ,  
 “ which is distant from  $AC$  by the Part  $CB$ ;  
 “ but the Sound of  $AB$ , is distant from the  
 “ Sound of  $AC$  by an *Octave*; therefore the  
 “ Part  $CB$  shall be the Space or *Interval* of an  
 “ *Octave*: This is it therefore which ought to  
 “ be divided into Two equal Parts to have the  
 “ whole *Octave* divided, which is done in the  
 “ Point  $D$ ; and that we may know what *Con-*  
 “ *cord* is generated properly and by it self (*pro-*  
 “ *prie & per se*, as he calls it) by this Division,  
 “ we must consider, that the Line  $AB$ , which  
 “ is the *lower* or *graver* Term of the *Octave*,  
 “ is divided in  $D$ , not in order to it self (*non*  
 “ *in ordine ad seipsum*, I suppose he means not  
 “ in order to a Comparison of  $AD$  with  $AB$ )  
 “ for then it would be divided in  $C$ , as is al-  
 “ ready done (for  $AC$  compared to  $AB$  makes  
 “ the *Octave*) neither do we now divide the  
 “ *Unison* (*viz.*  $AB$ ) but the *Octave*, (*viz.* the  
 “ *Interval* of *8ve*, which is  $CB$ , as he said alrea-  
 “ dy) which consists of Two Terms; therefore  
 “ while the *graver* Term is divided, that’s done  
 “ in order to the *acuter* Term, not in order to  
 “ it self. Hence the *Concord* which is properly  
 “ generated by that Division, is betwixt  
 “ the Terms  $AC$  and  $AD$ , which is a *5th*;  
 “ not betwixt  $AD$ ,  $AB$ , which is a *4th*; for  
 “ the Part  $DB$  is only a Remainder, and  
 “ generates

“ generates a *Concord* by Accident, because  
 “ that whatever Sound is *Concord* with one  
 “ Term of *Octave*, ought also to be *Concord*  
 “ with the other.” In the same Manner he  
 argues, that the 3<sup>d</sup> g. proceeds *properly*, & *per*  
*se* out of the Division of the 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Point  
*E*, whereby we have *A E* a 3<sup>d</sup> g. to the acute  
 Term of the 5<sup>th</sup>, viz. to *A C* (for *AC* to *AD*  
 is 5<sup>th</sup>) and all the rest of the *Concords* are ac-  
 cidental; and thus also he makes the *tonus ma-*  
*ior* (of which afterwards) to proceed directly  
 from the 3<sup>d</sup> g. and the *tonus minor* and *Semi-*  
*tones* to be all accidental: And to show that  
 this is not an imaginary Thing, when he says,  
 the 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> g. proceed *properly* from the Di-  
 vision of *Octave*, and the rest by Accident, he  
 says, He found it by Experience in stringed In-  
 struments, that if one String is struck, the Mo-  
 tion of it shakes all the Strings that are *acuter*  
 by any Species of 5<sup>th</sup> or 3<sup>d</sup> g. but not these that  
 are 4<sup>th</sup> or other *Concord*; which can only pro-  
 ceed, says he, from the Perfection of these *Con-*  
*cords*, or the Imperfection of the other, viz.  
 that the first are *Concords per se*, and the others  
*per accidens*, because they flow necessarily from  
 them. *D' Cartes* seems to think it a Demon-  
 stration *a priori* from his Premises, that if there  
 is such a Thing as *Concord* among Sounds, it  
 must proceed from the *arithmetical* Division of  
 a Line into 2. 3, &c. Parts, and that the more  
 simple produce the better *Concords*. 'Tis true,  
 that Men must have known by Experience,  
 that there was such a Thing as *Concord* before

they reasoned about it ; but whether the general Reflection which he makes upon Nature, be sufficient to conclude that such Division must infallibly produce such *Concords*, I don't so clearly see ; yet I must own his Reasoning is very ingenious, excepting the subtil Distinction of *Concords per se & per accidens*, which I don't very well understand ; but let every one take them as they can.



## CHAP. VII.

*Of HARMONY, explaining the Nature and Variety of it, as it depends upon the various Combinations of concurring Sounds.*

**I**N Chap. II. § 1. I shewed you the Distinction that is made betwixt the Word *Concord*, which is the Agreement of Two Sounds considered either in *Consonance* or *Succession*, and *Harmony*, which is the Agreement of more, considered always in *Consonance*, and requires at least Three Sounds. In order to produce a perfect *Harmony*, there must be no *Discord*

cord found between any Two of the simple Sounds; but each must be in some Degree of *Concord* to all the rest. Hence *Harmony* is very well defined, *The Sum of CONCORDS* arising from the Combination of Two or more *Concords*, i. e. of Three or more simple Sounds striking the Ear all together; and different Compositions of *Concords* make different *Harmony*.

To understand the Nature, and determine the Number and Preference of *Harmonies*, we must consider, that in every *compound* Sound, where there are more than Two *Simples*, we have Three Things observable, 1<sup>st</sup>. The *primary Relation* of every *simple* Sound to the *Fundamental* (or *gravest*) whereby they make different Degrees of *Concord* with it. 2<sup>dly</sup>. The *mutual Relations* of the *acuter* Sounds each with another, whereby they mix either *Concord* or *Discord* into the *Compound*. 3<sup>dly</sup>. The *secondary Relation* of the Whole, whereby all the Terms unite their Vibrations, or coincide more or less frequently.

THE Two first of these depend upon one another, and upon them depends the last. Let us suppose Four Sounds *A. B. C. D.* whereof *A* is the *gravest*, *B* next *acuter*, then *C*, and *D* the *acute*st; *A* is called the *Fundamental*, and the Relations of *B, C, and D,* to *A,* are *primary Relations*: So if *B* is a 3<sup>d</sup> g. above *A*, that *primary Relation* is 4 to 5; and if *C* is 5<sup>th</sup> to *A*, that *primary Relation* is 2 to 3; and if *D* is 8<sup>ve</sup> to *A*, that is 1 to 2. Again, to find the *mutual Relations* of all the *acute* Terms

*B C,*

*B, C, D*, we must take their *primary Relations* to the *Fundamental*, and subtract each lesser from each greater, by the Rule of *Subtraction of Intervals*; so in the preceding *Example*, *B* to *C* is 5 to 6, a 3<sup>d</sup> *i.* *B* to *D* is 5 to 8, a 6<sup>th</sup> *l.* and *C* to *D* 3 to 4, a 4<sup>th</sup>. Or, if we take all the *primary Relations*, and reduce them to one common *Fundamental*, by *Probl. 3. Chap. 4.* we shall see all the *mutual Relations* in one Series; so the preceding *Example* is 30. 24. 20. 15.

*AGAIN*, having the *mutual Relations* of each Sound to the next in any Series, we may find the *primary Relations*, by *Addition of Intervals*; and then by these all the rest of the *mutual Relations*; or reduce the given Relations to a continued Series by *Probl. 2. Chap. 4.* and then all will appear at once. *Lastly*, to find the *secondary Relation* of the Whole, find the least common Dividend to all the lesser Terms or Numbers of the *primary Relations*, *i. e.* the least Number that will be divided by each of them exactly without a Remainder; that is the Thing sought, and shows that all the simple Sounds coincide after every so many Vibrations of the *Fundamental* as that Number found expresses: So in the preceding *Example*, the lesser Terms of the Three *primary Relations* are 4. 2. 1. whose least common Dividend is 4, therefore at every Fourth Vibration of the *Fundamental* the Whole will coincide; and this is what I call the *secondary Relation* of the Whole. I shall first show how in every Case you may find

find this least Dividend, and then explain how it expresses the Coincidence of the Whole.

**PROBLEM.** To find the least common Dividend to any given Numbers. *Rule.* 1<sup>mo</sup>. If each greater of the given Numbers is a Multiple of each lesser, then the greatest of them is the Thing sought; as in the preceeding *Example.* 2<sup>do</sup>. If 'tis not so, but some of them are commensurable together, others not; take the greatest of all that are commensurable, and, passing their *aliquot* Parts, multiply them together, and with the rest of the Numbers continually, the last Product is the Number sought. *Example.* 2. 3. 4. 6. 8. Here 2. 4. 8, are commensurable; and 8 their least Dividend; also 3. 6 commensurable and 6 their least Dividend: Then 8. 6. multiplied together produce 48, the Number sought. Take another *Example.* 2. 3. 5. 4. Here 2. 4 are commensurable and all the rest incommensurable, therefore I multiply 3. 4. 5. continually, the Product is 60 the Number sought. 3<sup>io</sup>. If all the Numbers are incommensurable, multiply them all continually, and the last Product is the Answer. *Example.* 2. 2. 5. 7. the Product is 210. The Reason of this *Rule* is obvious from the Nature of *Multiplication* and *Division*.

Now I shall show that the least common Dividend to the lesser Terms of any Number of *primary Relations*, expresses the Vibrations of the *Fundamental* to every Coincidence. Thus, of the Numbers that express the *Ratio* of any *Interval*, the lesser is the Length of the *acuter* Chord,

Chord, and the greater the Length of the *graver*: Or reciprocally, the lesser is the Number of Vibrations of the longer, and the greater the Vibrations of the shorter Chord, that are performed in the same Time; *consequently* the lesser Numbers of all the *primary Relations* of any *compound* Sound, are the Numbers of the Vibrations of the common *Fundamental* which go to each Coincidence thereof with the several *acute* Terms; but 'tis plain if the *Fundamental* coincide with any *acute* Term after every 3 (for *Example*) of its own Vibrations, it will also coincide with it after every 6 or 9, or other Multiple, or Number of Vibrations which is divisible by 3, and so of any other Number; consequently the least Number which can be exactly divided by every one of the Numbers of Vibrations of the *Fundamental*, which go to a Coincidence with the several *acute* Terms, must be the Vibrations of that *Fundamental* at which every total Coincidence is performed. For *Example*, suppose a common *Fundamental* coincide with any *acute* Term after 2 of its own Vibrations, and with another at 3; then whatever the *mutual Relation* of these Two *acute* Terms is, it is plain they cannot both together coincide with that *Fundamental*; till Six Vibrations of it be finished; and at that Number precisely they must; for the *Fundamental* coinciding with the one at 2, and with the other at 3, must coincide with each of them at Six; and no sooner can they all coincide, because 6 is the least Multiple to both 2 and 3: Or thus,

the

the *Fundamental* coinciding with the one after 2, must coincide with that one also after 4. 6. 8. &c. still adding 2 more; and coinciding with the other after 3. must coincide with it also after 6. 9. 12. &c. still adding 3 more; so that they cannot all coincide till after 6. because that is the least Number which is common to both the preceeding Series of Coincidences. Next for the Application of this to *Harmony*.

HARMONY is a *compound* Sound consisting (as we take it here) of Three or more *simple* Sounds; the proper Ingredients of it are *Concords*; and therefore all *Discords* in the *primary Relations* especially, and also in the *mutual Relations* of the several *acute* Terms are absolutely forbidden.

'TIS true that *Discords* are used in *Musick*, but not for themselves simply; they are used as Means to make the *Concords* appear more agreeable by the Opposition; but more of this in another Place.

Now any Number of *Concords* being proposed to stand in *primary Relation* with a common *Fundamental*; we discover whether or no they constitute a perfect *Harmony*, by finding their *mutual Relations*. *Example*. Suppose these *primary Intervals*, which are *Concords*, viz. 3d g. 5th, 8ve, their *mutual Relations* are all *Concord*, and therefore can stand in *Harmony*; for the 3d g. and 5th, are to one another as 5 : 6 a 3d l. The 3d g. and *Octave* as 5 : 8, a 6th l. the 5th and *Octave* are as 3 : 4, a

4th; as appears in this Series to which the given Relations are reduced, *viz.* 30 : 24 : 20 : 15. Again, take 4th, 5th, and *Octave*, they cannot stand together, because betwixt the 4th and 5th is a *Discord*, the *Ratio* being 8 : 9. Or supposing any Number of Sounds, which are *Concord* each to the next, from the lowest to the highest; to know if they can stand in *Harmony* we must find their *primary Relations*, and all the other *mutual Relations*, which must be all *Concord*; so let any Number of Sounds be as 4 : 5 : 6 : 8 they can stand in *Harmony*, because each to each is *Concord*; but these cannot 4. 6. 9, because 4 : 9 is *Discord*.

WE have considered the necessary Conditions for making *Harmony*, from which it will be easy to enumerate or give a general Table of all the possible Variety; but let us first examine how the Preference of *Harmonies* is to be determined; and here comes in the Consideration of the *secondary Relations*. Now upon all the Three Things mentioned; *viz.* the *primary*, *secondary*, and *mutual Relations*, does the Perfection of *Harmonies* depend; so that Regard must be had to them all in making a right Judgment: It is not the best *primary Relation* that makes best *Harmony*; for then a 4th and 5th must be better than a 4th and 6th; yet the first Two cannot stand together, because of the *Discord* in their *mutual Relation*: Nor does [the best *secondary Relation* carry it; for then also would a 4th and 5th, whose *secondary Relation* with a common *Fundamental*

*fundamental* is 6, be better than 3*d* l. and 5*th*, whose *secondary Relation* is 10; but here also the Preference is due to the better *mutual Relation* of the 3*d* l. and 5*th*, which is a 3*d* g. and a 4*th* and *Octave* would be equal to a 6*th* g. and *Octave*, the *secondary Relation* of both being 3, which cannot possibly be, the Ingredients being different. As to the *mutual Relations*, they depend altogether upon the *primary*, yet not so as that the best *primary Relation* shall always produce the best *mutual Relation*; for 'tis contrary when two Terms are joyned to a *Fundamental*; so a 5*th* and *Octave* contain betwixt them a 4*th*; and a 4*th* and *Octave* contain a 5*th*. But the *primary Relations* are by far more considerable, and, with the *secondary*, afford us the following Rule for determining the Preference of *Harmony*, in which that must always be taken for a necessary Condition, that there be no *Discord* among any of the Terms; therefore this is the Rule, that comparing Two *Harmonies* (which have an equal Number of Terms) that which has both the best *primary* and *secondary Relation*, is most perfect; but in Two Cases, where the Advantage is in the *primary Relations* of the one, and in the *secondary* of the other, we have no certain Rule; the *primary Relations* are the principal and most considerable Things; but how the Advantage here ought to be proportioned to the Disadvantage in the *secondary*, or contrarily, in order to judge of the comparative Perfection, is a Thing we know not how to determine;

and

and therefore a well tuned Ear must be the last Resort in these Cases.

LET us next take a View of the possible Combinations of *Concords* that constitute *Harmony*; in order to which consider, That as we distinguished *Concords* into *simple* and *compound*, so is *Harmony* distinguishable: That is *simple Harmony*, where there is no *Concord* to the *Fundamental* above an *Octave*, and it is *compound*, which to the *simple Harmony* of one *Octave*, adds that of another *Octave*. The Ingredients of *simple Harmony* are the 7 *simple original Concords*, of which there can be but 18 different Combinations that are *Harmony*, which I have placed in the following *Table*.

T A B L E of H A R M O N I E S.

		2dry Rel.		2dry Rel.	
5th	8ve	2	3dg. 5th	4	3dg. 5th, 8ve
4th	8ve	3	3dl. 5th	10	3dl. 5th, 8ve
6th g.	8ve	3	4th, 6th g.	3	4th, 6th g. 8ve
3d g.	8ve	4	3dg. 6th g.	12	3dg. 6th g. 8ve
3d l.	8ve	5	3d l. 6th l.	5	3d l. 6th l. 8ve
6th l.	8ve	5	4th, 6th l.	15	4th, 6th l. 8ve.

IF we reflect on what has been explained of these *original Concords*, we see plainly that here are all the possible Combinations that make *Harmony*; for the *Octave* is composed of a 5th and 4th, or a 6th and 3d, which have a Variety of greater and lesser: Out of these are the

the first Six Harmonies composed ; then the 5th being composed of 3d g. and 3d l. and the 6th of 4th and 3d, from these proceed the next Six of the Table ; then an *Octave* joyned to each of these Six, make the last Six.

Now the first 12 Combinations have each 2 Terms added to the *Fundamental*, and their Perfection is according to the Order of the Table : Of the first 6 each has an *Octave* ; and their Preference is according to the Perfection of the other lesser *Concord* joyned to that *Octave*, as that has been already determined ; and with this also agrees the Perfection of their *secondary Relations*. For the next 6, the Preference is given to the Two Combinations with the 5th, whereof that which hath the 3d g. is best ; then to the Two Combinations with the 6th g. of which that which has the 4th is best : Then follows the Combinations with the 6th l. where the 3d l. is preferred to the 4th, for the great Advantage of the *secondary Relation*, which does more than balance the Advantage of the 4th above the 3d l. So that in these Six we have not followed the Order of the *secondary Relations*, nor altogether the Order of the *primary*, as in the last Case. Then come in the last Place the Six Combinations arising from the Division of the *Octave*, into 3 *Concords*, which I have placed last, not because they are least perfect, but because they are most *complex*, and are the Mixtures of the other 12 one with another ; and for their Perfection, they are plainly preferable to the immediately

preceeding Six, because they have the very same Ingredients, and an *Octave* more, which does not alter the *secondary Relation*, and so are equal to them in that Respect; but as they have an *Octave*, they are much preferable; and being compared with the first Six, they have the same Ingredients, with the Addition of one *Concord* more, which does indeed alter the *secondary Relations*, and make the Composition more sensible, but ye adds an agreeable Sweetness, for which in some Respect they are preferable.

FOR *compound Harmony*, I shall leave you to find the Variety for your selves out of the Combinations of the *simple Harmonies* of several *Octaves*. And observe, That we may have *Harmony* when none of the *primary Intervals* are within an *Octave*, as if to a *Fundamental* be joyned a 5<sup>th</sup> above *Octave*, and a double *Octave*. Of such *Harmonies* the *secondary Relations* are ever equal to those of the *simple Harmonies*, whose *primary Intervals* have the same Denomination; and in Practice they are reckoned the same, tho' seldom are any such used.

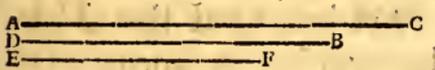
I have brought all the Combinations of *Concords* into the Table of *Harmony* which answer to that general Character, *viz.* That there must be no *Discord* among any of the Terms; yet these few Things must be observed. 1<sup>mo.</sup> That in Practice *Discords* are in some Circumstances admitted, not for themselves, simply considered, but to prepare the Mind for a greater Relish of the succeeding more perfect *Harmony*. 2<sup>do.</sup> That tho' the 4<sup>th</sup>, taken by it self, is *Concord*,  
and

and in the next Degree to the 5th; yet in Practice 'tis reckoned a *Discord* when it stands next to the *Fundamental*; and therefore these Combinations of the preceding Table, where it possesses that Place, are not to be admitted as *Harmonies*; but 'tis admitted in every other Part of the *Harmony*, so that the 4th is *Concord* or *Discord*, according to the Situation; for Example, if betwixt the Extremes of an *Octave* is placed an *arithmetical Mean*, we have it divided into a 4th and a 5th 2. 3. 4. which Numbers, if we apply to the Vibrations of Chords, then the 5th is next the *Fundamental*, and the *secondary Relation* is in this Case, 2. But take an *harmonical Mean*, as here 3. 4. 6. and the 4th is next the *Fundamental*, and the *secondary Relation* is 3. Now in these Two Cases, the component Parts being the same, *viz.* a 4th, 5th, 8ve, differing only in the Position of the 4th and 5th, which occasions the Difference of the *secondary Relation*, the different Effects can only be laid on the different Positions of the 4th and 5th; which Effect can only be measured by the *secondary Relation*; and by Experience we find that the best *secondary Relation* makes the best Composition, so 2. 3. 4. is better than 3 : 4 : 6 : And thus in all Cases, where the same *Interval* is divided into the same Parts differently situated, the Preference will answer to the *secondary Relation*, the lesser making the best Composition, which plainly depends upon the primary Relation; but the 4th next the *Fundamental* is not on'y worse than the

5th, but is reckoned *Discord* in that Position; and therefore all the other Combinations of the Table are preferr'd to it, or rather it is quite rejected; the Reason assigned for this is, that the *graver* Sounds are the most powerful, and raise our Attention most; so that the 4th being next the *Fundamental*, its Imperfection compared with the *Octave* and 5th is made more remarkable, and consequently it must be less agreeable than when it is heard alone; whereas when it stands next the *acute* Term of the *Octave*, that Imperfection is drowned by its being between the 5th and *Octave*, both in *primary* Relation to the *Fundamental*. But this does not hold in the 6th and 3d, because they differ not in their Perfection so much as the 5th and 4th. But we shall hear *D'Cartes* reasoning upon this. Says he, *Hæc infelicissima, &c. The 4th is the most unhappy of all the Concords, and never admitted in Songs, but by Accident* (he means not next the *Fundamental*, but as it falls accidentally among the mutual Relations) *not that it is more imperfect than the 3d or 6th, but because it is too near the 5th, and loses its Sweetness by this Neighbourhood; for understanding which we must notice, That a 5th is never heard, but the acuter 4th seems some way to resound, which is a Consequent of what was said before, that the Fundamental never sounds but the acuter Octave seems to do so too.*

*LET* the Lines A C and D B be a 5th, and the Line E F, an acuter Octave to A C, it will be a 4th to D B; and if it resound to the *Fundamenta*

damental, then, when the 5th is sounded with

 the Fundamental, this

Resonance is a 4th above the 5th that always follows it, which is the Reason it is not admitted next the Bass; for since all the rest of the Concords in Musick are only useful for varying of the 5th, certainly the 4th which does not so is useless, which is plain from this, That if we put it next the Bass, the acuter 5th will resound, and there the Ear will observe it out of its Place, therefore the 4th would be very displeasing, as if we had the Shadow for the Substance, an Image for the real Thing. Elsewhere he says it serves in Composition where the same Reason occurs not, which hinders its standing next the Bass. It is well observed, that the rest of the simple Concords serve only for varying the 5th; Variety is certainly the Life of all sensual Pleasure, without which the more exquisite but cloy the sooner; and in Musick, were there no more Concords but Octave and 5th, it would prove a very poor Fund of Pleasure; but we have more, and agreeable to *D' Cartes's* Notion, we may say, They are all designed to vary the 5th, for they all proceed from it, as we saw in the Divisions of the upper and lower 5th of the Octave in *Chap. 5.* and that all the Variety in Musick proceeds from these 3ds and 6ths arising from the Division of the 5th directly or accidentally, as we shall see more particularly afterwards: Mean time observe, that as the 4th rises naturally from the Division of the Octave, so it

serves to vary it, and accordingly is admitted in Composition in every Part but next the *Fundamental* or *Bass*; for the *5th* being more perfect and capable of Variety (which the *4th* is not, since no lesser *Concord* agrees to both its Extremes) by Means of the *3ds*, ought to stand next the *Fundamental*. Now if the *4th* must not stand with the *Fundamental*, then this *4th*, with the *Octave*, must not be reckoned among *simple Harmonies*. To prove that the *4th* considered by it self is a *Concord*, *Kircher* makes a very odd Argument. Says he, A *4th* added to a *5th* makes an *Octave*, which is *Concord*; but *nothing gives what it has not*, therefore the *4th* is a *Concord*: But by the same Argument you may prove that any *Interval* less than *Octave* is a *Concord*.

I have observed of the Series 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. that they are *Concords* each with other. They contain all the *original Concords*, and the chief of the *compound*; and they stand in such Order that Seven Sounds in the Proportions and Order of this Series joyned in one *Harmony* is the most complete and perfect that can be heard: For here we have the chief and principal of all the *Harmonies* of the preceeding Table, as you'll see by comparing these Numbers with that *Table*; so that in this short and simple Series we have the whole essential Principles and Ingredients of *Musick*; and all at once the most agreeable Effect that Sounds in *Consonance* can have.

LET us now consider how these Sounds may be raised; this will be easily found from the Things already explained; but we must first observe, that there will be a great Difference betwixt applying these Numbers to the Lengths of Chords, and to their Vibrations: If they are applied to the *Chords*, then 'tis easy to find Seven Chords which shall be as these Seven Numbers; but 8 being the longest Chord, the less perfect *Concords* stand in *primary Relation* to the *Fundamental*; and the secondary Relation is 15: But if we have Seven Sounds whose Vibrations are as these Numbers, then 1 is the Vibration of the *Fundamental*, and so on in Order to 8 the Vibration of the *acuteft* performed in the same Time: And thus the best *Concords* stand in *primary Relation* to the *Fundamental*, and 1 is the *secondary Relation*: Therefore to afford this most perfect *Harmony*, we must find Seven Sounds which from the lowest to the highest shall be as 1 : 2 : 3 : 4 : 5 : 6 : 8, the least Number representing the *graveft* Sound. Now, to do this, let us mind that the Lengths of Chords are in simple reciprocal Proportion of their Vibrations accomplished in the same Time, out of which I shall draw the Two following *Problems*, whereof the first shall solve the Question in hand.

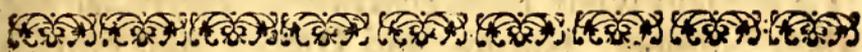
PROBLEM I. To find the Lengths of several Chords, whose Vibrations performed in the same Time, shall be as a given Rank of Numbers. *Rule*. Take the given Series, and out of it find another reciprocal to it, by *Theor.* 14.

*Chap. 4.* which, according to the Demonstration there given, and what I have premised here, is the Series of Lengths sought, so the preceeding Series 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. being given as a Series of Vibrations performed in the same Time, the Lengths of Seven Chords, to which that Series of Vibrations agrees, are 120. 60. 40. 30. 24. 20. 15. And these Seven Chords being in every other Respect equal and alike, and all founded together, shall produce the *Harmony* required.

PROBLEM II. The Lengths of several Chords being given, to find the Number of Vibrations of each performed in the same Time. This is done the same Way as the former: And so if the Series 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. &c. be the Length of Seven Chords, their Vibrations sought are 120. 60. 40. 30. 24. 20. 15.

NOTE. From what has been explained in *Theor. 14. Chap. 4.* we see that if one of these, *viz.* the Lengths of several Chords, or their Vibrations accomplished in the same Time, make a *continued arithmetical* or *harmonical* Series, the other will be reciprocally an *harmonical* or *arithmetical* Series, so the preceeding Series 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. being *continuedly arithmetical*, its correspondent Series 120. 60. 40. 30. 24. 20. is *continuedly harmonical*; but the Number 8 in the first Series interrupts the *arithmetical Proportion*, and so is the *harmonical Proportion* interrupted by its Correspondent 15. But as in the first, 2. 4. 6. 8. are *continuedly arithmetical*, so are these correspondent to them in the other *harmoni-*

harmonical, viz. 60 : 30 : 20 : 15. Also it will hold univerſally, that taking any Numbers out of the one Series in *continued arithmetical* or *harmonical Proportion*, their Correspondents in the other will be reciprocally *harmonical* or *arithmetical*.



C H A P. VIII.

Of concinnous Intervals, and the Scale of Musick.

§ I. Of the Necessity and Use of concinnous Discords, and of their Original and Dependence on the Concords.

WE have, in the preceeding *Chapters*, considered the first and most essential Principles [as far as concerns the first Part of the Definition] of *Musick*, viz. these Relations of Sound in *Acuteness* and *Gravity* whose Extremes are *Concord*; for without these there can be no *Musick*: The indefinite Number of other *Ratios* being all *Discord*, belong not essentially to *Musick*, because of themselves

selves they produce no Pleasure ; yet some of them are admitted into the *System* as necessary to the better being of it, both with respect to *Consonance* and *Succession*, but most remarkably in this ; and such are called *concinuous Intervals*, as being apt or fit for the Improvement of *Musick*: All other *Discords* are called *inconcinuous*. To explain what these *concinuous Intervals* are, their Number, Nature and Office, shall employ this *Chapter*.

IN order to which, I shall first offer the following Considerations, to prove that some other than the *harmonical Intervals* of Sound (*i. e.* such whose Extremes are *Concord*) are necessary for the Improvement, or better Being of *Musick*.

WE know by Experience how much the Mind of Man is delighted with Variety : It can stand no Dispute, whether we consider intellectual or sensible Pleasures ; every one will be conscious of it to himself: If you ask the Reason, I can only answer, That we are made so : And if we apply this Rule to *Musick*, then it is plain the more Variety there is in it, it will be the more entertaining, unless it proceed to an Excess ; for so limited are our Capacities, that too much or too little are equally fatal to our Pleasures. Let us then consider what must be the Effect of having no other but *harmonical Intervals* in the *System* of *Musick*, and,

*First*, With respect to a single Voice, if that should move always from one Degree of *Tune* to another, so as every Note or Sound to the next

next were in the *Ratio* of some *Concord*, the Variety which we happily know to be the Life of *Musick* would soon be exhausted. For to move by no other than *harmonical Intervals*, would not only want Variety, and so weary us with a tedious Repetition of the same Things; but the very Perfection of such Relations of Sounds would cloy the Ear, in the same Manner as sweet and luscious Things do the Taste, which are therefore artfully seasoned with the Mixture of sour and bitter: And so in *Musick* the Perfection of the *harmonical Intervals* are set off, and as 'twere seasoned with other Kinds of *Intervals* that are never agreeable by themselves, but only in order to make the Agreement of the other more various and remarkable. *D'Cartes* has a Notion here that's worth our considering. He observes, that an *acute* Sound requires a greater Force to produce it either in the Motion of the vocal Organs of an Animal, or in striking a String; which we know by Experience, says he, in Strings, for the more they are stretched they become the *acuter*, and require the greater Force to move them: And hence he concludes, that *acute* Sounds, or the Motion of the Air that produce them immediately, strike the Ear with more Force: From which Observations he thinks may be drawn the true and primary Reason why *Degrees* (which are *Intervals* less than any *Concord*) were invented; which Reason he judges to be this, Lest if the Voice did always proceed by *harmonical Distances*, there should be too great Disproportion

tion or Inequality in the *Intenseness* of it (by which *Intenseness* he plainly means that Force with which it is produced, and with which also it strikes the Ear) which would weary both Singer and Hearer. For *Example*. Let *A* and *B* be at the Distance of a greater *3d*, if one would ascend from *A* to *B*, then because *B* being acuter strikes the Ear with more Force than *A*; lest that Disproportion should prove uneasy, another Sound *C* is put between them, by which as by a Step we may ascend more easily, and with less unequal Force in raising the Voice. Hence it appears, says he, that the *Degrees* are nothing but a certain *Medium* contrived to be put betwixt the Extremes of the *Concords*, for moderating their Inequality, but of themselves they have not Sweetness enough to satisfy the Ear, and are of Use only with regard to the *Concords*; so that when the Voice has moved one Degree, the Ear is not yet satisfied till we come to another, which therefore must be *Concord* with the first Sound. Thus far *D'Cartes* reasons on this Matter; the Substance of what he says being plainly this, *viz.* That by a fit Division of the *concording Intervals* into lesser Ones, the Voice will pass smoothly from one Note to another, and the Hearer be prepared for a more exquisite Relish of the perfecter *Intervals*, whose Extremes are the proper Points in which the Ear finds the expected Rest and Pleasure. Yet moving by *harmonical* Distances is also necessary, but not so frequently: The Thing therefore required as

to this Part is, such *Intervals* less than any *harmonical* one, which shall divide these, in order that the Movement of a Sound from their one Extreme to another, by these *Degrees*, may be smooth and agreeable; and by the Variety improve the more essential Principles of *Musick* to a Capacity of affording greater Pleasure, and all together make a more perfect *System*.

2dly. LET us consider *Musick* in *Parts*, i. e. when Two or more Voices joyn in *Consonance*; the *general Rule* is, That the successive Sounds of each be so ordered, that the several Voices shall always be *Concord*. Now there ought to be a Variety in the Choice of these *successive Concords*, and also in the Method of their Successions; but all this depends upon the Movements of the single *Parts*. And if these could move in an agreeable Manner only by *harmonical Distances*, there are but a few different Ways in which they could remove from *Concord* to *Concord*; and hereby we should lose very much of the Ravishment of Sounds in *Consonance*. As to this Part then, the Thing demanded is, a Variety of Ways, whereby each single Voice of more in *Consonance* may move agreeably in their *successive* Sounds, so as to pass from *Concord* to *Concord*, and meet at every Note in the same or a different *Concord* from what they stood at in the last Note. In what Cases and for what Reasons *Discords* are allowed, the *Rules* of *Composition* must teach: But joyn these Two Considerations, and you see manifestly how imperfect *Musick* would be without

out any other *Intervals* than *Concords*; tho' these are the principal and most essential, and the others we now enquire into but subservient to them, for varying and illustrating the Pleasure that arises immediately out of the *harmonical Kind*.

BUT, lastly, consider, that tho' the *Melody* of a single Voice is very agreeable, yet no *Consonance* of *Parts* can have a good Effect separately from the other; therefore the Degrees which answer the first Demand, must serve the other too, else, however perfect the *System* be as to the first Case, it will be still imperfect as to the last.

WHEN a *Question* is about the Agreeableness of any Thing to the Senses, the last Appeal must be to Experience, the only infallible Judge in these Cases; and so in *Musick* the Ear must inform us of what is good and bad; and nothing ought to be received without its Approbation. We have seen to what Purposes other *Intervals* than the *harmonical* are necessary; now we shall see what they are; and agreeable to what has been said, we shall make *Experience* the Judge, which approves of those, and those only, with their *Dependents* (besides the *harmonical Intervals*) as Parts of the true *natural System* of *Musick*, viz. whose *Ratios* are 8 : 9. called a *greater Tone*, 9 : 10 called a *lesser Tone*, and 15 : 16 called a *Semitone*: And these are the lesser *Intervals*, particularly called *Degrees*, by which a Sound can move upwards or downwards successively, from one Ex-

treme

extreme of any *harmonical Interval* to another, and produce true *Melody*; and by Means whereof also several Voices are capable of the necessary Variety in passing from *Concord* to *Concord*. By the *Dependents* of these Degrees, I mean their Compounds with *Octave*, (which are understood to be the same Thing in Practice, as we observed in another Place of *compound Concorde*) and their *Complements* to an *Octave* (or Differences from it) *viz.* 9 : 16, 5 : 9, 8 : 15, which are also a Part of the *System*, tho' more imperfect, but of these afterwards : As to the *Semitone*, 'tis so called, not that it is geometrically the Half of either of these which we call *Tones* (for 'tis greater) but because it comes near to it ; and 'tis called the *greater Semitone*, being greater than what it wants of a *Tone*.

**N O T E**, Hitherto we have used the Words, *Tone* and *Tune* indifferently, to signify a certain Quality of a single Sound ; but here *Tone* is a certain *Interval*, and shall hereafter be constantly so used, and the Word *Tune* always applied to the other.

O U R next Work shall be to explain the *Original* of these *Degrees*, and their different Perfections ; and then shew how they answer the Purposes for which they were required ; and, in doing this, I shall make such Reflections upon the Connection and Dependence of the several Parts of the *System*, that we may be confirmed both by Sense and Reason in the true Principles of *Musick*,

As to the *Original* of these *Degrees*, they arise out of the *simple Concords*, and are equal to their Differences, which we take by *Probl. 10. Chap. 4.* Thus 8 : 9 is the Difference of a 5th and 4th. 9 : 10 is the Difference of a 3d l. and 4th, or of 5th and 6th g. 15 : 16, the Difference of 3d g. and 4th, or of 5th and 6th l.

WE shall presently see the Reason why no other *Degrees* than such as are the Differences of *Concords* could be admitted; but there are other Differences among the *simple Concords*, besides these (which you may observe do all arise from a Comparison of the 5th with the other *Concords*.) yet none else could answer the Design, which I shall shew immediately, and give you in the mean Time a *Table* of all these Differences of *simple Concords*, which are not *Concords* themselves.

<i>Differences</i> of	=	<i>Ratios.</i>	I shall
3d l. and	{	3d g. = 24 : 25	now explain how these <i>Degrees</i> contribute to the Improvement of the <i>System</i> of <i>Musick</i> . In doing which I shall
		4th = 9 : 10	
		6th g. = 18 : 25	
3d g. and	{	4th = 15 : 16	
		6th l. = 25 : 32	
4th and 5th	=	8 : 9	
5th and	{	6th l. = 15 : 16	
		6th g. = 9 : 10	
6th l. and 6th g.	=	24 : 25	

shall endeavour to give the Reason why these only are proper and natural to that End.

*Degrees* were required both for improving the *Melody* of a single Voice considered by it self; and that several Voices, while they move melodiously each by it self, might also joyn together in an agreeable Variety of *Harmony*; and therefore I observed, that the *Degrees* required must answer both these Ends, if possible; accordingly, Nature has bounteously afforded us these necessary Materials of our Pleasure, and made the preceeding *Degrees* answer all our Wish, as I shall now explain.

I shall first consider it with respect to the *Consonance* of Two or more Voices. Suppose Two Voices *A* and *B*, containing between them any *Concord*; they can change into another *Concord* only Two Ways. *Ima.* If the one Voice as *A* keeps its Place, and the other *B* moves upward or downward (*i. e.* becomes either *acuter* or *graver* than it was before.) Now if the Movement of *B* can only be agreeable by *harmonical Intervals*, they can change only in these Cases, *viz.* if the first *Concord* be *Octave*, then by *B*'s moving nearer the Pitch of *A*, either by the Distance of a *6th*, *5th*, *4th* or *3d*, the Two Voices will *concord* in a *3d*, *4th*, *5th* or *6th*; which is plain from the Composition of an *Octave*: And consequently by *B*'s moving farther from *A*, the Voices can again change from any of these lesser *Concords* to an *Octave*. Or suppose them at first at a *6th*, by *B*'s moving either a *4th* or *3d*, they will meet in a *3d* or

4th, or being at a 4th or 3d, they may meet in a 6th, because a 6th is composed of 4th and 3d. And lastly, being at a 5th, they may meet in a 3d, and contrarily. But by the Use of these Degrees the Variety is increased; for now suppose *A* and *B* distant by any simple Concord, if *B* moves up or down one of these Degrees 8 : 9, or 9 : 10, or 15 : 16, there shall always be a Change into some other Concord, because these Degrees are the very Differences of ConCORDS. Then, 2do. If we suppose both the Voices to move, they may move either the same Way (i. e. both become acuter or graver than they were) or move contrary to one another; and in both Cases they may increase their first Distance, or contract it, so as to meet in a different Concord; but then if the Movements be by harmonical Intervals, the Variety will be far less here than in the first Supposition; but this is abundantly supplied by the Use of the Degrees. You must observe again, that besides the Want of Variety in most of the Changes that can be made, from Concord to Concord, by the single Voices moving in harmonical Distances, there will be too great a Disproportion or Inequality of the Concord you pass from, and that you meet in, which must have an ill Effect: For by Experience we are taught, that Nature is best pleased, where the Variety and Changes of our Pleasure (arising from the same Objects) are gradual and by smooth Steps; and therefore moving from one Extreme to another is to be seldom practis'd; for this Reason also the

the *Degrees* are of necessary Use for making the Passage of the *Concords* easy and smooth, which generally ought to be from one *Concord* into the next, which is consistent with the Motion of one or both Voices. But let me make this last Remark, which we have also confirmed from Experience, *viz.* That of Two Sounds in *Consonance*, 'tis required not only that every Note they make together be *Concord* ( I have said already that there are some Exceptions to this Rule ) but that, as much as possible, the present Note of the one Voice be *Concord* to the immediately preceeding Note of the other; which can be done by no Means so well as by such *Degrees* as are the Differences of *Concords* ( where these happen to be *Discord*, *Musicians* call it particularly *Relation* in *harmonical*. ) And indeed upon this Principle it can easily be shewn, that 'tis impossible there can be any other *Degrees* admitted, than what are equal to the Differences of *simple Concords*: If only one Voice move, the Thing is plain; if both move, let us suppose *A B* at any *Concord*, and to move into another, and there let the Two new Notes be expressed by *a b*. Then since *a B* must be *Concord*, it follows, that the Distance of *a* and *A* is equal to the Difference of the Two *Concords* *A B*, and *a B*; the same Way 'tis proven that *b B* is the Difference of the *Concords* *A B*, and *b A*.

'Tis a very obvious Question here, why the successive Notes of Two different Voices may not as well admit of *Discords*, as these of the

same Voice; to which the Answer seems plainly to be this, that in the same Voice, the *Degrees*, which are the only *Discords* admitted, are regulated by the *harmonical Intervals* to which they are but subservient; and the *Melody* is conducted altogether with respect to these; for the *Degrees* of themselves without their Subserviency to the *Concords* could make no *Musick*, as shall be further explained afterwards: But in the other Case, the successive Motions can be brought under no such Regulation, and therefore must be *harmonical* as much as possible, lest it diminish the Pleasure of the succeeding *Concord*; besides, consider the *Discords* that are most ready to occur here, are greater than the *Degrees*, and would be intolerable in any Case.

BUT now, supposing that only these *Discords* belong to the *System* of *Musick*, which are the Differences of *Concords*, you'll ask why the other Differences marked in the preceding *Table* are excluded, *viz.* 24 : 25 the Difference of the Two 3ds, or the Two 6ths; 18 : 25 the Difference of the 3d l. and 6th g. 25 : 32 the Difference of 3d g. and 6th l. To satisfy this, we are to consider, *First*, that the Passage of several Voices from *Concord* to *Concord* does not need them, there being a sufficient Variety from the other Differences; but chiefly the Reason seems to be, that they don't answer the Demands of a single Voice, which I shall explain in the next §, and desire you here only to observe

serve that they arise out of the *imperfect* *Con-*  
*cords*, viz. *3ds* and *6ths*.

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§ 2. *Of the Use of Degrees in the Construction*  
*of the Scale of Musick.*

WE have already observed, that the *Con-*  
*cords* are the essential Principles of  
*Musick* as they afford Pleasure immediately and  
of themselves : Other Relations belong to *Mu-*  
*sick* only as they are subservient to these. We  
have also explained what that Subserviency re-  
quired is, viz. That by a fit Division of the  
*harmonical Intervals* a single Voice may pass  
smoothly from one Extreme to another, where-  
by the Pleasure of these perfect Relations may  
be heightned, and we may have a Variety  
necessary to our more agreeable Entertain-  
ment: It follows, that to answer this End, the  
*Intervals* sought, or some of them at least, must  
be less than any *harmonical* one, i. e. less than  
a *3d l.*  $5 : 6$  ; and that they ought all to be less,  
will presently appear from the Nature of the  
Thing. For the *Degrees* sought we have al-  
ready assigned these, viz.  $8 : 9$  called a *greater*  
*Tone*,  $9 : 10$  called a *lesser Tone*, and  $15 : 16$   
called a *greater Semitone* : Now that every *har-*  
*monical Interval* is composed of, and conse-  
quently resolvable into a certain Number of  
these *Degrees*, will appear from the following

*Table*, wherein I give you the Number and Kinds of these *Degrees* that each *Concord* is equal to, which you can prove by the *Addition of Intervals*, *Chap. 4.* Or you'll find it more easily afterwards, when you see them all stand in order in the *Scale*; we shall afterwards consider in what Order these *Degrees* ought to be taken in the Division of any *Interval*.

*TABLE* of the component  
Parts of *Concords*.

3d l.		1 <i>tg</i> , & 1 <i>f</i>		
3d g,		1 <i>tg</i> , 1 <i>tl</i> ,		
4th	contains	1 <i>tg</i> , 1 <i>tl</i> ,	1 <i>f</i>	
5th		2 <i>tg</i> , 1 <i>tl</i> ,	1 <i>f</i>	
6th l.		2 <i>tg</i> , 1 <i>tl</i> ,	2 <i>f</i>	
6th g,		2 <i>tg</i> , 2 <i>tl</i> ,	1 <i>f</i>	
8ve		3 <i>tg</i> , 2 <i>tl</i> ,	2 <i>f</i>	

*NOTE*,

That as in this *Table*, so afterwards I shall for Brevity mark a greater *Tone* thus *tg*, a lesser thus *tl*, a *Semitone* thus *f*.

BUT now, *observe*, that since we can conceive a Variety of other *Intervals* that will divide the *Concords* besides these, we are therefore to consider for what Reason they are preferable to any other: To do this, I shall first shew you, that no other but such as are equal to the Differences of *Concords* are fit for the Purpose, and then for what Reason only these Three are chosen.

FOR the *First*, consider, that every greater *Concord* contains all the lesser within it, in such a Manner, that betwixt the Extremes of any greater *Concord*, as many middle Terms may

be

be placed as there are lesser *Concords*; which middle Terms shall be to any one Extreme of that greater *Concord* in the *Ratio* of these lesser *Concords*; so betwixt the Extremes of the *8ve* may be placed 6 Terms, which shall make all the lesser *Concords* with any one of the Extremes, as in this Series,

$$1 : \frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{5}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

where comparing each Term with 1, you have all the *simple Concords* in their gradual Order, *3d l. 3d g. 4th, 5th, 6th l. 6th g. 8ve*; and the mutual Relations of the Terms immediately next other in the Series are plainly the Differences of the *Concords* which these Terms make with the Extreme. Now it is natural and reasonable that if we would pass by *Degrees* from one Extreme to another of any greater *harmonical Interval*, in the most agreeable Manner, we ought to choose such middle Terms as have an *harmonical Relation* to the Extremes of that greater, rather than such as are *Discord*; for the *simple Concords* being different in Perfection, vary the Pleasure in this Progression very agreeably; but we could not bear to hear a great many Sounds succeeding one another, among which there were no *Concord*, or where only the last is *concord* to the First: And therefore it is plain that the *Degrees* required ought to be equal to the Differences of *Concords*, as you see evidently they must be where the middle Terms are *Concord*

with one or both the Extremes. But of all the *discord Differences* of *Concords*, only these are agreeable, *viz.* 8 : 9, 9 : 10, 15 : 16 ; the other Three are rejected, *viz.* 24 : 25, 18 : 25, 25 : 32 ; the Reason of which seems to be, that the Two last are too great, and the first too small ; but particularly 25 : 32 is an *Interval* greater than a 4<sup>th</sup>, as 18 : 25 is greater than a 3<sup>d</sup> g. and therefore would make such a disproportioned and unequal Mixture with the other *Degrees*, that would be insufferable. Then for 24 : 25 it is too small, and would also make too much Inequality among the *Degrees*. But at last we shall take Experience for the infallible Proof that we have chosen the only proper *Degrees* : Our Reason in Cases like this can go no further than the making such Observations upon the Dependence and Connection of Things, that from the Order and Analogy of *Nature* we may draw a probable Conclusion that we have discovered the true natural Rule. And of this Kind we shall immediately have further Demonstrations that the only true *natural Degrees* are these already assign'd.

WE come now to consider the Order in which the *Degrees* ought to be taken, in this Division of the *harmonical Intervals*, for constituting the *Scale* of *Musick* ; for tho' we have the true *Degrees*, yet it is not every Order and Progression of them that will produce true *Melody*. For *Example*, Tho' the greater *Tone* 8 : 9 be a true *Degree*, yet there could be no *Musick* made of any Number of such *Degrees*, because no Num-  
ber

ber of them is equal to any *Concord*; the same is true of the other *Two Degrees*; which you may prove by adding *Two* or *Three*, &c. of any one Kind of them together, till you find the Sum exceed an *Octave*, which it will do in 6 greater *Tones*, or 7 lesser *Tones*, or 11 *Semitones*; and compare the Sum of 2, 3, 4, &c. of them, till you come to that Number, you'll find them equal to no *Concord*. Therefore there is a Necessity that these *Degrees* be mixt together to make right *Musick*; and 'tis plain they must be so mixt, that there ought never to be *Two* of one Kind next other. But this we shall have also confirmed in examining the Order they ought to be taken in.

THE *Octave* containing in it all the other *Simple Concords*, and the *Degrees* being the Differences of these *Concords*, 'tis plain that the Division of the *Octave* will comprehend the Divisions of all the rest; Let us therefore joyn all the *simple Concords* to a common *Fundamental*, and we have this Series,

I	·	$\frac{5}{6}$	·	$\frac{4}{5}$	·	$\frac{3}{4}$	·	$\frac{2}{3}$	·	$\frac{5}{8}$	·	$\frac{3}{5}$	·	$\frac{1}{2}$
<i>Fund.</i>	<i>3d l.</i>	<i>3d g.</i>	<i>4th,</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>6th l.</i>	<i>6th g.</i>	<i>8ve.</i>							

Now if we should ascend to an *Octave* by these Steps, 'tis evident we have all the possible *harmonical Relations* to the *Fundamental*; and if we examine what *Degrees* are in this Ascend

scant, or the mutual Relations of each Term to the next, they are these.

$$\frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{24}{25} \cdot \frac{15}{16} \cdot \frac{8}{9} \cdot \frac{15}{16} \cdot \frac{24}{25} \cdot \frac{5}{6}$$

But this we know is far from being a *melodious* Ascent; there is too great Inequality among these *Degrees*; the first and last are each a *3d* *l.* which ought also to be divided; it is equal to a *tg.* and *f.* and so instead of  $\frac{5}{6}$  we shall have these Two *Degrees* 8 : 9 and 15 : 16. But when this is done, yet the Division of the *Octave* will not be perfect; for we have too many *Degrees*, and an Excess is as much a Fault as a Defect: So many small *Degrees* would neither be easily raised, nor heard with Pleasure: The Two *3ds* and Two *6ths* have so small a Difference, 24 : 25, that the Division of the *Octave* does not require nor admit them both together, the Progress being smoother where we have but one of the *3ds* and one of the *6ths*. If this Degree 24 : 25 be expelled, then will 9 : 10 have Place in the Series, which is not only a better Relation of it self, as it consists of lesser Numbers, but it has a nearer Affinity with the other Two 8 : 9 and 15 : 16, all these Three proceeding from the *5th*, as I have already noted.

Now then if we take only one of the *3ds* and one *6th* in the Division of the *8ve* we have these Two different Series,

Fund. 3d l. 4th, 5th, 6th l. 8ve

I .  $\frac{5}{6}$  .  $\frac{3}{4}$  .  $\frac{2}{3}$  .  $\frac{5}{8}$  .  $\frac{1}{2}$

I .  $\frac{4}{5}$  .  $\frac{3}{4}$  .  $\frac{2}{3}$  .  $\frac{3}{5}$  .  $\frac{1}{2}$

Fund. 3d g. 4th, 5th, 6th g. 8ve

THE 3d l. and 6th l. are taken together, as the 3d g. and 6th g. because their Relation is the

Concord of a 4th; whereas the 3d l. and 6th g. also the 3d g. and 6th l. are one to the other a gross *Discord*; and 'tis better how many *Concords* are among the middle Terms; but if in some particular Cases of Practice this Order is changed, 'tis done for the sake of some other Advantage to the *Melody*, of which I have an Occasion to speak afterwards. But the 3ds next each Extreme are yet undivided, which ought to be done to complete the Division of the *Octave*.

IN the first of the preceeding Series we have the 3d l. next the *Fundamental*, and the 3d g. next the other Extreme: In the Second we have the 3d g. next the *Fundamental*, and the 3d l. next the *acute* Extreme. Now it is plain what *Degrees* will divide these 3ds, because we see them divided in the Divisions already made; for in the first Series, betwixt the 3d l. and the 5th we have a 3d g. (which is their Difference) divided into these *Degrees*, and in this Order ascending, *viz.* *tl.* and *tg.* and betwixt the 4th and 6th l. we have a 3d l. (which is their

Dif-

Difference ) divided into *t g.* and *f.* We have the same *Intervals* divided in the other Series betwixt the 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* and 5<sup>th</sup>, and betwixt the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> *g.* but the Order of the *Degrees* here is reverse of what it is in the other Series : And the Question now is, what is the most natural Order for the Division of these 3<sup>ds</sup> that ly next the Extremes in the *Octaves* ? It may at first seem that we have got a fair and natural Hint from these Places mentioned, and that the 3<sup>ds</sup> ought to be ordered the same Way towards the Extremes of each Series, as they are in these Places of it. In the 3<sup>ds</sup> next the *Fundamental* I have followed that Order, but not for that Reason ; and in the upper 3<sup>ds</sup> I have taken the contrary Order, which see in the Two following Series, where I have marked the *Degrees* from every Term to the next ; and you see I have divided

$$\text{with a } 3^d \text{ l.} - \mathbf{I} : \frac{8}{9} \cdot \frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{5}{8} \cdot \frac{5}{9} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$tg. \quad f. \quad tl. \quad tg. \quad f. \quad tg. \quad tl.$$


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$$\text{with a } 3^d \text{ g.} - \mathbf{I} : \frac{8}{9} \cdot \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{8}{15} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$tg. \quad tl. \quad f. \quad tg. \quad tl. \quad tg. \quad f.$$


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the 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* ( which is in the upper Place of the one and lower of the other Series ) in this Order ascending, *viz. t g.* and *tl.* And the 3<sup>d</sup> *l.* ( which is also in the upper Place of the one and

and lower of the other ) in this Order ascending, viz. *t g.* and *f.* The Reason of this Choice I shall thus account for. *First*, As to the 3d next the *Fundamental*, I place the *t g.* lowest, because it is the *Degree* which a natural Voice can most easily raise, being the most perfect of the Three, and we find it so by Experience; and if you consider, that it is the Difference of a 4th and 5th, which two *Concords* the Ear is perfectly Judge of, by practising these one learns very easily how to raise a *t g.* with Exactness: But for the *t l.* (the other Part of the 3d *g.*) it is not so easily learned, for the Difference betwixt the Two Tones being but small, one cannot be sure of it, but will readily fall into the more perfect. It is true, that in rising from any *Fundamental* to a 3d *g.* we take a *t l.* at the second Step; but then I believe, our taking it exactly here, is owing to the Idea of the *Fundamental*, to which the Ear seeks the *harmonical* Relation of 3d *g.* where it rests with Pleasure; and whenever a Reason like this occurs, the Voice will easily take a *t l.* even at the first Step; for *Example*, Suppose Two Voices concurring in a 6th *g.* if one of them keeps its *Tune*, and the other moves to meet it in a 5th, then must that Movement be a *t l.* which is the Difference of 6th *g.* and 5th: As to the Parts of the 3d *l.* observe, that the *t g.* and *f.* being remarkably different, there would be no Hazard of taking the one for the other; therefore as to that, any of them might stand next the *Fundamental*, yet the *t g.* being a  
more

more perfect Relation, it is easier taken, and makes a more agreeable Ascent, tho' I know that in some Circumstances the *f.* is placed next the *Fundamental* ( as I shall mark in its proper Place. ) Now for the *Degrees* of the upper Third, the *t g.* is set in the lowest Place in both the Series ; the Effect of which is, that the middle Term proceeding from that Order, is in an *harmonical* Relation to more, and the more principal of the other Terms in the Series. *Kepler* upon *harmonical Proportions* places the *t g.* next both the Extremes in the *Octave*, and gives this Reason for it, lest the second and seventh Term of the one Series differ from these in the other ( for it seems he would have them differ as little as possible, *viz.* only in the *3ds* and *6ths* ) and this he concludes with a Kind of Triumph against the Authorities of *Ptolomy*, *Galileus* and *Zarlino*, whom he mentions as contrary to him in this Point. But indeed I cannot see the Sufficiency of this Reason, there is nothing in it drawn from the Nature of the Thing : And as to *3d* in the upper Place, the Order in which I've placed its *Degrees*, is approved by Experience, and is I think the constant Practice.

Thus we have the *Octave* completely divided into all its *concinuous Degrees*, and in it the Division of all the lesser *Concords*, with the most natural and agreeable Order in which these *Degrees* can follow, in moving from any given Sound through any *harmonical Interval*. There are only these Three different  
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*Degrees*, viz. *t g.* 8 : 9, *t l.* 5 : 6, and *f.* 15 : 16. And how many of each Kind every *harmonical Interval* contains, is to be seen in the preceeding Series, which easily confirms and proves the *Table of Degrees* given a little above, where you see also the natural Order, viz. in ascending, it is *t g. t l. f. t g. t l. t g. f.* — Or this, *t g. f. t l. t g. f. t g. t l.* according as you chose the *3d l.* or *3d g.* to ascend by; and in descending we take that Order just reverse, by taking the same individual middle Terms.

Now the System of *Octave* containing all the *original Concords*, and the *compound Concords* being the Sum of *Octave* and some lesser *Concord*, therefore 'tis plain, that if we would have a Series of *Degrees* to reach beyond an *Octave*, we ought to continue them in the same Order thro' a second *Octave* as in the first, and so on thro' a third and fourth *Octave*, &c. and such a Series is called *The Scale of Musick*, which as I have already defin'd, expresses a Series of Sounds, rising or falling towards *Acuteness* or *Gravity*, from any given Pitch of *Tune*, to the greatest Distance that is fit or practicable, thro' such intermediate *Degrees* as makes the Succession most agreeable and perfect; and in which we have all the *harmonical Intervals* most *concinuously* divided. And of this we have Two different Species according as the *3d l.* or *3d g.* and *6th l.* or *6th g.* are taken in, which cannot both stand together in relation to one *Fundamental*, and make an *har-*  
*monical*

*monical Scale.* But if either of these Ways we ascend from a *Fundamental* or given Sound to an *Octave*, the Succession is very *melodious*, tho' they make different Species of *Melody*. It is true, that every Note to the next is *Discord*, but each of them is *Concord* with the *Fundamental*, except the 2d and 7th, and many of them among themselves, which is the Ground of that Agreeableness in the Succession; for we must reflect upon what I have elsewhere observed, that the *graver* Sounds are the more powerful, and are capable of exciting Motion and Sound in Bodies whose *Tune* is *acuter* in a Relation of *Concord*, particularly 8ve and 5th, which an *acute* Sound will not effect with respect to a *grave*. And this accounts for that *Maxim* in Practice, That all *Musick* is counted *upwards*; the Meaning is, that in the Conduct of a successive Series of Sounds, the lower or *graver* Notes influence and regulate the *acuter*, in such a Manner that all these are chosen with respect to some *fundamental* Note which is called the *Key*; but of this only in general here, in another Place it shall be more particularly considered.

WE have express'd the several Terms of the *Scale* by the proportional *Sections* of a Line represented by 1, which is the *Fundamental* of the Series; but if we would express it in whole Numbers, it is to be done by the Rules of *Ch.* 4. by which we have the Two following Series, in each of which the greatest Number expresses

expresses the longest *Chord*, and the other Numbers the rest in Order.

540 : 480 : 432 : 405 : 360 : 324 : 288 : 270  
*tg. tl. f. tg. tl. tg. f.*

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216 : 192 : 180 : 162 : 144 : 135 : 120 : 108  
*tg. f. tl. tg. f. tg. tl.*

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THE first Series proceeds by a *3d g.* and the other by a *3d l.* and if any Number of Chords are in these Proportions of Length, *ceteris paribus*, they will express the true *Degrees* and *Intervals* of the *System of Musick*, as 'tis contain'd in an *8ve concinnously* divided in the Two different Species mentioned.

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§ 3. Containing further Reflections upon the Constitution of the Scale of Musick; and explaining the Names of *8ve*, *5th*, &c. which have been hitherto used without knowing all their Meaning; shewing also the proper Office of the Scale.

WE considered in Chapter 5. the Division of the *Concords*, in order only to find what *Intervals* they were immediately divisible into: We find that either an *harmonical* or *arithmetical Mean* divides the *8ve* into a *5th* and

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and

and 4th, with this Difference, that the *harmonical* puts the 5th, and the *arithmetical* the 4th next the *Fundamental*: And from this the Invention of the *tg* (which is the Difference of 4th and 5th) was very obvious: These Divisions of the 8ve we suppose indeed made only for discovering the immediate *harmonical* Parts of it; but taking in both these middle Terms, then we see the 8ve resolved into these Three Parts, and in this Order, *viz.* a 4th, a *tg* and a 4th, as in these Numbers 6 : 8 : 9 : 12. where 6 and 12 are 8ve; 8 is an *harmonical* Mean, and 9 an *arithmetical* Mean; 6 : 8 is a 4th; 8 : 9 a *tg.* and 9 : 12 a 4th; that these Two middle Terms are at a Distance proper for making *Melody*, and consequently that their Relation 8 : 9 is a *concinuous Interval*, we have infallible Assurance of from Experience.

BUT I proposed to make some Observations on the Connection and Dependence of the several Parts of the *System of Musick*; and *First*, we are to remark, that this *Degree* 8 : 9 proceeds from the Two *Concords* that are of the next perfect Form to 8ve, *viz.* 4th and 5th, which are the *harmonical* Parts of it; and stands so in the middle betwixt the upper and lower 4th, that added to either of them it makes up the 5th, and so joyns the *harmonical* and *arithmetical* Division of 8ve in one Series: and this *tg* being the Difference of Two *Concords* of which the Ear is perfectly Judge, we very easily learn to raise it; and in Fact we know it is the *Degree* which a natural Voice can with most Ease  
and

and Certainty raise from a *Fundamental* or given Sound. *Again*, we found that the same Law of an *harmonical* and *arithmetical Mean* resolved the *5th* into *3d l.* and *3d g.* By the *harmonical* the *3d g.* being next the greater Number, as here  $10 : 12 : 15$ , and by the *arithmetical* the *3d l.* lowest, as here  $4 : 5 : 6$ ; and applying this to the upper and lower *5th* proceeding from the immediate Division of the *8ve*, we have 4 more middle Terms within the *8ve*, whereof the lower Two are *3ds* to the *Fundamental* and *6ths* to the other Extreme, and the upper Two are *6ths* to the *Fundamental*, and *3ds* to the other Extreme, as you see in the preceeding Series: And this produces Two new Degrees, *viz.*  $24 : 25$ . the Difference of *3d l.* and *3d g.* or of *6th l.* and *6th g.* and  $15 : 16$ , the Difference of *3d g.* and *4th*, or of *5th* and *6th l.* but this Degree  $24 : 25$  is too small, and upon that Account rejected, as I have already said. Now we are to find why this Degree  $24 : 25$  is *inconcinuous*, and  $15 : 16$  *concinuous*, from some settled Constitution and Rule in Nature, which we shall have from this Observation, *viz.* That if we apply the same Law which resolved the *8ve* and *5th* into their *harmonical* Parts, to the *3d g.* we have it divided into a *tg.* and a *tl.* as in this *arithmetical* Series  $8 : 9 : 10$ ; or this *harmonical*,  $36 : 40 : 45$ ; and if we consider this *Analogy*, it seems to determine these Two Degrees of *tg.*  $8 : 9$  and *tl.*  $9 : 10$ , to be the true *concinuous* Parts of *3d g.* and thereby excludes  $24 : 25$ , and consequently the Two *3ds* and

two 6ths from standing both together in one *Scale*. And now, since the 5th does not admit of both these middle Terms together which proceed from its *harmonical* and *arithmetical* Division, it seems to be but the following of Nature, if we apply the same Kind of Division to the upper and lower 5th of the 8ve; the Effect of which is, that as by the *harmonical* Division of the lower 5th we have a 3d g. next the *Fundamental*; so by the *harmonical* Division of the upper 5th we have a 6th g. to the *Fundamental*; and by the *arithmetical* Divisions we have contrarily the 3d l. and 6th l. next the *Fundamental*, as you see in the preceding Series: And this is a Kind of natural Proof that the 3d l. and 6th l. also the 3d g. and 6th g. belong to one Series; and here we have the Discovery of the *tl*. which lies naturally betwixt the 3d l. and 4th, or betwixt the 5th and 6th g. But tho' the Two 3ds and Two 6ths cannot stand together, yet there must none of them be lost, and therefore they constitute Two different *Scales*. But the Division of the 8ve is not finished, for the 3ds that ly next the Extremes are undivided; as to the 3d g. we see how naturally 'tis resolved into a *tg.* and *tl.* which is another Way of discovering these *Degrees*; and 'tis worth remarking, that the same general *Rule* which by a gradual Application resolved the 8ve immediately into a 5th and 4th. and then the 5th immediately into 3d g. and 3d l. (by which Divisions the Two 6ths were also found indirectly) being applied to the 3d g. produces immediately the Two principal

cipal *concinuous Intervals* ; and for the Original of the *f. 15 : 16.* we see 'tis the Difference of *3d g.* and *4th*, and rises not from the immediate Division of any other *Interval*, but falls here by Accident, upon the Application of the preceding general *Rule* to the *8ve* and *5th*. But we have yet the *3d l.* which is next the Extremes to consider ; of what *concinuous* Parts it consists was easy to see betwixt the *3d g.* and *5th. viz.* a *f.* and *tg* ; but next the Extremes of the *8ve* they must be in this Order ascending, *viz. tg.* and *f.* Of the Reason of this I have said enough already : And now the Division of the *Octave* being completed, we have the whole *original Concords* *concinuously* divided, and these *Intervals* added to the *System, viz. 8 : 9, 9 : 10, and 15 : 16.* which have all this in common, that they are the Differences of the *5th* and some other *Concords*.

*Of the particular Names of Intervals, as 8ve, 5th, &c.*

WE have considered the *concinuous* Division of every *harmonical Interval*, and we find the *8ve* contains 7 *Degrees* ; the *6th*, whether lesser or greater, has 5 ; the *5th* has 4 ; the *4th* has 3 ; the *3d*, lesser or greater, has 2 : And if we number the Terms or Sounds contained within the Extremes (including both) of each *harmonical Interval*, there will be one more than there are of *Degrees, viz. in the 8ve* there are

8. in the 6th 6. in the 5th 5. in the 4th 4. and in the 3d 3. And now at last we understand from whence the Names of 8ve, 6th, 5th, &c. come; the Relations to which these Names are annexed are so called, because in the *natural Scale of Musick* the Terms that are in these Relations to the *Fundamental* are the *Third, Fourth, &c.* in order from that *Fundamental* inclusively. Or thus, because these *harmonical Intervals* being *concinuously* divided, contain betwixt their Extremes (including both) so many Terms or Notes as the Names 8ve, 6th, &c. bear. For the same Reason also, the *Tone* or *f.* (whichever of them stands next the *Fundamental*) is called a 2d, particularly the *Tone* (whose Difference of greater and lesser is not strictly regarded in common Practice) is called the 2d g. and *f.* the 2d l. Also that Term which is betwixt the 6th and 8ve, is called the 7th, which is also the greater 8 : 15, or the lesser 5 : 9. Concerning this *Interval* we must here remark, that as it stands in *primary Relation* to the *Fundamental* in the Division of the 8ve, it does in this respect belong to the *System* of *Musick*: But it is also used as a *Degree* without Division, *that is,* in Practice we move sometimes the Distance of a 7th at once; but it is in such Circumstances as removes the Offence that so great a *Discord* would of it self create; of which we shall hear more in the next *Chapter*; and here *observe*, that it is the Difference of 8ve and the *Degrees* of *Tone* and *Semitone*.

As to the Order in which the *Degrees* of this *Scale* follow, we have this to remark, that if either Series, (*viz.* that with the 3<sup>d</sup> l. or with the 3<sup>d</sup> g. ) be continued *in infinitum*, the Two *Semitones* that fall naturally in the Division of the 8<sup>ve</sup>, are always afunder 2 *Tones* and 3 *Tones* alternately, *i. e.* after a *Semitone* come 2 *Tones*, then a *Semitone*, and then 3 *Tones*; and of the Two *Tones* one is a greater and the other a lesser; of the Three, one is lesser in the middle betwixt Two greater. If you continue either Series to a double *Octave*, and mark the *Degrees*, all this will be evident. *Observe* also, that this is the *Scale* which the *Ancients* called the *DIATONICK Scale*, because it proceeds by these *Degrees* called *Tones* (whereof there are Five in an 8<sup>ve</sup>) and *Semitones* (whereof there are Two in an *Octave*) But we call it also the *NATURAL Scale*, because its *Degrees* and their Order are the most agreeable and *concinuous*; and preferable, by the Approbation both of Sense and Reason, to all other Divisions that have ever been instituted. What these other are, you shall know when I explain the *ancient Theory of Musick*; but I shall always call this, *The Scale of Musick*, without Distinction, as 'tis the only true *natural System*.

WE have already observed, that if the *Scale of Musick* is to be carried beyond an *Octave*, it must be by the same *Degrees*, and in the same Order thro' every successive *Octave* as thro' the first. How to continue the Series of Numbers by a continual Addition, is sufficiently explain'd

already; and for the Names there are Two Ways, either to compound the Names of the *simple Interval* with the *Octave* thus, viz. *tg.* or *f.* or *3d.* &c. above an *Octave*, or above Two *Octaves*, &c. or name them by the Number of *Degrees* from the *Fundamental*, as *9th*, *10th*, &c. but the first Way is more intelligible, as it gives a more distinct and simple Idea of the Distance, just as we conceive a certain Quantity of Time more easily, by calling it, for *Example*, 9 Weeks, than 63 Days. But that you may readily know how far any Note is removed from the *Fundamental*, if you know how far it is above any Number of *Octaves*. See the following *Table*, wherein the first Line contains the Names of the Notes within one *Octave*; the second Line the Names (with respect to the first *Fundamental*) of these Terms that are as far above one *Octave*, as these standing over them in the first are above the *Fundamental*; and the Third Line the Names of these above Two *Octaves*.

<i>Fund.</i> 1	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22d

And this *Table* may be continued as far as you please; or if you take the Columns of Figures downward, then each Column gives the Names of the Notes or Terms that are equally removed from the *Fundamental*, from the first *Octave*,

*Etave*, the second *Octave*, &c. Thus the first Column on the left shews the Names of such as are a 2<sup>d</sup> above the *Fundamental*, above the first *Octave*, &c. if we consider what is practical then the *Scale* is limited to Three or Four *Octaves*, otherwise 'tis infinite. Again observe, that let the *Scale* be continued to any Extent, every *Octave* is but a Repetition of the first; and therefore an *Octave* is said to be a perfect *Scale* or *System*, which comprehends Eight Notes with the Extremes; but the Eighth being so like the first, that in Practice it has the same Name, and is the same Way *fundamental* to the *Degrees* of a second *Octave*, and so on from one *Octave* to another, gave Occasion to say there are but seven different Notes in the *Scale* of *Musick*; or that all *Musick* is comprehended in seven Notes; because if we take other seven Notes higher, they are but Repetitions of the first seven in *Octave*, and have the same Names.

*Of the Office of the SCALE.*

The *Constitution* of the *Scale* being already explained, the Office and Use of it shall be next treated of, which you have express in general in the preceeding Definition of it; but that you may have a distinct and clear Notion, I shall be a little more particular. The Design then of the *Scale* of *Musick* is to shew how a Voice may rise or fall, less than any *harmonical Interval*, and thereby move from the one Extreme

treme of any of these to the other, in the most agreeable Succession of Sounds : It is a *System* which ought to exhibit to the whole *Principles* of *Musick*, which are either *Concords* or *concinuous Intervals*: The *Concords* or *harmonical Intervals* are the *essential Principles*, the other are subservient to them, for making their Application more various. Accordingly we have in this *Scale* the whole *Concords*, with all their *concinuous Degrees*, placed in such Order as makes the most perfect Succession of Sounds from any given *Fundamental*, which I suppose represented in the preceeding Series by 1; so that the true Order of *Degrees* thro' any *harmonical Interval* is, that in which they ly from 1 upwards, to the *acute* Term of the given *Concord*, as to  $\frac{1}{2}$  for the *Octave*,  $\frac{2}{3}$  for the *5th*, &c. or downwards from these Terms to the *Fundamental* 1. The Divisions of the *Octave*, *5th* and *4th* are different, according to the Difference of the *3ds*, and these *Intervals* are to be found in *primary Relation* to the *Fundamental*, in both the preceeding *Scales*; but the *3dl.* and *6thl.* belong to the one, and *3dg.* and *9th g.* to the other *Scale*.

THIS *Scale* not only shews us, by what *Degrees* a Voice can move agreeably, but gives us also this *general Rule*, that Two *Degrees* of one Kind ought never to follow other immediately in a progressive Motion upwards or downwards; and that no more than Three *Tones* (whereof the middle is a lesser *Tone*, and the other Two greater *Tones*) can follow other, but

but a *f.* or some *harmonical Interval* must come next; and every *Song* or *Composition* within this *Rule* is particularly called *diatonick Musick*, from the *Scale* whence this *Rule* arises; and from the *Effect* we may also call it the only *natural Musick*: If in some *Instances* there are *Exceptions* from this *Rule*, as I shall hereafter have more particular *Occasion* to observe, 'tis but for *Variety*, and very seldom practis'd: But this *general Rule* may be observed, and yet no good *Melody* follow; and therefore some more particular *Rules* must be sought from the *Art of Composition*. While we are only upon the *Theory*, you can expect but *Theory* and *general Notions*, yet I shall have *Occasion* afterwards to be more particular on the *Limitations*, which are necessary for the *Conduct* of the true *musical Intervals* in making good *Melody*, as these *Limitations* are contained in the *Nature* of the *Scale of Musick*. But don't mistake the *Design* of this *Scale of Degrees*, as if a *Voice* ought never to move up or down by any other immediate *Distances*, but by *Degrees*; for tho' that is the most frequent *Movement*, yet to move by *harmonical Distances* at once is not excluded, and 'tis absolutely necessary: For the *Agreeableness* of it, you may consider the *Degrees* were invented only for *Variety*, that we might not always move up and down by *harmonical Intervals*, which of themselves are the most perfect, the others deriving their *Agreeableness* from their *Subserviency* to them. *Observe*, these *Tones* and *Semitones* are the *DiaSTEMS*

or *simple Intervals* of the *natural* or *diatonick Scale*. In *Ch. 2. § 1.* I have defined a *Diastem*, such an Interval as in Practice is never divided, tho' there may be of these some greater some lesser. To understand the Definition perfectly, take now an *Example* in the *diatonick Scale*: A *Semitone* is less than a *Tone*, and both are *Diastems*; we may raise a *Tone* by *Degrees*, first raising a *Semitone*, and then such a Distance as a *Tone* exceeds a *Semitone*, which we may call another *Semitone*, *i. e.* from *a* to *b* a *Semitone*, and then from *b* to *c* the Remainder of a *Tone* which is supposed betwixt *a c*. But this is never done if we would preserve the Character of *diatonick Musick*, because in that *Scale* Two *Semitones* are not to be found together; and if we rise to the Distance of a *Tone*, it must be done at once; all greater *Intervals* are divisible in Practice of this Kind of *Melody*; but in other Kinds practis'd by the *Ancients*, we find that the *Tone* was a *System*, and some greater *Intervals* were practis'd as *Diastems*, which shall be explain'd in another Place.

WE shall still want something toward a complete and finished Notion of the Use and Office of the *Scale* of *Musick*, till we understand distinctly what a *Song* truly and naturally *concinuous* is, and particularly what that is which we call the *Key* of a *Song*; and the true Notion of these we shall easily deduce from the Things already explain'd concerning the Principles of *Musick*; but I find it convenient first to dispatch some remaining Considerations of the *Intervals* of

§ 4. Of the accidental Discords in the System  
of Musick.

WE have considered these *Intervals* and Relations of *Tune* that are the immediate Principles of *Musick*, and which are directly applied in the Practice; I mean these *Intervals* or Relations of *Tune*, which, to make true *Melody*, ought to be betwixt every Note or Sound and the immediately next; these we have considered under the Distinction of *Concords* and *concinuous Intervals*. But there are other *discord* Relations that happen unavoidably in *Musick*, in a kind of accidental and indirect Manner; thus, in the Succession of several *Notes* there are to be considered not only the Relations of these that succeed other immediately, but also of these betwixt which other *Notes* intervene. Now the immediate Succession may be conducted so as to produce good *Melody*, yet among the distant Notes there may be very gross *Discords*, that would not be tolerated in immediate *Succession*, and far less in *Consonance*. But particularly let us consider how such *Discords* are actually contained in the Scale of Musick: Let us take any one Species, suppose

suppose that with the 3d g. as here, in which I mark the Degrees betwixt each Term, and the next.

Names	} <i>Fund.</i> 2d g. 3d g. 4th 5th 6th g. 7th g. 8ve
Ratios.	
Degr.	
	I : $\frac{8}{9}$ : $\frac{4}{5}$ : $\frac{3}{4}$ : $\frac{2}{3}$ : $\frac{3}{5}$ : $\frac{8}{15}$ : $\frac{1}{2}$
	<i>tg</i> : <i>tl</i> : <i>f</i> : <i>tg</i> : <i>tl</i> : <i>tg</i> : <i>f</i> .

Now tho' the Progression is *melodious*, as the Terms refer to one common *Fundamental*, yet there are several *Discords* among the *mutual Relations* of the Terms, for *Example*, from 4th to 7th g. is 32 : 45, also from 2d g. to 6th g. is 27 : 40, and from 2d g. to 4th is 27 : 32, all *Discords*. And if we continue the Series to another *Octave*, then 'tis plain we shall find all the *Discords*, less than *Octave*, that can possibly be in such a *Scale*, by comparing every Term, from 1 in order upwards, to every other, that's distant from it within an *Octave*; and tho' there be Difference of the Two *Scales* of Ascent, the one using the 3d l. and 6th l. and the other the 3d g. and 6th g. yet all the Relations that can possibly happen in the one, will also happen in the other, as I shall immediately show you.

LET us therefore take any one of these Series, as that with the 3d g. and 6th g. and continue it to a double *Octave*, and then examine the Relations of each Term to each. In order to this, I shall anticipate a little upon that

Part where I am to explain the *Art* of *writing Musick*; and here suppose several Sounds in the Order of the preceding *Scale* to be represented by so many Letters; and because every *Octave* is but the Repetition of the *1st*, so that from every Term to the *8th inclusive*, is always a just *Octave* in the Relation of 1 : 2; therefore to represent such a *Scale* by Letters, we need but 7 different ones, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, which will answer the first 7 Terms of the *Octave*, and the *8th* will be represented by the first Letter; and so in order again to another *Octave*. And that all Things may be as distinct as possible, we shall make every 7 Letters in order from the Beginning of a different Character; but for a Reason that will appear afterwards, instead of beginning with *A*, I shall begin with *C*, and proceed in this Order,

C : D : E : F : G : A : B : c : d : e : f : g : a : b :: cc.

where *C* represents the *Fundamental* and lowest Note of the *Scale*; and the rest are in order *acuter*. And now when any *Interval* is expressed by Two Letters, it will be easy to know in which *Octave* (*i. e.* whether in the first or second in order from the *Fundamental*) each Extreme is; for if they be both one Kind of Character, then they are both in one *Octave*, as *C-F*; otherwise they are in different *Octaves*, as *A-f*. And it will be easily known whether the *Interval* be equal to, or greater or less than an *Octave*; for from any Letter to the like Letter

is an *Octave*, or *Two Octaves*, as *c-c* is an *Octave*, or *C-cc* *Two Octaves*, consequently *A-b* is known at Sight to be greater than an *Octave*, even as far as *b* is above *a*; and *B-D* to be less. Again, by this Means we easily know whether the Example is taken ascending or descending, so 'tis plain, that from *D* to *a* is ascending, or from *d* to *g*; but from *f* to *d* is descending, or from *d* to *E*: The Order of the several Letters, and their different Characters determine all these Things with great Ease.

ACCORDING to this Supposition, then, I have express'd the *Scale* by these Letters, in a Table calculated for the Purpose of this *Section*, (See *Plate 1. Fig. 5.*) In the first Column on the left you have the Names of the *Intervals*, as they proceed in Order from a common *Fundamental*; in the 2d you have the Progression of *Degrees* from every Term to the next; in the 3d you have the several Terms expressed by Letters; in the 4th Column you have the Numbers that express the Relations of every Term to the *Fundamental C* (which is 1) as far as *Two Octaves*, taken in the natural Order of the *concinuous* Parts of the *Octave*, as above divided and explained, these being supposed to be fixed Relations; then in the other Columns you have expressed the Relations of every Term, in order upwards from *C*, to all these above them, as far as an *Octave*; reduced to a common *Fundamental 1*, which is the first Number in every Column, and signifies that the Letter

or Note against which it stands, is supposed to be a common *Relative* to the 7 Terms that stand next above it, *i. e.* That the other Numbers of that Column compared to 1, express the Relations which the Notes, or Letters against which they stand, bear to that against which the 1 of that Column stands, according to the six Relations supposed in the Fourth Column of Numbers. The 11th Column is the same with the 1st; and if we would carry on that Table *in infinitum*, it would be but a Repetition of the preceding 7 Columns of Numbers; which shews us that Two *Octaves* was sufficient to discover all the simple *Discords* that could possibly be in the *Scale*. I have carried these Columns no further than one *Octave*, except the first, because all above are but an *8ve*, and some lesser compounded; and therefore we needed only to find all the simple *Discords* less than an *8ve*: But the 1st Column is carried to Two *8ves*, because the rest are made out of it; for these other express the mutual Relations of each Term of the 1st Column to all above it within an *Octave*, reduced to a common *Fundamental* 1.

I'll next show you that there are no other Relations in the other Series, which ascends by a 3d l. and 6th l. than what are here. The two Species differ only in the 7ths, 6ths and 3ds, and if you'll look but a little back, you'll see the true Relation of the Terms of that other Series to the *Fundamental*, which if you compare with that Column in this Table, which begins against *E*, you'll find them the same in every

R

Term

Term but one ; for here the 2<sup>d</sup> Term is 15 : 16 which there is 8 : 9 ; but if you compare the Column which begins against *A*, you'll find that agree with the *Scale* we are speaking of in every Term but the 4<sup>th</sup>, which is here 20 : 27, and there 3 : 4, the one wants the true 2<sup>d</sup>, and the other the true 4<sup>th</sup> ; but both these are in the first Column which begins at *C* ; therefore 'tis plain that if these Columns are continued, we must find in them all the Relations that can possibly be in that *Scale* ; which a little Examination will soon discover.

Now besides the *harmonical Intervals* and *Degrees* already explained, we have in this Table the following *discord* Relations, which proceed from the Differences of the *Degrees*, and the particular Order in which they follow other

<i>Exa.</i>	<i>Ratios</i>
<i>D</i> <i>F</i> =	27 : 32
<i>F</i> <i>B</i> =	32 : 45
<i>A</i> <i>D</i> =	20 : 27
<i>D</i> <i>A</i> =	27 : 40
<i>B</i> <i>F</i> =	45 : 64
<i>F</i> <i>D</i> =	16 : 27
<i>D</i> <i>C</i> =	9 : 16

in the *Scale* ; for we may conceive a great Variety of other *Discords* from different Combinations of these *Degrees*, but the Speculation would be of no Use ; 'tis enough to consider what are unavoidable in the Order of the *Scale* of

*Musick*, which are these mentioned. Again, from the Table we find plainly that from any Note or Letter of the *Scale*, to the 2<sup>d</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, &c. *inclusive*, either above or below, is not always the same *Interval* ; because tho' there is

an equal Number of *Degrees* in every such Case, yet there is not always an equal Number of the same *Degrees*; so, from *C* to *F*, there are three *Degrees*, whereof 1 is a *tg.* 1 is *tl.* and 1 a *f.* but from *F* to *B* there are Three *Degrees*, whereof 2 are *tg.* and 1 is a *tl.*

WE have already settled the Definitions of a *3d*, *4th*, &c. as they are *harmonical Intervals*, they are either to be taken from the true *Ratios* of their Extremes; or, respecting the *Scale of Musick*, from the Number and particular Kinds of *Degrees*; yet we may make a general Definition that will serve any Part of the *Scale*, and call that *Interval*, which is from any Letter of the *Scale* to the *2d*, *3d*, *4th*, &c. *inclusive*, a *2d*, a *3d*, a *4th*, &c. But then we must make a Distinction, according as they are *harmonical* or not; under which Distinction the *Octaves* will not come, because every Eight Letter *inclusive* is not only the same, but is a true *Octave* in the *Ratio* of 1 : 2; which is plain from this, That every *Octave* in order from the *Fundamental* or lowest Note of the *Scale*, is divided the same Way, into the same Number of the same Kind of *Degrees*, and in the same Order: And for other *Intervals* less than an *Octave*, we have Three of each Kind, differing in Quantity; which Differences arise from the Three different *Degrees*, as I have expressed them in the following *Table*, wherein the greatest stands uppermost, and so in Order.

2ds.	3ds.	4ths.	5ths.	6ths.	7ths.
8 : 9	4 : 5	32 : 45	2 : 3	16 : 27	8 : 15
9 : 10	5 : 6	20 : 27	27 : 40	3 : 5	5 : 9
15 : 16	27 : 32	3 : 4	45 : 64	5 : 8	9 : 16

THE Three 2ds or *Degrees* are all *concinuous Intervals*; of the 3ds one is *Discord*, viz. 27 : 32, and therefore called a *false 3d*; the other Two are particularly known by the Names of *3dg.* and *3dl.* of the 4ths and 5ths Two are *Discords*, and called *false 4ths* and *5ths*; and therefore when we speak of a *4th* or *5th*, without calling it *false*, 'tis understood to be of the true *harmonical* Kind; of the 6ths one is *false*, and the other Two which are *harmonical*, are called *6thg.* and *6thl.* the 7ths are neither *harmonical* nor *concinuous Intervals*, yet of Use in *Musick*, as I have already mentioned; the Two greater are particularly known by the Name of greater or lesser 7th, tho' some I know make the least 9 : 16 the 7th lesser; I mean they make that *Ratio* a Term in the Division of the *Octave* by *3dl.* and *6thl.* but I shall have Occasion to consider this more particularly in another Place. Now, as to the Composition of the *Octave* out of the *Intervals* of this last *Table*, we have this to remark, that if we compare the 2ds with the 7ths, or the 3ds with the 6ths, or 4ths with 5ths, the greater of the one added to the lesser of the other, or the Middle of the one added to the Middle of the

the other, is exactly equal to *Octave*; and generally add the greatest of any Species of *Intervals* (for *Example 5ths*) to the lesser of any other (as *3ds*) and the least of that to the greater of this; also the Middle of the one to the Middle of the other, the Three *Sums* or *Intervals* proceeding from that Addition, are equal.

WE shall next consider what the Errors of these *false Intervals* are. The Variety, as to the Quantity, of *Intervals* that have the same Number of *Degrees* in the *Scale*, arises, as I have already said, from the Differences of the Three *Degrees*; and therefore the Differences among *Intervals* of the same Species and Denomination, *i. e.* the Excesses or Defects of the *false* from the *true*, are no other than the Differences of these *Degrees*, *viz.* 80 : 81, the Difference of a *tg.* and *tl.* which is particularly called a *Comma* among *Musicians*; 24 : 25, the Difference of a *tl.* and *f.* which is sometimes called a lesser *Semitone*, because it is less than 15 : 16; then 128 : 135, the Difference of a *tg.* and *f.* which is a greater Difference than the last, and is also called a lesser *Semitone*, and is a Middle betwixt 15 : 16, and 24 : 25. Betwixt which of the greater *Intervals* these Differences do particularly exist, will be easily found, by looking into the former *Table*, and applying *Problem 10.* of *Chap. 4.* that is, multiplying the Two *Ratios* compared cross-ways, the greater Number of the one by the lesser of the other, the Products contain the *Ratio* or

Difference fought. *Observe* also, that the greatest of the *4ths*, viz.  $32 : 45$  is particularly called a *Tritone*, for 'tis equal to 2 *tg.* and 1 *tl.* and its Complement to an *Octave*, viz.  $45 : 64$ , which is the least of the *5ths*, is particularly called a lesser *5th* or *Semidiapente* (the Original of the last Name you'll hear afterwards.) These Two are the *false 4th* and *5th*, which are used as *Discords* in the Business of *Harmony*, and they are the Two *Intervals* which divide the *Octave* into Two Parts nearest to Equality, for their Difference is only this very small *Interval*  $2025 : 2048$ . And because in common Practice the Difference of *tg.* and *tl.* is neglected, tho' it has its Influence, as we shall hear of, therefore these *Intervals* are only called *false*, which exceed or come short by a *Semitone*; and upon this Supposition therefore there is no *false 3d* or *6th*, nor any *false 4th* or *5th*, except the *Tritone* and *Semidiapente* mentioned, which with the *7ths* and *2ds* are all the *Discords* reckoned in the *System*; however when we would know the Nature of Things accurately, we must neglect no Differences.

THE Distinctions already made of the *Intervals* of the *Scale* of *Musick*, regard their Contents as to the Number and Kind of *Degrees*; but in the *Scale* we find *Intervals* of the same Extent, differing in the Order of their *Degrees*. We shall easily find the whole Variety, by examining the *Scales* of *Musick*; for the Variety is increased by the Two different *Series* or *Scales* above explained, there being some in the one that

that are not to be found in the other. I shall leave it to your selves to examine and find out the Examples, and only mention here the *Octaves*, whereof there are in this respect seven different Species in each *Scale*, proceeding from the seven different Letters; for it is plain at sight, that the Order of *Degrees* from each of these Letters upward to an *Octave* is different; and that there can be no more Variety if the *Scale* were continued *in infinitum*, because from the same Letter taken in any Part of the *Scale*, there is always the same Order. What Use has been made of this Distinction of *Intervals*, and particularly *Octaves*, falls to be considered in another Place; I shall only observe here, that tho' all this Variety happens actually within the Compass of Two *Octaves*, yet if you ask, what is the most natural and agreeable Order in the Division of the *Octave*, it is that which belongs to the *Octave* from *C* in the preceding *Scale*; or change the 3<sup>d</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> from greater to lesser, and that makes another *concinuous* Order; the *Degrees* of each as they follow other, you have already set down. Now if you begin and carry on the *Series* in any of these Two Orders to a double *Octave*, none of the accidental *Discords* will give any Offence to the Ear, because their Extremes are not heard in immediate Succession; and the *Discord* is rendred altogether insensible by the immediate Notes; especially by the *harmonious* Relation of each Term to the common *Fundamental*, and the manifold *Concords* that are to be found

among the several middle Terms. For the Positions of the *Degrees*, which occasion these *Discords*, if we consider them with respect to the *Fundamental C*, they are truly *concinuous*, but with respect to the lowest of Two Notes betwixt which they make the *Discord*, they follow *inconcinuously* from it, because they were not designed to follow it as a *Fundamental*, and so are not to be referred to it: Therefore in all the *Scale*, only *C* can be made *fundamental*; because from none of the other Six Letters do the *Degrees* follow in a right *concinuous* Order, unless, as I said before, we neglect the Difference of *t g.* and *t l.* and then the *Octave* from *A* will be a right *concinuous* Series, proceeding by a *3d l.* when it proceeds by a *3dg.* from *C*, and contrarily; and hereby we shall have both the Species in one Series; otherwise there are Three Terms that are variable, which are the *3d*, *6th* and *7th* from the *Fundamental*, i. e. *E*, *A*, *B*, when the *Fundamental* is called *C*; and this must be carefully minded when we speak of the *Scale of Musick*. How unavoidable these Kinds of *Discords* are among the Notes of the *Scale*, we have seen; but, as I have already observed, there are other Successions that are *melodious*, besides a constant Succession of *Degrees*; for these are mixt in Practice with *harmonical Intervals*: And here also the immediate Succession many be *melodious*, tho' there be many *Discords* among the distant Notes, whose Harshness is rendred altogether insensible from their Situation, especially because of the *harmonical*

Relation

Relation of the several Notes to some *fundamental* or principal Note, which is called the *Key*, with a particular Respect to which the rest of the Notes are chosen.



C H A P. IX.

*Of the Mode or Key in Musick; and a further Account of the true End and Office of the Scale of Musick.*

§ I. *Of the Mode or Key.*

**W**E have already divided the Application of the *Tune* of Sounds into these Two, *Melody* and *Harmony*. When several simple Sounds succeed other agreeably in the Ear, that Effect is called *Melody*; the proper Materials of which are the *Degrees* and *harmonious Intervals* above explained. But 'tis not every Succession of these that can produce this Pleasure; Nature has marked out certain Limits for a general Rule, and left the Application to the Fancy and Imagination; but always under the Direction of the Ear. The other chief Ingredient in *Musick* is the *Duration*, or Difference of Notes with respect to their uninter-

interrupted Continuance in one *Tune*, and the Quickness or Slowness of their Succession; taking in both these, a *melodious Song* may be brought under this general Definition, *viz.* *A Collection of Sounds or Notes (however produced) differing in Tune by the Degrees or harmonious Intervals of the Scale of Musick, which succeeding other in the Ear, after equal or unequal Duration in their respective Tunes, affect the Mind with Pleasure.* But the Design of this *Chapter* is only to consider the Nature and general Limits of a *Song*, with respect to *Tune*, which is properly the *Melody* of it; and observe, 'That by a *Song* I mean every single Piece of *Musick*, whether contrived for a *Voice* or *Instrument*.

A *Song* may be compared not absurdly to an *Oration*; for as in this there is a *Subject*, *viz.* some *Person* or *Thing* the *Discourse* is referred to, that ought always to be kept in *View*, thro' the *Whole*, so that nothing unnatural or foreign to the *Subject* may be brought in; in like *Manner*, in every regular and truly *melodious Song*, there is one *Note* which regulates all the rest; the *Song* begins, and at least ends in this, which is as it were the principal *Matter*, or *musical Subject* that demands a special *Regard* to it in all the other *Notes* of the *Song*. And as in an *Oration*, there may be several distinct *Parts*, which refer to different *Subjects*, yet so as they must all have an evident *Connection* with the principal *Subject* which regulates and influences the *Whole*; so in *Melody*, there may be

be several subprincipal Subjects, to which the different Parts of that Song may belong, but these are themselves under the Influence of the principal Subject, and must have a sensible Connection with it. This principal Note is called the *Key* of the Song, or the *principal Key* with respect to these others which are the *subprincipal Keys*. But a Song may be so short, and simply contrived, that all its Notes refer only to one *Key*.

THAT we may understand this Matter distinctly, let us reflect on some Things already explained: We have seen how the *Octave* contains in it the whole Principles of *Musick*, both with respect to *Consonance* (or *Harmony*) as it contains all the original *Concords*, and the *harmonical* Division of such greater, as are equal to the Sum of lesser *Concords*; and with respect to *Succession* (or *Melody*) as in the *concinuous* Division of the *Octave*, we have all the *Degrees* subservient to the *harmonical Intervals*, and the Order in which they ought to be taken to make the most agreeable *Succession* of Sounds, rising or falling gradually from any given Sound, *i. e.* any Note of a given and determined Pitch of *Tune*; for the *Scale* supposes no Pitch, and only assigns the just Relations of Sound which make true *musical Intervals*: But as the *4ths* and *6ths* are each distinguished into greater and lesser, from this arise Two different Species in the Division of the *Octave*. We have also observed, That if either *Scale* (*viz.* That which proceeds by the *3d l.* or by the *3d g.*)

is continued to a double *Octave*, there shall be in that Case 7 different Orders of the *Degrees* of an *8ve*, proceeding from the 7 different Letters with which the Terms of the *Scale* are marked; none of which Orders but the first, *viz.* from *C* is the natural Order; and tho' in raising the Series from *C* to the double *Octave*, we actually go through the *Degrees* in each of these Orders, yet *C* only being the *Fundamental*, to which all the Notes of the Series are referred, there is nothing offensive in these different Orders, which are but accidental; so that in every *Octave* concinnously divided, there are 7 different *Intervals* relative to the *Fundamental*, whose acute Terms are the essential Notes of the *Octave*, and they are these, *viz.* the 2d g. 3d g. 4th, 5th, 6th g. 7th g. 8ve, or 2d g. 3d l. 4th, 5th, 6th l. 7th l. 8ve.

Now, let us suppose any given Sound, *i. e.* a Sound of any determinate Pitch of *Tune*, it may be made the *Key* of a *Song*, by applying to it the Seven essential or natural Notes that arise from the *concinuous* Division of the *8ve*, as I have just now set them down, and repeating the *8ve* above or below as oft as you please. The given Sound is applied as the principal Note or *Key* of the *Song*, by making frequent *Closes* or *Cadences* upon it; and in the Course or Progress of the *Melody*, none other than these Seven natural Notes can be brought in, while the *Song* continues in that *Key*, because every other Note is foreign to that *Fundamental* or *Key*.

To understand all this more distinctly, let us consider, That by a *Close* or *Cadence* is meant a terminating or bringing the *Melody* to a Period or Rest, after which it begins and sets out anew, which is like the finishing of some distinct Purpose in an Oration; but you must get a perfect Notion of this from Experience. Let us suppose a Song begun in any Note, and carried on upwards or downwards by *Degrees* and *harmonicall Distances*, so as never to touch any Notes but what are referable to that first Note as a *Fundamental*, *i. e.* are the true Notes of the *natural Scale* proceeding from that *Fundamental*; and let the *Melody* be conducted so through these natural Notes, as to close and terminate in that *Fundamental*, or any of its *8ves* above or below; that Note is called the *Key* of the *Melody*, because it governs and regulates all the rest, putting this general-Limitation upon them, that they must be to it in the Relation of the Seven essential and natural Notes of an *8ve*, as abovementioned; and when any other Note is brought in, then 'tis said to go out of that *Key*: And by this Way of speaking of a Song's continuing in or going out of a *Key*, we may observe, that the whole *8ve*, with all its natural, and *concinuous* Notes, belong to the *Idea* of a *Key*, tho' the *Fundamental*, being the principal Note which regulates the rest, is in a peculiar Sense called the *Key*, and gives Denomination to it in a System of sixt Sounds, and in the Method of marking Sounds by Letters, as we shall hear of more particularly afterwards.

And

And in this Application of the Word *Key* to one *fundamental* Note, another Note is said to be out of the *Key*, when it has not the Relation to that Fundamental of any of the natural Notes that belong to the *concinuous* Division of the *8ve*. And here too we must add a necessary Caution with respect to the Two different Divisions of the *8ve*, *viz.* That a Note may belong to the same *Key*, *i. e.* have a just musical Relation to the same *Fundamental* in one Kind of Division, and be out of the *Key* with respect to the other : For *Example*, If the Melody has used the *3d g.* to any *Fundamental*, it requires also the *6th g.* and therefore if the *6th l.* is brought in, the *Melody* is out of the first *Key*.

Now a Song may be carried thro' several *Keys*, *i. e.* it may begin in one *Key*, and be led out of that to another, by introducing some Note that is foreign to the first, and so on to another : But a regular Piece must not only return to the first *Key*, these other *Keys* must also have a particular Connection and Relation with the first, which is the principal *Key*. The Rule which determines the Connection of *Keys*, you'll find distinctly explained in *Chap. 13.* for we may not change at random from one *Key* to another ; I shall only observe here, that these other *Keys* must be some of the Seven natural Notes of the *principal Key*, yet not any of them ; for which see the *Chapter* referred to.

BUT that you may conceive all this yet more clearly, we shall make *Examples*. Suppose the following *Scale* of *Notes* express'd by *Letters*,  
where-

wherein I mark the Degrees thus, *viz.* a *t g.* with a Colon (:), a *tl.* with a Semicolon (;) *Semitone* with a Point (.) And here I mark the Series that proceeds with the 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* &c.

*C: D; E. F: G; A: B. c: d; e. f: g; a: b. c*

The first Note represents any given Sound, and the rest are fixt according to their Relations to it, exprest by the Degrees: Let the first Note of the Song, which is also the designed *Key*, be taken *Unison* to *C.* (which represents any given Sound) all the rest of the Notes, while it keeps within one *Key*, must be in such Relation to the first, as if placed according to their Distances from it in a direct Series, they shall be *unison* each with some Note of the preceeding *Scale*: The *Example* is of a *Key* with the 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* &c. which is easily applied to the other Species. Let us now suppose the Conduct of the *Melody* such, that after a Cadence in *C* the Song shall make the next Cadence in a 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* above, *viz.* in *E*, and this is a new *Key* into which the *Melody* goes.

WE have observed in the preceeding *Chap.* that the Order of Degrees from each of the Letters of the *diatonick Scale*, is different; and therefore while the Relation of these Notes are supposed fixt, 'tis plain none of the Notes of that *Scale* except *C* can be made a *Key*, because the Seven Notes within the *8ve* are not in the true Relation of the essential and natural Notes of an *8ve* concinnously divided; and

and therefore the *natural Scale* (*i.e.* the Order from *C*) must be applied anew from every new *Key*; as in the preceeding *Example*, the 2<sup>d</sup> *Key* is *F*, which in that *Scale* has a 3<sup>d</sup> *l.* at *G*, but it has not all its Seven Notes in just Relation to the *Fundamental*, the first Degree being a *f.* which ought to be *tg*; and therefore if the *Melody* in that *Key* be so managed as to have Use for all the Seven natural Notes, they cannot be all found in the Series that proceeds *concinuously* from *C*, but requires the Application of the *natural Scale* to that new Pitch, *i. e.* requires that we make a Series of *concinuous* Degrees from that new *Fundamental*; which we may express either by calling it *C*, and applying the same Names to the whole *8ve*, above or below it, as to the former *Key*, or retaining still the Names *E F*, &c. to an *8ve*, but supposing their Relations changed.

A Song may be so ordered, that it shall not require all the Seven natural Notes of the *Key*; and if the *Melody* be so contrived in the *sub-principal Keys* of the *Song*, that it shall use none of the essential Notes of these *Keys*, but such as coincide with these of the *principal Key*, then is the whole of that *Song* more strictly limited to the *principal Key*: So that in a good Sense it may be said never to go out of it; but then there will be less Variety under such Limitations: And if a Song may be supposed to go through several *Keys*, the principal being always perfect as from *C*, and the Subprincipals taken with such Imperfections as they unavoidably have, when we

we are confined to one individual Series of determinate Sounds, the *Musick* may be said also in this Case never to depart from the *principal Key*; but 'tis plain, that the using such *Intervals* with respect to the *subprincipal Keys*, will make the *Melody* imperfect, and also occasion Errors of worse Consequence in the *Harmony* of Parts so conducted.

'Tis Time now to consider the *Distinctions* of *Keys*. We have seen that to constitute any Note or given Sound a *Key* or *fundamental Note*, it must have these Seven essential or natural Notes added to it, *viz.* 2d g. 3d g. or 3dl. 4th, 5th, 6th g. or 6th l. 7th g. or 7th l. 8ve out of which, or their 8ves, all the Notes of the *Song* must be taken while it keeps within that *Key*, *i. e.* within the Property of that *Fundamental*; 'tis plain therefore, that there are but Two different Species of *Keys*, according as we joyn the greater or lesser 3d, which are always accompanied with the 6th and 7th of the same Species, *viz.* the 3d g. with the 6th g. and 7th g; and the 3dl. with the 6th l. and 7th l; and this Distinction is marked with the Names of A SHARP KEY, which is that with the 3d g, &c. and A FLAT KEY with the 3dl, &c. Now from this it is plain, that however many different Closes may be in any Song, there can be but Two *Keys*, if we consider the essential Difference of *Keys*; for every *Key* is either *sharp* or *flat*, and all *sharp Keys* are of the same Nature, as to the *Melody*, and so are all *flat Keys*; for *Example*, Let the *principal Key* of

a Song be *C* ( with a 3d g. ) in which the final Close is made, let other Closes be made in *E* ( the 3d of the *principal Key* ) with a 3d g. and in *A* ( the 6th of the *principal Key* ) with a 3dl. yet in all this there are but Two different *Keys*, *sharp* and *flat*: But *observe*, in common Practice the *Keys* are said to be different when nothing is considered, but the different *Tune* or Pitch of the Note in which the different Closes are made; and in this Sense the same Song is said to be in different *Keys*, according as it is begun in different Notes or Degrees of *Tune*. But that we may speak accurately, and have Names answering to the real Differences of Things, which I think necessary to prevent Confusion, I would propose the Word *Mode*, to express the *melodious Constitution* of the *Octave*, as it consists of Seven essential or natural Notes, besides the *Fundamental*; and because there are Two Species, let us call that with a 3dg. the *greater Mode*; and that with a 3dl. the *lesser Mode*: And the Word *Key* may be applied to every Note of a Song, in which a *Cadence* is made; so that all these ( comprehending the whole *Octave* from each ) may be called different *Keys*, in respect of their different *Degrees* of *Tunes*, but with respect to the essential Difference in the Constitution of the *Octaves*, on which the *Melody* depends, there are only Two different *Modes*, the greater and the lesser. Thus the Latin Writers use the Word *Modus*, to signify the particular *Mode* or *Way* of constituting the *Octave*;

and

and hence they also called it *Constitutio*; but of this in its own Place.

’TIS plain then, that a *Mode* (or *Key* in this Sense) is not any single Note or Sound, and cannot be denominated by it, for it signifies the particular Order or Manner of the *concinuous Degrees* of an *8ve*, the *fundamental* Note of which may in another Sense be called the *Key*, as it signifies that principal Note which regulates the rest, and to which they refer: And even when the Word *Key*, applied to different Notes, signifies no more than their different Degrees of *Tunc*, these Notes are always considered as *Fundamentals* of an *8ve* *concinuously* divided, tho’ the Mode of the Division is not considered when we call them different *Keys*; so that the whole *8ve* comes within the *Idea* of a *Key* in this Sense also: Therefore to distinguish properly betwixt *Mode* and *Key*, and to know the real Difference, take this Definition, *viz.* an *8ve* with all its natural and *concinuous* Degrees is called a *Mode*, with respect to the Constitution or the Manner and Way of dividing it; and with respect to the Place of it in the *Scale* of *Musick*, *i. e.* the *Degree* or Pitch of *Tune*, it is called a *Key*, tho’ this Name is peculiarly applied to the *Fundamental*. Hence it is plain, that the same *Mode* may be with different *Keys*, that’s to say, an *Octave* of Sounds may be raised in the same Order and Kind of *Degrees*, which makes the same *Mode*, and yet be begun higher or lower, *i. e.* taken at different *Degrees* of *Tune*, with respect to the Whole, which makes different

*Keys.* It follows also from these Definitions, that the same *Key* may be with different *Modes*, that is, the Extremes of Two *Octaves* may be in the same *Degree of Tune*, and the Division of them different. The Manner of dividing the *Octave*, and the *Degree of Tune* at which it is begun, are so distinct, that I think there is Reason to give them different Names; yet I know, that common Practice applies the Word *Key* to both; so the same *Fundamental* constitutes Two different *Keys*, according to the Division of the *Octave*; and therefore a Note is said to be out of the *Key*, with respect to the same *Fundamental* in one Division, which is not so in another, as I have explained more particularly a little above; and the same Song is said to be in different *Keys*, when there is no other Difference, but that of being begun at different Notes. Now, if the Word *Key* must be used both Ways, to keep up a common Practice, we ought at least to prevent the Ambiguity, which may be done by applying the Words *sharp* and *flat*. For *Example*. Let the same Song be taken up at different Notes, which we call *C* and *A*, it may in that respect be said to be in different *Keys*, but the Denomination of the *Key* is from the Close; and Two Songs closing in the same Note, as *C*, may be said to be in different *Keys*, according as they have a greater or lesser *3d*; and to distinguish them, we say the one is in the *sharp Key C*, and the other in the *flat Key C*; and therefore, when *sharp* or *flat* is added to the Letter or Name by which any  
*funda-*

*fundamental* Note is marked, it expresses both the *Mode* and *Key*, as I have distinguished them above; but without these Words it expresses nothing but what I have called the *Key* in Distinction from *Mode*. But of the Denominations of *Keys* in the *Scale* of *Musick*, we shall hear particularly in *Chap. 11*.

Observe next, that of the natural Notes of every *Mode* or *Octave*, Three go under the Name of the *essential* Notes, in a peculiar Manner, *viz.* the *Fundamental*, the *3d*, and *5th*, their *Octaves* being reckoned the same, and marked with the same Letters in the *Scale*; the rest are particularly called *Dependents*. But again, the *Fundamental* is also called the *final*, because the Song commonly begins and always ends there: The *5th* is called the *Dominante*, because it is the next principal Note to the *final*, and most frequently repeted in the Song; and if 'tis brought in as a new *Key*, it has the most perfect Connection with the *principal* *Key*: The *3d* is called the *Mediante*, because it stands betwixt the *Final* and *Dominante* as to its Use. But the *3d* and *5th* of any *Mode* or *Key* deserve the Name of *essential* Notes, more peculiarly with respect to their Use in *Harmony*, because the *Harmony* of a *3d*, *5th* and *8ve*, is the most perfect of all others; so that a *3d* and a *5th*, applied in *Consonance* to any *Fundamental*, gives it the Denomination of the *Key*; for chiefly by Means of these the Cadence in the *Key* is performed. The *Bass* being the governing Part with respect to the *Harmony*, ought finally to

close in the *Key*; and the Relation or *Harmony* of the Parts at the final Close, ought to be so perfect, that the Mind may find entire Satisfaction in it, and have nothing further to expect. Let us suppose Four Voices, making together the *Harmony* of these Four Notes  $G - c - e - g$ , where  $G$  is the *Fundamental*,  $c$  a *4th*,  $e$  a *6th*  $g$ . and  $g$  an *8ve*; so that  $c - e$  is a *3dg.* and  $e - g$  a *3dl.* and  $c - g$  a *5th*. The Ear would not rest in this Close, because there is a Tendency in it to something more perfect; for the true *Key* in these Four is  $c$ , to which the *3d* and *5th* is applied; the *Bass* closing in  $G$  puts the *5th* out of its proper Place, for it ought to stand next the *Fundamental*; nor can the *3d* be separate from the *5th*, which can stand with no other. Now the Thing required is, to restore the *5th* to its due Place, and this is done, by removing the *4th* to the upper Place of the *Harmony*; so in the preceding *Example*, suppose the *Bass* moves from  $G$  to  $c$ , and the rest move accordingly till the Four make these  $c - e - g - cc$ , in which  $c - e$  is *3dg.*  $c - g$  a *5th*; then we have a perfect Close, and the *Musick* is got into the true and principal *Key*, which is  $c$ .

WE have one Thing more to observe as to the *7th*, which is natural to every *Mode*; in the *greater Modes* or *sharp Keys* 'tis always the *7thg.* but *flat Keys* use both the *7thg.* and *7thl.* in different Circumstances: The *7thl.* most naturally accompanies the *3dl.* and *6thl.* which constitute a *flat Key*, and belongs to it neces-

necessarily, when we consider the *concinuous* Division of the *Octave*, and the most agreeable Succession of *Degrees*; and it is used in every Place, except it is sometimes toward a *Close*, especially when we ascend to the *Key*, for then the *7th g.* being within a *f.* of the *Key*, makes a smooth and easy Passage into it, and will sometimes also occasion the *6th g.* to be brought in. Again, 'tis by Means of this *7th g.* that the Transition from one *Key* to another is chiefly performed; for when the *Melody* is to be transferred to a new *Key*, the *7th g.* of it ( whether 'tis a *sharp* or *flat Key* ) is commonly introduced: But you shall have more of this in *Chap. 13.*

I have said, that the *7th* is used in *Melody* as a single *Degree*, but in such Circumstances as removes the Harshness of so great a *Discord*, as particularly in quick Movements; and we may here consider, that a *7th* being the Complement of a true *Degree* to *Octave*, partakes of the Nature of a *Degree* so far, that to move upward by a *Degree*, or downwards by its Correspondent *7th*, and contrarily downwards by a *Degree*, or upwards by a *7th*, brings us into the same Note; and from this Connection of it with the true *Degrees*, 'tis frequently useful.

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§ 2. Of the Office of the Scale of Musick.

Now from what has been explained, we very easily see the true and proper Office of the *Scale of Musick*, which, strictly speaking, is all comprehended in an *Octave*, what is above or

below being but a Repetition. The *Scale* supposes no determinate Pitch of *Tune*, but that being assigned to the *Fundamental*, it marks out the *Tune* of the Rest with relation to it. We learn here how to pass by *Degrees* most *melodiously*, from any given Note to any *harmonical* Distance. The *Scale* shews us, what Notes can be naturally joyned to any *Fundamental*, and thereby teaches us the just and natural Limitations of *Melody*. It exhibiteth to us all the *Intervals* and Relations that are essential and necessary in *Musick*, and contains virtually all the Variety of Orders, in which these Relations can be taken successively; if a Song is confined to one *Key*, the Thing is plain, if 'tis carried thro' several *Keys*, it may seem to require several distinct Series; yet the *Musick* in every Part being truly *diatonick*, 'tis but the same natural *Scale* (with its Two different Species) applied to different *fundamental* Notes. And this brings us to consider the Effect of having a Series of Sounds fixt to the Relations of the *Scale*: If we suppose this, it will easily appear how insufficient such a *Scale* is for all the agreeable Variety of *Melody*: But then, this Imperfection is not any Defect in the natural *System*, but follows accidentally, upon its being confined to this Condition: For this is not the *Nature* and *Office* of the *Scale* of *Musick*, that supposing its Relations all expressed in a Series of determinate Sounds, that individual Series should contain all the Variety of Notes, that can *melodiously* succeed other; unless

less you'll suppose every Song ought to be limited to one *Key*; but otherwise one individual *diatonick* Series of fixt Sounds is not sufficient. Let us suppose the *Scale of Musick* thus defin'd, *viz.* a Series of Sounds, whose Relations to one another are such, that in one individual Series, determined in these Relations, all the Notes may be found that can be taken successively to make true *Melody*; such a *System* would indeed be of great Use, and be justly reckoned a *perfect System*; but if the Nature of Things will not admit of such a Series, then 'tis but a *Chimera*; and yet it is true, that the natural *Scale* is a *just* and *perfect System*, when we consider its proper Office as I have express'd it above, and as we shall understand further from the next *Chapter*, in which I shall consider more particularly the *Defect* of *Instruments* having fixt and determinate Sounds, and the Remedy applied to it; and comparing this with the Capacity of the *human Voice*, we shall plainly understand, in what different Senses the *Scale of Musick* explained, ought to be called a *perfect* or *imperfect System*.



## C H A P. X.

*Concerning the Scale of Musick limited to fixed Sounds, explaining the Defects of Instruments, and the Remedies thereof; wherein is taught the true Use and Original of the Notes we commonly call sharp and flat.*

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§ 1. *Of the Defects of Instruments, and of the Remedy thereof in general, by the Means of what we call Sharps and Flats.*

**T**HE Use of the *Scale* of *Musick* has been largely explain'd, and the general Limitations of *Melody* contained in it. Why the *Scale* exhibited in the preceeding *Chapters* is called the *natural*, and the *diatonick Scale*, has been also said, and how *Musick* composed under the Limitations of that *Scale* is called *diatonick Musick*.

LET US NOW conceive a Series of Sounds determined and fixt in the Order and Proportions of that *Scale*, and named by the same Letters. Suppose, for *Example*, an *Organ* or *Harpsichord*, the lowest or gravest Note being taken at any Pitch of *Tune*; it is plain, *imo*. That we can proceed from any Note only by one particular Order

of

of *Degrees*; for we have shewn before, that from every Letter of the *Scale* to its *Octave*, is contain'd a different Order of the *Tones* and *Semitones*, 2do. We cannot for that Reason find any *Interval* required from any Note or Letter upward or downward; for the *Intervals* from every Letter to all the rest are also limited; and therefore, 3tio. A *Song* ( which is truly *diatonick* ) may be so contrived, that beginning at a particular Letter or Note of the Instrument, all the *Intervals* of the *Song*, that is, all the other Notes, according to the just Distances and Relations designed by the Composer, shall be found exactly upon that Instrument, or in that fixt Series; yet should we begin the *Song* at any other Note, we could not proceed. This will be plain from *Examples*, in order to which, view the *Scale* expressed by Letters, in which I make a *Colon* (:) betwixt Two Letters, the Sign of a greater *Tone* 8 : 9, a *Semicolon* (;) the Sign of a lesser *Tone* 9 : 10, and a *Point* (.) the Sign of a *Semitone* 15 : 16. And these Letters I suppose represent the several Notes of an Instrument, tuned according to the Relations marked by these *Tones* and *Semitones*---

C.:D;E.F:G;A: B . c : d ; e . f : g ; a : b . cc.

Here we have the *diatonick* Series with the 3d and 6th greater, proceeding from C; and therefore, if only this Series is expressed, some Songs compos'd with a *flat Melody*, i. e. whose *Key* has a lesser 3d, &c. could not be performed  
on

on this Instrument, because none of the *Octaves* of this Series has all the natural *Intervals* of the *diatonick* Series, with a 3<sup>d</sup> lesser, as they have been shewn in *Chap. 8.* For *Example*, the *Octave* proceeding from *E* has a 3<sup>d</sup> l. but instead of a *tg.* next the *Fundamental*, it has a *Semitone*. Again, the *Octave A* has a 3<sup>d</sup> l. but it has a *false 4<sup>th</sup>* from *A* to *d*, being Two greater *Tones* and a *Semitone* in the *Ratio* of 20 : 27. Let us then suppose, that a Note is put betwixt *c* and *d*, making a true 4<sup>th</sup> with *A*, to make the *Octave A* a true *diatonick* Series. By this Means we can perform upon this Instrument most Songs, that are so simple as to be limited within one *Key*, I mean that make *Closes* or *Cadences* only in one Note; for every Piece of *diatonick Melody* being regulated by the *Intervals* of that *Scale*, and every *Key* or *Mode* being either the *greater* or *lesser* (i. e. having either a 3<sup>d</sup> greater or lesser, with the other *Intervals* that properly accompany them, which have been already shewn) 'tis plain, that beginning at *A* or *E* on this Instrument, we can find the true Notes of any such simple Song, as was supposed; unless the *Melody* in the *flat Key* is so contrived, as to use the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> greater, as I have said it may do in some Circumstances, for then there will be still a Defect, even as to such simple Songs.

BUT there are many other considerable Reasons why this Instrument is yet very imperfect. And *imo.* Consider what has been already said concerning the Variety of Keys or Closes, which may

may be in *one Piece of Melody*; and then we shall find that this fixt Series will be very insufficient for a Song contrived with such Variety; for *Example*, a Song whose principal *Key* is *C* with its 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* may modulate or change into *F*; but on this Instrument *F* has a false 4<sup>th</sup> at *B*, and if a true 4<sup>th</sup> is required in the Song, 'tis not here; or if it modulate into *D*, then we have a false 3<sup>d</sup> at *F*, and a false 5<sup>th</sup> at *A*, which are altogether inconsistent with right *Melody*; 'tis true that the Errors in this last Case are only the Difference of a greater and lesser *Tone*, as you'll find by considering how many, and what Kind of *Degrees* the true 3<sup>d</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> contains; or by considering their Proportions in Numbers, in the Tables of *Chap. 8.* And this Difference is in the common Account neglected, tho' it has an Influence, of which I shall speak afterwards; but where the Error is the Difference of a *Tone* and *Semitone*, it is so gross, that it can in no Case be neglected; as the false 4<sup>th</sup> betwixt *F* and *B*; or when a *Semitone* occurs where the *Melody* requires a *Tone*; for *Example*, if from the *Key C* there is a Change into *E*, to which a *t g.* is required, we have in the Instrument only a *Semitone*. And, to say it all in few Words, *imo.* The *harmonical* and *concinuous Intervals* of which all true *Melody* consists, may be so contrived, or taken in *Succession*, that there is no Letter or Note of this Instrument at which we can begin, and find all the rest of the Notes in true Proportion, which yet is not the Fault of the *Scale*, that not  
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being the Office of it. *2do.* When the same Song is to be performed by an Instrument and a Voice, or by Two Instruments in *Unison*, it may be required, for accommodating the one to the other, either to alter the Pitch of the Tuning, so as the whole Notes may be equally *lower* or *higher*; or, because this is in some Cases inconvenient, and in others impossible, as when any Wind-instrument, as *Organ* or *Flute*, is to accompany a Voice, and the Note at which the Song is begun on the Instrument is too high or low for the Voice to carry it thro' in; in such Cases the only Remedy is to begin at another Note, from which, perhaps, you cannot proceed and find all the true Notes of the Song, for the Reasons set forth above; or let it be yet further illustrated by this *Example*. A Song is contrived to proceed thus, *First*, upward a *tg.* then a *tl.* then a *Sem.* &c. such a Progress is *melodious*, but is not to be found from any Note of the preceeding *Scale*, except *c*; and therefore we can begin only there, unless the Instrument has other Notes than in the Order of the *diatonick Scale*.

WE see then plainly the Defect of *Instruments*, whose Notes are fixt; and if this is curable, 'tis as plain that it can only be effected by inserting other Notes and Degrees betwixt these of the *diatonick Series*: How far this is, or may be obtained, shall be our next Enquiry; and the first Thing I shall do, is, to demonstrate that there cannot possibly be a perfect *Scale* fixed upon Instruments, *i. e.* such as from any  
Note

Note upward or downward, shall contain any *harmonical* or *conciuous Interval* required in their exact Proportions.

SINCE the Inequality of the *Degrees* into which the *natural Scale* is divided, is the Reason that Instruments having fixt Sounds are imperfect; for hence it is that all *Intervals* of an equal Number of Degrees, or whose Extremes comprehend an equal Number of Letters, are not equal; so from *C* to *E* has Two Degrees, and *E* to *G* has as many; but the Degrees, which are the component Parts of these *Intervals*, differ, and so must the whole *Intervals*: Therefore it is manifest, that if there can be a *perfect Scale* (as above defined) fixt upon Instruments, it must be such as shall proceed from a given Sound by equal Degrees falling in with all the Divisions or Terms of the *natural Scale*, in order to preserve all its *harmonious Intervals*, which would otherwise be lost, and then it could be no *musical Scale*.

IF such a Series can be found, it will be absolutely perfect, because its Divisions falling in with these of the *natural Scale*, each *Degree* and *Interval* of this will contain a certain Number of that new *Degree*; and therefore we should have, from any given Note of this *Scale*, any other Note upward or downward, which shall be to the given Note in any *Ratio* of the *diatonick Scale*; and consequently any Piece of *Melody* might begin and proceed from any Note of this *Scale* indifferently: But such a Division is impossible, which I shall demonstrate thus.

thus. *1mo.* If any Series of Sounds is expressed by a Series of Numbers, which contain betwix them the true *Ratios* or *Intervals* of these Sounds, then if the Sounds exceed each other by equal Degrees or Differences of *Tune*, that Series of Numbers is in *continued geometrical Proportion*, which is clear from what has been explained concerning the Expression of the *Intervals* of Sound by Numbers. *2do.* Since it is required that the new Degree sought, fall in with the Divisions of the *natural Scale*, 'tis evident that this new Degree must be an exact Measure to every *Interval* of that *Scale*; that is, This Degree must be such, that each of these *Intervals* may be exactly divided by it, or contain a certain precise Number of it without a Remainder; and if no such Degree or common Measure to the *Intervals* of the *natural Scale* can be found, then we can have no such *perfect Scale* as is proposed. But that such Degree is impossible is easily proven; consider it must measure or divide every *diatonick Interval* and therefore to prove the Impossibility of it for any one *Interval* is sufficient; take for Example the *Tone* 8 : 9, it is required to divide this *Interval* by putting in so many *geometrical Means* betwixt 8 and 9 as shall make the Whole a continued Series, with these Qualifications, *viz.* That the common *Ratio*, (which is to be the first and common Degree of the new *Scale*) may be a Measure to all the other *diatonick Intervals*: But chiefly, *2do.* 'Tis required that it be a rational Quantity, expressible in rational or known

known Numbers. Now suppose one *Mean*, it is the square Root of 72 (*viz.* of 8 multiplied by 9) which, not being a square Number, has no square Root in rational Numbers; and *universally*, let  $n$  represent any Number of *Means*, the first and least of them, is by an *universal Theorem* (as the *Mathematicians* know) thus express  $\sqrt[n]{8^n \times 9}$  equal to this  $\sqrt[n]{8^n} \times \sqrt[n]{9}$ : But suppose  $n$  to be any Number you please, since 9 is a figurate Number of no Kind but a Square, therefore this *Mean* will in every Case be *surd* or irrational, and consequently the *Tone* 8 : 9 cannot be divided in the Manner proposed; and so neither can the *diatonick Scale*.

AGAIN, if the Division cannot be made in rational Numbers, we can never have a *musical Scale*; for suppose that by some *geometrical Method* we put in a certain Number of Lines, *mean Proportionals* betwixt 8 and 9, yet none of these could be Concord with any Term or Note of the *diatonick Scale*; because the Coincidence of Vibrations makes *Concord*, but Chords that are not as Number to Number, can never coincide in their Vibrations, since the Number of Vibrations to every Coincidence are reciprocally as the Lengths, which not being as Number to Number, they could not make a *musical Scale*. In the last Place, Let us suppose the *Interval* 8 : 9 divided by any Number of such *geometrical Means*, and suppose (tho' absurd) that they make *Concord* with the rational Terms of the *Scale*, yet it is certain we could never find a common Measure to the whole *Scale*;

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for every Term of a *geometrical* Series multiplied by the common *Ratio*, produces the next Term; but the *Ratio* here is a surd Quantity, *viz.*  $8^{\frac{1}{n+1}}$  : 8, and therefore, tho' it were multiplied *in infinitum* with any rational Number, could never produce any Thing but a Surd; and consequently never fall in with the Terms of the *natural Scale*: Therefore, such a perfect Series or *Scale* of fixt Sounds is impossible.

THO' the Defects of Instruments cannot be perfectly removed, yet they are in a good Measure cured, as we shall presently see; in order to which let me premise, that the nearer the *Scale* in fixt Sounds, comes to an Equality of the Degrees or Differences of every Note to the next, providing always that the natural *Intervals* be preserved, the nearer it is to absolute Perfection; and the Defects that still remain after any Division, are less sensible as that Division is greater, and the Degrees thereby made smaller and more in Number; but by making too many we render the Instrument impracticable; the Art is to make no more than that the Defects may be insensible, or very nearly so, and the Instrument at the same Time fit for Service.

I know that some Writers speak of the Division of the *Octave* into 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 31, and other Numbers of Degrees, which, with the Extremes, make 17, 19, 21, 25, 27, and 32 Notes within the Compass of an *Octave*; but 'tis easily imagined how hard and difficult a Thing it must be to perform upon such an Instrument; suppose a *Spinnet*, with 21 or 32

Keys

Keys within the Compass of an *Octave*; what an Embarrassment and Confusion must this occasion especially to a Learner. Indeed if the Matter could not be tolerably rectified another Way, we should be obliged patiently to wrestle with so hard an Exercise: But 'tis well that we are not put to such a difficult Choice, either to give up our Hopes of so agreeable Entertainment as *musical Instruments* afford, or resolve to acquire it at a very painful Rate; no, we have it easier, and a *Scale* proceeding by 12 Degrees, *that is*, 13 Notes including the Extremes, to an *Octave*, makes our Instruments so perfect that we have no great Reason to complain. This therefore is the present *System* for Instruments, *viz.* betwixt the Extremes of every *Tone* of the *natural Scale* is put a Note, which divides it into Two unequal Parts called *Semitones*; and the whole may be called the *semitonick Scale*, containing 12 *Semitones* betwixt 13 Notes within the Compass of an *Octave*: And to preserve the *diatonick Series* distinct, these inserted Notes take the Name of the *natural Note* next below, with this Mark \* called a *Sharp*, as C\* or C sharp, to signify that it is a *Semitone* above C (*natural*;) or they take the Name of the *natural Note* next above, with this Mark ♭, called a *Flat*, as D♭ or D flat, to signify a *Semitone* below D (*natural*;) and tho' it be indifferent upon the main which Name is used in any Case, yet, for good Reasons, sometimes the one Way is used, and sometimes the other, as I shall have Occasion to explain: But that I

may proceed here upon a fixt Rule, I denominate them from the Note below, excepting that betwixt *A* and *B*, which I always mark  $\vee$  simply without any other Letter; understand the same of any other Character of these Letters; as always when I name any Letters for Examples, I say the same of all the other Characters of these Letters, *i. e.* of all the Notes through the whole *Scale* that bear these Names; and thus the whole *Octave* is to be expressed, *viz.* C. C\*. D. D\*. E. F. F\*. G. G\*. A.  $\vee$ . B. C—

THE *Keys* of a *Spinnet* represent this very distinctly to us; the foremost Range of continued *Keys* is in the Order of the *diatonick Scale*, and the other *Keys* set backward are the *artificial Notes*.

WHY we don't rather use 12 different Letters, will appear afterwards. The Two *natural Semitones* of the *diatonick Scale* being betwixt *E F* and *A B* shew that the new Notes fall betwixt the other natural ones as they are set down. These new Notes are called *accidental* or *fictitious*, because they retain the Name of their *Principals* in the *natural System*: And this Name does also very well express their Design and Use; which is not to introduce or serve any new Species of *Melody* distinct from the *diatonick* Kind; but, as I have said in the Beginning of this Chapter, to serve the *Modulation* from one *Key* to another in the Course of any Piece, or the *Transposition* of the Whole to a different Pitch, for accommodating Instruments to a Voice, that beginning at a convenient Note, the Instrument may accompany the

Voice

Voice in *Unison*. How far the Luxury, if I may so call it, of the present *Musick* is carried, so as to change the Species of *Melody*, and bring in something of a different Character from the true *Diatonick*, and for that Purpose have Use for a *Scale* of *Semitones*, I shall have Occasion to speak of afterwards: But let us now proceed to shew how these Notes are proportioned to the *natural* ones, *i. e.* to shew the Quantity of the *Semitones* occasioned by these *accidental* Notes, and then see how far the *System* is perfected by them.

§ 2. *Of the true Proportions of the Semitonick Scale, and how far the System is perfected by it.*

**T**HERE is great Variety, or I may rather call it Confusion, in the Accounts that Writers upon *Musick* give of this Matter; they make different Divisions without explaining the Reasons of them. But since I have so clearly explained the Nature and Design of this Improvement, it will be easy to examine any Division, and prove its Fitness, by comparing it with the End: And from the Things above said, we have this *general Rule* for judging of them, *viz.* That, the Division which makes a Series, from whose every Note we can find any *diatonick Interval*, upward or downward, with least and fewest Errors, is most perfect.

THERE are Two Divisions that I propose to explain here; and after these I shall explain the

ordinary and most approved Way of bringing Spinets and such kind of Instruments to Tune; and shew the true Proportion that such Tuning makes among the several Notes.

THE *first Division* is this: Every *Tone* of the *diatonick Series* is divided into Two Parts or *Semitones*, whereof the one is the *natural Semitone* 15 : 16, and the other is the Remainder of that from the *Tone*, viz. 128 : 135 in the *tg.* and 24 : 25 in the *tl.* and the *Semitone* 15 : 16 is put in the lowest Place in each, except the *tg.* betwixt *f* and *g*, where 'tis put in the upper Place; and the whole *Octave* stands as in the following Scheme, where I have written the *Ratios* of each Term to the next in a Fraction set betwixt them below.

### SCALE of SEMITONES.

c	. c <sup>♯</sup>	. d	. d <sup>♯</sup>	. e	. f	. f <sup>♯</sup>	. g	. g <sup>♯</sup>	. a	. b	. cc
$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{128}{135}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{24}{25}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{128}{135}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{24}{25}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{128}{135}$	$\frac{15}{16}$

IT was very natural to think of dividing each *Tone* of the *diatonick Scale*, so as the *Semitone* 15 : 16 should be one Part of each Division; because this being an unavoidable and necessary Part of the *natural Scale*, would most readily occur as a fit Degree in the Division of the *Tones* thereof; especially after considering that this Degree 15 : 16 is not very far from the exact Half of a *Tone*. Again there must be some Reason for placing these *Semitones* in one Order rather than another, i. e. placing 15 : 16 uppermost in the *Tone f : g*, and undermost in all

all the rest ; which Reason is this, that hereby there are fewer Errors or Defects in the *Scale*; particularly, the 15 : 16 is set in the upper Place of the *Tone*  $f : g$ , because by this the greatest Error in the *diatonick Scale* is perfectly corrected, *viz.* the false 4<sup>th</sup> betwixt  $f$  and  $b$  upward, which exceeds the true *harmonical* 4<sup>th</sup> by the *Semitone* 128 : 135, and this *Semitone* being placed betwixt  $f$  and  $f\sharp$ , makes from  $f\sharp$  to  $b$  a true 4<sup>th</sup>; and corrects also an equal Defect in the *Interval*  $b-f$  taken upward, which instead of a true 5<sup>th</sup> wants 128 : 135, and is now just, by taking  $f\sharp$  for  $f$ , that is, from  $\flat$  up to  $f\sharp$  is a just 5<sup>th</sup>. There were the same gross Errors in the *natural* *8ve* proceeding from  $f$ , which are now corrected by the altered  $b$  *viz.*  $\flat$ , which is a true 4<sup>th</sup> above  $f$ , whereas  $b$  (natural) is to the  $f$  below as 32 : 45 exceeding a true 4<sup>th</sup> by 128 : 135 ; also from  $b$  (natural) up to  $f$  is a false 5<sup>th</sup>, as 45 : 64, but from  $\flat$  to  $f$  is a just 5<sup>th</sup> 2 : 3 ; and therefore respecting these Corrections of so very gross Errors, we see a plain Reason why the greater *Semitone* 15 : 16 is placed betwixt  $f\sharp$  and  $g$ , and betwixt  $a$  and  $\flat$  ; For the Place of it in the other *Tones*, I shall only say, in general, that there are fewer Errors as I have placed them than if placed otherwise ; and I shall add this Particular, that we have now from the Key  $c$  both the *diatonick Series* with the 3<sup>d</sup>  $\flat$  and 3<sup>d</sup>  $g$ . and their Accompanyments all in their just Proportions, only we have 9 : 16, *viz.* from  $c$  to  $\flat$  for the lesser 7<sup>th</sup>, which tho' it make not

so many *harmonious* Relations to the other *diatonick* Notes as  $5 : 9$  would do, yet considering a *7th* is still but a *Discord*, and for what Reason  $\flat$  was made a greater *Semitone*  $15 : 16$  above  $a$ . This *7th* ought to be accounted the best here; yet the other  $5 : 9$  has Place in other Parts of the *Scale*; I shall presently shew you other Reasons why  $9 : 16$  is the best in the Place where I have put it, *viz.* betwixt  $c$  and  $\flat$ .

CONCERNING this *Scale* of *Semitones*, *Observe* imo, From any Letter to the same again comprehending Thirteen Notes is always a true *8ve*, as from  $c$  to  $c$ , or from  $c\sharp$  to  $c\sharp$ . *2do.* We have Three different *Semitones*  $15 : 16$  the *greatest*,  $128 : 135$  the *middle*, and  $24 : 25$  the *least*, which, when I have Occasion to speak of, I shall mark thus, *fg. fm. fl.* The first is the Difference of a *3d g.* and *4th*; the second the Difference of *tg.* and *fg.* and the Third the Difference of *tl.* and *fg.* (or of *3d g.* and *3d l.* or *6th g.* and *6th l.*) *3tio.* We have by this Division also Three different *Tones*, *viz.*  $8 : 9$  composed of *fg.* and *fm.* as  $c : d$ ; then  $9 : 10$  composed of *fg.* and *fl.* as  $d ; e$ ; and  $225 : 256$  composed of Two *fg.* as  $f\sharp : g\sharp$ , which occurs also betwixt  $b$  and  $c\sharp$ , and no where else, all the rest being of the other Two Kinds which are the true *Tones* of the *natural Scale*. And tho' we might suppose other Combinations of these *Semitones* to make new *Tones*, yet their Order in this *Scale* affording no other, we are concerned no further with them. Now *observe*, this last *Tone*  $225 : 256$  being equal to  $2 fg.$

must

must be also the greatest of these Three *Tones*; so that what is the greatest of the Two *natural Tones*, is now the Middle of these Three, and therefore when you meet with *t g.* understand always the *natural Tone 8:9*, unless it be otherwise said.

4<sup>to</sup>. LET us now consider how the *Intervals* of this *Scale* shall be denominated; we have already heard the Reason of these Names *3<sup>d</sup>*, *4<sup>th</sup>*, *5<sup>th</sup>*, &c. given to the *Intervals* of the *Scale of Musick*; they are taken from the Number of Notes comprehended betwixt the Extremes (*inclusive*) of any *Interval*, and express in their principal Design, the Number of Notes from the *Fundamental* of an *8ve concinnously* divided to any *acute Term* of the Series, tho' to make them of more universal Use they are also applied to the *accidental Intervals*. See *Chap. 8*. So that whatever *Interval* contains the same Number of Degrees is called by the same Name; and hence we have some *Concords* some *Discords* of the same Name; so in the *diatonick Scale*, from *c* to *e* is a *3<sup>d</sup> g. Concord*, and from *e* to *g* a *3<sup>d</sup> l.* and from *d* to *f* is also called a *3<sup>d</sup>*, because *f* is the *3<sup>d</sup> Note inclusive* from *d*, yet it is *Discord*. See *Chap. 8*. If we consider next, that the Notes added to the *Scale* are not designed to alter the Species of *Melody*, but leave it still *diatonick*, only they correct the Defects arising from something foreign to the Nature and Use of the *Scale of Musick*, viz: the limiting and fixing of the Sounds; then we see the Reason why the same Names are still  
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continued : And tho' there are now more Notes in an *Octave*, and so a greater Number of different *Intervals*, yet the *diatonick* Names comprehend the whole, by giving to every *Interval* of an equal Number of Degrees the same Name, and making a Distinction of each into greater and lesser. Thus an *Interval* of 1 *Semitone* is called a lesser Second or *2dl.* of 2 *Semitones* is a *2d g.* of 3 *Semitones* a *3dl.* of 4, a *3dg.* and so on as in this *Table*.

*Denominations.* *2dl.* *2dg.* *3dl.* *3dg.* *4thl.* *4thg.* *5th.* *6thl.* *6thg.* *7thl.* *7thg.* *8va.*  
*Num. of Sem.* 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10 - 11 - 12.

In which we have no other Names, than these already known in the *diatonick Scale*, except the *4th* greater, which for equal Reason might be called a *5th* lesser, because 'tis a Middle betwixt *4th* and *5th*, i. e. betwixt 5 and 7 *Semitones*; and therefore we may call all *Intervals* of 6 *Semitones* *Tritones* (for 6 *Semitones* make 3 *Tones*) and these of 5 *Semitones* call them simply *4ths*; and so all the Names of the *diatonick Scale* remain unaltered; and we have only the Name of *Tritone* added, which yet is not new, for I have before observed, that it is used in the *diatonick Scale*, and thus all is kept very distinct; and if we proceed above an *Octave*, we compound the Names with an *Octave* and these below. Again take Notice, that as in the pure *diatonick Scale*, the Names of *3d.* *4th.* &c. answer to the Number of Letters which are betwixt the Extremes (inclusive) of any *Interval*, whereby the Denomination of the *Interval* is known, by knowing the Letters by which the

the Extremes of it are exprest, so in this new *Scale* the same will hold, by taking any Letter with or without the *Sharp* or *Flat* for the same Letter, and applying to the *accidental* Notes, in some Cases the Letter of the Note below with a *Sharp*, and in others that of the Note above with a *Flat*: For *Example*.  $d^{\sharp}-g$  is a *3d*, and includes 4 Letters; but if for  $d^{\sharp}$  we take  $e^{\flat}$ , then  $e^{\flat}-g$ , which is the same individual *Interval*, contains but 3 Letters; also if for  $e^{\flat}$  we take  $a^{\sharp}$ , then  $a^{\sharp}-c^{\sharp}$ , which is a true *3d l*, includes 3 Letters, whereas  $e^{\flat}-c^{\sharp}$  has but Two. There is only one Exception, for the *Interval*  $f-g$ , which is a *4th g*, contains 5 Letters, and cannot be otherwise exprest, unless you take  $e^{\sharp}$  which is equal to *f natural*; or take  $c^{\flat}$ , which is equal to *b natural*; but this is not so regular, and indeed makes too great a Confusion; tho' I have seen it so done in the Compositions of the best Masters, which yet will not make it reasonable, unless in the particular Case where 'tis used, it could not have been so conveniently ordered otherwise: But if we call the same *Interval* a *5th* lesser, then the *Rule* is good; yet if we call every *Tritone* a *5th*, we shall still have an Exception, for then  $f-b$  contains only 4 Letters; and therefore 'tis best to call all *Intervals* of 6 *Semitones*, *Tritones*, and then they are not subject to this *Rule*. In this therefore we see a Reason, why 'tis better that the *accidental* Note should be named by the Letter of the *natural* Note, than to make Twelve Letters in an *Octave*; besides, the *Melody* being still *diatonick*, these

these *accidental* Notes are only in place of the others; and by keeping the same Names, we preserve the Simplicity of the *System* better.

5to. Having thus settled the Denominations of the *Intervals* of this *semitonick Scale*, we must next *observe*, that of each Denomination there are Differences in the Quantity, arising from the Differences of the *Semitones* of which they are composed, as is very obvious in the *Scale*: And these again may be distinguished into *true* and *false*, i. e. such as are either *harmonical* or *concinuous Intervals* of the *natural Scale*, and such as are not; and in each Denomination we find there is one that is *true*, and all the rest are *false*, except the *Tritones* which are all *false*, tho' they are used in some very particular Cases.

6to. Let us next enquire into all the Variety and the precise Quantity of every *Interval* within this new *Scale*, that we may thereby know what Defects still remain. We have already observed, that there are Three different *Semitones* and as many *Tones*; hence it is plain, there are neither more nor less than Three different *7ths* of each Species, i. e. lesser and greater, which are the Complements of these *Semitones* and *Tones* to *Octave*, as here.

Semit.	7th g.	7th l.	Tone.
15 -	16 -	30	128 - 225 - 256
128 -	135 -	256	9 - 16 - 18
24 -	25 -	48	5 - 9 - 10

And

And to know where each of these *7ths* lies, and all the *Examples* of each in the *Scale*, 'tis but taking all the *Examples* of these *Semitones* and *Tones*, which are to be found at Sight in the *Scale* marked with the *Semitones*, as you see in Page 294. and you have the correspondent *7ths* betwixt the one Extreme of that *Semitone* or *Tone*, and the *Octave* to the other Extreme. Then for the other *Intervals*, viz. *3ds*, *6ths*, *4ths*, *5ths*, which are *harmonical*, I have in the *Table-plate*, *Fig.* set all the *Examples* of such of them as are *false*, with their respective *Ratios*; and with the *Ratios* of the *6th* and *5th* I have set an *e* or *d*, to signify an excessive, or a deficient *Interval* from the true *Concord*; and consequently their correspondent *3ds* and *4ths* will be as much on the contrary deficient or excessive. All the rest of the *Intervals* of these several Denominations, containing 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 or 9 *Semitones*, are true of their several Kinds, whose *Ratios* we have frequently seen, and so they needed not be placed here. Then for the *Tritones*, you have in the last Part of the *Table* all their Variety and *Examples*; by the Nature of this *Interval* it exceeds a true *4th*, and wants of a true *5th*; you'll easily find the Difference by the *Ratio*.

Now we have seen all the Variety of *Intervals* in this new *Scale*; and by what's explain'd we know where all the Extremes of each ly; and it will be easy to find the true *Ratio* of any *Interval*, the Letters or Names of whose Extremes in the *Scale* are given, viz. by finding in  
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the *Scale* how many *Semitones* it contains, and thereby the Denomination of it, by which you'll find its *Ratio* in the preceding *Table*, unless it be a true *Concord*, and then it is not in the *Table*, which is a Sign of its being *true*. And as to this *Table*, observe, that I have no Respect to the different Characters of Letters, and you must suppose every *Example* to be taken upward in the *Scale*, from the first Letter of the *Example* to the second, counting in the natural Order of the Letters.

7<sup>mo</sup>. WE are now come to consider how far the *Scale* is perfected; and first *observe*, that there are no greater or lesser, and precisely no other Errors in it, than the Differences of the Three *Semitones*, which are these following;

Diff. of	{	<i>f</i> g. and <i>f</i> m. = 2025 : 2048	}	the up-
	{	<i>f</i> m. and <i>f</i> l. = 80 : 81	}	permost is
	{	<i>f</i> g. and <i>f</i> l. = 125 : 128	}	the least,
				and the

lower the greatest Error. In the *diatonick Scale* some *Intervals* erred a whole *Semitone*, and all the rest only by a *Comma* 80 : 81; here we have one Error a very little greater, and another lesser: All the 5<sup>ths</sup> and 4<sup>ths</sup> except Three, are *just* and *true*; of the 3<sup>d</sup>l. and 6<sup>th</sup>g. there are as many *true* as *false*; and of the 3<sup>d</sup>g. and 6<sup>th</sup>l. we have Five *false* and Seven *true*. These Errors are so small, that in a single Case the Ear will bear it, especially in the *imperfect Con-*  
*cords* of 3<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>; but when many of these Errors happen in a Song, and especially in the  
prin-

principal *Intervals* that belong to the *Key*, it will interrupt the *Melody*, and the Instrument will appear out of *Tune* (as it really is with respect to that Song :) But then we must observe, that as the Order of these *Semitones* is different in every *Octave*, proceeding from each of the Twelve different *Keys* or Letters of the *Scale*; so we find that some Songs will proceed better, if begun at some Notes, than at others. If we compare one *Key* with another, then we must prefer them according to the Perfection of their principal *Intervals*, viz. the 3d, 5th and 6th, which are Essentials in the *Harmony* of every *Key*: And let any Two Notes be proposed to be made *Keys* of the same *Species*, viz. both with the 3dl, &c. or 3dg, &c. We can easily find in the preceding *Table* what *Intervals* in the *Scale* are true or false to each of them; and accordingly prefer the one or the other: But I shall proceed to

THE *second Division* of the 8ve into *Semitones* which I promised to explain, and it is this: Betwixt the Extremes of the *t g.* and *tl.* of the *natural Scale* is taken an *harmonical Mean* which divides it into Two *Semitones* nearly equal, thus, the *t g.* 8 : 9 is divided into Two *Semitones* which are 16 : 17 and 17 : 18, as here 16 : 17 : 18, which is an *arithmetical Division*, the Numbers representing the Lengths of Chords; but if they represent the Vibrations, the Lengths of the Chords are reciprocal, viz. as 16 : 9 : 8 which puts the greater *Semitone* <sup>16</sup> next the lower Part of the *Tone*, and the lesser <sup>9</sup> next the

the upper, which is the Property of the *harmonical* Division : The same Way the  $t$   $l$ ,  $9 : 10$  is divided into these Two Semit.  $18 : 19$ , and  $19 : 20$ , and the whole *8ve* stands thus.

*c. c*\* . *d. d*\* . *e. f. f*\* . *g. g*\* . *a. v. b. c*  
 $\frac{16}{17}$   $\frac{17}{18}$   $\frac{18}{19}$   $\frac{19}{20}$   $\frac{15}{16}$   $\frac{16}{17}$   $\frac{17}{18}$   $\frac{18}{19}$   $\frac{19}{20}$   $\frac{16}{17}$   $\frac{17}{18}$   $\frac{15}{16}$

IN this Scale we have these Things to observe, *1mo.* That every *Tone* is divided into Two, *Semit.* whereof I have set the greater in the lowest Place. *2do.* We have hereby Five different *Semitones* ; out of which as they stand in the Scale we have Seven different *Tones*, as here.

Sem.	Tones.
$\frac{16}{17} \times \frac{17}{18}$	$= \frac{8}{9}$
$\frac{17}{18} \times \frac{18}{19}$	$= \frac{17}{19}$
$\frac{18}{19} \times \frac{19}{20}$	$= \frac{9}{10}$
$\frac{19}{20} \times \frac{15}{16}$	$= \frac{57}{64}$
$\frac{15}{16} \times \frac{16}{17}$	$= \frac{15}{17}$
$\frac{19}{20} \times \frac{16}{17}$	$= \frac{76}{85}$
$\frac{17}{18} \times \frac{15}{16}$	$= \frac{85}{96}$

CONSIDERING how, by a *harmonical Mean*, the *8th*, *5th*, and *3dg.* were divided into their *harmonical* or *concinuous* Parts, it could not but readily occur to divide the *Tones* the same Way, when a Division was found necessary ; but we are to consider what Effect this Division has for perfecting of Instruments. It would be more troublesome than difficult to calculate a *Table* of all the Variety of *Ratios* contain'd in this *Scale*; I shall leave you to this Exercise for your Diversion, and only tell you here, that ha-  
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ving calculate all the *5ths* and *4ths*, I find there are only Seven true *5ths*, and as many *4ths*, whereas in the former *Scale* there were Nine; and then for the Errors, there are none of them above a *Comma* 80 : 81; in short, there is one false *5th* and *4th* whose Error is a *Comma*, and the rest are all very much less; and, tho' there are fewer true *5ths* and *4ths* here, yet the Errors being far less and more various, compensate the other Loss: As to the *3ds* and *6ths*, there are also here more of them false than in the preceding *Scale*, for of each there are but Four true *Intervals*, but the Errors are generally much less, the greatest being far less than the greatest in the other *Scale*.

I shall say no more upon this, only let you know, That Mr. *Salmon* in the *Philosophical Transactions* tells us, That he made an Experiment of this *Scale* upon Chords exactly in these Proportions, which yielded a perfect Confort with other Instruments touched by the best Hands: But observe, that he places the lesser *Semit.* lowest, which I place uppermost; and when I had examined what Difference this would produce, I found the Advantage would rather be in the Way I have chosen. And this brings to mind a Question which Mr. *Simpson* makes in his *Compend of Musick*, viz. Whether the greater or lesser *Semitone* lies from *a* to *b*; he says 'tis more rational to his Understanding, that the lesser *Semitone* ly next *a*; but he does not explain his Reason; he speaks only of the arithmetical Division of a Chord into equal

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Parts,

Parts, but has not minded the *harmonical* Division of an *Interval*, by which we have seen the *diatonick Scale* so naturally constituted, whereby the greater Part is always laid next the gravest Extreme: But in short, when we speak of the Reason of this, we must consider the Design of these *Semitones*, and which one in such a Place answers the End best, and then I believe there will be no Reason found why it should be as Mr. *Simpson* says, rather than the other Way.

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§ 3. *Of the common Method of Tuning Spinets, demonstrating the Proportions that occur in it; and of the Pretence of a nicer Method considered.*

THE last Thing I propos'd to do upon this Subject, was to explain the ordinary Way of tuning Spinets and that Kind of Instruments; for whether it be, that the tuning them in accurate Proportions in the Manner mentioned is not easily done, or that these Proportions do not sufficiently correct the Defects of the Instrument, there is another Way which is generally followed by *practical Musicians*; and that is Tuning by the Ear, which is founded upon this Supposition, that the Ear is perfectly Judge of an 8<sup>ve</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The general Rule is, to begin at a certain Note as *c*, taken toward the Middle of the

the

the Instrument, and tuning all the *8ves* up and down, and also the *5ths*, reckoning Seven *Semitones* to every *5th*, whereby the whole will be tuned; but there are Differences even in the Way of doing this, which I shall explain.

SOME and even the Generality who deal with this Kind of Instrument, tune not only their *Octaves*, but also their *5ths* as perfectly Concord as their Ear can judge, and consequently make the *4ths* perfect, which indeed makes a great many Errors in the other *Intervals* of *3d* and *6th* (for the *discord Intervals*, they are not so considerable;) others that affect a greater Nicety pretend to diminish all the *5ths*, and make them deficient about a Quarter of a *Comma*, in order to make the Errors in the rest smaller and less sensible: But to be a little more particular, I shall shew you the Progress that's made from Note to Note; and then consider the Effect of both these Methods. In order to this, let us view again the *Scale* with its *2 Semitones* in an *Octave*; but we have Use for Two *Octaves* to this Purpose. Then *1mo.* Beginning at *c* take it at a certain Pitch, and tune all its *Octaves* above and below; then *2do.* Tune *g* a *5th* above *c*, and next tune all the *Octaves* of *g*; *3tio.* Take *d* a *5th* above *c*, and then tune all the *Octaves* of *d*. *4to.* Take *a* a *5th* above *d*, then tune all the *Octaves* of *a*. *5to.* Take *e* a *5th* above *a*, and tune all the *Octaves* of *e*. Then, *6to.* Take *b* (natural) a *5th* above *e*, and tune all the *Octaves* of *b*. *7mo.* Take *f* a *5th* above *b*,

then tune all the *Octaves* of *f*♯. 8vo. *c*♯ a 5th above *f*♯, and then all the *Octaves* of *c*♯. 9no. Take *g*♯ a 5th above *c*♯, then all its *Octaves*; and having proceeded so far, we have all the *Keys* tuned except *f*, *d*♯, and *l*; for which, 10mo. Begin again at *c*, and take *f* a 5th downward, then tune all the *fs*. 11mo. Take *l* a 5th downward to *f*, and tune all the *ls*. Lastly. Take *d* ♯ a 5th below *l*, and then tune all the *Octaves* of *d*♯; and so the whole Instrument is in Tune. And observe, That having tuned all the *Octaves* of any *Key*, the next Step being to take a 5th to it, you may take that from any of the *Keys* of that Name.

Now supposing all these *Octaves* and 5ths to be in perfect Tune, we shall examine the Effects it will have upon the rest of the *Intervals*; and in order to it, I have express this Tuning in *Plate 1. Fig. 6.* by drawing Lines betwixt every Note, and another, according to the Method of Procedure; but I have only marked the 5ths, supposing the *Octaves* to be tuned all along as you proceed; then I have marked the Progress from 5th to 5th by Numbers set upon them to signify the 1st, 2d, &c. Step; and in the Method there taken you see all the Notes tuned from *c* to *f*♯ above its *Octave*. We suppose all the other Notes above and below in the Instrument to have been tuned by *Octaves* to these, but for the Thing in Hand we have Use for no more of the *Scale*. Observe next, That I have marked the *Semitones* betwixt every Note by the Letters *g*, *l*,

viz. greater and lesser; for there are only Two Kinds in this *Scale*, as we shall presently see, and also what they are, for the natural *Sem.* 15 : 16 is not to be found here; and while I speak of this *Scale* and of *Semitones* greater and lesser, I mean always these Two, unless it be said otherwise.

IF we find the Degrees of this *Scale* in the *Tones* or *Semitones*, we shall by these easily find the Quantity of every other *Interval*; and in the following Calculations I take all the *Examples* upward from the first Letter named, and therefore I have made no Distinction in the Character of the Letters: To begin, from *c* to *g* is a 5th 2 : 3, and from *g* to *d* a 5th, therefore from *c* to *d* is Two 5ths 4 : 9; out of this take an *Octave*, the Remainder is 8 : 9 a *tg.* and consequently *c-d* is a *tg.* 8 : 9; by this Method you'll prove that each of these *Intervals* marked in the following *Table* is a *tg.* 8 : 9. In the next Place, consider, from *a* to *e* is a 5th, therefore from *e* to *a* is a 4th: But

All greater Tones 8:	<i>c</i> - <i>d</i>	as in the preceeding <i>Table</i> ,
	<i>d</i> - <i>e</i>	whose Sum is 64 : 81, which
	<i>d</i> * - <i>f</i>	taken from a 4th 3 : 4, leaves
	<i>e</i> - <i>f</i> *	this <i>Semitone</i> 243 : 256 for <i>e</i> : <i>f</i>
	<i>f</i> - <i>g</i>	(which is less than 15 : 16 by a
	<i>f</i> * - <i>g</i> *	<i>Comma</i> ) then if we subtract this
	<i>g</i> - <i>a</i>	from a <i>Tone</i> 8 : 9, it leaves 2048 :
	<i>a</i> - <i>b</i>	2187, a greater <i>Semitone</i> than
	<i>b</i> - <i>c</i>	the former; and if we mark the
		one <i>l.</i> and the other <i>g.</i> all the

*Semitones* from  $d$  to  $a$ , will be as I have marked them in the *Fig.* referred to; for since  $e : f^{\#}$  is a  $tg.$  and  $e, f$  is a  $fl.$  therefore  $f, f^{\#}$  is a  $fg.$  and so of the rest, every Two *Semitones* from  $d$  to  $a$  being a  $tg.$  Again since  $f - c$  is a  $5th$ , and also  $e - b$ , taking away what's common to both, *viz.*  $f - b$ , there remains on each Hand these equal Parts  $e, f$  and  $b, c$ , so that  $b, c$  is also a  $fl.$  and since  $b : c$  is a  $tg.$  and  $b, c$  a  $fl.$   $b, c$  must be a  $fg.$  and also  $a, b$  a  $fl.$  because  $a : b$  is a  $tg.$  Next, from  $c^{\#}$  to  $g^{\#}$  is a  $5th$ , also from  $d^{\#}$  to  $b$ , and taking away  $d^{\#} - g^{\#}$  out of both, there remains  $c^{\#} : d^{\#}$  equal to  $g^{\#} - b$ , which contains Two  $fl.$  but  $d, d^{\#}$  is already found to be a  $fl.$  therefore  $c^{\#}, d$  is  $fl.$  and  $c : d$  being a  $tg.$   $c, c^{\#}$  must be a  $fg.$

THUS we have discovered all the *Semitones* within the *Octave*; of which as they stand in the *Scale*, we have only Two different *Tones*, *viz.* the  $tg.$   $8 : 9$  and another which is lesser  $59049 : 65536$  composed of Two of the lesser *Semitones*, as you see betwixt  $c^{\#} : d^{\#}$ , and also betwixt  $g^{\#} : b$ ; in every other Place of the *Scale* it is a  $tg.$

LET us next consider the other *Intervals*, and first, We have all the *Octaves* and  $5ths$  perfect except the  $5th$   $g^{\#} - d^{\#}$  which is  $531441 : 786432$ , wanting of a true  $5th$  more than a *Comma*, *viz.* the Difference of the  $fg.$  and  $fl.$  as is evident in the *Scheme*, for  $g - d$  is a true  $5th$  but the *Interval*  $g^{\#} - d$  is common to  $g - d$ , and  $g^{\#} - d^{\#}$ , and being taken from both,

leaves in the first the *fg. g. g\**, and in last the *fl. d. d\**; then all the *4ths* are of consequence perfect, except *d\* - g\**, which exceeds as much as its correspondent *5th* is deficient. But *Lastly*, For the *3ds* and *6ths* they are all false, plainly for this Reason, that in the whole Series there is no lesser *Tone 9 : 10*, which with the *tg. 8 : 9* makes a true *3d g.* nor any of the greater *Semitone 15 : 16*, which with *tg* makes a *3dl.* And for the Errors they are easily discovered, in the *3d g.* (and the Correspondent *6 l.*) the Error is either an Excess of a Comma *80 : 81* the Difference of *tg.* and *tl.* of the *natural Scale*; which happens in these Places where Two *tg.* stand together, as in the *3d g.* from *c* to *e*; or it is a Deficiency equal to the Difference of the lesser *Tone 9 : 10*, and the *Tone* above mentioned *59049 : 65536*, which *Tone* is less than *9 : 10* by this Difference *32768, 32805* (as in the *3d g. c\* : f*) which is greater than a Comma; and for the *3d l.* (and its *6th g.*) it has the same Errors, and is either deficient a Comma, *viz.* the Difference of the *fg. 15 : 16* and the *fl. 243 : 256*, as in the *3dl. c : d\**, or exceeds by the Difference of the new *fg. 2048 : 2187* and the *fg. 15 : 16* which is less than the other by this Difference *32768 : 32805* which is greater than a Comma.

Now the *5ths* and *4ths* are all perfect but one, yet the *3ds* and *6ths* being all false, there is no Note in all the *Scale* from which we have a true *diatonick Series*; and the Er-

Intervals being equal to a Comma in some and greater in others, makes this *Scale* less perfect than any yet described; at least than the first Division explained, in which there were only 3 false *5ths*, whereof Two err by a Comma, and the other by a lesser Difference; and having many true *3ds* and *6ths*, seems plainly a more perfect *Scale*. These Errors may still be made less by multiplying the *artificial Keys*, and placing them betwixt such Notes of the preceeding *Scale* as may correct the greatest Errors of the most usual *Keys* of the *diatonick Series*, and of such Divisions you have Accounts in *Mersennus* and *Kircher*; but a greater Number than 13 *Keys* in an *Octave* is so great a Difficulty for Practice, that they are very rare, and our best Compositions are performed on Instruments with 13 Notes in the *Octave*, and as to the tuning of these,

LET us now consider the Pretences of the nicer Kind of *Musicians*; they tell us, That in tuning by *Octaves* and *5ths*, they diminish all the *5ths* by a Quarter of a *Comma*, or near it (for the *Ratio* 80 : 81 cannot be divided into 4 equal Parts, and express in rational Numbers) in order to make the Errors through the whole Instrument very small and insensible. I shall not here trouble you with Calculations made upon this Supposition, because they can be easily done by those who understand what has been hitherto explained upon this Subject; therefore I say no more but this, That it must be an extraordinary Ear that can judge exactly of a Quarter *Comma*, and I shall

shall add, That some Practisfers upon *Harpfichords* have told me they always tune their *5ths* perfect, and find their Instrument answer very well. 'Tis true they cannot deny that the same Song will not go equally well from every *Key*, which argues still the Imperfection of the Instrument; but there is no Song but they can find some *Key* that will answer. If a very just and accurate Ear can diminish the Errors, so as to make them yet smaller and more equal thro' the whole Instrument, I will not say but they may make more of the *Octaves* like other, and consequently make it an indifferent Thing which of these *Keys*, that are brought to such a Likeness, you begin your Song at; but even these cannot deny that a Song will do better from one *Key* than another; so that the Defects are not quite removed even as to Sense.

DR. Wallis has a Discourse in the *Philosophical Transactions* concerning the Imperfection of Organs, and the Remedy applied to it; the Imperfection he observes is the same I have already spoken of, *viz.* That from every Note you cannot find any *Interval* in its just Proportion. 'Tis true indeed the Doctor only considers the Imperfection of a *Scale* of *Semitones*, and particularly one constituted in the *Ratio* of the 2d Kind of Division abovementioned; he does not say directly for what Reasons a *Scale* of *Semitones* was necessary; but, as if he supposed that plain enough, he says there are still some Defects; and therefore, says he, *Instead of these Proportions (of the Semitones) it is so ordered, if I mistake*

mistake not the Practice, that the 13 Pipes within an Octave, as to their Sounds, with respect to acute and grave, shall be in continual Proportion, whereby it comes to pass that each Pipe doth not express its proper Sound, but something varying from it, which is called Bearing; and this, says he, is an Imperfection in this noble Instrument. Again, he says, That the Semitones being all made equal, they do indifferently answer all Positions of *mi* (i.e. of the Two natural Semitones in an Octave; of the Use of this Word *mi*, we shall hear again) and tho' not exactly to any, yet nearer to some than to others; whence it is that the same Song stands better in one Key than another. I have shewn above, that a Scale of Degrees accurately equal, which will coincide with the Terms of the natural Scale is not possible; and now let me say, That tho' the Octave may be divided into 12 equal Semitones by geometrical Methods, that is, 13 Lines may be constructed, which shall be in continued geometrical Proportion, and the greatest to the least be as 2 to 1, yet none of these Terms can be express'd by rational Numbers, and so 'tis impossible that such a Scale could express any true Musick, and hence I conclude, that this Bearing does not make the Semitones exactly equal, tho' they may be sensibly so in a single Comparison of one with another; and supposing them equal, the Doctor says the same Song will stand better at one Key than another; which may be very true, because none of the Terms of such a Scale can possibly,

possibly fall in with these of the *natural Scale*, which are all express'd by rational Numbers, and the other are all Surds; whereas had we a Scale of equal Degrees, coinciding with the *natural Scale*, every *Key* would necessarily be alike for every Song. These Imperfections, says the Doctor, might be further remedied by multiplying the Notes within an *Octave*, yet not without something of bearing, unless to every *Key* (he means of the Seven *natural* ones) be fitted a distinct Scale or Set of Pipes rising in the true Proportions, which would render the Instrument impracticable: But even this I think would not do; for let us suppose that from any one *Key* as *c*, we have a Series of true *diatonick* Notes, in both the Species of *sharp* and *flat Key*, let a Song be begun there as the *principal Key*, and suppose it to change into any or all of the *consonant Keys* within that *Octave*, then 'tis plain that if a Series is fitted to all these *natural* Notes of the *Key c*, the Instrument is so perfected for *c*, that any Piece of true *diatonick Musick* may begin there; but suppose, for the Accommodation of one Instrument to another, we would begin the Piece in *g*, 'tis plain this cannot be done with the same Accuracy as from *c* perfected as we have supposed, unless to these Notes that proceed *concinuously* from *g*, and are now considered as the *natural* Notes of that *Key*, be also fitted other Scales for answering the Modulations of the Song from the *principal Key* (which is now *g*) to the other *consonant Keys*. And if we should but perfect Two Keys

of the whole Instrument in this Manner, what a Multitude of Notes must there be ? But I have done with this.

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§ 4. *A brief Recapitulation of the preceeding Sections.*

THE *Amount* of all that has been said upon this Subject of the *System of Musick*, with respect to Instruments having fixt Sounds, is in short this. *1mo.* Because the Degrees of the true *natural diatonick Scale* are unequal; so that from every Note to its *Octave* contains a different Order of *Degrees*; therefore from any Note we cannot find any *Interval*, in a Series of fixt Sounds constituted in these *Ratios*; which yet is necessary, that all the Notes of a Piece of *Musick* which is carried thro' several Keys, may be found in their just *Tune*; or that the same Song may be begun indifferently at any Note, as will be necessary or at least very convenient for accommodating some Instruments to others, or these to the human Voice, when it is required that they accompany each other in *Unison*. *2do.* 'Tis impossible that such a *Scale* can be found; yet Instruments are brought to a tolerable Perfection, by dividing every *Tone* into *Two Semitones*, making of the whole *Octave* *12 Semitones*, which in a single Case are sensibly equal

qual, 3<sup>to</sup>. These *Semitones* may be made in exact Proportions, according to the Methods above explained; or the Instrument tun'd by the Ear, as is also explained, which reduces all to the particular Kinds of Degrees and Order also shown above.

4<sup>to</sup>. The *diatonick* Series, beginning at the lowest Note, being first settled upon any Instrument, and distinguished by their Names *a . b . c . d . e . f . g .* the other Notes are called *fictitious* Notes, taking the Name or Letter of the Note below with a \* as *c\**, signifying that 'tis a *Semitone* higher than the Sound of *c* in the *natural* Series, or this Mark  $\flat$  with the Name of the Note above signifying a *Semitone* lower, as *d $\flat$* ; which are necessary Notes in a *Scale* of six Sounds, for the Purposes mentioned in the last Article; what Reasons make them to be named sometimes the one, sometimes the other Way shall be shewn afterwards; and observe, that since there is no Note betwixt *e* and *f*, which is the *natural Semitone*, therefore *f* cannot be marked  $\flat$ , for with that Mark it would be *e*; nor can *e* be marked \*, which would raise it to *f*; but *e* is capable of a  $\flat$ , as *f* is of a \*. So *b . c* being the other *natural Semitone*, *b* is incapable of a \*, which would make it coincide with *c*, but it properly takes a  $\flat$ , and when this Mark is set alone it expresses *flat b*; again *c* receives not a  $\flat$ , for *e $\flat$*  is equal to *b natural*, but it takes a \*. All the rest of the Notes *d . g . a* are made either  $\flat$  or \* because they have a *Tone* on either Hand above and below. Hence it is, that *b* and *e* are said to be

*naturally*

*naturally sharp*, as *c* and *f* naturally *flat*; and yet in some Cases I have seen *c* and *f* marked *b*, and *b* and *e* marked *♯*, which makes these Letters so marked coincide with the natural Notes next below and above. 3<sup>th</sup>. Because the *Semitones* are very near equal, therefore in *Practice* (upon such Instruments at least) they are all accounted equal, so that no Distinction is made of *Tones* into greater and lesser; and for the other *Intervals* they are also considered here without any Differences, every Number of *Semitones* having a distinct Name, according to the Rule already laid down; and therefore when a true 3<sup>d</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>, &c. is required from any Note, we must take so many *Semitones* as make an *Interval* of that Denomination in general, which will in some Cases be true, and in others a false *Interval*, and cannot be otherwise in such Instruments. 4<sup>th</sup>. The Differences among the *Semitones*, in the best tuned Instruments, is the Reason that a Song will go better from one Note or *Key* of the Instrument than another; because the Errors occur more frequently in some Combinations and Successions of Notes than in others; and happen also in the more principal Parts of one *Key* than another.

AND because the Design of these new Notes is not to alter the Species of the true *diatonick* Melody, but to correct the Defects arising not from the Nature of the System of *Musick* it self, but the Accident of limiting it to fixt Sounds; therefore beginning at any Note, if we take an *8ve* *concinuously* divided by *Tones* and *Semitones*

tones in the *diatonick* Order (which will be found more exact from some Notes than others because of the small Errors that still remain) that may be justly called a *natural Series*, and all these Notes *natural Notes* with respect to the First or *Fundamental* from which they proceed; and yet in the common Way of speaking about these Things, no *8ve* is called a *natural Key* that takes in any of these Notes marked \* or ♭, in order to make it a concinnous Series. And, as I have observed in another Place, there is no *Key* called *natural* in the whole Scale but *C* and *A*. I have also explained that there are properly but Two Kinds of *Keys* or *Modes*, the *greater* with the 3d *g*, &c. as in the *8ve C*, and the *lesser* with the 3d *l*, &c. as in *A*; but whenever in any System of fixt Sounds we can find a Series that is a true *Key* (or so near that we take it for one) there is no other Reason of calling that an *artificial Key*, than the arbitrary Will of those who explain these Things to us, unless they make the Word *artificial* include the Imperfections of these *Keys*, which I believe they don't mean, because they suppose the Errors are inconsiderable; for with respect to the Tune or Voice, 'tis equally a *natural Key*, begin at what Pitch you will; and we can suppose one Instrument so tuned as to play along *Unison* with the Voice, and be in a *natural Key*, and in another so tuned as that, to go *unison* with the same Voice, it must take an *artificial Key*: But I shall have Occasion to consider this again in the next *Chapter*, where

I shall also shew you what Letters or Notes must be taken in to make a true *diatonick Scale* of either Species proceeding from any one of the Twelve different Letters in this new *Scale*.

THE *diatonick* Series upon all Instruments, being kept distinct by the Seven distinct Letters, is always first learned; and because in every *8ve* of the *diatonick Scale*, there are Two *Semitones* distant one from another by 2 Tones or 3, therefore if the first *8ve* of the *diatonick* Series upon any Instrument is learned, by the Place of the Two *Semitones*, we shall easily know how we ought to name the first and lowest Note; for if the 3<sup>d</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Degrees are *Semitones*, then the first Note is *c*, if the 2<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> then it is *d*, and so of the rest, which are easily found by Inspection into a *Scale* carried to Two *8ves*. And different Instruments begin at [*i. e.* their lowest Note is named by] different Letters; in some Cases because the *natural Series*, which is always most considerable, is more easily found if we begin with one particular Order of the Degrees; and in other Cases the Reason may be the making one Instrument *concord* to another. So *Flutes* begin in *f*, *Hautboys*, *Violins*, and some *Harpsichords* begin in *g*, tho' the last may be made to begin in any Letter. As to the *Violin*, let me here observe, that it is a Kind of mixt Instrument, having its Sounds partly fixed and partly unfixed: It has only Four fixt Sounds, which are the Sounds of the Four Strings untouched by the Finger, and are called *g-d-a-e*. and can with very small  
 Trouble

Trouble be altered to a higher or lower Pitch, which is one Conveniency; all the rest of the Notes being made by shortning the String with one's Finger, are thereby unfixed Sounds, and a good Ear learns to take them in perfect Tune with respect to the preceeding Note; so that from any Note up or down may be found any *Interval* proposed; and therefore we may begin a Song at any Note, with this Provision that it be most easy and convenient for the Hand; yet a Habit of Practice in every *Key* may make this Condition unnecessary. There is only this one Variation to be observed, that by making the Four open Strings true *5ths*, all continuous, *d-a* is here a true *5th*, which in the *diatonick* Series wants a *Comma*; from this follow other Variations from the Order of the *diatonick* Scale; as here, from *g* (the first Note of the *4th* String) to *a* is made a greater *Tone*, that it may be a true *8ve* below *a* the first Note of the *2d* String, which is occasioned by making *d-a* a true *5th*, whereas in the *Scale* *g-a* is a lesser *Tone*: And so from *a* to *b* will be made a lesser *Tone*, tho' 'tis *t g.* in the *Scale*, that *g-b* may be made a true *3d g.* which are Advantages when we begin in *g*. The same happens in the *3d* String, whose first Note is *d*, from which to the next Note *e* will be made a *t g.* that it may be an *8ve* to the first Note of the first String, yet *d:e* in the *Scale* is a *tl.* Again, if having made *d-f* on the *3d* String a true *3d l.* we would rise to a true *5th* above *d*, 'tis plain *f:g* must be a *tl.* to make *g.* a true *4th* to *d*, and then *g:a* will

be a *t g*, because *d-a* is a *5th* in this Tuning; which is plainly inverting the Order of the *Scale*, for there *f: g* is *t g*. and *g: a* a *tl*. but still this is an Advantage, that we can express any Order of Degrees from any Note; so that sometimes we can make that a *t g*. which at other times the *Melody* requires to be a *tl*. Yet let me observe in the *last* Place, that if all these intermedia e Notes betwixt the open Sounds of the Four Strings, be constantly made in the same Tune, they become thereby fixt Sounds; and this Instrument will then have as great Imperfections as any other; and indeed considering that the stopping of the String to take these Notes in Tune is a very mechanical Thing, at least the doing of it right in a quick Succession of Notes must proceed altogether from Habit, 'tis probable we take them always in the same Tune; nor do I believe that any Practiser on this Instrument dare be very positive on the contrary; yet I don't say 'tis impossible to do otherwise, for I know a Habit of playing the same Piece in several *Keys* might make one sensible of the contrary, if observed with great Attention; and upon the larger Instruments of this Kind, that have Frets upon the Neck for directing to the right Note, it would be very sensible; and even upon the *Violin*, we find that some Songs go better from one Key than another; which proves that those at least to whom this happens, take these Notes always in the same Tune.

HAVING done what I propos'd for explaining the *Theory of Sounds* with respect to *Tune*, the Order seems to require, that I should next consider that of *Time*; but tho' this be very considerable in Practice, yet there is much less to be said about it in *Theory*; and therefore I chuse to explain next the *Art of writing Musick*, where I shall have Occasion to say what is needful with respect to the TIME.



## C H A P. XI.

*The Method and Art of Writing Musick, particularly how the Differences of Tune are represented.*

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§ 1. *A general Account of the Method.*

WHAT this Title imports has been explained in *Chap. 1. § 2.* And to come to the Thing it self, let us consider.

IT was not enough to have discovered so much of the Nature of Sound, as to make it serviceable to our Pleasure, by the various Combinations

binations of the Degrees of *Tune*, and Measures of *Time*; it was necessary also, for enlarging the Application, to find a Method how to represent these fleeting and transient Objects, by sensible and permanent Signs; whereby they are as it were arrested; and what would otherwise be lost even to the *Composer*, he preserves for his own Use, and can communicate it to others at any Distance; I mean he can direct them how to raise the like Ideas to themselves, supposing they know how to take Sounds in any Relation of *Tune* and *Time* directed; for the Business of this Art properly is, to represent the various Degrees and Measures of *Tune* and *Time* in such a Manner, that the Connection and Succession of the Notes may be easily and readily discovered, and the skilful Practiser may at Sight find his Notes, or, as they speak, read any Song.

As the Two principal Parts of *Musick* are the *Tune* and *Time* of Sounds, so the Art of writing it is very naturally reduced to Two Parts corresponding to these. The first, or the Method of representing the Degrees of *Tune*, I shall explain in this Chapter; which will lead me to say something in general of the other, a more full and particular Account whereof you shall have in the next Chapter.

We have already seen how the Degrees of *Tune* or the *Scale* of *Musick* may be express'd by 7 Letters repeated as oft as we please in a different Character; but these, without some other Signs, do not express the Measures of *Time*, unless we suppose all the

the Notes of a Song to be of equal Length. Now, supposing the Thing to be made not much more difficult by these additional Signs of *Time*, yet the Whole is more happily accomplished in the following Manner.

IF we draw any Number of parallel Lines, as in *Plate 1. Fig. 7.* Then, from every Line to the next Space, and from every Space to the next Line up and down, represents a Degree of the *diatonick Scale*; and consequently from every Line or Space to every other at greater Distance represents some other Degree of the Scale, according as the immediate Degrees from Line to Space, and from Space to Line are determined. Now to determine these we make Use of the Scale express'd by 7 Letters, as already explained, *viz. c : d ; e . f : g ; a : b . c*— where the Tone greater is represented by a Colon (: ) the Tone lesser by a Semicolon (; ) and the Semitone greater by a Point (.). If the Lines and Spaces are marked and named by these Letters, as you see in the Figure, then according to the Relations assigned to these Letters (*i. e.* to the Sounds express'd by them) the Degrees and Intervals of Sound express'd by the Distances of Lines and Spaces are determined.

As to the Extent of the *Scale of Musick*, it is infinite if we consider what is simply possible, but for Practice, it is limited; and in the present Practice 4 *Octaves*, or at most 4 *Octaves* with a 6th, comprehending 34 *diatonick* Notes, is the greatest Extent. There is scarcely any

one Voice to be found that reaches near so far, tho' several different Voices may; nor any one single Piece of *Melody*, that comprehends so great an Interval betwixt its highest and lowest Note: Yet we must consider not only what *Melody* requires, but what the Extent of several Voices and Instruments is capable of, and what the *Harmony* of severals of them requires; and in this respect the whole Scale is necessary, which you have represented in the Figure directed to; I shall therefore call it the *universal System*, because it comprehends the whole Extent of modern Practice.

BUT the Question still remains, How any particular Order and Succession of Sounds is represented? And this is done by setting certain Signs and Characters one after another, up and down on the Lines and Spaces, according to the Intervals and Relations of *Tune* to be expressed; *that is*, any one Letter of the Scale, or the Line or Space to which it belongs, being chosen to set the first Note on, all the rest are set up and down according to the Mind of the Composer, upon such Lines and Spaces as are at the designed Distances, *i. e.* which express the designed Interval according to the Number and Kind of the intermediate Degrees; and *mind* that the first Note is taken at any convenient Pitch of *Tune*; for the Scale, or the Lines and Spaces, serve only to determine the *Tune* of the rest with relation to the first, leaving us to take that as we please: For *Example*, if the first Note is placed on the Line *c*, and the

the next designed a *Tone* or *2d g.* above, it, if set on the next Space above, which is *d*; or if it is designed a *3d g.* it is set on the Line above which is *e*; or on the second Line above, if it was designed *5th*, as you see represented in the *2d* Column of the Scale in the preceeding Figure, where I have used this Character *O* for a Note. And here let me observe in general, that these Characters serve not only to direct how to take the Notes in their true *Tune*, by the Distance of the Lines and Spaces on which they are set; but by a fit Number and Variety of them, (to be explained in the next Chapter) they express the *Time* and Measure of Duration of the Notes; whereby 'tis plain that these Two Things are no way confounded; the relative Measures of *Tune* being properly determined by the Distances of Lines and Spaces, and the *Time* by the Figure of the Note or Character.

'Tis easy to observe what an Advantage there is in this Method of Lines and Spaces, even for such *Musick* as has all its Notes of equal Length, and therefore needs no other Thing but the Letters of the Scale to express it; the Memory and Imagination are here greatly assisted, for the Notes standing upward and downward from each other on the Lines and Spaces, express the rising and falling of the Voice more readily than different Characters of Letters; and the Intervals are also more readily perceived.

OBSERVE in the next Place, That with respect to Instruments of Musick, I suppose their Notes are all named by the Letters of the Scale, having the same Distances as already stated in the Relations of Sounds express'd by these Letters; so that knowing how to raise a Series of Sounds from the lowest Note of any Instrument by *diatonick* Degrees (which is always first learned) and naming them by the Letters of the Scale, 'tis easily conceived how we are directed to play on any Instrument, by Notes set upon Lines and Spaces that are named by the same Letters. It is the Business of the Masters and Professors of several Instruments to teach the Application more expressly. And as to the *human Voice*, observe, the Notes thereof, being confined to no Order, are called *c* or *d*, &c. only with respect to the Direction it receives from this Method; and that Direction is also very plain; for having taken the first Note at any convenient Pitch, we are taught by the Places of the rest upon the Lines and Spaces how to tune them in relation to the first, and to one another.

Again, as the *artificial* Notes which divide the *Tones* of the *natural* Series, are express'd by the same Letters, with these Marks,  $\ast$ ,  $\flat$ , already explained, so they are also plac'd on the same Lines and Spaces, on which the *natural* Note named by that Letter stands; thus *c* $\ast$  and *c* belong to the same Line or Space, as also *d* $\flat$  and *d*. And when the Note on any Line or Space ought to be the *artificial* one, it is marked

ked  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$ ; and where there is no such Mark it is always the *natural* Note. Thus, if from *a* (*natural*) we would set a 3<sup>d</sup>g. upward, it is *c* $\sharp$ ; or a 3<sup>d</sup>l. above *g*, it is *b* flat or  $\flat$ , as you see in the 2<sup>d</sup> Column of the preceeding Figure. These artificial Notes are all determined on Instruments to certain Places or Positions, with respect to the Parts of the Instrument and the Hand; and for the Voice they are taken according to the Distance from the last Note, reckoned by the Number of *Tones* and *Semitones* that every greater *Interval* contains.

THE last general *Observe* I make here is, that as there are Twelve different Notes in the *semitonick Scale*, the Writing might be so ordered, that from every Line a Space to the next Space or Line should express a *Semitone*; but it is much better contrived, that these should express the *Degrees* of the *diatonick Scale* (i. e. some *Tones* some *Semitones*) for hereby we can much easier discover what is the true *Interval* betwixt any Two Notes, because there are fewer Lines and Spaces interposed, and the Number of them such as answers to the Denomination of the *Intervals*; so an *Octave* comprehends Four Lines and Four Spaces; a 5<sup>th</sup> comprehends Three Lines and Two Spaces, or Three Spaces and Two Lines; and so of others. I have already shewn, how it is better that there should be but Seven different Letters, to name the Twelve Degrees of the *semitonick Scale*; but supposing there were Twelve Letters, it is plain we should need no more Lines  
to

to comprehend an *Octave*, because we might assign Two Letters to one Line or Space, as well as to make it, for *Example*, both *c* and *c*, whereof the one belonging to the *diatonick Series*, should mark it for ordinary, and upon Occasions the other be brought in the same Way we now do the Signs *♯* and *♭*.

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§ 2. *A more particular Account of the Method; where, of the Nature and Use of Clefs.*

**T**HO' the *Scale* extends to Thirty Four *diatonick* Notes, which require Seventeen Lines with their Spaces, yet because no one single Piece of *Melody* comprehends near to many Notes, whatever several Pieces joyned in one *Harmony* comprehend among them; and because every Piece or single Song is directed or written distinctly by it self; therefore we never draw more than Five Lines, which comprehend the greatest Number of the Notes of any single Piece; and for those Cases which require more, we draw short Lines occasionally, above or below the 5, to serve the Notes that go higher or lower. See an *Example* in *Plate 1. Fig. 8.*

AGAIN, tho' every Line and Space may be marked at the Beginning with its Letter, as has been done in former Times; yet, since the Art has been improved, only one Line is marked, by which all the rest are easily known, if we reckon up or down in the Order of the Letters; the

the Letter marked is called the *Clef* or *Key*, because by it we know the Names of all the other Lines and Spaces, and consequently the true Quantity of every *Degree* and *Interval*. But because every Note in the *Octave* is called a *Key*, tho' in another Sense, this Letter marked is called in a particular Manner the *signed Clef*, because being written on any Line, it not only *signs* or marks that one, but explains all the rest. And to prevent Ambiguity in what follows, by the Word *Clef*, I shall always mean that Letter, which, being marked on any Line, explains all the rest; and by the Word *Key* the principal Note of any Song, in which the Melody closes, in the Sense explained in the last *Chapter*. Of these *signed Clefs* there are Three, *viz. c, f, g*; and that we may know the Improvement in having but one *signed Clef* in one particular Piece, also how and for what Purpose Three different *Clefs* are used in different Pieces, consider the following Definition.

A *Song* is either *simple* or *compound*. It is a *simple Song*, where only one Voice performs; or, tho' there be more, if they are all *Unison* or *Octave*, or any other *Concord* in every Note, 'tis still but the same Piece of *Melody*, performed by different Voices in the same or different Pitches of *Tune*, for the *Intervals* of the Notes are the same in them all. A *compound Song* is where Two or more Voices go together, with a Variety of *Concords* and *Harmony*; so that the *Melody* each of them makes, is a distinct and different *simple Song*, and all together

ther make the *compound*. The *Melody* that each of them produces is therefore called a **PART** of the *Composition*; and all such *Compositions* are very properly called *Symphonick Musick*, or *Musick in Parts*; taking the Word *Musick* here for the *Composition* or *Song* it self.

Now, because in this *Composition* the *Parts* must be some of them higher and some lower, (which are generally so ordered that the same *Part* is always highest or lowest, tho' in modern *Compositions* they do frequently change,) and all written distinctly by themselves, as is very necessary for the Performance; therefore the Staff of Five Lines upon which each *Part* is written, is to be considered as a *Part* of the *universal System* or *Scale*, and is therefore called a *particular System*; and because there are but Five Lines ordinarily, we are to suppose as many above and below, as may be required for any single *Part*; which are actually drawn in the particular Places where they are necessary.

THE highest *Part* is called the **TREBLE**, or **ALT** whose *Clef* is *g*, set on the 2<sup>d</sup> Line of the *particular System*, counting upward: The lowest is called the **BASS**, *i. e.* *Basis*, because it is the Foundation of the *Harmony*, and formerly in their *plain Compositions* the *Bass* was first made, tho' 'tis otherwise now; the *Bass-clef* is *f* on the 4<sup>th</sup> Line upward: All the other *Parts*, whose particular Names you'll learn from Practice, I shall call **MEAN PARTS**, whose *Clef* is *c*, sometimes on one, sometimes on another **Line**; and some that are really *mean*  
*Parts*

*Parts* are set with the *g* *Clef*. See *Plate 1. Fig. 8.* where you'll observe that the *c* and *f* *Clefs* are marked with Signs no way resembling these Letters; I think it were as well if we used the Letters themselves, but Custom has carried it otherwise; yet that it may not seem altogether a Whim, *Kepler* in *Chap. Book 3d* of his *Harmony*, has taken a critical Pains to prove, that these Signs are only Corruptions of the Letters they represent; the curious may consult him.

WE are next to consider the Relations of these *Clefs* to one another, that we may know where each *Part* lies in the *Scale* or *general System*, and the natural Relation of the *Parts* among themselves, which is the true Design and Office of the *Clefs*. Now they are taken 5ths to one another, that is, the *Clef f* is lowest, *c* is a 5th above it, and *g* a 5th above *c*. See them represented in *Plate 1. Fig. 7.* the last Column of the *Scale*; and observe, that tho' in the *particular Systems*, the *Treble* or *g* *Clef* is ordinarily set on the 2d Line, the *Bass* or *f* *Clef* on the 4th Line, and the *mean* or *c* *Clef* on the 3d Line (especially when there are but Three *Parts*.) yet they are to be found on other Lines; as particularly the *mean Clef*, which most frequently changes Place, because there are many *mean Parts*, is sometimes on the 1st, the 2d, the 3d or 4th Line; but on whatever Line in the separate *particular System* any *Clef* is signed, it must be understood to belong to the same Place of the general System, and to be the same

same individual Note or Sound on the Instrument which is directed by that *Clef*, as I have distinguish'd them in the *Scale* upon the Margin of the 3d Column ; so that to know what Part of the *Scale* any particular *System* is, we must take its *Clef* where it stands signed in the *Scale* (*i. e.* the last mentioned *Fig.*) and take as many Lines above and below it, as there are in the particular *System*; or thus, we must apply the particular *System* to the *Scale*, so as the *Clef* Lines coincide, and then we shall see with what Lines of the *Scale* the other Lines of the particular *System* coincide : For *Example*, if we find the *Clef* on the 3d Line upward, in a particular *System* ; to find the coincident Five Lines to which it refers in the *Scale*, we take with the *f* *Clef* Line, Two Lines above and Two below. Again, if we have the *c* *Clef* on the 4th Line, we are to take in the *Scale* with the *Clef* Line, One Line above and Three below, and so of others; so that according to the different Places of the *Clef* in a particular *System*, the Lines in the *Scale* correspondent to that *System* may be all different, except the *Clef* Line which is invariable : And that you may with Ease find in the *Scale* the Five Lines coincident with every particular *System*, upon whatever Line of the Five the *Clef* may be set, I have drawn Nine Lines across, which include each Five Lines of the *Scale*, in such a Manner, that you have the particular *Systems* distinguished for every relative Position of any of the Three signed *Clefs*.

As to the Reason of changing the relative Place of the *Clef*, *i. e.* its Place in the *particular* System, 'tis only to make this comprehend as many Notes of the Song as possible, and by that Means to have fewer Lines above or below it; so if there are many Notes above the *Clef* Note and few below it, this Purpose is answered by placing the *Clef* in the first or second Line; but if the Song goes more below the *Clef*, then it is best placed higher in the System: *In short*, according to the Relation of the other Notes to the *Clef* Note, the *particular System* is taken differently in the *Scale*, the *Clef* Line making one in all the Variety, which consists only in this, *viz.* taking any Five Lines immediately next other, whereof the *Clef* Line must always be one.

By this constant and invariable Relation of the *Clefs*, we learn easily how to compare the particular Systems of several *Parts*, and know how they communicate in the *Scale*, *i. e.* which Lines are *unison*, and which are different, and how far, and consequently what Notes of the several *Parts* are *unison*, and what not: For you are not to suppose that each *Part* has a certain Bounds within which another must never come; no, some Notes of the *Treble*, for *Example*, may be lower than some of the *mean Parts*, or even of the *Bass*; and that not only when we compare such Notes as are not heard together, but even such as are. And if we would put together in one System, all the *Parts* of any *Composition* that are written separately. The Rule  
is

is plainly this, *viz.* Place the Notes of each Part at the same Distances above and below the proper *Clef*, as they stand in the separate System. And because all the Notes that are consonant (or heard together) ought to stand, in this Design, perpendicularly over each other, therefore that the Notes belonging to each *Part* may be distinctly known, they may be made with such Differences as shall not confuse or alter their Significations with respect to Time, and only signify that they belong to such a *Part*; by this Means we shall see how all the *Parts* change and pass thro' one another, *i. e.* which of them, in every Note, is highest or lowest or *unison*; for they do sometimes change, tho' more generally the *Treble* is highest and the *Bass* lowest, the Change happening more ordinarily betwixt the *mean Parts* among themselves, or these with the *Treble* or *Bass*: The *Treble* and *Bass Clefs* are distant an *Octave* and *Tone*, and their *Parts* do seldom interfere, the *Treble* moving more above the *Clef* Note, and the *Bass* below.

WE see plainly then, that the Use of particular sign'd *Clefs* is an Improvement with respect to the *Parts* of any *Composition*; for unless some one Key in the particular Systems were distinguished from the rest, and referred invariably and constantly to one Place in the *Scale*, the Relations of the *Parts* could not be distinctly marked; and that more than one is necessary, is plain from the Distance there must be among the *Parts*: Or if one Letter is chosen for all,

all, there must be some other Sign to shew what *Part* it belongs to, and the Relation of the *Parts*. Experience having approv'd the Number and Relations of the signed *Clefs* which are explained, I shall add no more as to that, but there are other Things to be here observed.

THE choosing these Letters *f . c . g* for signed *Clefs*, is a Thing altogether arbitrary ; for any other Letter within the System, will explain the rest as well ; yet 'tis fit there be a constant Rule, that the several *Parts* may be right distinguished ; and concerning this *observe* again, that for the Performance of any single Piece the *Clef* serves only for explaining the *Intervals* among the Lines and Spaces, so that we need not mind what Part of any greater System it is, and we may take the first Note as high or low as we please : For as the proper Use of the *Scale* is not to limit the absolute Degree of *Tone*, so the proper Use of the signed *Clef* is not to limit the Pitch, at which the first Note of any *Part* is to be taken, but to determine the *Tune* of the rest with relation to the first, and, considering all the *Parts* together, to determine the Relations of their several Notes, by the Relations of their *Clefs* in the *Scale* : And so the Pitch of *Tune* being determined in a certain Note of one *Part*, the other Notes of that *Part* are determined, by the constant Relations of the Letters of the *Scale* ; and also the Notes of the other *Parts*, by the Relations of their *Clefs*. To speak particularly of the Way of tuning the Instruments that are employed in executing the

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several *Parts*, is out of my Way ; I shall only say this, that they are to be so tuned as the *Clef* Notes, wherever they ly on the Instruments which serve each *Part*, be in the forementioned Relations to one another.

As the *Harpfichord* or *Organ* (or any other of the Kind) is the most extensive Instrument, we may be helped by it to form a clearer *Idea* of these Things : For consider, a *Harpfichord* contains in itself all the *Parts* of *Musick*, I mean the whole *Scale* or *System* of the modern Practice ; the foremost Range of Keys contains the *diatonick* Series beginning, in the largest Kind, in *g*, and extending to *c* above the Fourth *8ve*; which therefore we may well suppose represented by the preceeding *Scale*. In Practice, upon that Instrument, the *Clef* Notes are taken in the Places represented in the Scheme ; and other Instruments are so tuned, that, considering the *Parts* they perform, all their Notes of the same Name are *unison* to those of the *Harpfichord* that belong to the same *Part*. I have said, the *Harpfichord* contains all the *Parts* of *Musick* ; and indeed any Two distinct *Parts* may be performed upon it at the same Time and no more; yet upon Two or more *Harpfichords* tuned *unisons*, whereby they are in Effect but one, any Number of *Parts* may be executed : And in this Case we should see the several *Parts* taken in their proper Places of the Instrument, according to the Relations of their *Clefs* explained : And as to the tuning the Instrument, I shall only add, that there is a certain Pitch to which

it is brought, that it may be neither too *high* nor too *low*, for the Accompaniment of other Instruments, and especially for the human Voice, whether in *Unison* or taking a different *Part*; and this is called the *CONSORT PITCH*. To have done, you must consider, that for performing any one single *Part*, we may take the *Clef* Note in any *8ve*, *i. e.* at any Note of the same Name, providing we go not too high or too low for finding the rest of the Notes of the Song: But in a *Consort* of several *Parts*, all the *Clefs* must be taken, not only in the Relations, but also in the Places of the System already mentioned, that every Part may be comprehended in it: Yet still you are to mind, That the *Tune* of the Whole, or the absolute Pitch, is in it self an arbitrary Thing, quite foreign to the Use of the *Scale*; tho' there is a certain Pitch generally agreed upon, that differs not very much in the Practice of any one Nation or Set of Musicians from another. And therefore,

WHEN I speak of the Place of the *Clefs* in the *Scale* or *general System*, you must understand it with respect to a *Scale* of a certain determined Extent; for this being undetermined, so must the Places of the *Clefs* be: And for any *Scale* of a certain Extent, the *Rule* is, that the *mean Clef c* be taken as near the Middle of the *Scale* as possible, and then the *Clef g* a *5th* above, and *f* a *5th* below, as it is in the present *general System* of Four *8ves* and a *6th*, represented in the preceeding Scheme, and actually determined upon *Harpsichords*.

IN the *last Place* consider, that since the Lines and Spaces of the *Scale*, with the Degrees stated among them by the Letters, sufficiently determine how far any Note is distant from another, therefore there is no Need of different Characters of Letters, as would be if the Scale were only express'd by these Letters: And when we speak of any Note of the *Scale*, naming it by *a* or *b*, &c. we may explain what Part of the *Scale* it is in, either by numbring the *8ves* from the lowest Note, and calling the Note spoken of (for *Example*) *c* in the lowest *8ve* or in the *2d 8ve*, and so on: Or, we may determine its Place by a Reference to the Seat of any of the Three *signed Clefs*; and so we may say of any Note, as *f* or *g*, that it is such a *Clef Note*, or the first or second, &c. *f* or *g* above such a *Clef*. Take this Application, suppose you ask me what is the highest Note of my Voice, if I say *d*, you are not the wiser by this Answer, till I determine it by saying it is *d* in the fourth *Octave*, or the first *d* above the *Treble Clef*. But again, neither this Question nor the Answer is sufficiently determined, unless it have a Reference to some supposed Pitch of *Tune* in a certain fixt Instrument, as the ordinary *Consort Pitch* of a *Harpsichord*, because, as I have frequently said, the *Scale* of *Musick* is concerned only with the Relation of Notes and the Order of Degrees, which are still the same in all Differences of *Tune*, in the whole Series.

## § 3. Of the Reason, Use, and Variety of the Signatures of CLEFS.

I Have already said, that the *natural* and *artificial* Note expressed by the same Letter, as *c* and *c*\*, are both set on the same Line or Space. When there is no \* or ♭ marked on any Line or Space, at the Beginning with the *Clef*, then all the Notes are natural; and if in any particular Place of the Song, the artificial Note is required, 'tis signified by the Sign \* or ♭, set upon the Line a Space before that Note; but if a \* or ♭ is set at the Beginning in any Line or Space with the *Clef*, then all the Notes on that Line or Space are the artificial ones, *that is*, are to be taken a *Semitone* higher or lower than they would be without such a Sign; the same affects all their *8ves* above or below, tho' they are not marked so. And in the Course of the Song, if the natural Note is sometimes required, it is signified by this Mark ♮. And the marking the *System* at the Beginning with Sharps or Flats, I call the *Signature* of the *Clef*.

IN what's said, you have the plain *Rule* for Application; but that we may better conceive the Reason and Use of these Signatures, it will be necessary to recollect, and also make a little clearer, what has been explained of the Nature of *Keys* or *Modes*, and of the Original and Use of the *sharp* and *flat* Notes in the *Scale*. I have

in *Chap. 9.* explained what a *Key* and *Mode* in *Musick* is ; I have distinguished betwixt these Two, and shewn that there are and can be but Two different *Modes*, the *greater* and the *lesser*, according to the Two *concinuous* Divisions of the *8ve*, *viz.* by the *3d g.* or the *3d l.* and their proper Accompaniments ; and whatever Difference you may make in the absolute Pitch of the whole Notes, or of the first Note which limites all the rest, the same individual Song must still be in the same *Mode* ; and by the *Key* I understand only that Pitch or Degree of *Tune* at which the *fundamental* or close Note of the *Melody*, and consequently the whole *8ve* is taken ; and because the *Fundamental* is the principal Note of the *8ve* which regulates the rest, it is peculiarly called the *Key*. Now as to the Variety of *Keys*, if we take the Thing in so large a Sense as to signify the absolute Pitch of *Tune* at which any fundamental Note may be taken, the Number is at least indefinite ; but in Practice it is limited, and particularly with respect to the Denominations of *Keys*, which are only Twelve, *viz.* the Twelve different Names or Letters of the *semitonick Scale* ; so we say the *Key* of a Song is *c* or *d*, &c. which signifies that the *Cadence* or *Close* of the *Melody* is upon the Note of that Name when we speak of any Instrument ; and with respect to the human Voice, that the close Note is *Unison* to such a Note on an Instrument ; and generally, with respect both to Instruments and Voice, the Denomination of the *Key* is taken from the Place of the close

close Note upon the written *Musick*, i. e. the Name of the Line or Space where it stands : Hence we see, that tho' the Difference of *Keys* refers to the Degree of *Tune*, at which the *Fundamental*, and consequently the whole *8ve* is taken, in Distinction from the *Mode* or Constitution of an *Octave*, yet these Denominations determine the Differences only relatively, with respect to one certain Series of fixt Sounds, as a Scale of Notes upon a particular Instrument, in which all the Notes of different Names are different *Keys*, according to the general Definition, because of their different Degrees of *Tune*; but as the tuning of the whole may be in a different Pitch, and the Notes taken in the same Part of the Instrument, are, without respect to the tuning of the Whole, still called by the same Names *c* or *d*, &c. because they serve only to mark the Relation of *Tune* betwixt the Notes, therefore 'tis plain, that in Practice a Song will be said to be in the same *Key* as to the Denomination, tho' the absolute *Tune* be different, and to be in different *Keys* when the absolute *Tune* is the same; as if the Note *a* is made the *Key* in one Tuning, and in another the Note *d* *unison* to *a* of the former. Now, this is a Kind of Limitation of the general Definition, yet it serves the Design best for Practice, and indeed cannot be otherwise without infinite Confusion. I shall a little below make some more particular Remarks upon the Denominations of Sounds or Notes raised from Instruments or the human Voice: But from what has been explained, you'll

easily understand what Difference I put betwixt a *Mode* and a *Key*; of *Modes* there are only Two, and they respect what I would call the *Internal Constitution* of the *ſve*, but *Keys* are indefinite in the more general and abstract Sense, and with regard to their Denominations in Practice they are reduced to Twelve, and have respect to a Circumstance that's *external* and *accidental* to the *Mode*; and therefore a *Key* may be changed under the same *Mode*, as when the same Song, which is always in the same *Mode*, is taken up at different Notes or Degrees of *Tune*, and from the same *Fundamental* or *Key* a Series may proceed in a different *Mode*, as when different Songs begin in the same Note. But then because common Use applies the Word *Key* in both Senses, *i. e.* both to what I call a *Key* and a *Mode*, to prevent Ambiguity the Word *sharp* or *flat* ought to be added when we would express the *Mode*; so that a *sharp Key* is the same as a greater *Mode*, and a *flat Key* a lesser *Mode*; and when we would express both *Mode* and *Key*, we joyn the Name of the *Key* Note, thus, we may say such a Song is for *Example* in the *sharp* or *flat Key c*, to signify that the fundamental Note in which the Close is made is the Note called *c* on the Instrument, or *unison* to it in the Voice; or generally, that it is set on the Line or Space of that Name in Writing; and that the *3d g.* or *3d l.* is used in the *Melody*, while the Song keeps within that *Key*; for I have also observed, that the same Song may be carried thro' different *Keys*, or

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make successive *Cadences* in different Notes, which is commonly ordered by bringing in some Note that is none of the natural Notes of the former *Key*, of which more immediately: But when we hear of any *Key* denominated *c* or *d* without the Word *sharp* or *flat*, then we can understand nothing but what I have called the *Key* in Distinction from the *Mode*, *i. e.* that the *Cadence* is made in such a Note.

*AGAIN*, I have in *Chap. 10.* explained the Use of the Notes we call *sharp* and *flat*, or *artificial* Notes, and the Distinction of *Keys* in that respect into *natural* and *artificial*; I have shewn that they are necessary for correcting the Defects of Instruments having fixt Sounds, that beginning at any Note we may have a true concinnous *diatonick* Series from that Note, which in a *Scale* of fixt Degrees in the *8ve* we cannot have, all the Orders of Degrees proceeding from each of the Seven *natural* Notes being different, of which only Two are concinnous, *viz.* from *c* which makes a *sharp Key*, and from *a* which makes a *flat Key*; and to apply this more particularly, you must understand the Use of these *sharp* or *flat* Notes to be this, that a Song, which, being set in a *natural Key* or without *Sharps* and *Flats*, is either too high or too low, may be transposed or set in another more convenient *Key*; which necessarily brings in some of the artificial Notes, in order to make a *diatonick* Series from this new *Key*, like that from the other; and when the Song changes the *Key* before it come to the

final

final Close, tho' the principal *Key* be natural, yet some of these into which it changes may require artificial Notes, which are the essential and natural Notes of this new *Key*; for tho' this be called an artificial *Key*, 'tis only so with respect to the Names of the Notes in the fixt *System*, which are still natural with respect to their proper *Fundamental*, viz. the *Key* into which the Piece is transposed, or into which it changes where the principal *Key* is natural.

AND even with respect to the human Voice, which is under no Limitation, I have shewn the Necessity of these Names, for the sake of a regular, distinct and easy Representation of Sounds, for directing the Voice in Performance. I shall next more particularly explain by some Examples, the Business of keeping in and going out of *Keys*. *Example*. Suppose a Song begins in *c*, or at least makes the first Close in it; if all the Notes preceeding that Close are in true musical Relation to *c* as a *Fundamental* in one Species, suppose as a *sharp Key*, i. e. with a 3d *g*. the Melody has been still in that *Key* (See *Example 5. Plate 3.*) But if proceeding, the Composer brings in the Note *f*♯ he leads the *Melody* out of the former *Key*, because *f*♯ is none of the natural Notes of the 8ve *c*, being a false 4th to *c*. Again, he may lead it out of the *Key* without any false Note, by bringing in one that belongs not to the Species in which the Melody was begun: Suppose after beginning in the *sharp Key c*, he introduces the Note *g*♯, which is a 6th *b*. to *c*, and therefore harmonious, yet it belongs

ongs to it as a *flat Key*, and consequently is out of the *Key* as a *sharp* one: And because the same Song cannot with any good Effect be made to close twice in the same Note in a different Species, therefore after introducing the Note  $g^{\sharp}$ , the next Close must be in some other Note as  $a$ , and then the *Key* in both Senses will be changed, because  $a$  has naturally a  $3^{dl}$ ; and therefore when any Note is said to be out of a *Key*, 'tis understood to be out of it either as making a false *Interval*, or as belonging to it in another Species than a supposed one, *i. e.* if it belong to it as a *sharp Key*, 'tis out of it as a *flat* one; so in *Example 3. Plate 3.* the first Close is in  $a$  as a *sharp Key*, all the preceeding Notes being natural to it as such; then proceeding in the same *Key*, you see  $g$  (*natural*) introduced, which belongs not to  $a$  as a *sharp Key*, and also  $a^{\sharp}$ , which is quite out of the former *Key*: By these Notes a Close is brought on in  $b$ , and the *Melody* is said to be out of the first *Key*, and is so in both Senses of the Word *Key*, for  $b$  here has a  $3^{dl}$ ; then the *Melody* is carried on to a Close in  $d$ , which is a *Third Key*, and with respect to that Piece is indeed the *principal Key*, in which also the Piece begins; but I shall consider this again; it was enough to my Purpose here, that all the Notes from the Beginning to the first Close in  $a$  were natural to the *Octave* from  $a$  with a  $3^{d} g$ ; and tho' the  $3^{d} g$ . above the Close is not used in the *Example*, yet the *6th l.* below it is used, which is the same Thing in determining the Species.

I have explained already, that with the *3dl.* the *6th l.* and *7th l.*, or *6th g.* and *7th g.* are used in different Circumstances; and therefore you are to mind that the *6th g.* or *7th g.* being introduced upon a *flat Key*, does not make any Change of it; so that tho' the *6th l.* and *7th l.* is a certain Sign of a *flat Key*, yet the *6th g.* and *7th g.* belong to either Species; therefore the Species is only certainly determined by the *3d* in both Cases; and so in the preceeding *Example*, where I suppose *g♯* is introduced upon the *sharp Key c*, the next Close cannot be in *c*, because *g♯* being a *6th l.* to *c*, requires a *3d l.* which would altogether destroy that Unity of *Melody* which ought to be kept up in every Song; therefore when I say the same Song cannot close twice in one Note in different Species, the Determination of that Difference depends on the *3d*, which being the *greater*, must always have the *6th g.* and *7th g.* but the *3dl.* takes sometimes the *6th l.* and *7th l.* sometime the *6th g.* and *7th g.* See *Ex. 6. Plate 3.* where the whole keeps within the *flat Key a*, and closes twice in it; the first Close is brought on with the *6th l.* and *7th l.* the next Close in the *Octave* above is made with the *6th g.* and *8th g.* but a Close in *a*, using the *3dg.* would quite ruine the Unity of the *Melody*; yet the same Song may be carried into different *Keys*, of which some are *sharp*, some *flat*, without any Prejudice; but of all these there must be one *principal Key*, in which the Song sets out, and makes most frequent *Cadences*, and at least the *final Cadence*.

THE last Thing I shall observe upon this Subject of *Keys* is, that sometimes the *Key* is changed, without bringing the *Melody* to a *Cadence* in the *Key* to which it is transferred, *that is*, a Note is introduced, which belongs properly to another *Key* than that in which the *Melody* existed before, yet no *Cadence* made in that *Key*; as if after a *Cadence* in the *sharp Key c*, the Note *g*♯ is brought in, which should naturally lead to a *Close* in *a*; yet the *Melody* may be turned off without any formal and perfect *Close* in *a*, and brought to its next *Close* in another *Key*.

I return now to explain the Reason and Use of the *Signatures* of *Clefs*. And first, Let us suppose any Piece of *Melody* confined strictly to one *Mode* or *Key*, and let that be the natural *sharp Key c*, from which as the Relation of the Letters are determined in the *Scale*, there is a true *musical* Series and Gradation of Notes, and therefore it requires no ♯ or ♭, consequently the *Signature* of the *Clef* must be plain: But let the Piece be transposed to the *Key d*, it must necessarily take *f*♯ instead of *f*, and *c*♯ for *c*, because *f*♯ is the true 3*d* *g*. and *c*♯ the true 7*th* *g*. to *d*. See an *Example* in *Plate 3. Fig. 5*. Now if the *Clef* be not signed with a ♯ on the Seat of *f* and *c*, we must supply it wherever these Notes occur thro' the Piece, but 'tis plainly better that they be marked once for all at the Beginning.

AGAIN, suppose a Piece of *Melody*, in which there is a Change of the *Key* or *Mode*; if the same

same *Signature* answer all these *Keys*, there is no more Question about it ; but if that cannot be, then the *Signature* ought to be adjusted to the *principal Key*, rather than to any other, as in *Example 3. Plate 3.* in which the *principal Key* is *d* with a *3dg.* and because this demands *f* and *c* for its *3d* and *7th*, therefore the *Signature* expresseth them. The Piece actually begins in the *principal Key*, tho' the first Close is made in the *5th* above, *viz.* in *a*, by bringing in *g* ; which is very naturally managed, because all the Notes from the Beginning to that Close belong to both the *sharp Keys d* and *a*, except that *g* which is the only Note in which they can differ; then you see the *Melody* proceeds for some time in Notes that are common to both these *Keys*, tho' indeed the Impression of the last *Cadence* will be strongest ; and then by bringing *g* (natural) and *a*, it leaves both the former *Keys* to close in *b*; and here again there is as great a Coincidence with the *principal Key* as possible, for the *flat Key b* has every one of its essential Notes common with some one of these of the *sharp Key d*, except *a* and *g* the *6thg.* and *7thg.* which that *flat Key* may occasionally make use of; but as it is managed here, the *6thl.* is used, so that it differs from the *principal Key* only in one Note *a* ; then the *Melody* is after this Close immediately transferred to the *principal Key*, making there the *final Cadence*. In what Notes every *Key* differs from or coincides with any other, you may learn from the *Scale of Semitones* ;

but

but you shall see this more easily in a following Table.

To proceed with our *Signatures*, you have, in what's said, the true Use and Reason of the *Signatures* of *Clefs*; in respect of which they are distinguished into *natural*, and *artificial* or *transposed* *Clefs*; the first is when no  $\ast$  or  $\flat$  is set at the Beginning; and when there are, it is said to be *transposed*. We shall next consider the *Variety* of *Signatures* of *Clefs*, which in all are but 12. and the most reasonable Way of making the artificial Notes, either in the general Signature, or where they occur upon the Change of the *Key*.

IN the *semitonick* *Scale* there are 12 different Notes in an *Octave* ( for the 13<sup>th</sup> is the same with the 1<sup>st</sup> ) each of which may be made the *Fundamental* or *Key* of a Song, *i. e.* from each of them we can take a Series of Notes, that shall proceed *concinuously* by Seven *diatonick* *Degrees* of *Tones* and *Semitones* to an *Octave*, in the Species either of a *sharp* or *flat* *Key*, or of a *greater* or *lesser* *Mode* ( the small Errors of this *Scale* as it is fixt upon Instruments, being in all this Matter neglected. ) Now, making each of these 12 Letters or Notes a *Fundamental* or *Key-note*, there must be in the Compass of an *Octave* from each, more or fewer, or different *Sharps* and *Flats* necessarily taken in to make a *concinuous* Series of the same Species, *i. e.* proceeding by the greater or lesser *3d* ( for these specify the *Mode*, and determine the other Differences, as has been explained ); and since from every one of the 12 *Keys* we may proceed *con-*  
*cinnous-*

*cinuously*, either with a greater or lesser 3<sup>d</sup>, and their Accompanyments, it appears at first Sight, that there must be 24 different *Signatures of Clefs*, but you'll easily understand that there are but 12. For the same *Signature* serves Two different *Keys*, whereof the one is a *sharp* and the other a *flat Key*, as you see plainly in the Nature of the *diatonick Scale*, in which the *Oclave* from *c* proceeds *concinuously* by a 3<sup>d</sup>g. and that from *a* ( which is a 6<sup>th</sup>g. above, or a 3<sup>d</sup>l. below *c* ) by a 3<sup>d</sup>l. with the 6<sup>th</sup>l. and 7<sup>th</sup>l. for its Accompanyments, which I suppose here essential to all *flat Keys* ; consequently, if we begin at any other Letter, and by the Use of ✕ or ♭ make a *concinuous diatonick Series* of either Kind, we shall have in the same Series, continued from the 6<sup>th</sup> above or 3<sup>d</sup> below, an *Oclave* of the other Species; therefore there can be but 12 different *Signatures of Clefs*, whereof 1 is *plain* or *natural*, and 11 *transposed* or *artificial*.

WHAT the proper Notes of these *transposed Clefs* are, you may find thus ; let the *Scale of Semitones* be continued to Two *Oclaves*, then begin at every Letter, and, reckoning Two *Semitones* to every *Tone*, take Two *Tones* and one *Semitone*, then Three *Tones* and one *Semitone*, which is the Order of a *sharp Key* or of the natural *Oclave* from *c*, the Letters which terminate these *Tones* and *Semitones*, are the essential or natural Notes of the *Key* or *Oclave*, whose *Fundamental* is the Letter or Note you begin at: By this you'll find the Notes be onging to every *sharp Key*; and these being continued,

nued, you'll have also the Notes belonging to every *flat Key*, by taking the 6<sup>th</sup> above the *sharp Key* for the *Fundamental* of the *flat*: But to save you the Trouble, I have collected them in one *Table*. See *Plate 2. Fig. 1.* The *Table* has Two Parts, and the upper Part contains 16 Columns: From the 3 to the 14 inclusive, you have express'd in each an *Octave*, proceeding from some the 12 Notes of different Names within the *semitonick Scale*, the *Fundamental* whereof you take in the lower End of the Column, and reading it upward, you have all the Letters or Names belonging to that *Octave* in a diatonick Scale, in the Species of a *sharp Key*: In the 1<sup>st</sup> Column on the left Hand you have the Degrees marked in *Tones* and *Semitones*, without any Distinction of greater and lesser *Tone*: In the Fifth Column, you have the Denominations of the *Intervals* from the *Fundamental*. Then for the 12 *flat Keys* take, as I said before, the 6<sup>ths</sup> above the other, and they are the *Fundamentals* of the *flat Keys*, whose Notes are all found by continuing the Scale upward: But as to finding the Note where any *Interval* ends, 'tis as well done by counting downward; for since 'tis always an *Octave* from any Letter to the same again, and also since a 7<sup>th</sup> upward falls in the same Letter with a 2<sup>d</sup> downward, a 6<sup>th</sup> upward in the same with a 3<sup>d</sup> downward, and a 3<sup>d</sup> upward in the same with a 6<sup>th</sup> downward, also a 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> upward in the same with a 5<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> downward; therefore in the 16<sup>th</sup> Column, you see *Key flat*

written against the Line in which the *6ths* of the 12 *sharp Keys* stand; and the Denomination of the *Intervals* are written against these Notes where they terminate; and because the Scale in that Table is carried but to one *Octave*, so that we have only a *3d l.* above the *Fundamental* of the *flat Key*, therefore the rest of the *Intervals* are marked at the Letters below, which will be easier understood if you'll suppose the Key to stand below, and these *Intervals* to be reckoned upwards. In the *2d* Part of the *Table* you have a System of 5 Lines marked with the *Treble* or *g Clef*, in 13 Divisions each answering to a Column of the upper Part; and these express all the various *Signatures* of the *Clef*, that is, all the *accidental* or *sharp* and *flat* Notes that belong to any of the 12 *Keys* of the *Scale*.

With Respect to the Names and Signatures in the Table, there remain some Things to be explained: I told you in the last *Chapter* that upon the main it was an indifferent Thing whether the artificial Notes in the Scale were named from the Note below with a  $\sharp$ , or from that above with a  $\flat$ : Here you have each of them marked, in some Signatures  $\sharp$  and in others  $\flat$ ; but in every particular Signature the Marks are all of one Kind  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$ , tho' one Signature is  $\sharp$ , and another  $\flat$ ; and these are not so ordered at random; the Reason I shall explain to you: In the first Place there is a greater Harmony with respect to the Eye; but this is a small Matter, a better Reason follows; *con-*  
*sider*

der, every Letter has two Powers, *i. e.* is capable of representing Two Notes, according as you take it *natural* or plain, as *c, d, &c.* or *transposed* as *c\** or *d\**; again, every Line and Space is the Seat of one particular Letter: Now if we take Two Powers of one Letter in the same *Octave* or *Key*, the Line or Space to which it belongs must have Two different Signs; and then when a Note is set upon that Line or Space, how shall it be known whether it is to be taken *natural* or *transposed*? This can only be done by setting the proper Signs at every such Note; which is not only troublesome, but renders the general Signature useless as to that Line or Space: This is the Reason why some Signatures are made *\** rather than *l*, and contrarily; for *Example*, take for the *Fundamental c\**, the rest of the Notes to make a *sharp Key* are *d\* . f : f\* : g\* : a\* : c.* where you see *f* and *c* are taken both *natural* and *transposed*, which we avoid by making all the artificial Note *l*, as in the Table; thus *d<sup>l</sup> : e<sup>l</sup> . f : g<sup>l</sup> : a<sup>l</sup> : l : c . d<sup>l</sup>.* 'Tis true that this might be helped another Way, *viz.* by taking all the Notes *\** *i. e.* taking *e\** for *f*, and *b\** for *c*; but the Inconveniency of this is visible, for hereby we force Two natural Notes out of their Places, whereby the Difficulty of performing by such Direction is increased: In the other Cases where I have marked all *l* rather than *\**, the same Reasons obtain: And in some Cases, some Ways of signing with *\** would have both these Inconveniencies. The same Reasons make it

necessary to have some Signature \* rather than  $\flat$ ; but the *Octave* beginning in  $g^{\flat}$  is singular in this Respect, that it is equal which Way it is signed, for in both there will be one natural Note displaced unavoidably; as I have it in the Table  $b$  natural is signed  $c^{\flat}$ , and if you make all the Signs \*, you must either take in Two Powers of one Letter, or take  $e^*$  for  $f$ . Now neither in this, nor any of the other Cases will the mixing of the Signs remove the Inconveniencies; and suppose it could, another follows upon the Mixture, which leads me to shew why the same Clef is either all \* or all  $\flat$ , the Reason follows.

THE Quantity of an *Interval* exprest by Notes set upon Lines and Spaces marked some \*, some  $\flat$ , will not be so easily discovered, as when they are all marked one Way, because the Number of intermediate Degrees from Line to Space, and from Space to Line, answers not to the Denomination of the *Interval*; for *Example*, if it is a *5th*, I shall more readily discover it when there are 5 intermediate Degrees from Line to Space, than if there were but 4; thus, from  $g^*$  to  $d^*$  is a *5th*, and will appear as such by the Degrees, among the Lines and Spaces; but if we mark it  $g^*$ ,  $e^{\flat}$ , it will have the Appearance of a *4th*; also from  $f^*$  to  $a^*$  is a *3d*, and appears so, whereas from  $f^*$  to  $\flat$  looks like a *4th*; and for that Reason Mr. *Simpson* in his *Compend of Musick* calls it a lesser *4th*, which I think he had better called an apparent *4th*; and so by making the Signs of the

Clef

*Clef* all of one Kind, this Inconveniency is fav-  
 ed with respect to all *Intervals* whose both  
 Extremes have a transposed Letter; and as to  
 such *Intervals* which have one Extreme a *na-*  
*tural* Note, or exprest by a plain Letter, and  
 the other *transposed*, the Inconveniency is pre-  
 vented by the Choice of the \* in some *Keys*,  
 and of the ♭ in others; for *Example*, from *d*  
 to *f*\* is a 3<sup>d</sup>g. equal to that from *d* to *g*♭, but  
 the first only appears like a 3<sup>d</sup>, and so of other  
*Intervals* from *d*, which therefore you see in  
 the Table are all signed \*. *Again* from *f* to ♭  
 or *f* to *a*\* is a 4<sup>th</sup>, but the first is the best Way  
 of marking it; there are no more transposed  
 Notes in that *Octave*, nor any other *Octave*,  
 whose *Fundamental* is a natural Note, that is  
 marked with ♭.

It must be owned, after all, That whate-  
 ver Way we chuse the Signs of transposed  
 Notes, the Sounds or Notes themselves on an  
 Instrument are individually the same; and  
 marking them one Way rather than another,  
 respects only the Conveniencies of representing  
 them to the Eye, which ought not to be ne-  
 glected; especially for the Direction of the hu-  
 man Voice, because that having no fixt Sounds  
 (as an Instrument has, whose Notes may be found  
 by a local Memory of their Seat on the Instru-  
 ment) we have not another Way of finding the  
 true Note but computing the *Interval* by the  
 intermediate *diatonick Degrees*, and the more  
 readily this can be done, it is certainly the  
 better.

Now you are to *observe*, that, as the *Signature* of the *Clef* is designed for, and can serve but one *Key*, which ought rather to be the *principal Key* or *Octave* of the Piece than any other, shewing what transposed Notes belong to it, so the Inconveniency last mentioned is remedied, by having the Signs all of one Kind, only for these *Intervals* one of whose Extremes is the *Key-note*, or Letter: But a Song may modulate or change from the *principal* into other *Keys*, which may require other Notes than the *Signature* of the *Clef* affords; so we find  $\ast$  and  $\vee$  upon some particular Notes contrary to the *Clef*, which shews that the *Melody* is out of the *principal Key*, such Notes being natural to some other *subprincipal Key* into which it is carried; and these Signs are, or ought always to be chosen in the most convenient Manner for expressing the *Interval*; for *Example*, the *principal Key* being C with a 3<sup>d</sup> g. which is a *natural Octave* (i. e. expressed all with plain Letters) suppose a Change into its 4<sup>th</sup> f; and here let a 4<sup>th</sup> upward be required, we must take it in  $\vee$  or  $a\ast$ ; the first is the best Way, but either of them contradicts the *Clef* which is *natural*; and we no sooner find this than we judge the Key is changed. But again, a Change may be where this Sign of it cannot appear, viz. when we modulate into the 6<sup>th</sup> of a *sharp principal Key*, or into the 3<sup>d</sup> of a *flat principal Keys*; because these have the same *Signature*, as has been already shown, and have such

such a Connection that, unless by a Cadence, the Melody can never be said to be out of the *principal Key*. And with respect to a *flat principal Key*, observe, That if the *6th g.* and *7th g.* are used, as in some Circumstances they may, especially towards a Cadence, then there will be necessarily required upon that *6th* and *7th*, another Sign than that with which its Seat is marked in the general Signature of the Clef, which marks all flat Keys with the lesser *6ths* and *7ths*; and therefore in such Case (*i. e.* where the *principal Key is flat*) this Difference from the *Clef* is not a Sign that the Melody leaves the *Key*, because each of these belong to it in different Circumstances; yet they cannot be both marked in the *Clef*, therefore that which is of more general Use is put there and the other marked occasionally.

FROM what has been explained, you learn another very remarkable Thing, *viz.* to know what the *principal Key* of any Piece is, without seeing one Note of it; and this is done by knowing the Signature of the *Clef*: There are but Two Kinds of *Keys* (or *Modes of Melody*) distinguished into *sharp* and *flat*, as already explained; each of which may have any of the 12 different Notes or Letters of the *semitonick Scale* for its *Fundamental*; in the *1st* and *6th* Line of the upper Part of the preceding Table you have all these *Fundamentals* or *Key-notes*, and under them respectively stand the Signatures proper to each, in which, as has been

often said, the flat Keys have their 6th and 7th marked of the *lesser* Kind; and therefore as by the *Key*, or *fundamental* Note, we know the Signature, so reciprocally by the Signature we can know the *Key*; but 'tis under this one Limitation that, because one Signature serves Two Keys, a *sharp* one, and a *flat*, which is the 6th above or 3d below the *sharp* one, therefore we only learn by this, that it is one of them, but not which; for *Example*, if the *Clef* has no transposed Note but *f*\*, then the *Key* is *g* with a 3d *g*. or *e* with a 3d *l*. If the *Clef* has *l* and *e**l*, the *Key* is *l* with a 3d *g*. or *g*. with a 3d *l*. as so of others, as in the Table: I know indeed, for I have found it so in the Writing of the best Masters, that they are not strict and constant in observing this Rule concerning the Signature of the *Clef*, especially when the principal *Key* is a *flat* one; in which Case you'll find frequently, that when the 6th *l*. or 7th *l*. to the *Key*, or both, are transposed Notes, they don't sign them so in the *Clef*, but leave them to be marked as the Course of the Melody requires; which is convenient enough when the Piece is so conducted as to use the *lesser* 6th and 7th seldomer than the *greater*.

§ 4. *Of Transposition.*

**T**HERE are Two Kinds of *Transposition*, the one is, the changing the Places or Seats of the Notes or Letters among the Lines and Spaces, but so as every Note be set at the same Letter; which is done by a Change with respect to the *Clef*: The other is the changing of the Key, or setting all the Notes of the Song at different Letters, and performing it consequently in different Notes upon an *Instrument*: Of these in Order.

I. *Of Transposition with respect to the Clef.*

**T**HIS is done either by removing the same *Clef* to another Line; or by using another *Clef*; but still with the same Signature, because the Piece is still in the same Key: How to set the Notes in either Case is very easy: For the 1<sup>st</sup>, You take the first Note at the same Distance above or below the *Clef*-note in its new Position, as it was in the former Position, and then all the rest of the Notes in the same Relations or Distances one from another; so that the Notes are all set on Lines and Spaces of the same Name. For the 2<sup>d</sup>, or setting the *Musick* with

with a different *Clef*, you must mind that the Places of the Three *Clef*-notes are invariable in the *Scale*, and are to one another in these Relations, *viz.* the *Mean* a 5<sup>th</sup> above the *Bass*; and the *Treble* a 5<sup>th</sup> above the *Mean*, and consequently Two 5<sup>ths</sup> above the *Bass*: Now when we would transpose to a new *Clef*, suppose from the *Treble* to the *Mean*, wherever we set that new *Clef*, we suppose it to be the same individual Note, in the same Place of the *Scale*, as if the Piece were that *Part* in a *Composition* to which this new *Clef* is generally appropriated, that so it may direct us to the same individual Notes we had before Transposition: Now from the fixt Relations of the Three *Clefs* in the *Scale*, it will be easy to find the Seat of the first transposed Note, and then all the rest are to be set at the same mutual Distances they were at before; for *Example*, suppose the first Note of a Song is *d*, a 6<sup>th</sup> above the *Bass-clef*, the Piece being set with that *Clef*, if it is transposed and set with the *Mean-clef*, then wherever that *Clef* is placed, the first Note must be the 2<sup>d</sup> *g.* above it, because a 2<sup>d</sup> *g.* above the *Mean* is a 6<sup>th</sup> *g.* above the *Bass-clef*, the Relation of these Two being a 5<sup>th</sup>; and so that first Note will still be the same individual *d*: Again, let a Piece be set with the *Treble-clef*, and the first Note be *e*, a 3<sup>d</sup> *l.* below the *Clef*, if we transpose this to the *Mean-clef*, the first Note must be a 3<sup>d</sup> *g.* above it, which is the same individual Note *e* in that *Scale*, for a 3<sup>d</sup> *l.* and 3<sup>d</sup> *g.*  
make

make a 5<sup>th</sup> the Distance of the *treble* and *mean Clefs*.

THE Use and Design of this *Transposition* is, That if a Song being set with a certain *Clef* in a certain Position, the Notes shall go far above or below the *System* of Five Lines, they may, by the Change of the Place of the same *Clef* in the particular *System*, or taking a new *Clef*, be brought more within the Compass of the Five Lines: That this may be effected by such a Change is very plain; for *Example*, Let any Piece be set with the *Treble Clef* on the first Line, (counting upward) if the Notes lie much below the *Clef* Note, they are without the *System*, and 'tis plain they will be reduced more within it, by placing the *Clef* on any other Line above; and so in general the setting any *Clef* lower in a particular *System* reduces the Notes that run much above it; and setting it higher reduces the Notes that run far below. The same is effected by changing the *Clef* it self in some Cases, tho' not in all, Thus, if the *Treble Part*, or a Piece set with the *Treble Clef*, runs high above the *System*, it can only be reduced by changing the Place of the same *Clef*; but if it run without the *System* below, it can be reduced by changing to the *Mean* or *Bass Clef*. If the *mean Part* run above its particular *System*, it will be reduced by changing to the *Treble Clef*; or if it run below, by changing to the *Bass Clef*. Lastly. If the *Bass Part* run without its *System* below, it can only be reduced by changing the Place of the same *Clef*, but running  
above

above, it may be changed into the *mean* or *treble Clef*. Now as to the Position of the new *Clef*, you must choose it so that the Design be best answered; and in every Change of the *Clef* the Notes will be on Lines and Spaces of the same Name, or denominated by the same Letter, they refer also to the same individual Place of the *Scale* or *general System*, differing only with respect to their Places in the particular *System* which depend on the Difference of the *Clefs* and their Positions, and therefore will always be the same individual Notes upon the same Instrument.

As to both these *Transpositions* I must observe, that they increase the Difficulty of Practice, because the Relations of the Lines and Spaces change under all these *Transpositions*, and therefore one must be equally familiar with all the Three *Clefs*, and every Position of them, so that under any Change we may be able with the same Readiness to find the Notes in their true Relations and Distances: And as this is not acquired without great Application, I think it is too cruel a Remedy for the Inconveniency to which it is applied: It is better, I should think, to keep always the same *Clef* for the same *Part*, and the same Position of the *Clef*; but if one will be Master of several Instruments, and be able to perform any *Part*, then he must be equally well acquainted with all their proper *Clefs*, but still the Position of the *Clef* in the particular *System* may be fixt and invariable.

## 2. Of Transposition from one Key to another.

THE Désign of this *Transposition* is, That a *Song*, which being begun in one Note is too high or low, or any other way inconvenient, as may be in some Cases for certain Instruments, may be begun in another Note, and from that carried on in all its just *Degrees* and *Intervals*. The *Clef* and its Position are the same, and the Change now is of the Notes themselves from one Letter and its Line or Space to another. In the former *Transposition* the Notes were expressed by the same Letters, but both removed to different Lines and Spaces; here the Letters are unmoved, and the Notes of the Song are transferred to or expressed by other Letters, and consequently set also upon different Lines and Spaces, which it is plain will require a different *Signature* of the *Clef*. Now we are easily directed in this Kind of *Transposition*, by the preceeding *Table*, *Plate 2. Fig. 1.* For there we see the *Signature* and Progress of Notes in either *sharp* or *flat Keys* beginning at every Letter: The lower Line of the upper Part of the *Table* contains the *fundamental Notes* of the Twelve *sharp Keys*; and under them are their *Signatures*, shewing what *artificial* Notes are necessary to make a *concinuous diatonick Series* from these several *Fundamentals*: In the 6th Line above are the same Twelve Letters, considered as *Fundamentals* of the Twelve *flat Keys*, which have the same Signatures with the

the *sharp Keys* standing in the under Line, and in the same Column: So that 'tis equal to make any of these Twelve Notes the *Key Note*, changing the *Signature* according to the *Table*: And observe, tho' the *Fundamentals* of the Twelve *flat Keys* stand in the *Table* as *6ths* to the Twelve *sharp Keys*, yet that is not to be understood as if the *flat Keys* must all be a *6th* above (or in their *8ves* a *3d* below) the *sharp Keys*; it happens so there only in the Order and Relation of the Degrees of the *Scale*: But as the *Fundamentals* of the Twelve *flat Keys* are the same Letters with those of the *sharp Keys*, they shew us that the same Key may either be the *sharp* or *flat*, with a different *Signature*.

BUT to make this Matter as plain as possible, I shall consider the Application of it in Two distinct Questions. 1mo. Let the *Fundamental* or *Key Note* to which you would *transpose* a Song be given, to find the proper *Signature*. *Rule*. In the first or *6th* Line of the upper Part, according as the Key is *sharp* or *flat*, find the given *Key* to which you would *transpose*, and under it you have the proper *Signature*. For *Example*, Suppose a Song in the *sharp Key c*, which is natural, if you would *transpose* it to *g*, the *Clef* must be signed with *f*\*, or to *d* and it must have *f*\* and *c*\*. Again, suppose a Song in a *flat Key* as *d* whose *Signature* has *b flat*, if you *transpose* it to *e* the *Signature* has *f*\*, or to *g* and it has *l* and *e*<sup>l</sup>. 2do. Let any *Signature* be assigned to find the *Key* to which we must trans-

transpose. *Rule.* In the upper Part of the Table in the same Column with the given *Signature* you'll find the *Key* sought, either in the 1st or 6th Line according as the *Key* is *sharp* or *flat*. But without considering the *Key*, or whether the *Signature* be regular or not, we may know how to *transpose* by considering the *Signature* as it is and the first Note, *thus*, find the *Signature* with which it is already set, and in the same Column in the upper Part find the Letter of the first Note; in that same Line (betwixt Right and Left) find the Letter where you desire to begin, and under it is the proper *Signature* to be now used: Or having chosen a certain *Signature* you'll find the Note to begin at, in the same Column, and in the same Line with the Note it began in formerly. Having thus your *Signature*, and the Seat of the first Note, the rest are easily set up and down at the same mutual Distances they were in formerly; and where any  $\sharp$ ,  $\flat$  or  $\natural$  is occasionally upon any Note, mark it so in the correspondent Note in the Transposition; but mind that if a Note with a  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$  is transposed to a Letter which in the new *Signature* is contrarily  $\flat$  or  $\sharp$ , then mark that Note  $\natural$ ; and reciprocally if a Note marked  $\natural$  is transposed to a Letter, which is natural in the new *Signature*, mark it  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$  according as the  $\natural$  was the removing of a  $\flat$  or  $\sharp$  in the former *Signature*. In all other Cases mark the transposed Note the same Way it was before. For *Examples* of this Kind of *Transposition*, see *Plate 3. Examples 3 and 5.*

§ 5. Of Sol-fa-ing, with some other particular Remarks about the Names of Notes.

**I**N the second Column of the preceeding Table, you have these Syllables written against the several Letters of the Scale, viz. *fa, sol, la, fa, sol, la, mi, fa, &c.* Formerly these Six were in use, viz. *ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la*; from the Application whereof the Notes of the Scale were called *G sol re ut, A la mi re, &c.* and afterwards a 6th was added, viz. *fi*; but these Four *fa, sol, la, mi* being only in Use among us at present, I shall explain their Use here, and speak of the rest, which are still in Use with some Nations, in Chap. 14. where you shall learn their Original. As to their Use, it is this in general; they relate chiefly to Singing or the human Voice, that by applying them to every Note of the Scale it might not only be pronounced more easily, but principally that by them the Tones and Semitones of the natural Scale may be better marked out and distinguished.

THIS Design is obtain'd by the Four Syllables *fa, sol, la, mi*, in this Manner; from *fa* to *sol* is a Tone, also from *sol* to *la*, and from *la* to *mi*, without distinguishing the greater and lesser Tone;

*Tone* ; but from *la* to *fa*, also from *mi* to *fa* is a *Semitone* : Now if these are applied in this Order, *fa, sol, la, fa, sol, la, mi, fa*, &c. they express the natural Series from *c*, as in the Table ; and if it is repeated to another *8ve*, we see how by them to express all the Seven different Orders of *Tones* and *Semitones* within the *diatonick Scale*. If the *Scale* is extended to Two *8ves*, you'll perceive that by this Rule 'tis always true, tho' it were further extended in *infinitum*, that above *mi* stands *fa, sol, la*, and below it the same reversed *la, sol, fa* ; and that one *mi* is always distant from another by an *Octave*, (which no other Syllable is) because after *mi* ascending comes always *fa, sol, la, fa, sol, la*, which are taken reverse descending. But now you'll ask a more particular Account of the Application of this ; and that you may understand it, consider, the first Thing in teaching to sing is, to make one raise a *Scale* of Notes by *Tones* and *Semitones* to an *Octave*, and descend again by the same Notes, and then to rise and fall by greater *Intervals* at a *Leap*, as a *3d, 4th* and *5th*, &c. And to do all this by beginning at Notes of different Pitch ; then these Notes are represented by Lines and Spaces, as above explained, to which these Syllables are applied ; 'tis ordinary therefore, to learn a Scholar to name every Line and Space by these Syllables : But still you'll ask, to what Purpose ? The Answer is, That while they are learning to *tune* the *Degrees* and *Intervals* of Sound express by Notes set upon Lines and Spaces, or

learning a Song to which no Words are applied, they may do it better by an articulate Sound; and chiefly that by knowing the *Degrees* and *Intervals* exprest by these Syllables, they may more readily know the true Distance of their Notes. I shall first make an End of what is to be said about the Application, and then shew what an useles Invention this is.

THE only Syllable that is but once applied in Seven Letters is *mi*, and by applying this to different Letters, the Seat of the Two *natural Semitones* in the *8ve*, exprest by *la-fa* and *mi-fa*, will be placed betwixt different Letters (which is all we are to notice where the Difference of the greater and lesser *Tone* is neglected, as in all this) But because the Relation of the Notes exprest by the seven plain Letters, *c, d, e, f, g, a, b*, which we call the *natural Scale*, are supposed to be fixt and unalterable, and the *Degrees* exprest by these Syllables are also fixt, therefore the natural Seat of *mi* is said to be *b*, because then *mi-fa* and *la-fa* are applied to the *natural Semitones b.c* and *e.f*, as you see in the Table: But if *mi* is applied to any other of the Seven *natural* Notes, then some of the *artificial* Notes will be necessary, to make a Series answering to the *Degrees* which we suppose are invariably exprest by these Syllables; but *mi* may be applied not only to any of the Seven *natural* Notes, it may also be applied to any of the Five *artificial* Ones: And now to know in any Case (*i. e.* when *mi* is applied to any of the Twelve Letters of the *semitonick Scale*) to what Notes

Notes the other Syllables are applied, you need but look into the preceeding Table, where if you suppose *mi* applied to any Letter of that Line where it stands, the Notes to which *fa*, *sol*, *la* are applied are found in the same Column with that Letter, and in the same Line with these Syllables. By this Means I hope you have an easy Rule for *sol-fa-ing*, or naming the Notes by *sol*, *fa*, &c. in any *Clef* and with any *Signature*.

BUT now let us consider of what great Importance this is, either to the understanding or practising of *Musick*. In the *first* Place, the Difficulty to the Learner is increased by the Addition of these Names, which for every different *Signature* of the *Clef* are differently applied; so that the same Line or Space is in one *Signature* called *fa*, in another *sol*, and so on: And if a Song modulates into a new *Key*, then for every such Change different Applications of these Names may be required to the same Note, which will beget much Confusion and Difficulty: And if you would conceive the whole Difficulty, consider, as there are 12 different Seats of *mi* in the *Octave*, therefore the naming of the Lines and Spaces of any particular *System* and *Clef* has the same Variety; and if one must learn to name Notes in every *Clef* and every Position of the *Clef*, then as there is one ordinary Position for the *Treble-clef*, one for the *Bass*, and Four for the *mean*, if we apply to each of these the 12 different *Signatures*, and consequent Ways of *sol-fa-ing*, we have

in all 72 various Ways of applying the Names of *sol*, *fa*, &c. to the Lines and Spaces of a particular *System*; not that the same Line can have 72 different Names, but in the Order of the Whole there is so great a Variety: And if we suppose yet more Positions of the *Clefs*, the Variety will still be increased, to which you must add what Variety happens upon changing the *Key* in the Middle of any Song. Let us next see what the Learner has by this troublesome Acquisition: After considering it well, we find nothing at all; for as to naming the Notes, pray what want we more than the Seven Letters already applied, which are constant and certain Names to every Line and Space under all different *Signatures*, the *Clef* being the same and in the same Position; and how much more simple and easy this is any Body can judge. If it be complained that the Sounds of these Letters are harsh when used in raising a Series of Notes, then, because this seems to make the Use of these Names only for the softer Pronunciation of a Note, let Seven Syllables as soft as possible be chosen and joyned invariably to the Letters or alphabetical Names of the *Scale*; so that as the same Line or Space is, in the same *Clef* and Position, always called by the same Letter, whether 'tis a *natural* or *artificial* Note, so let it be constantly named by the same Syllable; and thus we leave the true Distance or *Interval* to be found by the *Degrees* among the Lines and Spaces, as they are determined by the Letters applied to them; or rather, since the *Intervals*

*Intervals* are sufficiently determined by the alphabetical Names applied to the Lines and Spaces, there is no Matter whether the syllabical Names be constant or not, or what Number there be of them, *that is*, we may apply to any Note at random any Syllable that will make the Pronunciation soft and easy, if this be the chief End of them, as I think it can only be, because the *Degrees* and *Intervals* are better and more regularly exprest by the *Clef* and *Signature*: Nay, 'tis plain, that there is no Certainty of any *Interval* exprest simply by these Syllables, without considering the Lines and Spaces with their Relations determined by the Letters; for *Example*, If you ask what Distance there is betwixt *sol* and *la*, the Question has different Answers, for 'tis either a *Tone* or a *5th*, or one of these compounded with *8ve*, and so of other *Examples*, as are easily seen in the preceeding Scheme: But if you ask what is betwixt *sol* in such a Line or Space, and *la* in such a one above or below, then indeed the Question is determined; yet 'tis plain, that we don't find the Answer by these Names *fa*, *sol*, but by the Distances of the Lines and Spaces, according to the Relations settled among them by the Letters with which they are marked.

I know this Method has been in Credit, and I doubt will continue so with some People, who, if they don't care to have Things difficult to themselves, may perhaps think it an Honour both to them and their Art, that it appear *mysterious*; and some shrewd Guessers may possibly

alledge something else; but I shall only say that, for the Reasons advanced, I think this an impertinent Burden upon *Musick*.

*Further Reflections upon the Names of Notes.*

As there is a Necessity, that the Progression of the *Scale of Musick*, and all its *Intervals*, with their several Relations, should be distinctly marked, as is done by means of Letters representing Sounds; so it is necessary for Practice, that the Notes and *Intervals* of Sound upon Instruments should be named by the same Letters, by which we have seen a clear and easy Method of expressing any Piece of *Melody*, for directing us how to produce the same upon a musical Instrument: But then observe, that as the *Scale of Musick* puts no Limitations upon the absolute *Degree of Tune*, only regulating the relative Measures of one Note to another, so the Notes of Instruments are called *c, d, &c.* not with respect to any certain Pitch of *Tune*, but to mark distinctly the Relations of one Note to another; and, without respect to the Pitch of the Whole, the same Notes, *i. e.* the Sounds taken in the same Part of the Instrument, are always named by the same Letters, because the Whole makes a Series, which is constantly in the same Order and Relation of *Degrees*. For *Example*, Let the Four Strings of a Violin be tuned as high or low as you please, being always *5ths* to one another, the Names of the Four open Notes are still called *g, d, a, e*, and so of the

the other Notes; and therefore, if upon hearing any Note of an Instrument we ask the Name of it, as whether it is *c* or *d*, &c. the Meaning can only be, what Part of the Instrument is it taken in, and with what Application of the Hand? For with respect to the absolute *Tune* it cannot be called by one Letter rather than another, for the Note which is called *c*, according to the foresaid general Rule, may in one Pitch of *Tuning* be equal to the Note called *d*, in another Pitch.

BUT for the human Voice, consider there is no fixt or limited Order of its *Degrees*, but an *Octave* may be raised in any Order; therefore the Notes of the Voice cannot be called *c* or *d*, &c. in any other Sense than as being *unison* to the Note of that Name upon a fixt Instrument: Or if a whole *Octave* is raised in any Order of *Tones* and *Semitones*, contained within the *diatonick Scale*, suppose that from *c*, each of these Notes may be called *c*, *d*, &c. in so far as they express the Relations of these Notes one to another. And lastly, With respect to this Method of writing *Musick*; when the Voice takes Direction from it, the Notes must at that Time be called by the Letters and Names that direct it in taking the *Degrees* and *Intervals* that compose the *Melody*; yet the Voice may begin still in the same Pitch of *Tune*, whatever Name or Letter in the Writing the first Note is set at, because these Letters serve only to mark the Relations of the Notes: But in Instruments, tho' the Tune of the Whole may be

higher or lower, the same Notes in the Writing direct always to the same individual Notes with respect to the Name and the Place of the Instrument, which has nothing parallel to it in the human Voice. Again, tho' the Voice and Instruments are both directed by the same Method of Writing *Musick*, yet there is one very remarkable Difference betwixt the Voice and such Instruments as have fixt Sounds; for the Voice being limited to no Order of *Degrees*, has none of the Imperfections of an Instrument, and can therefore begin in *Unison* with any Note of an Instrument, or at any other convenient Pitch, and take any *Interval* upward or downward in just *Tune*: And tho' the unequal *Ratios* or *Degrees* of the *Scale*, when the Sounds are fixt, make many small Errors on Instruments, yet the Voice is not subjected to these: But it will be objected, that the Voice is directed by the same *Scale*, whose Notes or Letters have been all along supposed under a certain determinate Relation to one another, which seems to lay the Voice under the same Limitations with Instruments having fixt Sounds, if it follow the precise Proportions of these Notes as they stand in the *Scale*: The Answer to this is, That the Voice will not, and I dare say cannot possibly follow these erroneous Proportions; because the true harmonious Distances are much easier taken, to which a good Ear will naturally lead: Consider again, that because the Errors are small in a single Case, and the Difference of *Tones* or of *Semitones* scarce sensible, therefore they are

are considered as all equal upon Instruments ; and the same Number of *Tones* or *Semitones* is, every where thro' the *Scale*, reckoned the same or an equal *Interval*, and so it must pass with some small unavoidable Errors. Now that the Voice may be directed by the same *Scale* or *System* of Notes, the Singer will also consider them as equal, and in like manner take the same Number for the same *Interval*; yet, by the Direction of a well tuned Ear, will take every *Interval* in its due Proportion, according to the Exigences of the *Melody*; so if the *Key* is *d*, and the Three first Notes of a Song were set in *d*, *e*, *f*, the Voice will take *d-e* a *tg.* and *e-f* a *fg.* in order to make *d-f* a true *3d l.* which is defective a *Comma* in the *Scale*, because *d-e* is a *tl.* In another Case the Voice would take these very Notes according to the *Scale*, as here, suppose the *Key* *c*, and the first Three Notes *c*, *d*, *f*, the Voice will take *c-d* a *tg.* because that is a more perfect Degree than *tl.* and then will take *f* not a true *3d l* to *d*, but a true *4th* to the *Key* *c*, which the *Melody* requires rather than the other, whereby *d-f* is made a deficient *3dl*; and if we suppose *e* is the third Note, and *f* the Fourth, the Voice will take *e* a *tl* above *d*, in order to make *c-e* a true *3d g.* I don't pretend that these small Differences are very sensible in a single Case, yet 'tis more rational to think that a good Ear left to itself will take the Notes in the best Proportions, where there is nothing to determine it another Way, as the Accompaniment of an Instrument; and then it is demonstrated

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by this, that in the best tuned Instruments having fixt Sounds, the same Song will not go equally well from every Note; but let a Voice directed by a just Ear begin *unison* to any Note of an Instrument, there shall be no Difference: I own, that by a Habit of singing and using the Voice to one Pitch of *Tune*, it may become difficult to sing out of it, but this is accidental to the Voice which is naturally capable of singing alike well in every Pitch within its Extent of Notes, being equally used to them all.

## A P P E N D I X.

*Concerning Mr. Salmon's Proposal for reducing all Musick to one Clef.*

'TIS certainly the Use of Things that makes them valuable; and the more universal the Application of any Good is, it is the more to their Honour who communicate it: For this Reason, no doubt, it would very well become the Professors of so generous an Art as *Musick*, and I believe in every respect would be their Interest, to study how the Practice of it might be made as easy and universal as possible; and to encourage any Thing that might contribute towards this End.

It will be easily granted that the Difficulty of Practice is much increased by the Difference of *Clefs* in particular Systems, whereby the same Line or Space, *i. e.* the first or second Line, &c.

is sometimes called *c*, sometimes *g*: With respect to *Instruments* 'tis plain; for if every Line and Space keeps not constantly the same Name, the Note set upon it must be sought in a different Place of the Instrument: And with respect to the Voice, which takes all its Notes according to their Intervals betwixt the Lines and Spaces, if the Names of these are not constant neither are the Intervals constantly the same in every Place; therefore for every Difference either in the Clef or Position of it, we have a new Study to know our Notes, which makes difficult Practice, especially if the *Clef* should be changed in the very middle of a Piece, as is frequently done in the modern Way of writing Musick. Mr. *Salmon* reflecting on these Inconveniencies, and also how useful it would be that all should be reduced to one constant *Clef*, whereby the same Writing of any Piece of Musick would equally serve to direct the Voice and all Instruments, a Thing one should think to be of very great Use, he proposes in his *Essay to the Advancement of Musick*, what he calls an universal Character, which I shall explain in a few Words. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Place, he would have the lowest Line of every particular System constantly called *g*, and the other Lines and Spaces to be named according to the Order of the 7 Letters; and because these Positions of the Letters are supposed invariable, therefore he thinks there's no Need to mark any of them; but then, 2<sup>do</sup>. That the Relations of several *Parts* of a Composition may be distinctly known; he

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marks the *Treble* with the Letter T at the Beginning of the System; the *Mean* with M. and the *Bass* with B. And the *gs* that are on the lowest Line of each of these Systems, he supposes to be *Octaves* to each other in Order. And then for referring these *Systems* to their corresponding Places in the general *System*, the *Treble g*, which determines all the rest, must be supposed in the same Place as the *Treble Clef* of the common Method; but this Difference is remarkable, That tho' the *g* of the *Treble* and *Bass* Systems are both on Lines in the general *System*, yet the *Mean g*, which is on a Line of the particular System, is on a Space in the general one, because in the Progression of the Scale, the same Letter, as *g*, is alternately upon a Line and a Space; therefore the *Mean System* is not a Continuation of any of the other Two, so as you could proceed in Order out of the one into the other by Degrees from Line to Space, because the *g* of the *Mean* is here on a Line, which is necessarily upon a Space in the Scale; and therefore in referring the mean *System* to its proper relative Place in the *Scale*, all its Lines correspond to Spaces, of the other and contrarily; but there is no Matter of that if the *Parts* be so written separately as their Relations be distinctly known, and the Practice made more easy; and when we would reduce them all to one general *System*, it is enough we know that the Lines of the mean Part must be changed into Spaces, and its Spaces into Lines. 3tio. If the Notes of any  
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*Part* go above or below its *System*, we may set them as formerly on short Lines drawn on Purpose: But if there are many Notes together above or below, Mr. *Salmon* proposes to reduce them within the *System* by placing them on the Lines and Spaces of the same Name, and prefixing the Name of the *Octave* to which they belong. To understand this better, consider, he has chosen three distinct *Octaves* following one another; and because one *Octave* needs but 4 Lines therefore he would have no more in the particular *System*; and then each of the three particular *Systems* expressing a distinct *Octave* of the Scale, which he calls the proper *Octaves* of these several *Parts*, if the Song run into another *Octave* above or below, 'tis plain, the Notes that are out of the *Octave* peculiar to the *System*, as it stands by a general Rule marked *T* or *M* or *B*, may be set on the same Lines and Spaces; and if the *Octave* they belong to be distinctly marked, the Notes may be very easily found by taking them an *Octave* higher or lower than the Notes of the same Name in the proper *Octave* of the *System*. For Example, If the *Treble Part* runs into the middle or *Bass Octave*, we prefix to these Notes the Letter *M* or *B*, and set them on the same Lines and Spaces, for all the Three *Systems*, have in this Hypothesis the Notes of the same Name in the same correspondent Places; if the *Mean* run into the *Treble* or *Bass Octaves*, prefix the Signs *T* or *M*. And lastly, Because the *Parts* may comprehend more than 3 *Octaves*

*Staves*, therefore the *Treble* may run higher than an *Octave*, and the *Bass* lower; in such Cases, the higher *Octave* for the *Treble* may be marked *Tt.* and the lower for the *Bass* *Bb.* But if any Body thinks there be any considerable Difficulty in this Method, which yet I'm of Opinion would be far less than the changing of *Clefs* in the common Way, the Notes may be continued upward and downward upon new Lines and Spaces, occasionally drawn in the ordinary Manner, and tho' there may be many Notes far out of the *System* above or below, yet what's the Inconveniency of this? Is the reducing the Notes within 5 Lines, and saving a little Paper an adequate Reward for the Trouble and Time spent in learning to perform readily from different *Clefs*?

As to the *Treble* and *Bass*, the Alteration by this new Method is very small; for in the common Position of the *Bass-clef*, the lowest Line is already *g*; and for the *Treble* it is but removing the *g* from the 2<sup>d</sup> Line, its ordinary Position, to the first Line; the greatest Innovation is in the *Parts* that are set with the *c Clef*.

AND now will any Body deny that it is a great Advantage to have an universal Character in *Musick*, whereby the same Song or *Part* of any Composition may, with equal Ease and Readiness be performed by the Voice or any Instrument; and different *Parts* with alike Ease by the same Instrument? 'tis true that each *Part* is marked with its own *Octave*, but the Design of this is only to mark the Relation of  
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the *Parts*, that several Voices or Instruments performing these in a Concert may be directed to take their first Notes in the true Relations which the Composer designed ; but if we speak of any one single Part to be sung or performed alone by any Instrument, the Performer in this case will not mind the Distinction of the *Part*, but take the Notes upon his Instrument, according to a general Rule, which teaches him that a Note in such a Line or Space is to be taken in such a certain Place of the Instrument. You may see the Proposal and the Applications the Author makes of it at large in his Essay, where he has considered and answered the Objections he thought might be raised ; and to give you a short Account of them, consider, that besides the Ignorance and Superstition that haunts little Minds, who make a Kind of Religion of never departing from received Customs, whatever Reason there may be for changing ; or perhaps the Pride and Vanity of the greatest Part of Professors of this Art, joyned to a false Notion of their Interest in making it appear difficult, for the rational Part of any Set and Order of Men is always the least ; besides these, I say, the greatest Difficulty seems to be, the rendring what is already printed useles in part to them that shall be taught this new Method, unless they are to learn both, which is rather enlarging than lessening their Task : But this new Method is so easy, and differs so little in the *Bass* and *Treble Parts*, from what obtains already, that I think it would  
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add very little to their Task, who by the common Method, must learn to sing and play from all *Clefs* and Variety of Positions; and then *Time* would wear it out, when new *Musick* were printed, and the former reprinted in the Manner proposed. Mr. *Salmon* has been a Prophet in guessing what Fate it was like to have; for it has lain Fifty Years neglected: Nor do I revive it with any better Hope. I thought of nothing but considering it as a Piece of Theory, to explain what might be done, and inform you of what has been proposed. I cannot however hinder my self to complain of the Hardships of learning to read cleverly from all *Clefs* and Positions of them: If one would be so universally capable in *Musick* as to sing or play all *Parts*, let him undergo the Drudgery of being Master of the Three *Clefs*; but why may not the Positions be fixt and unalterable? And why may not the same *Part* be constantly set with the same *Clef*, without the Perplexity of changing, that those who confine themselves to one Instrument, or the Performance of one *Part*, may have no more to learn than what is necessary? This would save a great deal of Trouble that's but forrily recompens'd by bringing the Notes within or near the Compass of Five Lines, which is all can be alledged, and a very silly Purpose considering the Consequence.

## C H A P. XII.

*Of the Time or Duration of Sounds in Musick.*

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§ I. *Of the Time in general, and its Subdivision into absolute and relative; and particularly of the Names, Signs, and Proportions, or relative Measures of Notes, as to Time.*

**W**E are now come to the second general Branch of the *Theory of Musick*, which is to consider the *Time or Duration* of Sounds in the same Degree of *Tune*.

*TUNE* and *TIME* are the Affections or Properties of Sound, upon whose Difference or Proportions *Musick* depends. In each of these singly there are very powerful Charms: Where the *Duration* of the Notes is equal, the Differences of *Tune* are capable to entertain us with an endless Variety of Pleasure, either in an art-

ful and well ordered Succession of simple Sounds, which is *Melody*, or the beautiful *Harmony* of Parts in Consonance: And of the Power of *Time* alone, *i. e.* of the Pleasure arising from the various Measures of *long* and *short*, or *swift* and *slow* in the Succession of Sounds differing only in *Duration*, we have Experience in a *Drum*, which has no Difference of Notes as to *Tune*. But how is the Power of *Musick* heightned, when the Differences of *Tune* and *Time* are artfully joined: 'Tis this Composition that can work so irresistibly on the Passions, to make one heavy or cheerful; it can be suited to Occasions of Mirth or Sadness; by it we can raise, and at least indulge, the solemn composed Frame of our Spirits, or sink them into a trifling Levity: But enough for Introduction.

IN explaining this Part there is much less to do than was in the former; the Causes and Measures of the Degrees of *Tune*, with the *Intervals* depending thereon: And all their various Connections and Relations, were not so easily discovered and explained, as we can do what relates to this, which is a far more simple Subject.

THE *Reason* or *Cause* of a long or short Sound is obvious in every Case; and I may say, in general, it is owing to the continued Impulse of the efficient Cause, for a longer or shorter Time upon the sonorous Body; for I speak here of the artful Duration of Sound. See *Page 17.* where I have explained the Distinction betwixt natural and artificial Duration, to which I shall  
here

here add the Consideration of those Instruments that are struck with a Kind of instantaneous Motion, as *Harpfichords* and *Bells*, where the Sounds cannot be made longer or shorter by Art; for the Stroke cannot be repeated so oft as to make the Sound appear as one continued Note; and therefore this is supplied by the Pause and Distance of *Time* betwixt the striking one Note and another, *i. e.* by the Quickness or Slowness of their Succession; so that *long* and *short*, *quick* and *slow* are the same Things in *Musick*; therefore under this Title of the *Duration* of Sounds, must be comprehended that of the Quickness or Slowness of their Succession, as well as the proper Notion of *Length* and *Shortness*: And so the Time of a Note is not computed only by the uninterrupted Length of the Sound, but also by the Distance betwixt the Beginning of one Sound and that of the next. And mind that when the Notes are in the strict Sense long and short Sounds, yet speaking of their Succession we say also, that it is quick or slow, according as the Notes are short or long; which Notion we have by considering the Time from the Beginning of one Note to that of another.

NEXT, as to the Measure of the *Duration* of a Note, if we chuse any sensibly equal Motion, as the Pulses of a well adjusted Clock or Watch, the *Duration* of any Note may be measured by this, and we may justly say, that it is equal to 2, 3 or 4, &c. Pulses; and if any other Note is compared to the same Motion,

we shall have the exact Proportion of the *Times* of the Two, exprest by the different Number of Pulses. Now, I need give no Reason to prove, that the *Time* of a Note is justly measured by the successive Parts of an equable Motion; for 'tis self-evident, that it cannot be better done; and indeed we know no other Way of measuring *Time*, but by the Succession of Ideas in our own Minds.

WE come now to examine the particular Measures and Proportions of *Time* that belong to *Musick*; for as in the Matter of *Tune*, every Proportion is not fit for obtaining the Ends of *Musick*, so neither is every Proportion of *Time*; and to come close to our Purpose, observe,

*TIME* in *Musick* is to be considered either with respect to the *absolute Duration* of the Notes, *i. e.* the Duration considered in every Note by it self, and measured by some external Motion foreign to the *Musick*; in respect of which the Succession of the whole is said to be quick or slow: Or, it is to be considered with respect to the *relative Quantity* or Proportion of the Notes, compared one with another.

Now, to explain these Things, we must first know what are the *Signs* by which the *Time* of Notes is represented. The Marks and Characters in the modern Practice are these Six, whose Figures and Names you see in *Plate 2. Fig. 3.* And observe, when Two or more *Quavers* or *Semiquavers* come together, they are made with one or Two Strokes across their

Tails

Tails, and then they are called *tied Notes*. These Signs express no *absolute Time*, and are in different Cases of different Lengths, but their Measures and how they are determined, we shall learn again, after we have considered,

*The relative Quantity or Proportions of Time.*

THIS Proportion I have signified by Numbers written over the Notes or *Signs of Time*; whereby you may see a *Semibreve* is equal to Two *Minims*, a *Minim* equal to Two *Crotchets*, a *Crotchet* equal to Two *Quavers*, a *Quaver* equal to Two *Semiquavers*, a *Semiquaver* equal to Two *Demi-semiquavers*. The Proportions of Length of each of these to each other are therefore manifest: I have set over each of them Numbers which express all their mutual Proportions; so a *Minim* is to a *Quaver* as 16 to 4, or 4 to 1, *i. e.* a *Minim* is equal to Four *Quavers*, and so of the rest. Now these Proportions are double, (*i. e.* as 2 : 1) or compounded of several Doubles, so 4 : 1 contains 2 : 1 twice ; but there is also the Proportion of 3 : 1 used in *Musick* : Yet that this Part may be as simple and easy as possible, these Proportions already stated among the Notes, are fixt and invariable ; and to express a Proportion of 3 to 1 we add a Point (.) on the right Side of any Note, which is equal to a Half of it, where by a pointed *Semibreve* is equal to Three *Minims*, and so of the rest, as you see in the *Figure*. From these arise other Proportions, as of 2 to 3, which is betwixt any Note (as a

B b 3

Crotchet)

*Crotchet*) plain, and the same pointed; for the plain *Crotchet* is Two *Quavers*, and the pointed is Three. Also we have the Proportion of 3 to 4, betwixt any Note pointed, and the Note of the next greater Value plain, as betwixt a pointed *Crotchet* and a plain *Minim*. And of these arise other Proportions, but we need not trouble our selves with them, since they are not directly useful; and that we may know what are so, suffer me to repeat a little of what I have said elsewhere, *viz*, that

THINGS that are designed to affect our Senses must bear a due Proportion with them; and so where the Parts of any Object are numerous, and their Relations perp'ext, and not easily perceived, they can raise no agreeable Ideas; nor can we easily judge of the Difference of Parts where it is great; therefore, that the Proportion of the *Time* of Notes may afford us Pleasure, they must be such as are not difficultly perceived: For this Reason the only *Ratios* fit for *Musick*, besides that of Equality, are the double and triple, or the *Ratios* of 2 to 1 and 3 to 1; of greater Differences we could not judge, without a painful Attention; and as for any other *Ratios* than the multiple Kind (*i. e.* which are as 1 to some other Number) they are still more perplext. 'Tis true, that in the Proportions of *Tune* the *Ratios* of 2 : 3, of 3 : 4, &c. produce *Concord*; and tho' we conclude these to be the Proportions, from very good Reasons, yet the Ear judges of them after a more subtil Manner; or rather indeed we are conscious of no such Thing

Thing as the Proportions of the different Numbers of Vibrations that constitute the *Intervals* of Sound, tho' the Agreeableness or Disagreeableness of our Sensations seem to depend upon it, by some secret Conformity of the Organs of Sense with the Impulse made upon them in these Proportions; but in the Business of *Time*, the good Effect depends entirely upon a distinct Perception of the Proportions.

Now, the Length of Notes is a Thing merely accidental to the Sound, and depends altogether upon our Will in producing them: And to make the Proportions distinct and perceivable, so that we may be pleas'd with them, there is no other Way but to divide the Two Notes compar'd into equal Parts; and as this is easier done in multiple Proportions, because the shorter Note needs not be divided, being the Divisor or Measure of the imaginary Parts of the other, so 'tis still easier in the first and more simple Kind as 2 to 1, and 3 to 1; and the Necessity of such simple Proportions in the *Time* is the more, that we have also the *Intervals* of *Tune* to mind along with it. But observe, that when I say the *Ratio* of Equality, and those of 2 to 3 and 3 to 1, are the only *Ratios* of *Time* fit for *Musick*, I do not mean that there must not be, in the same Song, Two Notes in any other Proportion; but you must take it this Way, *viz.* that of Two Notes immediately next other, these ought to be the *Ratios*, because only the Notes in immediate Succession are or can be directly minded, in pro-

portioning the Time, whereof one being taken at any Length, the other is measured with relation to it, and so on: And the Proportions of other Notes at Distances I call accidental Proportions. Again *observe*, that even betwixt Two Notes next to other, there may be other Proportions of greater Inequality, but then it is betwixt Notes which the Ear does not directly compare, which are separate by some Pause, as the one being the End of one Period of the Song, and the other the Beginning of another; or even when they are separate by a less Pause, as a *Bar* (which you'll have explained presently.) Sometimes also a Note is kept out very long, by connecting several Notes of the same Value, and directing them to be taken all as one, but this is always so ordered that it can be easily subdivided in the Imagination, and especially by the Movement of some other *Part* going along, which is the ordinary Case where these long Notes happen, and then the *Melody* is in the moving *Part*, the long Note being designed only for *Harmony* to it; so that this Case is no proper Exception to the Rule, which relates to the *Melody* of successive Sounds, but here the *Melody* is transferred from the one *Part* to another. And *lastly*, consider that it is chiefly in brisk Movements, where neither of the Two Notes is long, that no other Proportions betwixt them than the simple ones mentioned are admitted.

§ 2. *Of the absolute Time; and the various Modes, or Constitution of Parts of a Piece of Melody, on which the different Airs in Musick depend, and particularly of the Distinction of common and triple Time, and the Description of the Chronometer for measuring it.*

FROM the Principles mentioned in the last Article, we conclude that there are certain Limits beyond which we must not go, either in Swiftnefs or Slownefs of *Time*, i.e. Length or Shortnefs of Notes; and therefore let us come to Particulars, and explain the various Quantities, and the Way of measuring them.

IN order to this we must here consider another Application of the preceeding Principles, which is, that a Piece of *Melody* being a Composition of many Notes successively ranged, and heard one after another, is divisible into several Parts; and ought to be contrived so as the several Members may be easily distinguished, that the Mind, perceiving this Connexion of Parts constituting one Whole, may be delighted with it; for 'tis plain where we perceive there are Parts, the Mind will endeavour to distinguish them, and when that cannot be easily done, we must be so far disappointed of our Pleasure. Now a Division into equal Parts is of all others, the most simple and easily perceived; and in the present Case, where so many other Things require our Attention, as the various  
Com-

Combinations of *Tune* and *Time*, no other Division can be admitted: Therefore,

EVERY *Song* is actually divided into a certain Number of equal Parts, which we call *Bars* (from a Line that separates them, drawn straight across the Staff, as you see in *Plate 2.*) or *Measures*, because the Measure of the *Time* is laid upon them, or at least by means of their Subdivisions we are assisted in measuring it; and therefore you have this Word *Measure* used sometime for a *Bar*, and sometime for the absolute Quantity of *Time*; and to prevent Ambiguity, I shall afterwards write it in *Italick* when I mean a *Bar*.

By saying the *Bars* are all equal I mean that, in the same Piece of *Melody*, they contain each the same Number of the same Kind of Notes, as *Minims* or *Crotchets*, &c. or that the Sum of the Notes in each (for they are variously subdivided) reckoned according to their *Ratios* one to another already fixt, is equal; and every Note of the same Name, as *Crotchet*, &c. must be made of the same *Time* through the whole Piece, consequently the *Times* in which the several *Bars* are performed are all equal; see the *Examples* of *Plate 3.* But what that *Time* is, we don't yet know; and indeed I must say it is a various and undetermined Thing. Different Purposes, and the Variety which we require in our Pleasures, make it necessary that the Measures of a *Bar*, or the Movement with respect to quick and slow, be in some Pieces greater, and in others lesser;

lesser ; and this might be done by having the Quantity of the Notes of *Time* fixt to a certain Measure, so that wherever any Note occurred it should always be of the same *Time*; and then when a quick Movement were designed, the Notes of shorter *Time* would serve, and the longer for a slow *Time* ; and for determining these Notes we might use a Pendulum of a certain Length, whose Vibration being the fixt Measure of any one Note, that would determine the rest ; and it would be best if a *Crotchet* were the determined Note, by the Subdivision or Multiplication whereof, we could easily measure the other Notes; and by Practice we might easily become familiar with that Measure ; but as this is not the Method agreed upon, tho' it seems to be a very rational and easy one, I shall not insist upon it here.

IN the present Practice, tho' the same Notes of *Time* are of the same Measure in any one Piece, yet in different Pieces they differ very much, and the Differences are in general marked by the Words *slow, brisk, swift, &c.* written at the Beginning ; but still these are uncertain Measures, since there are different Degrees of *slow* and *swift* ; and indeed the true Determination of them must be learnt by Experience from the Practice of Musicians ; yet there are some Kind of general Rules commonly delivered to us in this Matter, which I shall shew you, and at the same Time the Method used for assisting us to give each Note its true Proportion, according to the Measure or determined

Quantit<sub>y</sub>

Quantity of *Time*, and for keeping this equal thro' the Whole. But in order to this, there is another very considerable Thing to be learnt, concerning the *Mode* or *Constitution* of the *Measure*; and first *observe*, That I call this Difference in the absolute *Time* the different *Movements* of a Piece, a Thing very distinct from the different *Measure* or *Constitution* of the *Bar*, for several Pieces may have the same *Measure*, and a different *Movement*. Now by this *Constitution* is meant the Difference with respect to the Quantity of the *Measure*, and the particular Subdivision and Combination of its Parts; and by the total Quantity, I understand that the Sum of all the Notes in the *Measure* reckoned according to their fixt Relation, is equal to some one or more determined Notes, as to one *Semibreve* or to Three *Minims* or *Crotchets*, &c. which yet without some other Determination is but relative: And in the Subdivision of the *Measure* the Thing chiefly considered is; That it is divisible into a certain Number of equal Parts, so that, counting from the Beginning of the *Measure*, each Part shall end with a Note, and not in the Middle of one (tho' this is also admitted for Variety;) for *Example*, if the *Measure* contain 3 *Minims*, and ought to be divided into Three equal Parts, then the Subdivision and Combination of its lesser Parts ought to be such, that each Part, counting from the Beginning, shall be composed of a precise Number of whole Notes, without breaking in upon any Note; so if the first Note

were

were a *Crotchet*, and the second a *Minim*, we could not take the first 3<sup>d</sup> Part another Way than by dividing that *Minim*.

WE considered already how necessary it is that the *Ratios* of the *Time* of successive Notes be simple, which for ordinary are only as 2 to 1, or 3 to 1, and in any other Cases are only the Compounds of these *Ratios*, as 4 to 1; so in the *Constitution* of the *Measure*, we are limited to the same *Ratios*, i. e. the *Measures* are only subdivided into 2 or 3 equal Parts; and if there are more, they must be Multiples of these Numbers as 4 to 6, is composed of 2 and 3; again observe, the *Measures* of several Songs may agree in the total Quantity, yet differ in the Subdivision and Combination of the lesser Notes that fill up the *Measure*; also those that agree in a similar or like Combination or Subdivision of the *Measure*, may yet differ in the total Quantity. But to come to Particulars.

Of common and triple Time.

THESE *Modes* are divided into Two general Kinds, which I shall call the *common* and *triple Mode*, called ordinarily *common* and *triple Time*.

I. *COMMON TIME* is of Two Species; the 1<sup>st</sup> where every *Measure* is equal to a *Semibreve*, or its Value in any Combination of Notes of a lesser relative Quantity; the 2<sup>d</sup>, where every *Measure* is equal to a *Minim*, or its Value in lesser Notes. The *Movements* of this Kind of *Measure* are very various; but there are Three common Distinctions, the first is *slow*, signified

at

at the Beginning by this Mark C, the 2d is *brisk*, signified by this  $\Phi$ , the 3d is very *quick* signified by this  $\Psi$ ; but what that *slow, brisk,* and *quick* is, is very uncertain, and, as I have said already, must be learned by Practice: The nearest Measure I know, is to make a *Quaver* the Length of the Pulse of a good Watch, and so the *Crotchet* will be equal to 2 Pulses, a *Minim* equal to 4, and the whole *Measure* or *Semibreve* equal to 8 Pulses; and this is very near the Measure of the brisk *common Time*, the slow *Time* being near as long again, as the quick is about half as long. Some propose to measure it thus, *viz.* to imagine the *Bar* as actually divided into 4 *Crotchets* in the first Species, and to make the whole as long as one may distinctly pronounce these Four Words, *One, two, three, four*, all of equal Length; so that the first *Crotchet* may be applied to *One*, the 2d to *Two*, &c. and for other Notes proportionally; and this they make the brisk Movement of *common Time*; and where the *Bar* has but Two *Crotchets*, then 'tis measured by *one, two*: But this is still far from being a certain Measure. I shall propose some other Method presently, mean while

LET us suppose the Measure or Quantity fixt, that we may explain the ordinary Method practised as a Help for perserving it equal thro' the whole Piece.

THE total *Measure* of *common Time* is equal to a *Semibreve* or *Minim*, as already said; but these are variously subdivided into Notes of lesser

lesser Value. Now to keep the *Time* equal, we make use of a Motion of the Hand, or Foot (if the other is employed,) thus; knowing the true *Time* of a *Crotchet*, we shall suppose the *Measure* actually subdivided into 4 *Crotchets* for the first Species, and the half *Measure* will be 2 *Crotchets*, therefore the Hand or Foot being up, if we put it down with the very Beginning of the first Note or *Crotchet*, and then raise it with the Third, and then down with the Beginning of the next *Measure*, this is called *Beating* the *Time*; and by Practice we acquire a Habit of making this Motion very equal, and consequently of dividing the *Measure* in Two equal Parts: Now whatever other Subdivision the *Measure* consists of, we must calculate, by the Relation of the Notes, where the first Half ends, and then applying this equable Motion of the Hand or Foot, we make the first as long as the Motion down (or as the *Time* betwixt its being down and raised again, for the Motion is frequently made in an Instant; and the Hand continues down for some *Time*,) and the other Half as long as the Motion up (or as the Hand remains up,) and having the half *Measure* thus determined, Practice very soon learns us to take all the Notes that compose it in their true Proportion one to another, and so as to begin and end them precisely with the *beating*. In the *Measure* of Two *Crotchets*, we beat down the first and the second up.

*OBSERVE*, That some call each Half of the *Measure*, in common *Time*, A *TIME*; and

and so they call this the *Mode* or *Measure* of *Two Times*, or the *Dupla-measure*. Again you'll find some mark the *Measure* of *Two Crotchets* with a 2 or  $\frac{2}{4}$ , signifying that 'tis equal to *Two Notes*, whereof 4 make a *Semibreve*; and some also marked  $\frac{4}{8}$  which is the very same Thing, *i. e.* 4 *Quavers*.

2. *TRIPLE TIME* consists of many different Species, whereof there are in general 4, each of which have their Varieties under it; and the common Name of *Triple* is taken from this, that the Whole or Half *Measure* is divisible into 3 equal Parts, and so beat.

THE 1st Species is called the *simple Triple*, whose *Measure* is equal either to 3 *Semibreves*, to 3 *Minims*, or to 3 *Crotchets*, or to 3 *Quavers*, or lastly to 3 *Semiquavers*; which are marked thus, *viz.*  $\frac{3}{1}$  or  $\frac{3}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{3}{16}$ , but the last is not much used, nor the first, except in Church-musick. The *Measure* in all these, is divided into 3 equal Parts or *Times*, called from that properly *Triple-time*, or the *Measure* of 3 *Times*, whereof 2 are beat down, and the 3d up.

THE 2d Species is the *mixt Triple*: its *Measure* is equal to 6 *Crotchets* or 6 *Quavers* or 6 *Semiquavers*, and accordingly marked  $\frac{6}{4}$  or  $\frac{6}{8}$  or  $\frac{6}{16}$ , but the last is seldom used. Some Authors add other Two, *viz.* 6 *Semibreves* and 6 *Minims*; marked  $\frac{6}{1}$  or  $\frac{6}{2}$  but these are not in use. The *Measure* here is ordinarily divided into Two equal Parts or *Times*, whereof one is beat down, and one up; but it may also be divided into 6 *Times*, whereof the first Two are beat

beat down, and the 3<sup>d</sup> up, then the next Two down and the last up, *that is*, beat each Half of the Measure like the *simple Triple* (upon which Account it may also be called a *compound Triple*;) and because it may be thus divided either into Two or 6 *Times* (*i. e.* Two *Triples*) 'tis called *mixt*, and by some called the Measure of 6 *Times*.

THE 3<sup>d</sup> *Species* is the *compound Triple*, consisting of 9 *Crotchets*, or *Quavers* or *Semiquavers* marked thus  $\frac{9}{4}$ ,  $\frac{9}{8}$ ,  $\frac{9}{16}$ ; the first and the last are little used, and some add  $\frac{9}{7}$   $\frac{9}{2}$  which are never used. This *Measure* is divided either into 3 equal Parts or *Times*, whereof Two are beat down and one up; or each Third Part of it may be divided into 3 *Times*, and beat like the *simple Triple*, and for this 'tis called the Measure of 9 *Times*.

THE 4<sup>th</sup> *Species* is a *Compound* of the 2<sup>d</sup> *Species*, containing 12 *Crotchets* or *Quavers* or *Semiquavers* marked  $\frac{12}{4}$   $\frac{12}{8}$   $\frac{12}{16}$ , to which some add  $\frac{12}{7}$  and  $\frac{12}{2}$  that are not used; nor are the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> much in Use, especially the 3<sup>d</sup>. The *Measure* here may be divided into Two *Times*, and beat one down and one up; or each Half may be divided and beat at the 2<sup>d</sup> *Species*, either by Two or Three, in which Case it will make in all 12 *Times*, hence called the Measure of 12 *Times*. See Examples of the most ordinary *Species* in *Plate 3d*.

Now as to the Movement of these several Kinds of *Measures* both *duple* and *triple*, 'tis various and as I have said, it must be learned

by Practice ; yet ere I leave this Part, I shall make these general *Observations*, *First*. That the *Movement* in every Piece is ordinarily marked by such Words as *slow*, *swift*, &c. But because the *Italian* Compositions are the Standard and Model of the better Kind of modern *Musick*, I shall explain the Words by which they mark their Movements, and which are generally used by all others in Imitation of them : They have 6 common Distinctions of *Time*, expressed by these Words, *grave*, *adagio*, *largo*, *vivace*, *allegro*, *presto*, and sometimes *prestissimo*. The first expresses the slowest Movement, and the rest gradually quicker ; but indeed they leave it altogether to Practice to determine the precise Quantity. *2do*. The Kind of *Measure* influences the *Time* express'd by these Words, in respect of which we find this generally true, that the Movements of the same Name, as *adagio* or *allegro*, &c. are swifter in *triple* than in *common Time*. *3tio*. We find *common Time* of all these different Movements ; but in the *triple*, there are some Species that are more ordinarily of one Kind of Movement than another : Thus the triple  $\frac{3}{2}$  is ordinarily *adagio*, sometimes *vivace* ; the  $\frac{3}{4}$  is of any Kind from *adagio* to *allegro* ; the  $\frac{3}{8}$  is *allegro*, or *vivace* ; the  $\frac{6}{4}$   $\frac{6}{8}$   $\frac{2}{8}$  are more frequently *allegro* ; the  $\frac{12}{8}$  is sometimes *adagio* but oftner *allegro*. Yet after all, the *allegro* of one Species of *triple* is a quicker Movement than that of another, so very uncertain these Things are.

THERE is another very considerable Thing to be minded here, *viz.* that the Air or Humour

mour of a *Song* depends very much upon these different *Modes* of *Time*, or *Constitutions* of the *Measure*, which joined with the Variety of *Movements* that each *Mode* is capable of, makes this Part of *Musick* wonderfully entertaining; but we must be acquainted with *practical Musick* to understand this perfectly; yet the following general Things concerning the Species of *Triple*, may be of some Use to remark.

1mo. As to the Differences in each Species, such as  $\frac{3}{2}$ ;  $\frac{3}{4}$  ·  $\frac{3}{8}$  in the *simple triple*, there is more *Caprice* than *Reason*; for the same Piece of *Melody* may be set in any of these Ways without losing any Thing of its true Air, since the *Relation* of the Notes are invariable, and there is no certain Quantity of the *absolute Time*, which is left to the arbitrary Direction of these Words; *adagio*, *allegro*, &c.

2do. OF the several Species of *triple*, there are some that are of the same *relative Measure*, as  $\frac{3}{2}$  ·  $\frac{6}{4}$  ·  $\frac{12}{8}$ ; and  $\frac{3}{4}$  ·  $\frac{6}{8}$ ; these are so far of the same *Mode* as the Measure of each contains the same total Quantity; for Three *Minims* and Six *Crotchets* and Twelve *Quavers* are equal, and so are Three *Crotchets* equal to Six *Quavers*; but the different *Constitutions* of the *Measure*, with respect to the Subdivisions and Connections of the Notes, make a most remarkable Difference in the Air: For *Example*, The Time of  $\frac{3}{2}$  consists generally of *Minims*, and these sometimes mixt with *Semibreves* or with *Crotchets*, and some *Bars* will be all *Crotchets*; but  $\frac{3}{4}$  is contrived so that the Air requires the

*Measure* to be divided and beat by Three *Times*, and will not do another Way without manifestly changing and spoiling the Humour of the Song: Suppose we would beat it by Two *Times*, the first Half will always (except when the *Measure* is actually divided into Six *Crotchets*, which is very seldom) end in the Middle, or within the *Time* of some Note; and tho' this is admitted sometimes for Variety (whereof afterwards) yet it is rare compared with the general Rule, which is, to contrive the Division of the *Measure* so that every Down and Up of the *Beating* shall end with a particular Note; for upon this depends very much the Distinctness and, as it were, the Sense of the *Melody*; and therefore the Beginning of every *Time*, or *Beating* in the *Measure*, is reckoned the *accented* Part thereof. For the *Time*  $\frac{6}{4}$  it consists of *Crotchets* sometimes mixt with *Quavers*, and even with *Minims*, but so ordered that 'tis either *dupla* or *tripla*, as above explained, which makes a great Difference in the Air. The *Time*  $\frac{12}{8}$  is also mixt of *dupla* and *tripla*, and consists generally of *Quavers*, and sometimes of *Crotchets*, but these are tied always by Three; and we have the *Bar* frequently composed of Twelve *Quavers* tied Three and Three; which, if we should ty Two and Two, would quite alter the Air: The Reason is, That in this *Mode* there are in each *Bar* Four remarkably accented Parts, which are distant from each other by Three *Quavers*; and the true Reason of tying the *Quavers* in that manner, seems to

me to be, the marking out these distinct Parts of the *Measure*; but when the *Quavers* are tied in even Numbers by Two or Four, or by Six, it supposes the Accent upon the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> *Quaver*; which gives another Air to the *Melody*, and always a wrong one, when the skilful Composer designed it otherwise. The same Reasons take place in the Difference of these Times  $\frac{3}{4}$ .  $\frac{6}{8}$ ; the first consists more ordinarily of *Crotchets*, and *Quavers* tied in even Numbers, because 'tis divided into Three Parts or *Times*; but the other is mixt of *duple* and *triple*, and therefore 'tis tied in Threes, unless it be subdivided into *Semiquavers*, and then these are tied in even Numbers, because Two *Semiquavers* make a *Quaver*.

AGAIN, there is another Question to be considered here, *viz.* What is the real Difference betwixt  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{6}{4}$ , and betwixt  $\frac{3}{8}$ ,  $\frac{6}{8}$  and  $\frac{12}{8}$ ? The Lengths of the several Strains, or more general Periods of the Song, depend upon these, which make a considerable Difference; but their principal Difference lies in the proper Movements of each, and a certain Choice of the successive Notes that agree only with that Movement; so  $\frac{6}{4}$  is always *allegro*, and would have no agreeable Air if it were performed *adagio* or *largo*: Another Thing is, that the Beginning of each *Bar* is a more distinct and accented Part than the Beginning of any *Time* in the Middle of a *Bar*, and therefore if we should take a Piece set  $\frac{6}{4}$ , and subdivide its *Bars* to make it  $\frac{3}{4}$ , there would be Hazard of separat-

ing Things that ought to stand in a cloſer Connection; and if we put Two *Bars* in one of a Piece ſet  $\frac{3}{4}$ , to make it  $\frac{6}{4}$ , then we ſhould joyn Things that ought to be diſtinct: But I doubt I have already ſaid more than can be well underſtood without ſome Acquaintance with the Practice; yet there is one Thing I cannot omit here, *viz.* that in *common Time* we have in ſome Caſes *Quavers* tied by Threes, and the Number 3 written over them, to ſignify that theſe Three are only the Time of other Two *Quavers* of that Measure.

OBSERVE, in explaining what a *Bar* or *Measure* is, I have ſaid that all the *Measures* of the ſame Piece of *Melody* or *Song*, are of equal *relative* Value; and the Differences in this reſpect are brought under the Diſtinction of different *Modes* and *Species*; but that is taking the Unity of the Piece in the ſtricteſt Senſe. We have alſo a Variety of ſuch Pieces united in one principal *Key*, and ſuch an Agreement of Air as is conſiſtent with the different *Modes* of *Time*; and ſuch a Composition of different Airs is called, in a large Senſe, one Piece of *Melody*, under the general Name of *Sonata* if 'tis deſigned only for Inſtruments, or *Cantata* if for the Voice; and theſe ſeveral leſſer Pieces have alſo different Names, ſuch as *Allemanda*, *Gavotta*, &c. (which are always *common Time*) *Minuet*, *Sarabanda*, *Giga*, *Corrante*, *Siciliana*, &c. which are *triple Time*.

## Of the CHRONOMETER.

I have spoken a little already of the measuring the *absolute Time*, or determining the *Movement* of a Piece by means of a *Pendulum*, a Vibration of which being applied to any one Note; as a *Crotchet*, the rest might be easily determined by that. Monsieur *Loulie* in his *Elemens, ou Principes de Musique*, proposes for this Purpose a very simple and easy Machine of a *Pendulum*, which he calls a CHRONOMETER; it consists of one large Ruler or Piece of Board, Six Foot or Seventy Two Inches long, to be set on End; it is divided into its Inches, and the Numbers set so as to count upward; and at every Division there is a small round Hole, thro' whose Center the Line of Division runs. At Top of this Ruler, about an Inch above the Division 72, and perpendicular to the Ruler is inserted a small Piece of Wood, in the upper Side of which there is a Groove, hollowed along from the End that stands out to that which is fixt in the Ruler, and near each End of it a Hole is made: Thro' these Holes a *Pendulum* Chord is drawn, which runs in the Groove; at that End of the Chord that comes thro' the Hole furthest from the Ruler the Ball is hung, and at the other End there is a small wooden Pin which can be put in any of the Holes of the Ruler; when the Pin is in the upmost Hole at 72, then the *Pendulum* from the Top to the Center of

the Ball, must be exactly Seventy Two Inches ; and therefore whatever Hole of the Ruler it is put in, the *Pendulum* will be just so many Inches as that Figure at the Hole denotes. The Use of this Machine is ; the Composer lengthens or shortens his *Pendulum* till one Vibration be equal to the designed Length of his *Bar*, and then the *Pin* stands at a certain Division, which marks the Length of the *Pendulum* ; and this Number being set with the *Clef*, at the Beginning of the Song, is a Direction to others how to use the *Chronometer* in measuring the Time according to the Composer's Design ; for, with the Number is set the Note (*Crotchet* or *Minim*) whose Value he would have the Vibration to be ; which in brisk *common Time* is best a *Minim* or half *Bar*, or even a whole *Bar* when that is but a *Minim*, and in slow *Time* a *Crotchet* : In *triple Time* it will do well to be the 3<sup>d</sup> Part, or Half or 4<sup>th</sup> Part of a *Bar* ; and in the *simple Triples* that are *allegro*, let it be a whole *Bar*. And if in every *Time* that is *allegro*, the Vibration is applied to a whole or half *Bar*, Practice will teach us to subdivide it justly and equally. And mind, to make this Machine of universal Use, some canonical Measure of the Divisions must be agreed upon, that the Figure may give a certain Direction for the Length of the *Pendulum*.

§ 3. *Concerning Rests or Pauses of Time ; and some other necessary Marks in writing Musick.*

**A**S Silence has very powerful Effects in *Ora-*  
*tory*, when it is rightly managed, and brought in agreeable to Circumstances, so in *Musick*, which is but another Way of expressing and exciting Passions, Silence is sometimes used to good Purpose : And tho it may be necessary in a single Piece of *Melody* for expressing some Passion, and even for the Pleasure depending on Variety, where no Passion is directly minded, yet it is used more generally in *symphonetick* Compositions ; for the sake of that Beauty and Pleasure we find in hearing one Part move on while another rests, and this interchangeably; which being artfully contrived, has very good Effects. But my Business in this Place is only to let you know the Signs or Marks by which this Silence is expressed.

**T**HES E *Rests* are either for a whole *Bar*, or more than one *Bar*, or but the Part of a *Bar* : When it is for a Part of a *Bar*; then it is expressed by certain Signs corresponding to the Quantity of certain Notes of *Time*, as *Minim*, *Crotchet*, &c. and are accordingly called *Minim-rests*, *Crotchet-rests*, &c. See their Figure in *Plate 2. Fig. 3.* where the Note and corresponding Rest are put together ;  
and

and when any of these occur either on Line or Space, for 'tis no Matter where they are set, that Part is always silent for the *Time* of a *Minim* or *Crotchet*, &c. according to the Nature of the *Rest*. A *Rest* will be sometimes for a *Crotchet* and *Quaver*, or for other Quantities of *Time*, for which there is no particular Note; in this Case the Signs of Silence are not multiplied or made more difficult than those of Sound, but such a Silence is marked by placing together as many *Rests* of different *Time* as make up the whole designed *Rest*; which makes the Practice more easy, for by this we can more readily divide the Measure, and give the just Allowance of *Time* to the *Rests*: But let Practice satisfy you of these 'Things.

WHEN the *Rest* is for a whole *Bar*, then the *Semibreve Rest* is always used, both in *common* and *triple Time*. If the *Rest* is for Two *Measures*, then it is marked by a Line drawn cross a whole Space, and cross a Space and an Half for Three *Measures*, and cross Two Spaces for Four *Measures*; and so on as you see marked in the Place above directed. But to prevent all Ambiguity, and that we may at Sight know the Length of the *Rest*, the Number of *Bars* is ordinarily written over the Place where these Signs stand.

I know some Writers speak differently about these *Rests*, and make some of them of different Values in different Species of *triple Time*: For *Example*, they say, that the Figure of what is the *Minim-rest* in *common Time*, expresses the

*Rest*

*Rest* of Three *Crotchets*; and that in the *Triples*  $\frac{6}{8}$   $\frac{6}{16}$   $\frac{12}{8}$   $\frac{12}{16}$  it marks always an half *Measure*, however different these are among themselves: Again, that the *Rest* of a *Crotchet* in *common Time* is a *Rest* of Three *Quavers* in the *Triple*  $\frac{3}{8}$ , and that the *Quaver-rest* of *common Time* is equal to Three *Semiquavers* in the *triple*  $\frac{3}{16}$ . But this Variety in the Use of the same Signs is now generally laid aside, if ever it was much in Fashion; at least there is a good Reason why it ought to be out, for we can obtain our End easier by one constant Value of these Marks of Silence, as they are above explained.

THERE are some other Marks used in writing of *Musick*, which I shall explain, all of which you'll find in *Plate 2*. A *single Bar* is a Line across the Staff, that separates one *Measure* from another. A *double Bar* is Two parallel Lines across the Staff, which separates the greater Periods or Strains of any particular or *simple Piece*. A *Repeat* is a Mark which signifies the Repetition of a Part of the Piece; which is either of a whole Strain, and then the double *Bar*, at the End of that Strain, which is repeated, is marked with Points on each Side of it; and some make this the Rule, that if there are Points on both Sides, they direct to a Repetition both of the preceeding and following Strain, *i. e.* that each of them are to be play'd or sung twice on End; but if only one of these Strains ought to be repeated, then there must be Points only on that Side, *i. e.* on the left, if it

it is the preceeding, or the Right if the following Strain: When only a Part of a Strain is to be repeated, there is a Mark set over the Place where that Repetition begins, which continues to the End of the Strain.

A *Direct* is a Mark set at the End of a Staff, especially at the Foot of a Page, upon that Line or Space where the first Note of the next Staff is set.

YOU'LL find a Mark, like the Arch of a Circle drawn from one Note to another, comprehending Two or more Notes in the same or different Degrees; if the Notes are in different Degrees, it signifies that they are all to be sung to one Syllable, for Wind-instruments that they are to be made in one continued Breath, and for stringed Instruments that are struck with a Bow, as Violin, that they are made with one Stroke. If the Notes are in the same Degree, it signifies that 'tis all one Note, to be made as long as the whole Notes so connected; and this happens most frequently betwixt the last Note of one *Bar* and the first of the next, which is particularly called *Syncopation*, a Word also applied in other Cases: Generally, when any *Time* of a *Measure* ends in the Middle of a Note, that is, in common *Time*, if the Half or any of the 4<sup>th</sup> Parts of the *Bar*, counting from Beginning, ends in the Middle of a Note, in the *simple Treble* if any 3<sup>d</sup> Part of the *Measure* ends within a Note, in the *compound Treble* if any 9<sup>th</sup> Part, and in the *Two mixt Triples*, if any 6<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Part ends in the Middle of any

any Note, 'tis called *Syncopation*, which properly signifies a striking or breaking of the *Time*, because the Distinctness of the several *Times* or Parts of the *Measure* is as it were hurt or interrupted hereby, which yet is of good Use in *Musick* as Experience will teach.

YOU'LL find over some single Notes a Mark like an Arch, with a Point in the Middle of it which has been used to signify that that Note is to be made longer than ordinary, and hence called a *Hold*; but more commonly now it signifies that the *Song* ends there, which is only used when the *Song* ends with a Repetition of the first Strain or a Part of it; and this Repetition is also directed by the Words, *Da capo*, *i. e.* from the Beginning.

OVER the Notes of the *Bass-part* you'll find Numbers written, as 3 . 5, &c. these direct to the *Concords* or *Discords*, that the Composer would have taken with the Note over which they are set, which are as it were the Substance of the *Bass*, these others being as Ornaments, for the greater Variety and Pleasure of the *Harmony*.



## C H A P. XIII.

*Containing the general Principles and Rules  
of HARMONICK COMPOSITION.*

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## § I. DEFINITIONS.

1. *Of Melody and Harmony and their Ingredients.*

**T**HO' these, and also the next *Definition* concerning the *Key*, have been already largely explained; yet 'tis necessary they be here repeated with a particular View to the Subject of this Chapter.

*MELODY* is the agreeable Effect of different *musical* Sounds, successively ranged and disposed; so that *Melody* is the Effect only of one single Part; and tho' it is a Term chiefly applicable to the *Treble*, as the *Treble* is mostly to be distinguished by its *Air*, yet in so far as the *Bass* may be made airy, and to sing well, it may be also properly said to be *melodious*.

HAR-

*HARMONY* is the agreeable Result of the Union of Two or more *musical* Sounds heard at one and the same Time; so that *Harmony* is the Effect of Two Parts at least: As therefore; a continued Succession of *musical* Sounds produces *Melody*, so does a continued Combination of these produce *Harmony*.

OF the Twelve *Intervals* of *musical* Sounds, known by the Names of *Second lesser*, *Second greater*, *Third lesser*, *Third greater*, *Fourth*, *false Fifth*, (which is called *Tritone* or *Semi-diapente* in *Chap. 8. § 4.*) *Fifth*, *Sixth lesser*, *Sixth greater*, *Seventh lesser*, *Seventh greater* and *Octave*, all *Melody* and *Harmony* is composed; for the *Octaves* of each of these are but Replications of the same Sounds; and whatever therefore is or shall be said of any or of all of these Sounds, is to be understood and meant as said also of their *Octaves*.

THESE *Intervals*, as they are expressed by Notes, stand, as in *Example 1.* *C* being the *fundamental* Note from which the rest receive their Denominations: Or they may stand as in the *Second Example*, where *g* is the *fundamental* Note; for whatever be the *Fundamental*, the Distances of Sound are to it, and reciprocally to each other the same.

OF these *Intervals* Two, *viz.* the *Octave* and *Fifth*, are called *perfect Concords*; Four, *viz.* the Two *3ds* and Two *6ths*, are called *imperfect Concords*; Five *viz.* the *false Fifth*, the Two *Seconds* and Two *Sevenths*, are *Discords*. The *Fourth* is in its own Nature a *perfect Concord*

*cord*; but because of its Situation, lying betwixt the 3<sup>d</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup>, it can never be made use of as a *Concord*, but when joined with the 6<sup>th</sup> with which it stands reciprocally in the Relation of a 3<sup>d</sup>; it is therefore commonly classed among the *Discords*, not on account of the Nature of the *Interval*, but because of its little Use in the *Harmony* of *Concords*.

## 2. Of the principal Tone or Key.

THE *Key* in every Piece and in every Part of each Piece of *musical* Composition is that *Tone* or Sound which is predominant and to which all the rest do refer (See above *Chap. 9.*)

EVERY Piece of *Musick*, as a *Concerto*, *Sonata* or *Cantata* is framed with due regard to one particular Sound called the *Key*, and in which the Piece is made to begin and end; but in the Course of the *Harmony* of any such Piece, the Variety which in *Musick* is so necessary to please and entertain, requires the introducing of several other *Keys*.

It is enough here to consider, that every the least Portion of any Piece of *Musick* has its *Key*; which rightly to comprehend we are to take Notice, that a well tuned Voice, tho' unaccustomed to *Musick*, ascending by Degrees from any Sound assigned, will naturally proceed from such Sound to the 2<sup>d</sup> g. from thence to the

the 3d l. or to the 3d g. indifferently from either of these to the 4th, from thence to the 5th, from thence to the 6th l. or 6th g. accordingly as it has before either touched at the 3d l. or 3d g. from either of these to the 7th g. and from thence into the *Octave*: From which it is inferred, that of the 12 *Intervals* within the *Compass* of the *Octave* of any *Sound* assigned, seven are only *natural* and *melodious* to that *Sound*, viz. the 2d g. 3d g. 4th, 5th, 6th g. 7th g. and 8ve, if the proceeding be by the 3d g. but if it is by the 3d l. the Seven natural *Sounds* are the 2d g. 3d l. 4th, 5th, 6th l. 7th g. and 8ve, as they are express'd in the *Examples*, 3d and 4th.

As therefore the 3d and 6th may be either greater or lesser, from thence it is that the *Key* is denominated *sharp* or *flat*; the *sharp Key* being distinguished by the 3d g. and the *Flat* by the 3d l.

IN such a Progression of *Sounds*, the *fundamental* one to which the others do refer, is the *principal Tone* or *Key*; and as here *C* is the *Key*, so may any other *Note* be the *Key*, by being made the *fundamental* *Note* to such like Progression of *Notes*, as is already exemplified.

WHATEVER be the *Key*, none but the Seven *natural* *Notes* can enter into the *Composition* of its *Harmony*: The Five other *Notes* that are within the *Compass* of the *Octave* of the *Key*, viz. the 2d l. 3d l. false 5th, 6th l.

7th l. in a *sharp Key*; and the 2d l. 3d g. false 5th, 6th g. and 7th l. in a *flat one*, are always extraneous to the *Key*.

WHEN these Seven Notes shall happen to be mentioned in the *Bass* as Notes, I shall for Distinction's sake express them by the Names of 2d *Fundamental* or 2d f. 3d f. 4th f. 5th f. 6th f. 7th f. the *Octave* being a Replication of the *Key*, will need no other Name than the *Key f.* But when any of the *Octaves* of these Seven Notes shall happen to be mentioned as Ingredients of the *Treble*, I shall describe them by the simple Names of 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, &c. Thus, when the 3d f. or its *Octave*, which is the same Thing, shall happen to be considered as a *Treble* Note, it is to be marked simply thus (3d) as being a *Third* to the *Key Fund.* Thus the 5th f. or its *Octave*, when considered as a Note in the *Treble*, is to be simply marked thus (5th) as being a 5th to the *Key f.* Or thus (3d) as being a 3d to the 3d f.: Or thus (6th) as being a 6th to the 7th f. and so of the rest.

EACH of the Seven *natural* Notes therefore in each *Key*, considered as *fundamental*, or as Notes of the *Bass*, have their respective 3ds, 5ths, 6ths, &c. which respective 3ds, 5ths, 6ths, &c. must be some one, or *Octaves* to some one or other of the 7 *fundamental* Notes that are *natural* to the *Key*; because, as was said before, nothing can enter into the *Harmony* of any *Key*, but its Seven *natural* Notes and their *Octaves*.

## 3. Of Composition.

UNDER this Title of *Composition* are justly comprehended the *practical Rules*. 1mo. Of *Melody*, or the Art of making a single *Part*, i. e. contriving and disposing the single Sounds, so that their Succession and Progress may be agreeable; and 2do. Of *Harmony*, or the Art of disposing and conferting several single *Parts* so together, that they may make one agreeable Whole. And here observe, the Word *Harmony* is taken somewhat larger than above in *Chap. 7.* for *Discords* are used with *Concords* in the *Composition* of *Parts*, which is here express in general by the Word *Harmony*; which therefore is distinguished into the *Harmony* of *Concords* in which no *Discords* are used, and that of *Discords* which are always mixt with *Concords*. Observe also that this Art of *Harmony* has been long known by the Name of *Counterpoint*; which arose from this, That in the Times when *Parts* were first introduced, their *Musick* being so simple that they used no Notes of different Time, that Difference depending upon the Quantity of Syllables of the Words of a Song, they marked their *Concords* by Points set against one another. And as there were no different Notes of Time, so the *Parts* were in every Note made *Concord*: And this afterwards was called *simple* or *plain Counterpoint*, to distinguish it from another Kind, wherein Notes of different Value were used, and *Discords* brought

in betwixt the *Parts*, which was called *figurate Counterpoint*.

*OBSERVE* again, *Melody* is chiefly the Business of the Imagination; so that the Rules of *Melody* serve only to prescribe certain Limits to it, beyond which the Imagination, in searching out the Variety and Beauty of Air, ought not to carry us: But *Harmony* is the Work of Judgment; so that its Rules are more certain, extensive, and in Practice more difficult. In the Variety and Elegancy of the *Melody*, the Invention labours a great deal more than the Judgment; but in *Harmony* the Invention has nothing to do, for by an exact Observation of the Rules of *Harmony* it may be produced without that Assistance from the Imagination.

It may not be impertinent here to observe, that it is the great Business of a Composer not to be so much attach'd to the Beauty of *Air*, as to neglect the solid Charms of *Harmony*; nor so servilly subjected to the more minute Niceties of *Harmony*, as to detract from the *Melody*; but, by a just Medium, to make his Piece conspicuous, by preserving the united Beauty both of *Air* and *Harmony*.

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## § 2. Rules of Melody.

I. ANY Note being chosen for the *Key*, and its Quality of *sharp* or *flat* determined, no Notes must be used in any *Part* but the natural

*tural* and *essential* Notes of the *Key*, as these are already shewn : And for changing or *modulating* from one *Key* to another, which may also be done, you'll find Rules below in

§. 5.

II. Concerning the Succession of *Intervals* in the several *Parts*, you have these general Rules.

1. THE *Treble* ought to proceed by as little *Intervals*, as is possibly consistent with that Variety of *Air*, which is its distinguishing Character.

2. THE *Bass* may proceed either gradually or by larger *Intervals*, at the Will of the Composer.

3. THE ascending by the Distance of a *false 5th* is forbid, as being harsh and disagreeable; but descending by such a Distance is often practised especially in the *Bass*.

4. To proceed by the Distance of a spurious *2d*, that is, from any Note that is ♯, to the Note immediately above or below it that is ♭; or from any Note ♭ to the Note immediately above or below it ♯, is very offensive. As we are in greatest Danger of transgressing this Rule in a *flat Key*, because of the *6th l.* and *7th g.* which are Two of the *natural* Notes of the *Harmony*, we are therefore to take Care, that descending from the *Key* we may proceed by the *7th l.* to the *6th l.* and ascending to it we may proceed by the *6th g.* to the *7th g.* For altho' the *6th g.* and *7th l.* are not of the Seven Notes of

a *flat Key*, yet they may be thus made Use of as *Transitions*, without any Offence.

5. THE proceeding by the Distance of a 7th l. in any of the Parts, is very harsh.

THUS far may Rules be given to correct the Irregularities of Invention in point of *Air*; but to acquire or improve it, nothing less is necessary than to be acquainted with the *Melody* of the more celebrated Composers, so as to have the more ordinary, and, as it were, common Places of their *Melody*, familiar to the Ear; and what is further necessary will, in due Time, naturally follow a Genius turned that Way.

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### § 3. Of the *Harmony* of *Concords*, or *simple Counterpoint*.

THE *Harmony* of *Concords* is composed of the *imperfect*, as well as of the *perfect Concords*; and therefore may be said to be *perfect* and *imperfect*, according as the *Concords* are of which it is composed; thus the *Harmony* that arises from a *Conjunction* of any Note with its 5th and *Octave* is *perfect*, but with its 3d and 6th is *imperfect*.

It has been already shewn what may enter into the *Harmony* of any *Key*, and what may not. I proceed to shew how the Seven natural Notes, and their *Octaves* in any *Key*, may stand together in a *Harmony* of *Concord*; and  
how

how the several *Concords* may succeed other; and then make some particular Application, which will finish what is design'd on this Branch.

I. *How the Concords may stand together.*

1. To apply, *first*, the preceding Distinction of *perfect* and *imperfect* Harmony, take this *general Rule*, viz. to the *Key f.* to the *4th f.* and to the *5th f.* a *perfect Harmony* must be joyned. To the *2d f.* to the *3d f.* and to the *7th f.* an *imperfect Harmony* is in all Cases indispensably required. To the *6th f.* a *perfect* or *imperfect Harmony* is arbitrary.

*OBSERVE*, In the Composition of Two *Parts*, tho' a *3d* appears only in the *Treble* upon the *Key f.* the *4th f.* and the *5th f.* yet the *perfect Harmony* of the *5th* is always supposed, and must be supplied in the Accompaniments of the *thorough Bass* to these fundamental Notes.

2. BUT more particularly in the *Composition* of Two *Parts*.

*The RULES are,*

1. THE *Key f.* may have either its *Octave*, its *3d* or its *5th*.

2. THE *4th f.* and *5th f.* may have either their respective *3ds* or *5ths*; and the first may have its *6th*; as, to favour a contrary Motion, the last may have its *Octave*.

3. THE 6th f. may have either its 3d, its 5th or its 6th.

4. THE 2d f. 3d f. and 7th f. may have either their respective 3ds or 6ths; and the last may, on many Occasions, have its false 5th.

THESE Rules are still the same whether the the *Key* is *sharp* or *flat*, as they are exemplified in *Example 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.*

AFTER having considered what are the several *Concords*, that may be *harmoniously* applied to the seven *fundamental* Notes; it is next to be learned, how these several *Concords* may succeed each other, for therein lies the greatest Difficulty of *musical Composition.*

## II. The general Rules of Harmony, respecting the Succession of Concords.

1. THAT as much as can be in *Parts* may proceed by a contrary Movement, *that is*, when the *Bass* ascends, the *Treble* may at the same Time descend, & *vice versa*; but as it is impossible this can always be done, the Rule only prescribes the doing so as frequently as can be, *Exam. 12.*

2. The *Parts* moving the same Way either upwards or downwards, Two *Octaves* or Two *5ths* must never follow one another immediately, *Exam. 13.*

3. Two *6ths l.* must never succeed each other immediately; the Danger of transgressing which lies chiefly in a *sharp Key*, where the *6th* to the *6th f.* and to the *7th f.* are both *lesser.* *Exam. 14.*

4. WHENEVER

4. WHENEVER the *Octave* or *5th* is to be made use of, the *Parts* must proceed by a contrary Movement to each other; except the *Treble* move into such *Octave* or *5th* gradually; which Rule must be carefully observed, because the Occasions of transgressing it do most frequently occur, *Ex.* 15.

5. If in a *sharp Key*, the *Bass* descends gradually from the *5th f.* to the *4th f.*; the last must never in that Case have its proper *Harmony* applied to it, but the Notes that were *Harmony* to the preceding *5th f.* must be continued upon the *4th f.* *Exam.* 16.

6. *THIRDS* and *6ths* may follow one another immediately, as often as one has a Mind. *Exam.* 17.

HERE then are the *Rules* of *Harmony* plainly exhibited, which tho' few in Number, yet the Beginner will find the Observance of them a little difficult, because Occasions of transgressing do most frequently offer themselves.

IN the former *Article* it is shewn what *Concords* may be applied to each *Fundamental* or *Bass-note*; and here is taught how the *Parts* may proceed joyntly, the *Section 2d* shewing how they may proceed singly, and what in either Case is to be avoided. It remains therefore now to make the Application.

### III. *A particular Application of the preceeding Rules, to two Parts.*

WHEREAS it is natural to Beginners, first to imagine the *Treble*, and then to make a *Bass*  
to

to it, the *Treble* being the shining Part, in which the Beauty of *Melody* is chiefly to appear; in Compliance therewith, I shall, by inverting as it were the Rules in the foregoing Section, set forth, in the following Rules, which of the Seven *fundamental* Notes, in the *sharp* and *flat* Keys, can properly be made use of to each of the Seven *natural* Notes that may enter into the *Treble*; of which an exact Remembrance will very much facilitate the attaining a Readiness in the Practice of *single Counterpoint*.

RULES for making a Bass to a Treble, in the sharp as well as flat Key.

1. THE *Key* may have for its *Bass*, either the *Key f.* the *4th f.* to which it is a *5th*, the *3d f.* to which it is a *6th*, or the *6th f.* to which it is a *3d*.

2. THE *2d* may have for its *Bass*, either the *7th f.* to which it is a *3d*, or the *5th f.* to which it is a *5th*, and sometimes the *4th f.* to which it is a *6th*.

3. THE *3d* can rarely have any other *Bass* but the *Key f.* tho' sometimes it may have the *6th f.* to which it is a *5th*.

4. THE *4th* may have for its *Bass* either the *2d f.* to which it is a *3d*, or the *6th f.* to which it is a *6th*, and sometimes, to favour a contrary Movement of the *Parts*, it may have the *7th f.* to which it is a false *5th*, which ought to resolve in the *3d*, the *Bass* ascending to

to the *Key*, and the *Treble* descending to the 3<sup>d</sup>.

5. THE 5<sup>th</sup> may have for its *Bass*, either the 3<sup>d</sup> *f*. to which it is a 3<sup>d</sup>, the *Key* to which it is a 5<sup>th</sup>, the 7<sup>th</sup> *f*. to which it is a 6<sup>th</sup>; or, sometimes, to favour a contrary Movement of the *Parts*, it may have the 5<sup>th</sup> *f*. to which it is an *Octave*.

6. THE 6<sup>th</sup> may only have for its *Bass* the 4<sup>th</sup> *f*. to which it is a 3<sup>d</sup>.

7. THE 7<sup>th</sup> may have for its *Bass*, either the 5<sup>th</sup> *f*. to which it is a 3<sup>d</sup>, or the 2<sup>d</sup> *f*. to which it is a 6<sup>th</sup>.

I have carefully avoided the mentioning the 3<sup>d</sup>s and 6<sup>th</sup>s, particularly as they are *greater* or *lesser*, which would inevitably puzzle a Beginner: According to the Plan I have followed, there is no need to be so particular, because when a 3<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> are mentioned here in general, one is always to understand such a 3<sup>d</sup> and such a 6<sup>th</sup> as makes one of the Seven *natural* Notes of the *Key*; thus when I say that in a *sharp* *Key* the 5<sup>th</sup> is a 3<sup>d</sup>, to the 3<sup>d</sup> *f*. I must necessarily mean that it is a 3<sup>d</sup> *l*. to it, because the 3<sup>d</sup> *g*. to the 3<sup>d</sup> *f*. is one of the Five extraneous Notes; just so when I say that in a *flat* *Key* the 5<sup>th</sup> is a 3<sup>d</sup> to the 3<sup>d</sup> *f*. I must needs mean that it is a 3<sup>d</sup> *g*. to it, because the 3<sup>d</sup> *l*. to it is one of the Five extraneous Notes: Thus when I say that the 3<sup>d</sup> *f*. in either *Key* may have a 3<sup>d</sup> or a 6<sup>th</sup> for its *Treble* Note, it must be understood as if I said that such 3<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in

a *sharp Key* must be both lesser, and in a *flat Key*, they must be both greater, because in the first or *sharp Key* the 3d g. and 6th g. of the 3d f. are extraneous, and so are the 3d l. and the 6th l. of the 3d f. in a *flat Key*: But considering how much it would embarass and multiply the Rules, to have characterized the 3ds and 6ths so particularly, I have therefore contrived the Plan I proceed upon, so as to avoid both these Inconveniencies, and by being general make the same Rules rightly understood, serve both for a *sharp* and a *flat Key*.

BUT now that the Contents of the foregoing Rules may be the more easily committed to the Memory, I shall therefore convert them into this Scheme, where the *Asterism* is intended to denote what is but used sometimes.

*Scheme drawn from the preceeding Rules.*

The Octaves of the	Key	may stand in the	Treble either as a	3d, 5th, 6th, or 8ve.	to the	6f. 4f. 3f. Kf.
	2d			3d, 5th, 6th*		7f. 5f. 4f.
	3d			3d, 5th*		Kf. 6f.
	4th			3d, 5th l.* 6th.		2f. 7f. 6f.
	5th			3d, 5th, 6th, 8ve.		3f. Kf. 7f. 5f.
	6th			3d,		4f.
	7th			3d, 6th.		5f. 2f.

See this exemplified, *Example 18.*

These Rules being well understood, and exactly committed to the Memory, the *Treble* in *Ex. 19.* is supposed to be assign'd, and the *Bass* compos'd to it according to these and the former Rules.

THE first Thing I am to observe in the *Treble* is, that its *Key* is *c natural*, i. e. with the 3d *g.* because it begins and ends in *c* without touching any Note but the Seven that belong to the *Harmony* of that *Key*.

THE second Note in the *Treble* is the *second* in the *Harmony* of the *Key*; which, according to the Rules, might have stood as a 3d to the *Bass*, as well as a 5th; to which therefore the *Bass* might have been *b*, as well as *g.* but I rather chused the latter, because having begun pretty high with the *Bass*, I foresaw I should want to get down to *c* below, for a *Bass* to the 3d Note in the *Treble*; and therefore I chused *g* here rather than *b*, being a more natural and melodious Transition to *c* below.

THE third Note in the *Treble*, and 3d in the *Harmony* of the *Key*, has *c* the *Key f.* for its *Bass*, because it is almost the only *Bass* it can have: And I chused to take the *Key* below for the Reason I just now mentioned.

THE fourth Note in the *Treble* and 4th in the *Harmony* of the *Key*, has the 2d *f.* for its *Bass*, which here is *d*; it is capable of having for its *Bass* the 6th *f.* but considering what behoved to follow, it would not have been so natural.

THE fifth Note in the *Treble* and 5th in the *Harmony* of the *Key*, has for its *Bass* the 3d *f.* which is here *e.* it might have had *c* the *Key* for its *Bass*, and the going to *f* afterwards would have sung as well; but I chused to ascend gradually

gradually with the *Bass*, to preserve an Imitation that happens to be between the Parts, by the *Bass* ascending gradually to the 5th *f.* from the Beginning of the second *Bar*, as the *Treble* does from the Beginning of the first *Bar*.

THE sixth Note in the *Treble*, and *Key* in the *Harmony*, stands as a 5th; and has for its *Bass* the 4th *f.* rather than any other it might have had, for the Reason just now mentioned.

THE seventh Note in the *Treble*, and 7th in the *Harmony* of the *Key*, has the 5th *f.* rather than the 2d *f.* for its *Bass*, not only on account of the Imitation I took Notice of, but to favour the contrary Movement of the *Parts*; and besides, considering what behoved to follow in the *Bass*, the 2d *f.* would not have done so well here; and the Transition from it to the *Bass* Note that must necessarily follow, would not have been so natural. As to the following Notes of the *Bass* I need say nothing; for the Choice of them will appear to be from one of these Two Considerations, either that they are the only proper *Bass* Notes that the *Treble* could admit of, or that one is chosen rather than another to favour the contrary Movement of the *Parts*.

I chused rather to be particular in setting forth one *Example* than to perplex the Beginner with a Multitude of them; I have therefore only added a second, which I refer to the Student's own Examination; both which are so contrived, as to be capable of being transposed  
into

WHEN these *Examples* are thoroughly examined, the next Step I would advise the Beginner to make, would be to transpose these *Trebles* into other *Keys*; and then endeavour to make a *Bass* to them in these other *Keys*: For to him, the same *Treble* in different *Keys* will be in some Measure like so many different *Trebles*, and will be equally conducive to his Improvement. And when he has finished the *Bass* in these other *Keys*, let him cast his Eyes on the *Example*, and transpose the *Bass* here into the same *Keys*, that he may observe wherein they differ, and in what they agree; by which Comparison he will be able to discover his Faults, and become a Master to himself. And by the Time that he can with Facility write a *Bass* to these Two *Trebles*, in all the usual *Keys*, which upon Examination he shall find to coincide with the *Examples*, I may venture to assure him that he has conquered the greatest Difficulty.

NOTWITHSTANDING the infinite Variety of *Air* there may be in *Musick*, I take it for granted, that there are a great many common Places in point of *Air*, equally familiar to all Composers, which necessarily produce correspondent common Places in *Harmony*; thus it most frequently happens that the *Treble* descends from the 3<sup>d</sup> to the *Key*, as at the *Example* 20, as often will the *Treble* descend from  
 the

the 7th to the 5th. *Examples* 21, 22, and in this Case the *Bass* is always the 5 f. as in that the *Bass* is always the *Key f*. Thus frequently in the *Treble*, after a Series of Notes the *Air* will terminate and come to a Kind of *Rest* or *Close* upon the 2d or 7th; in both which the *Bass* must always be the 5th f. as in *Examples* 23, 24. Some other common Places will appear sufficiently in the *Examples*, and others, for the Beginner's Instruction, he will best gather himself from the Works of Authors, particularly of *Corelli*.

As a thorough Acquaintance with such common Places, will be a great Assistance to the Beginner, I would first recommend to him the Practice of those here set forth, in all the *usual Keys sharp* as well as *flat*, till they are become very familiar to him: But in transposing them to *flat Keys*, the Variation of the 3d and 6th is to be carefully adverted to.

AFTER *simple Counterpoint*, wherein nothing but *Concords* have Place, the next Step is to that *Counterpoint* wherein there is a Mixture of *Discord*; of which there are Two Kinds, that wherein the *Discords* are introduced occasionally to serve only as Transitions from *Concord* to *Concord*, or that wherein the *Discord* bears a chief Part in the *Harmony*.

§ 4. *Of the Use of Discords, or Figurate Counterpoint.*

i. *Of the transient Discords that are subservient to the Air, but make no Part of the Harmony.*

EVERY *Bar* or *Measure* has its accented and unaccented Parts: The Beginning and Middle, or the Beginning of the first Half of the *Bar*, and Beginning of the latter Half thereof in *common Time*; and the Beginning, or the first of the Three Notes in *triple Time*, are always the accented Parts of the *Measure*. So that in *common Time* the first and third *Crotchet* of the *Bar*, or if the Time be very slow, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> *Quavers* are on the accented Parts of the *Measure*, the rest are upon the unaccented Parts of it. In the various Kinds of *Triple* whether  $\frac{3}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{3}{8}$  or  $\frac{6}{8}$   $\frac{12}{8}$  the Notes go always Three and Three, and that which is in the Middle of every Three is always unaccented, the first and last accented; but the Accent on the first is so much stronger, that, in several Cases, the last is accounted as if it had no Accent; so that a *Discord* duly prepared never ought to come upon it.

THE *Harmony* must always be full upon the accented Parts of the *Measure*, but upon the unaccented Parts that is not so requisite: Wherefore *Discords* may transiently pass there with-

out any Offence to the Ear : This the *French* call *Supposition*, because the transient *Discord* supposes a *Concord* immediately to follow it, which is of infinite Service in *Musick*, as contributing mightily to that infinite Variety of *Air* of which *Musick* is capable.

OF SUPPOSITION there are several Kinds. The first Kind is when the Parts proceed gradually from *Concord* to *Discord*, and from *Discord* to *Concord* as in the *Examples* 25 and 26. where the intervening *Discord* serves only as a Transition to the following *Concord*.

By imagining all the *Crotchets* in the *Treble* to be *Minims*, and all the *Semibreves* in the *Bass* of the *Example* 25. to be pointed, it will serve as an *Example* of this Kind of *Supposition* in *triple Time*.

THERE is another Kind, when the Parts do not proceed gradually from the *Discord* to the *Concord*, but descend to it by the Distance of a 3d. as in the *Examples* 27 and 28. where the *Discord* is esteem'd as a Part of the preceeding *Concord*.

THERE is a third Kind resembling the second, when the rising to the *Discord* is gradual, but the descending from it to the following *Concord* is by the Distance of a 4th, as in *Example* 29. in which the *Discord* is also considered as a Part or Breaking of the preceeding *Concord*.

T H E R E

THERE is a fourth Kind very different from the Three former, when the *Discord* falls upon the accented Parts of the *Measure*, and when the rising to it is by the Distance of a 4<sup>th</sup>; but then it is absolutely necessary to follow it immediately by a gradual Descent into a *Concord* that has just been heard before the *Harmony*; by which the *Discord* that preceeds gives no Offence to the Ear, serving only as a Transition into the *Concord*, as in *Example 30*.

THUS far was necessary to be taught by way of *Institution* upon the Subject of SUPPOSITION; what further Liberties may be taken that Way in making Divisions upon holding Notes, as in *Example 31*. may be easily gathered from what has been said; observing this as a Principle never to be departed from, that the less one deviates from the Rules, for the sake of *Air*, the better.

## 2. Of the HARMONY of DISCORDS.

THE *Harmony* of *Discords* is, that wherein the *Discords* are made use of as a solid and substantial Part of the *Harmony*; for by a proper Interposition of a *Discord* the succeeding *Concords* receive an additional Lustre. Thus the *Discords* are in *Musick* what the strong Shades are in *Painting*; for as the Lights there, so the *Concords* here, appear infinitely more beautiful by the Opposition.

THE DISCORDS are *imo.* the 5<sup>th</sup> when joyn'd with the 6<sup>th</sup>, to which it stands in relation as

a *Discord*, and is therefore treated as a *Discord* in that Place; not as it is a *5th* to the *Bass* in which View it is a perfect *Concord*, but as being joyn'd with the Note immediately above it, there arises from thence a Sensation of *Discord*.

2do. THE *4th*, tho' in its own Nature it is a *Concord* to the *Bass*, yet being joyn'd with the *5th*, which is immediately above it, is also used as a *Discord* in that Case.

3tio. THE *Ninth* which is in effect the *2d*, and is only called the *Ninth* to distinguish it from the *2d*, which under that Denomination is used in a different Manner, is in its own Nature a *Discord*.

4to. THE *7th* is in its own Nature a *Discord*.

5to. THE *2d* and *4th* is made use of when the *Bass* syncopates, in a very different Manner from that of using those above mentioned, as will appear in the *Examples*.

As I treat only of Composition in Two Parts, there is no Occasion to name the *Concords* with which, in Composition of Three or more *Parts*, the *Discords* are accompanied; these, I take for granted, are known to the Performer of the *thorough Bass*; and tho' in Composition of Two *Parts* they cannot appear, yet they are always supposed and supplied by the Accompaniments of the *Bass*.

## Of Preparation and Resolution of Discords.

THE *Discords* here treated of are introduced into the *Harmony* with due Preparation; and they must be succeeded by *Concords*, commonly called the *Resolution* of the *Discord*.

THE *Discord* is prepared, by subsisting first in the *Harmony* in the Quality of a *Concord*, that is, the same Note which becomes the *Discord* is first a *Concord* to the *Bass* Note immediately preceding that to which it is a *Discord*; the *Discord* is resolved, by being immediately succeeded by a *Concord* descending from it by the Distance only of 2d g. or 2d l.

As the *Discord* makes a substantial Part of the *Harmony*, so it must always possess an accented Part of the *Measure*: So that, in common *Time* it must fall upon the 1st and 3d *Crotchet*; or, if the *Time* be extremely slow, upon the 1st, 3d, 5th or 7th *Quaver* of the *Bar*; and in *triple Time* it must fall on the first of every Three *Crotchets*, or of every Three *Minims*, or of every Three *Quavers*, according as the *triple Time* is, there being various Kinds of it.

IN order then to know how the *Discords* may be properly introduced into the *Harmony*, I shall examine what *Concords* may serve for their *Preparation* and *Resolution*; that is, Whether the *Concords* going before and following such and such a *Discord* may be a 5th, 6th, 3d or *Octave*.

THE 5th may be prepared, by being either an 8ve, 6th or 3d; it may be resolved either into the 6th or 3d, but most commonly into the 3d. *Example 32.*

THE 4th may be prepared in all the *Concords*; and may be resolved into the 6th, 3d or 8ve, but most commonly into the 3d. *Example 33.*

THE 9th may be prepared in all the *Concords* except the 8ve, and may be resolved into the 6th, 3d or 8ve, but most commonly into the 8ve. *Example 34.*

THE 7th may be prepared in all the *Concords*; and may be resolved into the 3d, 6th or 5th, but most commonly into the 6th or 3d. *Example 35.*

THE 2d and 4th are made use of after a quite different Manner from the other *Discords*, being prepared and resolved in the *Bass*. Thus, when the *Bass* descends by the Distance of a 2d, and the first Half of the Note falls upon an unaccented Part of the *Measure*, then either the 4th or the 2d may be applied to the last or accented Half of the Note; if the 2d, it is continued upon the following Note in the *Bass*, and becomes the 3d to it; if the 4th is applied, the *Treble* rises a Note, and becomes a 6th to the *Bass*. *Example 36.*

FROM all which I must observe, that the 5th and 7th are *Discords* of great Use, because, even in Two Parts, they may be made use of successively for a pretty long Series of Notes without Interruption, especially the 7th, as producing

ducing a most beautiful *Harmony*. The 4<sup>th</sup> is not useful in Two Parts in this successive Way, but is otherwise very useful. The 9<sup>th</sup> in the same Manner is only useful as the 4<sup>th</sup> is.

HAVING once distinctly understood how the *Discords* are introduced and made a Part of the *Harmony*, by the *Examples* that I have exhibited in plain Notes, it may not be amiss to take a View, in the *Examples* here set forth, how these plain Notes may be broke into Notes of less Value; and being so divided, how they may be disposed to produce a Variety of *Air*: Which *Examples* may suffice to give the Beginner an *Idea* how the *Discords* may be divided into Notes of small Value, for the sake of *Air*. Of the Manner of doing it there is an infinite Variety, and therefore to have shewn all the possible Ways how it may be done, would have required an infinite Number of *Examples*: I shall therefore only give one Caution, that in all such Breakings the first Part of the discord-ing Note must distinctly appear, and after the remaining Part of it has been broke into a Division of Notes of less Value, according to the Fancy of the Composer, such Division ought to lead naturally into the *resolving Concord* that it may be also distinctly heard. See *Example* 37.

HAVING now considered the Matter of *Harmony* as particularly as is necessary to do by way of *Institution*, to qualify the Student for reading and receiving Instruction from the

Works of the more celebrated Composers, which is the utmost that any *Treatise* in my Opinion ought to aim at, I proceed to describe the Nature of *Modulation*, and to give the Rules for guiding the Beginner in the Practice of it.

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§ 5. Of MODULATION; and

imo. *What it is.*

ALTHO' every Piece of *Musick* has one particular *Key* wherein it not only begins and ends, but which prevails more through the whole Piece; yet the Variety that is so necessary to the Beauty of *Musick* requires the frequent changing of the *Harmony* into several other *Keys*; on Condition always that it return again into the *Key* appropriated to the Piece, and terminate often there by middle as well as final *Cadences*, especially if the Piece be of any Length, else the middle *Cadences* in the *Key* are not so necessary.

THESE other *Keys*, whether *sharp* or *flat* into which the *Harmony* may be changed, must be such whose *Harmonies* are not remote to the *Harmony* of the *principal Key* of the Piece; because otherwise the Transitions from the *principal Key* to those other intermediate ones, would be unnatural and inconsistent with that

*Analo-*

*Analogy* which ought to be preserved between all the Members of the same Piece. Under the Term of *Modulation* may be comprehended the regular Progression of the several Parts thro' the Sounds that are in the *Harmony* of any particular *Key* as well as the proceeding naturally and regularly with the *Harmony* from one *Key* to another: The Rules of *Modulation* therefore in that Sense are the Rules of *Melody* and *Harmony*, of which I have already treated; so that the Rules of *Modulation* only in this last Sense is my present Business.

SINCE every Piece must have one *principal Key*, and since the Variety that is so necessary in *Musick* to please and entertain, forbids the being confin'd to one *Key*, and that therefore it is not only allowable but requisite to *modulate* into and make *Cadences* upon several other *Keys*, having a Relation and Connection with the *principal Key*, I am first to consider what it is that constitutes a Connection between the *Harmony* of one *Key* and that of another, that from thence it may appear into what *Keys* the *Harmony* may be led with Propriety: And in order to comprehend the better wherein this Connection between the *Harmony* of different *Keys* may consist, I shall first shew what it is that occasions an Inconsistency between the *Harmony* of one *Key* and that of another.

## 2. Of the Relation and Connection of Keys.

IT has been already set forth, that each *Key* has Seven Notes belonging to it and no more.

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In a *sharp Key*, these are fix'd and unalterable ; but in a *flat Key* there is one that varies, *viz.* the 7th. Hitherto I have accounted the 7th g. one of the Seven natural Notes in a *flat Key*, and I behoved to do so in the Matter of *Harmony*, because the 7th g. is the 3d g. to the 5th, without the Help of which there would be no *Cadence* on the *Key* ; and besides, it is alone by the Help of it that one can ascend into the *Key*. But here when I consider not the particular Exigencies of the *Harmony* in a *flat Key*, but the general Analogy there is between the *Harmony* of one *Key* and that of another, I must reckon that the 7th which is essential in a *flat Key* is the 7th l. because both the 3d and 6th in a *flat Key* are lesser, therefore as to our present Enquiry the 7th g. in a *flat Key* must be henceforth accounted extraneous.

THE distinguishing Note in each *Key*, next to the *Key*-note it self, is the 3d; any *Key* therefore that has for its 3d any one of the Five extraneous Notes of another *Key*, under what Denomination soever of ♯ or ♭ is discrepant with that other *Key* to which such 3d is extraneous. Thus the extraneous Notes of the *sharp Key c* being c♯, d♯, f♯, g♯, a♯, or as the same Notes may happen to be differently denominated d♭, e♭, g♭, a♭, ♭: The *sharp Key a* therefore having c♯ for its 3d, the *sharp Key b* having d♯ for its 3d, the *sharp Key e* having g♯ for its 3d, the *sharp Key f* having a♯ for its 3d, or the *flat Key ♭* having d♭ for its 3d, the *flat Key c* having e♭ for its 3d, the *flat Key e* having g♭ for

for its 3d, the *flat Key f* having *a<sup>b</sup>* for its 3d, and the *flat Key g* having *l* for its 3d, are all, I say, discrepant with the *sharp Key c*, because the 3ds which are the distinguishing Notes of these other *Keys* are all extraneous Notes to *c*, with a 3dg. and since any *Key* which has for its 3d any one of the Five extraneous Notes of another *Key*, is discrepant with that other *Key*, *a fortiori* therefore any one of the Five extraneous Notes of a *Key* being a *Key* it self, is utterly discrepant with a *Key*, to which such *Key*-note it self is extraneous; thus therefore *c<sup>♯</sup>*, *d<sup>♯</sup>*, *f<sup>♯</sup>*, *g<sup>♯</sup>*, *a<sup>♯</sup>*, or, *a<sup>b</sup>*, *e<sup>b</sup>*, *g<sup>b</sup>*, *a<sup>b</sup>*, *l* being considered as *Keys*, whether with 3dg. or 3dl. are utterly discrepant to *c* with a 3dg. because they are all extraneous to it.

A *Key* then being assign'd as a *principal Key*, as none of its five extraneous Notes can either be *Keys* themselves, or 3ds to *Keys* that can have any Connexion with it, so it will from thence follow, that the Seven *natural* Notes of the *Key* assigned, being constituted *Keys* with such 3ds as are one or other of the Seven *natural* Notes of the said *Key* assign'd, may be accounted consonant to it; provided they do not essentially introduce the *principal Key* or its 3d under a new Denomination, *that is*, the *Key* assign'd being for *Example* the *sharp Key c*, no *Key* can be consonant to it, that introduces necessarily and essentially *c<sup>♯</sup>*, which is the *Key* under a new Denomination, or *e<sup>♯</sup>*, which is its 3d under a new Denomination, and different from what they were in the *Key* assign'd; therefore

fore to the *sharp Key c*, which I shall take for the *principal Key* assign'd, the *flat Keys d, e* and *a*, also the *sharp Keys f* and *g* are consonant; but the *flat Key b*, altho' both it self and its *3d* are Two of the Seven *natural Notes* of the *Key* assigned, is not consonant to it, because it would essentially introduce *c♯* for its *2d*, which being the *Key* assign'd under a new Denomination, would produce a very great Inconsistency with it. And here, lest from thence the Beginner may form this Objection against the *flat Key d*, being reckoned consonant to the *sharp Key c*, as I have done, because that *Key d* does introduce *c♯* for its *7th g*. I must inform him, as I have before observed, that the *7th g*. to a *flat Key* is only occasionally made Use of; and that the *7th l*. is the *7th* that is essential in a *flat Key*.

THE *flat Key c* being the *principal flat Key* assigned, the *flat Keys f* and *g*, also the *sharp Keys e, a* and *b* are consonant to it, but the *flat Key d*, tho' both it self and its *3d* are of the *natural Notes* of the *Key* assigned, yet as this *flat Key d* being constituted a *Key*, behoved to have *e* for its Second, which is the *3d* of the *Key* assigned, under a different Denomination, therefore it cannot be admitted as a consonant *Key* to it.

To the *Harmony* therefore of a *flat principal Key*, as well as of a *sharp one*, there are Five *Keys* that are consonant, that, with all the Elegancy and Property imaginable, may be introduced in the Course of the Modulation of  
any

any one Piece of *Musick*. To all *sharp principal Keys* the Five consonant *Keys* are the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th to the *principal Key*, with their respective 3ds, viz. with the 2d, the 3dl. 3d, 3dl. 4th, 3dg. 5th, 3dg. 6th, 3dl. To all *flat principal Keys* the Five consonant *Keys* are the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th to the *principal Key*, with their respective 3ds, viz. with the 3d, the 3dg. 4th, 3dl. 5th, 3dl. 6th, 3dg. 7th, 3dg. each of which consonant *Keys*, tho' reckoned dependent upon their *principal Key* with regard to the Structure of the whole Piece, yet with respect to the particular Places where they prevail, they are each of them *principal* so long as the *Modulation* continues in them, and the Rules of *Melody* and *Harmony* are the same way to be observed in them as in the *principal Key*; for all *Keys* of the same Kind are the same, and this Subordination here discoursed of is only *accidental*; for no *Key* in its own Nature is more to be accounted *principal* than another.

THE several *Keys* then that may enter into the Composition of the same Piece being known, it is material next to learn in what Order they may be introduc'd; and herein one must have Recourse to the current Practice of the Masters of *Composition*; from which, tho' indeed no certain Rules can be gathered, because the Order of introducing the consonant *Keys* is very much at the Discretion of the Composer, and in the Work of the same Author is often various, yet generally the Order is thus.

IN a *sharp principal Key*, the first *Cadence* is upon the *principal Key* it self often; then follow in Order *Cadences* on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, concluding at last with a *Cadence* on the *principal Key*. In a *flat principal Key* the intermediate *Cadences* are on the 3<sup>d</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Now, whatever Liberty may be taken in varying from this Order, yet the beginning and ending with the *principal Key* is a Principle never to be departed from; and as far as I have observed, it ought to be a Rule also, that in a *sharp principal Key*, the 5<sup>th</sup>, and in a *flat* one the 3<sup>d</sup>, ought to have the next Place to the *principal Key*.

3<sup>tio</sup>. How the *Modulation* is to be performed.

IT now remains to shew, how to *modulate* from one *Key* to another, so that the *Transitions* may be easy and natural; but how to teach this Kind of *Modulation* by Rules is the Difficulty; for altho' it is chiefly performed by the Help of the 7<sup>th</sup> g. of the *Key* into which we are resolved to change the *Harmony*, whether it be *sharp* or *flat*; yet the Manner of doing it is so various and extensive, as no Rules can circumscribe: Wherefore in this Matter, as well as in other Branches of my Subject, I must think it enough to explain the Nature of the Thing so, and to give the Beginner such general Notions of it, as he may be able to gather by his own Observation, in the Course of his Studies of this Kind, what no Rules can teach.

THE 7th g. in either *sharp* or *flat* Key is the 3dg. to the 5thf. of the Key, by which the *Cadence* in the Key is chiefly perform'd; and by being only a *Semitone* under the Key, is therefore the most proper Note to lead into it, which it does in the most natural Manner that can be imagin'd; infomuch that the 7th g. is never heard in any of the *Parts*, but the Ear expects the Key should succeed it; for whether it be used as a 3d or as a 6th, it doth always affect us with such an imperfect Sensation, that we naturally expect something more perfect to follow, which cannot be more easily and smoothly accomplished, than by the small *Interval* of a *Semitone*, to pass into the perfect *Harmony* of the Key; from hence it is that the Transition into any Key is best effected, by introducing its 7thg. which so naturally leads to it; and how this 7thg. may be introduced, will best appear in the *Examples*.

IN *Ex.* 38. the Key is first the *sharp* Key c, but f\*, which is the 7thg. to g, introduces and leads the *Harmony* into the first consonant Key of c with a 3dg. In this *Example* f\* stands in the *Treble* a 6th; but it may also stand a 3dg. as in *Ex.* 39. or it may be introduced into the *Bass* with its proper *Harmony* of a 3d or 6th, as in *Examples* 40 and 42. or it may, as a 6thg. or 3dg. in the *Treble*, be the resolving *Concord* of a preceeding *Discord*, as in *Examples* 41. and 44. or it may stand in the *Treble* as a 4thg. accompanied also in that *Case* with a 2d, or supposed to be so as in *Ex.*

46. or otherwise used as in *Examples* 45 and 47. The *Modulation* changes from the *sharp Key c* into the *flat Key a*, one of its consonant *Keys*, whose 7th g. is introduced in the Quality of a 6th g. and 3dg. serving as the *Resolutions* of preceding *Discords*. In *Examples* 48 and 51. the 6th is applied to the *Key*; which is always a good Preparation to lead the *Harmony* out of it; for a *Key* can be no longer a *Key* when a 6th is applied. The remaining *Examples* shew how the *Harmony* may pass through several *Keys* in the Compass of a few Notes.

FROM these *Examples* I shall deduce some few Observations, that may serve as so many Rules to guide the Beginner in this first Attempt.

1st. THE 7th g. of the *Key* into which we intend to lead the *Harmony*; is introduced into the *Treble* either as a 3dg. or 6thg. or as a 4thg. with its supposed Accompaniments of 4th and 6th; and as 3dg. or 6thg. it is commonly the *Resolution* of a preceding *Discord*.

2d. WHEN this 7th g. comes into the *Treble* in what Quality soever, as 3dg. 6thg. &c. it is either succeeded immediately by that Note which is the *Key* whereto it immediately leads, or immediately preceded by it, and most commonly the last; in which Case the *Treble* must of consequence descend to it by the Distance of a *Semitone*. Thus, when we are to change the *Harmony* from the *sharp Key c* to the *flat Key a*, that is, from a *sharp principal Key* into its  
6th;

6th, we use it in the *Treble* as the 6th to the principal *Key c*, or as the 5th to *d*, or as the 3d to *f*; and being once upon the Note which we design to be the *Key*, the falling half a Note to its 7th *g*. for fixing the *Harmony* fairly in the *Key*, is most easily perform'd; thus were we to go from a principal *Key* into the 3d, we should use a 6th on the 5 *f*.; or were we to go into the 2d, we should use a 6th on the 4 *f*. and the rather, because in the *Key* whereto we design to go, a 6th is the proper *Harmony*, for that 5th *f*. of the principal *Key* becomes the 3d *f*. of the 3d, when it is constitute a *Key*; and so does the 4th *f*. of the principal *Key* become the 3d *f*. of the 2d, when constitute a *Key*.

3tio. WHEN the 7th *g*. of the *Key*, into which we design to change the *Harmony*, is introduced in the *Bass*, it is always immediately succeeded by the *Key*; and then the Transition to the 7th *g*. is most part gradual, by the Interval of a *Tone* or *Semitone*, or by the Interval of a 3dl. But most commonly it is introduced into the *Bass*, by proceeding to it from the natural Note of the same Name, that is, from a Note that is natural in the *Key*, as from *f* to *f*♯ in the sharp *Key c*, or from *b* to *b* in the flat *Key d*.

4to. WHEN the 7th *g*. of the *Key* to which we design to lead the *Harmony*, is one of the Seven natural Notes of the *Key* wherein the *Harmony* already is, the introducing it into the *Bass* is most natural, as being of course; this happens when we would modulate from a sharp *Key* into its 4th, or from a flat *Key* into its

3d. In which Cases the 7th g. is introduced into the *Bass*, and in the *Treble* the *false 5th* is applied to it, which resolves into the 3dg.

5to. WHEN this 7th g. comes into the *Bass*, it must of necessity have either a 3dl. 6th l. or *false 5th* in the *Treble*; if a 3dl. it resolves into the 8ve, if a 6th l. it commonly passes into the *false 5th*, and from thence resolves into the 3d of the *Key*.

6to. BY applying the 6th to any Note of the *Key*, to which the 5th is a more *natural Harmony*, as for *Example*, to the *Key* it self, to the 4th f. or 5th f. a Preparation is thereby made for going into another *Key*, viz. into that Note which is so made Use of, as a 6th to any of these *fundamental* Notes, as in the *Examples*.

HAVING thus explained the Nature of *Modulation* from one *Key* to another, it may seem natural to treat now of *Cadences*; but of these I cannot suppose a Performer of the *Thorough-bass* ignorant, they being so frequent in *Musick*; all I shall therefore say of them is, that they must always be finished with an accented Part of the *Measure*. As to what concerns *Fugues* and *Imitations* I am to say nothing, because these are to be learnt more by a Course of Observation than by Rule. What I proposed was, to set forth the *Principles* of *Composition* in Two Parts, by way of *Institution* only, not daring to proceed any further than the small Knowledge I have of *Musick* would lead me with Safety.

## C H A P. XIV.

*Of the ANCIENT MUSICK.*

§ I. *Of the Name, with the various Definitions and Divisions of the Science.*

**T**HE Word MUSICK comes to us from the Latin Word *Musica*, if not immediately from a Greek Word of the same Sound, from whence the *Romans* probably took theirs; for they got much of their Learning from the *Greeks*. Our Criticks teach us, that it comes from the Word *Musa*, and this from a Greek Word which signifies to search or find out, because the *Muses* were feigned to be Inventresses of the *Sciences*, and particularly of *Poetry* and these *Modulations* of Sound that constitute *Musick*. But others go higher, and tell us, the Word *Musa* comes from a Hebrew Word, which signifies *Art* or *Discipline*; hence *Musa* and *Musica* anciently signified

*Learning* in general, or any Kind of *Science*; in which Sense you'll find it frequently in the Works of the ancient Philosophers. But *Kircher* will have it from an *Egyptian* Word; because the Restoration of it after the Flood was probably there, by reason of the many Reeds to be found in their Fens, and upon the Banks of the *Nile*. *Hesychius* tells us, that the *Athenians* gave the Name of *Musick* to every *Art*. From this it was that the *Poets* and *Mythologists* feigned the nine *Muses* Daughters of *Jupiter*, who invented the Sciences, and preside over them, to assist and inspire these who apply to study them, each having her particular Province. In this geneal Sense we have it defin'd to be, the orderly Arrangement and right Disposition of Things; in short, the Agreement and *Harmony* of the Whole with its Parts, and of the Parts among themselves. *Hermes Trismegistus* says, That *Musick is nothing but the Knowledge of the Order of all Things*; which was also the Doctrine of the *Pythagorean* School, and of the *Platonicks*, who teach that every Thing in the Universe is *Musick*. Agreeable to this wide Sense, some have distinguished *Musick* into *Divine* and *Mundane*; the first respects the Order and Harmony that obtains among the Celestial Minds; the other respects the Relations and Order of every other Thing else in the Universe. But *Plato* by the *divine Musick* understands, that which exists in the *divine* Mind, viz. these archetypal Ideas of Order and Symmetry, according to which *God* formed all Things; and as this Order

exists

exists in the Creatures, it is called *Mundane Musick*: Which is again subdivided, the remarkable Denominations of which are, *First, Elementary* or the Harmony of the first Elements of Things; and these according to the Philosophers, are Fire, Air, Water, and Earth, which tho' seemingly contrary to one another, are, by the Wisdom of the Creator, united and compounded in all the beautiful and regular Forms of Things that fall under our Senses, *2d. Celestial*, -comprehending the Order and Proportions in the Magnitudes, Distances, and Motions of the heavenly Bodies, and the Harmony of the Sounds proceeding from these Motions: For the *Pythagoreans* affirmed that they produce the most perfect *Consort*; the Argument, as *Macrobius* in his Commentary on *Cicero's Somnium Scipionis* has it, is to this Purpose, *viz.* Sound is the Effect of Motion, and since the heavenly Bodies must be under certain regular and stated Laws of Motion, they must produce something musical and concordant; for from random and fortuitous Motions, governed by no certain Measure, can only proceed a grating and unpleasant Noise: And the Reason, says he, why we are not sensible of that Sound, is the Vastness of it, which exceeds our Sense of Hearing; in the same Manner as the Inhabitants near the Cataracts of the *Nile*, are insensible of their prodigious Noise. But some of the Historians, if I remember right, tell us that by the Excessiveness of the Sounds, these People are rendred quite deaf, which makes that

Demonstration somewhat doubtful, since we hear every other Sound that reaches to us. Others alledge that the Sounds of the Spheres, being the first we hear when we come into the World, and being habituated to them for a long Time, when we could scarcely think or make Reflection on any Thing, we become incapable of perceiving them afterwards. But *Pythagoras* said he perceived and understood the Celestial Harmony by a peculiar Favour of that Spirit to whom he owed his Life, as *Jamblichus* reports of him, who says, That tho' he never sung or played on any Instrument himself, yet by an inconceivable Sort of Divinity, he taught others to imitate the Celestial Musick of the Spheres, by Instruments and Voice: For according to him, all the Harmony of Sounds here below, is but an Imitation, and that imperfect too, of the other. This Species is by some called particularly the *Mundane Musick*. 3d. *Human*, which consists chiefly in the Harmony of the Faculties of the human Soul, and its various Passions; and is also considered in the Proportion and Temperament, mutual Dependence and Connection, of all the Parts of this wonderful Machine of our Bodies. 4th. Is what in a more limited and peculiar Sense of the Word was called *Musick*; which has for its Object *Motion*, considered as under certain regular Measures and Proportions, by which it affects the Senses in an agreeable Manner. All Motion belongs to Bodies, and Sound is the Effect of Motion, and cannot be without it; but all Motion does  
not

not produce Sound, therefore this was again subdivided. Where the Motion is without Sound, or as it is only the Object of Seeing, it was called *Musica Orchestria* or *Saltatoria*, which contains the Rules for the regular Motions of *Dancing*; also *Hypocritica*, which respects the Motions and Gestures of the *Pantomimes*. When Motion is perceived only by the Ear, *i. e.* when Sound is the Object of *Musick*, there are Three Species; *HARMONICA*, which considers the Differences and Proportion of Sounds, with respect to *acute* and *grave*; *RHYTHMICA*, which respects the Proportion of Sounds as to Time, or the Swiftnes and Slowness of their Successions; and *METRICA*, which belongs properly to the *Poets*, and respects the versifying Art: But in common Acceptation 'tis now more limited, and we call nothing *Musick* but what is heard; and even then we make a Variety of *Tones* necessary to the Being of *Musick*.

ARISTIDES QUINTILIANUS, who writes a profess Treatise upon *Musick*, calls it the Knowledge of singing, and of the Things that are joyned with singing (*επισήμη μέλῳς καὶ τῶν περὶ μέλῳς συμβαινόντων*, which *Meibomius* translates, *Scientia cantus, eorumq; quæ circa cantum contingunt*) and these he calls the Motions of the Voice and Body, as if the *Cantus* it self consisted only in the different Tones of the Voice. *Bacchius* who writes a short Introduction to *Musick* in Question and Answer, gives the same Definition. Afterwards, *Aristides* con-

siders *Musick* in the largest Sense of the Word, and divides it into *Contemplative* and *Active*. The first, he says, is either *natural* or *artificial*; the *natural* is *arithmetical*, because it considers the Proportion of Numbers, or *physical* which disputes of every Thing in Nature; the *Artificial* is divided into *Harmonica*, *Rythmica* (comprehending the dumb Motions) and *Metrica*: The *active*, which is the Application of the *artificial*, is either *enunciative* (as in Oratory,) *Organical* (or Instrumental Performance,) *Odical* (for Voice and singing of Poems,) *Hypocritical* (in the Motions of the *Pantomimes*.) To what Purpose some add *Hydraulical* I do not understand, for this is but a Species of the *Organical*, in which Water is some way used for producing or modifying the Sound. The musical Faculties, as they call them, are, *Melopœia* which gives Rules for the *Tones* of the Voice or Instrument, *Rythmopœia* for Motions, and *Poesis* for making of Verse. Again, explaining the Difference of *Rythmus* and *Metrum*, he tells us, That *Rythmus* is applied Three Ways; either to immoveable Bodies, which are called *Eurythmoi*, when their Parts are right proportioned to one another, as a well made Statue; or to every Thing that moves, so we say a Man walks handsomly (*composite*,) and under this *Dancing* will come, and the Business of the *Pantomimes*; or particularly to the Motion of Sound or the Voice, in which the *Rythmus* consists of long and short Syllables or Notes, (which he calls *Times*) joyned together (in

Succession) in some kind of Order, so that their Cadence upon the Ear may be agreeable; which constitutes in *Oratory* what is called a numerous Stile, and when the *Tones* of the Voice are well chosen 'tis an *harmonious* Stile. RYTHMUS is perceived either by the Eye or the Ear, and is something general, which may be without *Metrum*; but this is perceived only by the Ear, and is but a Species of the other, and cannot exist without it: The first is perceived without Sound in Dancing; and when it exists with Sounds it may either be without any Difference of *acute* and *grave*, as in a *Drum*, or with a Variety of these, as in a Song, and then the *Harmonica* and *Rythmica* are joyned; and if any *Poem* is set to *Musick*, and sung with a Variety of *Tones*, we have all the Three Parts of *Musick* at once. *Porphyrius* in his Commentaries on *Ptolemey's Harmonicks*, institutes the Division of *Musick* another Way; he takes it in the limited Sense, as having *Motion* both dumb and sonorous for its Object; and, without distinguishing the *speculative* and *practical*, he makes its Parts these Six, viz. *Harmonica*, *Rythmica*, *Metrica*, *Organica*, *Poetica*, *Hypocritica*; he applies the *Rythmica* to Dancing, *Metrica* to the Enunciative, and *Poetica* to Verses.

ALL the other ancient Authors agree in the same threefold Division of *Musick* into *Harmonica*, *Rythmica* and *Metrica*: Some add the *Organica*, others omit it, as indeed it is but an accidental Thing to *Musick*, in what Species of Sounds

Sounds it is exprest. Upon this Division of *Musick*, the more ancient Writers are very careful in the Inscription or Titles of their Books, and call them only *Harmonica*, when they confine themselves to that Part, as *Aristoxenus*, *Euclid*, *Nicomachus*, *Gaudentius*, *Ptolomey*, *Bryennius*; but *Aristides* and *Bacchius* call theirs *Musica*, because they profess to treat of all the Parts. The *Latines* are not always so accurate, for they inscribe all theirs *Musica*, as *Boethius*, tho' he only explains the *Harmonica*; and *St. Augustin*, tho' his Six Books *de Musica* speak only of the *Rythmus* and *Metrum*; *Martianus Capella* has a better Right to the Title, for he makes a Kind of Compend and Translation of *Aristides Quintil.* tho' a very obscure one of as obscure an Original. *Aurelius Cassiodorus* needs scarcely be named, for tho' he writes a Book *de Musica*, 'tis but barely some general Definitions and Divisions of the Science.

THE *Harmonica* is the Part the Ancients have left us any tolerable Account of, which are at least but very general and *Theoretical*; such as it is I purpose to explain it to you as distinctly as I can; but having thus far settled the Definition and Division of *Musick* as delivered by the Ancients, I chuse next to consider historically.

§ 2. *The Invention and Antiquity of Musick, with the Excellency of the Art in the various Ends and Uses of it.*

OF all human Arts *Musick* has justest Pretences to the Honour of *Antiquity*: We scarce need any Authority for this Assertion; the Reason of the Thing demonstrates it, for the Conditions and Circumstances of human Life required some powerful Charm, to bear up the Mind under the Anxiety and Cares that Mankind soon after his Creation became subject to; and the Goodness of our blessed *Creator* soon discovered it self in the wonderful Relief that *Musick* affords against the unavoidable Hardships which are annexed to our State of being in this Life; so that *Musick* must have been as early in the World as the most necessary and indispensable Arts. For

IF we consider how natural to the Mind of Man this kind of Pleasure is, as constant and universal Experience sufficiently proves, we cannot think he was long a Stranger to it. Other Arts were revealed as bare Necessity gave Occasion, and some were afterwards owing to Luxury; but neither Necessity nor Luxury are the Parents of this heavenly Art; to be pleased with it seems to be a Part of our Constitution; but 'tis made so, not as absolutely necessary to our Being, 'tis a Gift of GOD to us for our more happy and comfortable Being; and therefore we can make no doubt that this Art was among the very first that were known to Men. It is  
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reasonable to believe, that as all other Arts, so this was rude and simple in its Beginning; and by the Industry of Man, prompted by his natural Love of Pleasure, improv'd by Degrees. If we consider, again, how obvious a Thing Sound is, and how manifold Occasions it gives for Invention, we are not only further confirm'd in the Antiquity of this Art, but we can make very shrewd Guesses about the first Discoveries of it. *Vocal Musick* was certainly the first Kind; Man had not only the various *Tones* of his own Voice to make his Observations upon, before any other Arts or Instruments were found, but being daily entertained by the various natural Strains of the winged Choirs, how could he not observe them, and from hence take Occasion to improve his own Voice, and the Modulations of Sound, of which it is capable? 'Tis certain that whatever these Singers were capable of, they possess it actually from the Beginning of the World; we are surpris'd indeed with their sagacious Imitations of human Art in Singing, but we know no Improvements the Species is capable of; and if we suppose that in these Parts where Mankind first appeared, and especially in these first Days, when Things were probably in their greatest Beauty and Perfection, the Singing of Birds was a more remarkable Thing, we shall have less Reason to doubt that they led the Way to Mankind in this charming Art: But this is no new Opinion; of many ancient Authors, who agree in this very just Conjecture, I shall only let you hear *Lucretius Lib. 5.*

*At liquidas avium voces imitarier ore  
Ante fuit multo, quam levia carmina cantu  
Concelebrare homines possent, aureisque juvare.*

THE first Invention of Wind-instruments he ascribes to the Observation of the Whistling of the Winds among the hollow Reeds.

*Et Zephyri cava per calamorum sibila primum  
Agresteis docuere cavas inflare cicutas,  
Inde minutatim dulcis didicere querelas,  
Tibia quas fundit digitis pulsata canentum.*

or they might also take that Hint from some Thing that might happen accidentally to them in their handling of Corn-stalks, or the hollow Stems of other Plants. And other Kinds of Instruments were probably formed by such like Accidents: There were so many Uses for Chords or Strings, that Men could not but very soon observe their various Sounds, which might give Rise to stringed Instruments: And for the pulsatile Instruments, as Drums and Cymbals, they might arise from the Observation of the hollow Noise of concave Bodies. To make this Account of the Invention of Instruments more probable, *Kircher* bids us consider, That the first Mortals living a pastoral Life, and being constantly in the Fields, near Rivers and among Woods, could not be perpetually idle; 'tis probable therefore, says he, That the Invention of Pipes and Whistles was owing to their Diversions and

and Exercifes on thefe Occafions ; and becaufe Men could not be long without having Ufe for Chords of various Kinds, and variously bent, thefe, either by being expofed to the Wind, or neceffarily touched by the Hand, might give the firft Hint of ftringed Inſtruments; and becaufe, even in the firft fimple Way of Living, they could not be long without fome *fabrile* Arts, this would give Occaſion to obferve various Sounds of hard and hollow Bodies, which might raife the firft Thought of the *pulfatile* Inſtruments; hence he concludes that *Mufick* was among the firft Arts.

IF we confider *next*, the Opinion of thoſe that are Ancients to us, who yet were too far from the Beginning of Things to know them any other way than by Tradition and probable Conjecture ; we find an univerfal Agreement in this Truth, That *Mufick* is as ancient as the World it ſelf, for this very Reason, that it is natural to Mankind. It will be needleſs to bring many Authorities, one or Two ſhall ſerve: *Plutarch* in his *Treatiſe of Muſick*, which is nothing but a Converſation among Friends, about the Invention, Antiquity and Power of *Mufick*, makes one aſcribe the Invention to *Amphion* the Son of *Jupiter* and *Antiopa*, who was taught by his Father; but in the Name of another he makes *Apollo* the Author, and to prove it, alledges all the ancient Statues of this God, in whoſe Hand a muſical Inſtrument was always put. He adduces many Examples to prove the natural Influence *Mufick* has upon  
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the Mind of Man, and since he makes no less than a *God* the Inventor of it, and the *Gods* existed before Men, 'tis certain he means to prove, both by Tradition and the Nature of the Thing, that it is the most ancient as well as the most noble Science. *Quintilian* (*Lib. 1. Cap. 11.*) alleges the Authority of *Timagenes* to prove that *Musick* is of all the most ancient Science; and he thinks the Tradition of its Antiquity is sufficiently proven by the ancient *Poets*, who represent *Musicians* at the Table of *Kings*, singing the Praises of the *Gods* and *Heroes*. *Homer* shews us how far *Musick* was advanced in his Days, and the Tradition of its yet greater Antiquity, while he says it was a Part of his Hero's Education. The Opinion of the divine Original and Antiquity of *Musick*, is also proven by the Fable of the *Muses*, so universal among the *Poets*; and by the Disputes among the *Greek Writers* concerning the first Authors, some for *Orpheus*, some for *Amphion*, some for *Apollo*, &c. As the best of the *Philosophers* own'd the Providence of the *Gods*, and their particular Love and Benevolence to Mankind, so they also believed that *Musick* was from the Beginning a peculiar Gift and Favour of Heaven; and no Wonder, when they looked upon it as necessary to assist the Mind to a raised and exalted Way of praising the *Gods* and good Men.

I shall add but one Testimony more, which is that of the *sacred Writings*; where *Jubal* the *Sixth* from *Adam*, is called the *Father*

ther of such as handle the *Harp and Organ*; whether this signifies that he was the Inventor, or one who brought these Instruments to a good Perfection, or only one who was eminently skilled in the Performance, we have sufficient Reason to believe that *Musick* was an Art long before his Time; since it is rational to think that *vocal Musick* was known long before *Instrumental*, and that there was a gradual Improvement in the Art of modulating the Voice; unless *Adam* and his Sons were inspired with this Knowledge, which Supposition would prove the Point at once. And if we could believe that this Art was lost by the Flood, yet the same Nature remaining in Man, it would soon have been recovered; and we find a notable Instance of it in the Song of Praise which the *Israelites* raised with their Voices and *Timbrels* to GOD, for their Deliverance at the *Red Sea*; from which we may reasonably conjecture it was an Art well known, and of established Honour long before that Time.

It may be expected I should, in this Place, give a more particular History of the *Inventors* of *Musick* and *musical Instruments*, and other famous *Musicians* since the Flood. As to the Invention, I think there is enough said already to show that *Musick* is natural to Mankind; and therefore instead of *Inventors*, the Enquiry ought properly to be about the *Improvers* of it; and I own it would come in very naturally here: But the Truth is, we have scarce any Thing  
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left us we can depend upon in this Matter; or at least we have but very general Hints, and many of them contrary to each other, from Authors that speak of these Things in a transient Manner: And as we have no Writings of the Age in which *Musick* was first restored after the Flood, so the Accounts we have are such uncertain Traditions, that no Two Authors agree in every Thing. *Greece* was the Country in *Europe* where Learning first flourished; and tho' we believe they drew from other Fountains, as *Egypt* and the more Eastern Parts, yet they are the Fountains to us, and to all the Western World: Other Antiquities we neither know so well, nor so much of, at least of such as have any Pretence to a greater Antiquity; except the *Jewish*; and tho' we are sure they had *Musick*, yet we have no Account of the Inventors among them, for 'tis probable they learned it in *Egypt*; and therefore this Enquiry about the Inventors of *Musick* since the Flood, must be limited to *Greece*. PLUTARCH, JULIUS POLLUX, ATHENEUS, and a few more, are the Authorities we have principally to trust to, who take what they say from other more ancient Authors of their Tradition. I hope to be forgiven if I am very short in the Account of Things of such Uncertainty.

AMPHION, the *Theban*, is by some reckoned the most ancient *Musician* in *Greece*, and the Inventor of it, as also of the *Lyra*. Some say *Mercury* taught him, and gave him a *Lyre* of Seven Strings. He is said to be the first who

taught to play and sing together. The Time he lived in is not agreed upon.

CHIRON the *Pelithronian*, reckoned a *Demigod*, the Son of *Saturn* and *Phyllira*, is the next great Master; the Inventor of Medicine; a famous *Philosopher* and *Musician*, who had for his Scholars *Æsculapius*, *Jason*, *Hercules*, *Theseus*, *Achilles*, and other Heroes.

DEMODOCUS is another celebrated *Musician*, of whom already.

HERMES, OR MERCURY TRISMEGISTUS, another *Demigod*, is also reckoned amongst the Inventors or Improvers of *Musick* and of the *Lyra*.

LINUS was a famous *Poet* and *Musician*. Some say he taught *Hercules*, *Thamyris* and *Orpheus*, and even *Amphion*. To him some ascribe the Invention of the *Lyra*.

OLYMPUS the *Mysian* is another Benefactor to *Musick*; he was the Disciple of *Marsyas* the Son of *Hyagnis* the *Phrygian*; this *Hyagnis* is reckoned the Inventor of the *Tibia*, which others ascribe to the Muse *Euterpe*, as *Horace* insinuates, -- *Si neque tibiae Euterpe cohibet*.

ORPHEUS the *Thracian* is also reckoned the Author, or at least the Introducer of various Arts into *Greece*, among which is *Musick*; he pacified the *Lyra* he got from *Mercury*. Some say he was Master to *Thamyris* and *Linus*.

PHEMIUS of *Ithaca*. *Ovid* uses his Name for any excellent *Musician*; *Homer* also names him honourably.

TERPANDER the *Lesbian*, liv'd in the Time of *Lycurgus*, and set his Laws to *Musick*. He was the first who among the *Spartans* applied *Melody* to *Poems*, or taught them to be sung in regular Measures. This is the famous *Musician* who quelled a Sedition at *Sparta* by his *Musick*. He and his Followers are said to have first instituted the *musical Modes*, used in singing Hymns to the *Gods*; and some attribute the Invention of the *Lyre* to him.

THALES the *Cretan* was another great Master, honourably entertain'd by the *Lacedemonians*, for instructing their Youth. Of the Wonders he wrought by his *Musick*, we shall hear again.

THAMYRIS the *Thracian* was so famous, that he is feigned to have contended with the *Muses*, upon Condition he should possess all their Power if he overcame, but if they were Victors he consented to lose what they pleased; and being defeat, they put out his Eyes, spoiled his Voice, and struck him with Madness. He was the first who used *instrumental Musick* without Singing.

THESE are the remarkable Names of *Musicians* before *Homer's* Time, who himself was a *Musician*; as was the famous Poet *Pindar*. You may find the Characters of these mentioned at more large, in the first Book of *Fabritius's Bibliotheca Græca*.

WE find others of a later Date, who were famous in *Musick*, as *Lasus Hermionensis*, *Melanippides*, *Philoxenus*, *Timotheus*, *Phrynnis*,

*Epigonius*, *Lysander*, *Simmicus*, *Diodorus* the *Theban*; who were Authors of a great Variety and luxurious Improvements in *Musick*. *Lafius*, who lived in the Time of *Darius Hystaspes*, is reckoned the first who ever wrote a Treatise upon *Musick*. *Epigonius* was the Author of an Instrument called *Epigonium*, of 40 Strings; he introduced Playing on the *Lyre* with the Hand without a *Plectrum*; and was the first who joyned the *Cithara* and *Tibia* in one Concert, altering the Simplicity of the more ancient *Musick*; as *Lysander* did by adding a great many Strings to the *Cithara*. *Simmicus* also invented an Instrument called *Simmicium* of 35 Strings. *Diodorus* improved the *Tibia*, which at first had but Four Holes, by contriving more Holes and Notes.

**TIMOTHEUS**, for adding a String to his *Lyre* was fined by the *Lacedemonians*, and the String ordered to be taken away. Of him and *Phrynis*, the Comic Poet *Pherecrates* makes bitter Complaints in the Name of *Musick*, for corrupting and abusing her, as *Plutarch* reports: For, among others, they chiefly had completed the Ruin of the ancient simple *Musick*, which, says *Plutarch*, was nobly useful in the Education and forming of Youth, and the Service of the *Temples*, and used principally to these Purposes, in the ancient Times of greatest Wisdom and Virtue; but was ruined after theatrical Shews came to be so much in Fashion, so that scarcely the Memory of these ancient Modes remained in his Time. You shall have some  
Account

Account afterwards of the ancient Writers of *Musick*.

As we have but uncertain Accounts of the Inventors of *musical Instruments* among the Ancients, so we have as imperfect an Account of what these Instruments were, scarce knowing them any more than by Name. The general Division of Instruments is into *stringed Instruments*, *Wind Instruments* and the *pulsatile Kind*; of this last we hear of the *Tympanum* or *Cymbalum*, of the Nature of our Drum; the *Greeks* gave it the last Name from its Figure, resembling a Boat.

THERE were also the *Crepitaculum*, *Tintinnabulum*, *Crotalum*, *Sistrum*; but, by any Accounts we have, they look rather like Childrens Rattles and Play Things than *musical Instruments*.

OF *Wind-instruments* we hear of the *Tibia*, so called from the Shank-bone of some Animals, as Cranes, of which they were first made. And *Fistula* made also of Reeds. But these were afterwards made of Wood and also of Mettal. How they were blown, whether as *Flutes* or *Hautboys* or otherwise, and which the one Way, and which the other, is not sufficiently manifest. 'Tis plain, some had Holes, which at first were but few, and afterwards increased to a greater Number; some had none. Some were single Pipes, and some a Combination of severals, particularly PAN'S *Syringa*, which consisted of Seven Reeds joyned together

sideways; they had no Holes, each giving but one Note, in all Seven distinct Notes; but at what mutual Distances is not very certain, tho' perhaps they were the Notes of the natural or *diatonick Scale*; but by this Means they would want an *ſve*, and therefore probably otherwise constituted. Sometimes they played on a ſingle Pipe; ſometimes on Two together, one in each Hand. And leſt we ſhould think there could little *Muſick* be expreſt by one Hand, *Iſ. Voſſius* alledges, they had a Contrivance by which they made one Hole expreſs ſeveral Notes, and cites a Paſſage of *Arcadius* the Grammarian to prove it: That Author ſays, indeed, that there were Contrivances to ſhut and open the Holes, when they had a Mind, by Pieccs of Horn he calls *Bombyces* and *Opholmioi* (which *Julius Pollux* alſo mentions as Parts of ſome Kind of *Tibia*) turning them upwards or downwards, inwards or outwards: But the Uſe of this is not clearly taught us, and whether it was that the ſame Pipe might have more Notes than Holes, which might be managed by one Hand: Perhaps it was no more than a like Contrivance in our common Bagpipes, for tuning the Drones to the *Key* of the Song. We are alſo told that *Hyagnis* contrived the joyning of Two Pipes, ſo that one Canal conveyed Wind to both, which therefore were always ſounded together.

WE hear alſo of *Organs*, blown at firſt by a Kind of Air-pump, where alſo Water was ſome way uſed, and hence called *Organum Hydraulicum*; but afterwards they uſed Bellows, *Vitruvius*

*vius* has an obscure Description of it, which *Iff. Vossius* and *Kircher* both endeavour to clear.

THERE were *Tubæ*, and *Cornua*, and *Litui*, of the Trumpet Kind, of which there were different Species invented by different People. They talk of some Kind of *Tubæ*, that without any Art in the *Modulation*, had such a prodigious Sound, that was enough to terrify one.

OF *stringed Instruments* the first is the *Lyra* (̄ *Cithara* (which some distinguish :) *Mercury* is said to be Inventor of it, in this Manner; after an Inundation of the *Nile* he found a dead Shell-fish; which the *Greeks* call *Chelone*, and the *Latins* *Testudo*; of this Shell he made his *Lyre*, mounting it with Seven Strings, as *Lucian* says; and added a Kind of *jugum* to it, to lengthen the Strings, but not such as our *Violins* have, whereby one String contains several Notes; by the common Form this *jugum* seems no more than Two distinct Pieces of Wood, set parallel, and at some Distance, but joyn'd at the farther End, where there is a Head to receive Pins for stretching the Strings. *Boethius* reports the Opinion of some that say, the *Lyra Mercurii* had but Four Strings, in Imitation of the mundane *Musick* of the Four Elements: But *Diodorus Siculus* says, it had only Three Strings, in Imitation of the Three Seasons of the Year, which were all the ancient *Greeks* counted, *viz.* Spring, Summer and Winter. *Nicomachus*, *Horace*, *Lucian* and others say, it had Seven Strings, in Imitation of the Seven Planets. Some reconcile *Dio-*

*odorus*, with the last, thus, they say the more ancient *Lyre* had but Three or Four Strings, and *Mercury* added other Three, which made up Seven. *Mercury* gave this Seven-stringed *Lyre* to *Orpheus*, who being torn to Pieces by the *Bacchanals*, the *Lyre* was hung up in *Apollo's* Temple by the *Lesbians*: But others say, *Pythagoras* found it in some Temple of *Egypt*, and added an eighth String. *Nicomachus* says, *Orpheus* being killed by the *Thracian* Women, for contemning their Religion in the *Bacchanalian* Rites, his *Lyre* was cast into the Sea, and thrown up at *Antissa* a City of *Lesbos*; the Fishers finding it gave it to *Terpander*, who carrying it to *Egypt*, gave it to the Priests, and call'd himself the Inventor. Those who call it Four-string'd, make the Proportions thus, betwixt the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup>, the *Intercal* of a 4<sup>th</sup>, 3 : 4, betwixt the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup>, a *Tone* 8 : 9, and betwixt the 3<sup>d</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> String another 4<sup>th</sup>: The Seven Strings were *diatonically* disposed by *Tones* and *Semitones*, and *Pythagoras's* eighth String made up the *Octave*.

THE Occasion of ascribing the Invention of this Instrument to so many Authors, is probably, that they have each in different Places invented Instruments much resembling other. However simple it was at first, it grew to a great Number of Strings; but 'tis to no Purpose to repete the Names of these who are supposed to have added new Strings to it.

FROM this Instrument, which all agree to be first of the stringed Kind in *Greece*, arose a Multitude

titude of others, differing in their Shape and Number of Strings, of which we have but indistinct Accounts. We hear of the *Psalterium*, *Trigon*, *Sambuca*, *Peētis*, *Magadis*, *Barbiton*, *Testudo* ( the Two last used by *Horace* promiscuously with the *Lyra* and *Cithara* ) *Epigonium*, *Simmicium*, *Pandura*, which were all struck with the Hand or a *Plectrum*; but it does not appear that they used any Thing like the Bows of Hair we have now for Violins, which is a most noble Contrivance for making long and short Sounds, and giving them a thousand Modifications 'its impossible to produce by a *Plectrum*.

*Kircher* also observes, that in all the ancient Monuments, where Instruments are put in the Hands of *Apollo* and the *Muses*, as there are many of them at *Rome* says he, there is none to be found with such a *jugum* as our Violins have, whereby each String has several Notes, but every String has only one Note: And this he makes an Argument of the Simplicity and Imperfection of their Instruments. Besides several Forms of the *Lyra* Kind, and some *Fistulae*, he is positive they had no Instruments worth naming. He considers how careful they were to transmit, by Writing and other Monuments, their most trifling Inventions, that they might not lose the Glory of them; and concludes, if they had any Thing more perfect, we should certainly have heard of it, and had it preserved, when they were at Pains to give us the Fi-

gure of their trifling Reed-pipes, which the Shepherds commonly used. But indeed I find some Passages, that cannot be well understood, without supposing they had Instruments in which one String had more than one Note: Where *Pherecrates* (already mention'd) makes *Musick* complain of her Abuses from *Timotheus's* Innovations; she says, he had destroyed her who had Twelve *Harmonies* in Five Strings; whether these *Harmonies* signify single Notes or Consonances, 'tis plain each String must have afforded more than one Note. And *Plutarch* ascribes to *Terpander* a *Lyre* of Three Chords, yet he says it had Seven Sounds, *i. e.* Notes.

I have now done as much as my Purpose required. If you are curious to hear more of this, and see the Figures of Instruments both ancient and modern, go to *Mersennus* and *Kircher*.

§ 3. *Of the Excellency and various Uses of Musick.*

**T**HO' the Reasons alledged for the Antiquity of *Musick*, shew us the Dignity of it, yet I believe it will be agreeable, to enter into a more particular History of the Honour *Musick* was in among the Ancients, and of its various Ends and Uses, and the pretended Virtues and Powers of it.

THE Reputation this Art was in with the *Jewish* Nation, is I suppose well known by the *sacred History*. Can any Thing shew the Excellency of an Art more, than that it was reckoned useful and necessary in the Worship of GOD; and as such, diligently practised and cultivated by a People, separated from the rest of Mankind, to be Witnesses for the Almighty, and preserve the true Knowledge of GOD upon the Earth? I have already mentioned the Instance of the *Israelites* Song, upon their Delivery at the Red Sea, which seems to prove that *Musick* both *vocal* and *instrumental*, was an approved and stated Manner of worshipping GOD: And we cannot doubt that it was according to his Will, for *Moses* the Man of GOD, and *Miriam* the Prophetess, were the Chiefs of this sacred Choir: And that from this Time to that of the Royal Prophet *David*, the Art was honoured and encouraged by them both publickly and privately; we can make no Doubt; for when *Saul* was troubled with an evil Spirit from the LORD, he is advised to call for a cunning Player on the *Harp*, which supposes it was a well known Art in that Time; and behold, *David*, yet an obscure and private Person, being famous for his Skill in *Musick*, was called; and upon his playing, *Saul was refreshed and was well, and the evil Spirit departed from him*. Nor when *David* was advanced to the Kingdom thought he this Exercise below him, especially the religious Use of it. When the *Ark* was brought from *Kirjath-jearim*, *David and*

*al*

*all Israel played before GOD with all their Might, and with Singing, and with Harps, and with Psalteries, and with Timbrels, and with Cymbals, and with Trumpets, 1 Chron. 13. 8.* And the Ark being set up in the City of *David*, what a solemn Service was instituted for the publick Worship and Praise of *GOD*; Singers and Players on all Manner of Instruments, to minister before the *Ark of the LORD* continually, to record, and to thank, and praise the *Lord GOD* of *ISRAEL*. These seem to have been divided into *Three Choirs*, and over them appointed *Three Choragi* or Masters, *Asaph*, *Heman* and *Jeduthun*, both to instruct them, and to preside in the Service: But *David* himself was the chief *Musician* and *Poet* of *Israel*. And when *Solomon* had finished the *Temple*, behold, at the Dedication of it, *the Levites which were the Singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, having Cymbals, and Psalteries, and Harps, stood at the East-end of the Altar, praising and thanking the LORD.* And this Service, as *David* had appointed before the *Ark*, continued in the *Temple*; for we are told, that the King and all the People having dedicated the House to *GOD*,—*The Priests waited on their Offices: the Levites also with Instruments of Musick of the LORD, which David the King had made to praise the LORD.*

THE Prophet *Elisha* knew the Virtue of *Musick*, when he called for a Minstrel to compose his Mind (as is reasonably supposed) before the *Hand of the LORD* came upon him.

To this I shall add the Opinion and Testimony of St. *Chrysoftom*, in his Commentary on the 40th *Pfalm*. He says to this Purpose, 'That GOD knowing Men to be slothful and backward in spiritual Things, and impatient of the Labour and Pains which they require, willing to make the Task more agreeable, and prevent our Weariness, he joyn'd *Melody* or *Musick* with his Worship; that as we are all naturally delighted with *harmonious* Numbers, we might with Readiness and Cheerfulness of Mind express his Praise in sacred Hymns. For, says he, nothing can raise the Mind, and, as it were, give Wings to it, free it from Earthliness, and the Confinement 'tis under by Union with the Body, inspire it with the Love of Wisdom, and make every thing pertaining to this Life agreeable, as well modulated Verse and divine Songs *harmoniously* composed. Our Natures are so delighted with *Musick*, and we have so great and necessary Inclination and Tendency to this Kind of Pleasure, that even Infants upon the Breast are soothed and lulled to Rest by this means. Again he says, 'Because this Pleasure is so familiar and connate with our Minds, that we might have both Profit and Pleasure, GOD appointed *Psalms*, that the Devil might not ruin us with prophane and wicked Songs. And tho' there be now some Difference of Opinion about its Use in sacred Things, yet all Christians keep up the Practice of singing Hymns and *Psalms*, which is enough to confirm the general

neral Principle of *Musick's* Suitableness to the Worship of G O D.

I N St. *John's* Vision, the Elders are represented with *Harps* in their Hands; and tho' this be only representing Things in Heaven, in a Way easiest for our Conception, yet we must suppose it to be a Comparison to the best Manner of worshipping G O D among Men, with respect at least to the Means of composing and raising our Minds, or keeping out other Ideas, and thereby fitting us for entertaining religious Thoughts.

L E T us next consider the Esteem and Use of it among the ancient *Greeks* and *Romans*. The Glory of this Art among them, especially the *Greeks*, appears first, according to the Observation of *Quintilian*, by the Names given to the *Poets* and *Musicians*, which at the Beginning were generally the same Person, and their Characters thought to be so connected, that the Names were reciprocal; they were called *Sages* or *Wisemen*, and the *inspired*. *Salmuth* on *Pan-cirollus* cites *Aristophanes* to prove, that by *citharæ callens*, or one that was skilled in playing on the *Cithara*, the Ancients meant a Wiseman, who was adorned with all the Graces; as they reckoned one who had no Ear or Genius to *Musick*, stupid, or whose Frame was disordered, and the Elements of his Composition at War among themselves. And so high an Opinion they had of it, that they thought no Industry of Man could attain to such an excellent Art; and hence they believed this Faculty  
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to be an Inspiration from the Gods; which also appears particularly by their making *Apollo* the Author of it, and then making their most ancient *Musicians*, as *Orpheus*, *Linus*, and *Amphion*; of divine Offspring. *Homer*, who was himself both *Poet* and *Musician*, could have supposed nothing more to the Honour of his Profession, than making the Gods themselves delighted with it; after the fierce Contest that happened among them about the *Grecian* and *Trojan* Affairs, he feigns them recreating themselves with *Apollo's* Musick; and after this, 'tis no Wonder he thought it not below his *Hero* to have been instructed in, and a diligent Practiser of this Godlike Art. And do not the *Poets* universally testify this Opinion of the Excellency of *Musick*, when they make it a Part of the Entertainment at the Tables of Kings; where to the Sound of the *Lyre* they sung the Praises of the Gods and Heroes, and other useful Things: As *Homer* in the *Odyſſea* introduces *Demodocus* at the Table of *Alcinous*, King of *Phæacea*, singing the *Trojan* War and the Praises of the Heroes: And *Virgil* brings in *Jopas* at the Table of *Dido*, singing to the Sound of his golden *Harp*, what he had learned in natural Philosophy, and particularly in Astronomy from *Atlas*; upon which *Quintilian* makes this Reflection, that hereby the *Poet* intends to shew the Connection there is betwixt *Musick* and heavenly Things; and *Horace* teaches us the same Doctrine, when addressing his *Lyre*, he

cries out, *O decus Phœbi, & dapibus supremi, grata testudo, Jovis.*

At the Beginning, *Musick* was perhaps sought only for the sake of innocent Pleasure and Recreation; in which View *Aristotle* calls it the Medicine of that Heaviness that proceeds from Labour; and *Horace* calls his Lyre *laborum dulce lenimen*: And as this is the first and most simple, so it is certainly no despicable Use of it; our Circumstances require such a Help to make us undergo the necessary Toils of Life more cheerfully. *Wine and Musick cheer the Heart*, said the wise Man; and that the same Power still remains, does plainly appear by universal Experience. Men naturally seek Pleasure, and the wiser Sort studying how to turn this Desire into the greatest Advantage, and mix the *utile dulci*, happily contrived, by bribing the Ear, to make Way into the Heart. The severest of the Philosophers approved of *Musick*, because they found it a necessary Means of Access to the Minds of Men, and of engaging their Passions on the Side of Virtue and the Laws; and so *Musick* was made an Handmaid to Virtue and Religion.

JAMBlichus in the Life of *Pythagoras* tells us, That *Musick* was a Part of the Discipline by which he formed the Minds of his Scholars. To this Purpose he made, and taught them to make and sing, Verses calculated against the Passions and Diseases of their Minds; which were also sung by a Chorus, standing round one that plaid upon the Lyre, the Modulations whereof

whereof were perfectly adapted to the Design and Subject of the Verses. He used also to make them sing some choice Verses out of *Homer* and *Hesiod*. Musick was the first Exercise of his Scholars in the Morning; as necessary to fit them for the Duties of the Day, by bringing their Minds to a right Temper; particularly he designed it as a Kind of Medicine against the Pains of the Head, which might be contracted in Sleep: And at Night, before they went to rest, he taught them to compose their Minds after the Perturbations of the Day, by the same Exercise.

WHATEVER Virtue the *Pythagoreans* ascribed to *Musick*, they believed the Reason of it to be, That the Soul it self consisted of Harmony; and therefore they pretended by it to revive the primitive Harmony of the Faculties of the Soul. By this primitive Harmony they meant that which, according to their Doctrine, was in the Soul in its pre-existent State in Heaven. *Macrobius*, who is plainly *Pythagorean* in this Point, affirms, That every Soul is delighted with *musical* Sounds; not the polite only but the most barbarous Nations practise *Musick*, whereby they are excited to the Love of Vertue, or dissolved in Softness and Pleasure: The Reason is, says he, That the Soul brings into the Body with it the Memory of the *Musick* which it was entertained with in Heaven: And there are certain Nations, says he, that attend the Dead to their Burial with Singing; because they believe the Soul returns to Heaven the Fountain

or Original of *Musick*, *Lib. 2.* in *Somnium Scipionis*. And because this Sect believed the *Gods* themselves to have celestial Bodies of a most perfect harmonious Composition, therefore they thought the *Gods* were delighted with it; and that by our Use of it in sacred Things, we not only compose our Minds, and fit them better for the Contemplation of the *Gods*, but imitate their Happiness, and thereby are acceptable to them, and open for our selves a Return into *Heaven*.

ATHENAEUS reports of one *Clinias* a *Pythagorean*, who, being a very choleric and wrathful Man, as soon as he found his Passion begin to rise, took up his Lyre and sung, and by this means allayed it. But this Discipline was older than *Pythagoras*; for *Homer* tells us, That *Achilles* was educated in the same manner by *Chiron*, and feigns him, after the hot Dispute he had with *Agamemnon*, calming his Mind with his Song and Lyre: And tho' *Homer* should be the Author of this Story, it shews however that such an Use was made of *Musick* in his Days; for 'tis reasonable to think he had learned this from Experience.

THE virtuous and wise *Socrates* was no less a Friend to this admirable Art; for even in the Decline of his Age he applied himself to the Lyre, and carefully recommended it to others. Nor did the divine *Plato* differ from his great Master in this Point; he allows it in his *Common-wealth*; and in many Places of his Works speaks with the greatest Respect of it, as a most useful Thing in Society; he

he says it has as great Influence over the Mind, as the Air has over the Body; and therefore he thought it was worthy of the Law to take Care of it: He understood the Principles of the Art so well that, as *Quintilian* justly observes, there are many Passages in his Writings not to be understood without a good Knowledge of it. *Aristotle* in his *Politicks* agrees with *Plato* in his Sentiments of *Musick*.

ARISTIDES the Philosopher and Musician, in the Introduction to his Treatise on this Subject, says, 'tis not so confined either as to the Subject Matter or Time as other Arts and Sciences, but adds Ornament to all the Parts and Actions of human Life: Painting, says he, attains that Good which regards the Eye, Medicine and Gymnastick are good for the Body, Dialectick and that Kind helps to acquire Prudence, if the Mind be first purged and prepared by *Musick*: Again, it beautifies the Mind with the Ornaments of Harmony, and forms the Body with decent Motions: 'Tis fit for young ones, because of the Advantages got by Singing; for Persons of more Age, by teaching them the Ornaments of modulate Diction, and of all Kinds of Eloquence; to others more advanced it teaches the Nature of Number, with the Variety of Proportions, and the Harmony that thereby exists in all Bodies, but chiefly the Reasons and Nature of the Soul. He says, as wise Husband-men first cast out Weeds and noxious Plants, then sow the good Seed, so Musick is used to compose the Mind, and fit it for

receiving Instruction : For Pleasure, says he, is not the proper End of Musick, which affords Recreation to the Mind only by accident, the proposed End being the instilling of Virtue. Again, he says, if every City, and almost every Nation loves Decency and Humanity, Musick cannot possibly be useles.

IT was used at the Feasts of Princes and Heroes, says *Athenæus*, not out of Levity and vain Mirth ; but rather as a Kind of Medicine, that by making their Minds cheerful, it might help their Digestion : There, says he, they sung the Praises of the Gods and Heroes and other useful and instructive Composures, that their Minds might not be neglected while they took Care of their Bodies; and that from a Reverence of the Gods, and by the Example of good Men, they might be kept within the Bounds of Sobriety and Moderation.

BUT we are not confined to the Authority and Opinion of Philosophers or any particular Persons ; we have the Testimony of whole Nations where it had publick Encouragement, and was made necessary by the Law; as in the most Part of the *Grecian* Common-wealths.

ATHENÆUS assures us, That anciently all their Laws divine and civil, Exhortations to Vertue, the Knowledge of divine and human Things, the Lives and Actions of illustrious Men, and even Histories and mentions *Herodotus*, were written in Verse and publickly sung by a *Chorus*, to the Sound of Instruments ; they found this by Experience an effectual means to

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impress Morality, and a right Sense of Duty : Men were attentive to Things that were proposed to them in such a sweet and agreeable Manner, and attracted by the Charms of harmonious Numbers, and well modulated Sounds, they took Pleasure in repeating these Examples and Instructions, and found them easier retained in their Memories. *Aristotle* also in his *Problems* tells us, That before the Use of Letters, their Laws were sung *musically*, for the better retaining them in Memory. In the Story of ORPHEUS and AMPHION, both of them *Poets* and *Musicians*, who made a wonderful Impression upon a rude and uncultivated Age, by their virtuous and wise Instructions, enforced by the Charms of *Poetry* and *Musick* : The succeeding Poets, who turned all Things into Mystery and Fable, feign the one to have drawn after him, and tamed the most savage Beasts, and the other to have animated the very Trees and Stones, by the Power of *Musick*. *Horace* had received the same Traditions of all the Things I have now narrated, and with these mentions other Uses of *Musick* : The Passage is in his Book *de arte Poetica*, and is worth repeating.

*Silvestres homines, sacer interpretq; deorum,  
 Cædibus & victu fædo, deterruit Orpheus :  
 Dictus ob hoc lenire tigres, rabidosq; leones :  
 Dictus & Amphion, Thebanæ conditor arcis,  
 Saxa movere sono testudinis, & prece blanda  
 Ducere quo vellet. Fuit hæc sapientia quondam,*

*Publica privatis secernere, sacra profanis :  
 Concubitu prohibere vago : dare sacra maritis :  
 Oppida moliri : leges incidere ligno :  
 Sic honor, & nomen divinis vatibus, atque  
 Carminibus venit. Post hos insignis Homerus,  
 Tyrtæusq; mares animos in martia bella  
 Versibus exacuit. Dictæ per carmina sortes :  
 Et vitæ monstrata via est : & gratia regum  
 Pieriis tentata modis : ludusq; repertus,  
 Et longorum operum finis : ne forte pudori,  
 Sit tibi musa lyræ solers, & cantor Apollo.*

FROM these Experiences I say, the Art was publickly honour'd by the Governments of Greece. It was by the Law made a necessary Part of the Education of Youth. *Plato* assures us it was thus at *Athens*; in his first *Alcibiades*, he mentions to that great Man, in *Socrates's* Name, how he was taught to read and write, to play on the Harp, and wrestle. And in his *Crito*, he says, did not the Laws most reasonably appoint that your Father should educate you in *Musick* and *Gymnastick*? And we find these Three *Grammar*, *Musick* and *Gymnastick* generally named together, as the known and necessary Parts of the Education of Youth, especially of the better Sort: *Plutarch* and *Athenæus* give abundant Testimony to this; and *Terence* having laid the Scene of his Plays in Greece, or rather only translated, and at most but imitated *Menander*, gives us another Proof, in the *Act* 3. Scene 2. of his *Eunuch*. *Fac periculum in literis, fac in palæstra, in musicis. Quæ liberum scire æquum est adolescentem solertem dabo.*

THE Use of *Musick* in the Temples and solemn Service of their *Gods* is past all question. *Plato* in his *Dialogues* concerning the Laws, gives this Account of the sacred Musick. 1mo. That every Song consist of pious Words. 2do. That we pray to God to whom we sacrifice. 3tio. That the Poets, who know that Prayers are Petitions or Requests to the Gods, take good Heed they don't ask Ill instead of Good, and do nothing but what's just, honest, good and agreeable to the Laws of the Society; and that they shew not their Compositions to any private Person, before those have seen and approv'd them who are appointed Judges of these Things, and Keepers of the Laws: Then, Hymns to the Praises of the Gods are to be sung, which are very well connected with Prayer; and after the Gods, Prayers and Praises are to be offer'd to the *Dæmons* and *Heroes*.

As they had poetical Compositions upon various Subjects for their publick Solemnities, so they had certain determinate *Modes* both in the *Harmonia* and *Rythmus*, which it was unlawful to alter; and which were hence called *Nomi* or *Laws*, and *Musica Canonica*. They were jealous of any Innovations in this Matter, fearing that a Liberty being allowed, it might be abused to Luxury; for they believed there was a natural Connection betwixt the publick Manners and *Musick*: *Plato* denied that the *musical Modes* or *Laws* could be changed without a Change of the publick *Laws*; he meant, the

Influence of *Musick* was so great, that the Changes in it would necessarily produce a proportional Change of Manners and the publick Constitution.

THE Use of it in *War* will easily be allowed to have been by publick Authority; and the Thing we ought to remark is, that it was not used as a mere Signal, but for inspiring Courage, raising their Minds to the Ambition of great Actions, and freeing them from base and cowardly Fear; and this was not done without great Art, as *Virgil* shews when he speaks of *Misenus*,

--- *Quo non præstantior alter,  
Ære ciere viros, martemque accendere cantu.*

FROM *Athens* let us come to *Lacedemon*, and here we find it in equal Honour. Their Opinion of its natural Influence was the same with that of their Neighbours: And to shew what Care was taken by the Law, to prevent the Abuse of it to Luxury, the Historians tell us that *Timotheus* was fined for having more than Seven Strings on his *Lyre*, and what were added ordered to be taken away. The *Spartans* were a warlike People, yet very sensible of the Advantage of fighting with a cool and deliberate Courage; therefore as *Gellius* out of *Thucydides* reports, they used not in their Armies, Instruments of a more vehement Sound, that might inflame their Temper and make them more furious, as the *Tuba*, *Cornu* and *Lituus*,  
but

but the more gentle and moderate Sounds and Modulations of the *Tibia*, that their Minds being more compos'd, they might engage with a rational Courage. And *Gellius* tells us, the *Cretans* used the *Cithara* to the same Purpose in their Armies. We have already heard how this People entertain'd at great Expence the famous *Thales* to instruct their Youth in *Musick*; and after their *Musick* had been thrice corrupted, thrice they restored it.

IF we go to *Thebes*, *Epaminondas* will be a Witness of the Esteem it was in, as *Corin. Nepos* informs us.

ATHENÆUS reports, upon the Authority of *Theopompus*, that the *Getan* Ambassadors, being sent upon an Embassy of Peace, made their Entry with *Lyres* in their Hands, singing and playing to compose their Minds, and make themselves Masters of their Temper. We need not then doubt of its publick Encouragement among this People.

BUT the most famous Instance in all *Greece*, is that of the *Arcadians*, a People, says *Polybius*, in Reputation for Virtue among the *Greeks*; especially for their Devotion to the Gods. *Musick*, says he, is esteem'd every where, but to the *Arcadians* it is necessary, and allowed a Part in the Establishment of their State, and an indispensable Part of the Education of their Children. And tho' they might be ignorant of other Arts and Sciences without Reproach, yet none might presume to want Knowledge in *Musick*,

sick, the Law of the Land making it necessary; and Insufficiency in it was reckoned infamous among that People. It was not thus established, says he, so much for Luxury and Delight, as from a wise Consideration of their toilsom and industrious Life, owing to the cold and melancholy Air of their Climate; which made them attempt every Thing for softning and sweetning those Austerities they were condemned to. And the Neglect of this Discipline he gives as the Reason of the Barbarity of the *Cynethians* a People of *Arcadia*.

WE shall next consider the State of Musick among the ancient *Romans*. Till Luxury and Pride ruin'd the Manners of this brave Nation, they were famous for a severe and exact Virtue. And tho' they were convinced of the native Charms and Force of *Musick*, yet we don't find they cherish'd it to the same Degree as the *Greeks*; from which one would be tempted to think they were only afraid of its Power, and the ill Use it was capable of; a Caution that very well became those who valued themselves so much, and justly, upon their Piety and good Manners.

CORN. NEPOS, in his Preface, takes Notice of the Differences betwixt the *Greek* and *Roman Customs*, particularly with respect to *Musick*; and in the Life of *Epaminondas*, he has these Words, *Scimus enim musicum nostris moribus abesse a principis persona; saltare etiam in vitiis poni, quæ omnia apud Græcos & gratia & laude digna duntur.*

CICERO in the Beginning of the first Book of his *Tusculan* Questions, tells us, that the old *Romans* did not study the more soft and polite Arts so much as the *Greeks*; being more addicted to the Study of Morality and Government: Hence Musick had a Fate somewhat different at *Rome*.

BUT the same *Cicero* shews us plainly his own Opinion of it. *Lib. 2. de Legibus*; *Assentior enim Platoni, nihil tam facile in animos teneros atque molles influere quam varios canendi sonos. Quorum dici vix potest quanta sit vis in utramque partem, namque & incitat languentes, & languefacit incitatos, & tum remittit animos, tum contrahit.* Certainly he had been a Witness to this Power of Sound, before he could speak so; and I shall not believe he had met with the Experiment only at *Athens*. A Man so famous for his Eloquence, must have known the Force of harmonious Numbers, and well proportioned *Tones* of the Voice.

QUINTILIAN speaks honourably of *Musick*. He says, *Lib. 1. Chap. 11.* Nature seems to have given us this Gift for mitigating the Pains of Life, as the common Practice of all labouring Men testifies. He makes it necessary to his O-  
 rator, because, says he, *Lib. 8. Chap. 4.* it is impossible that a Thing should reach the Heart which begins with choking the Ear; and because we are naturally pleased with Harmony, otherwise Instruments of Musick that cannot express Words would not make such surprizing  
 and

and various Effects upon us. And in another Place, where he is proving *Art* to be only Nature perfected, he says, *Musick* would not otherwise be an *Art*, for there is no Nation which has not its *Songs* and *Dances*.

SOME of the first Rank at *Rome* practised it. *Athenæus* says of one *Masurius* a Lawyer, whom he calls one of the best and wisest of Men, and inferior to none in the Law, that he applied himself to *Musick* diligently. And *Plutarch* places *Musick*, viz. singing and playing on the *Lyre*, among the Qualifications of *Metella* the Daughter of *Scipio Metellus*.

MACROBIUS in the 10 *Chap. Lib. 2.* of his *Saturnalia* shews us, that neither Singing nor Dancing were reckoned dishonourable Exercises even for the Quality among the ancient *Romans*; particularly in the Times betwixt the Two *Punick* Wars, when their Virtue and Manners were at the best; providing they were not studied with too much Curiosity, and too much Time spent about them; and observes that it is this, and not simply the Use of these that *Salust* complains of in *Sempronia*, when he says she knew *psallere & saltare elegantius quam necesse erat probæ*. What an Opinion *Macrobius* himself had of *Musick* we have in part shewn already; to which let us add here this remarkable Passage in the Place formerly cited. *Ita denique omnis habitus animæ cantibus gubernatur, ut & ad bellum progressui & etiam receptui canatur, cantu & excitante & rursus sedante virtutem; dat somnos adimitque,*  
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*necnon curas & immittit & retrahit, iram suggerit, clementiam suadet, corporum quoque morbis medetur. Hinc est quod agris remedia præstantes præcinere dicuntur.* The Abuse of it, which 'tis probable lay chiefly in their idle, ridiculous and lascivious Dancing, or perhaps their spending too much Time even in the most innocent Part of it, and not applying it to the true Ends, made the wiser Sort cry out, and brought the Character of a *Musician* into some Discredit. But we find that the true and proper *Musick* was still in Honour and Practice among them: Had *Rome* ever such Poets, or were they ever so honoured as in *Augustus's* Reign? *Horace*, tho' he complains of the Abuse of the Theatre and the *Musick* of it, yet in many Places he shews us, that it was then the Practice to sing Verses or *Odes* to the Sound of the *Lyre*, or of *Pipes*, or of both together; *Lib. 4. Ode 9. Verba loquor socianda chordis. Lib. 2. Ep. 2. Hic ego verba lyra motura sonum connectere digner?* In the first *Ode, Lib. 1.* he gives us his own Character as a Poet and *Musician*, *Si neque tibias Euterpe cohibet, &c.* He shews us that it was in his Time used both publickly in the Praise of the *Gods* and Men, and privately for Recreation, and at the Tables of the Great, as we find clearly in these Passages. *Lib. 4. Ode 11. Condisce modos amanda voce quos reddas, minuentur atra carmine cura. Lib. 3. Ode 28. Nos cantabimus invicem Neptunum, tu curva recines lyra Latonam, &c. Lib. 4. Ode 15. Nosque & profestis lucibus & sacris - Rite Deos*

*Deos prius adprecati, virtute functos more patrum duces, Lydis remisto carmine tibiis Trojanque, &c. canemus. Epode 9. Quando repostum cæcubum ad festas dapes tecum. — Beate Mecænas bibam? Sonante mistis tibiis carmen lyra. Lib. 3. Ode 11. Tuque testudo — Nunc & divitum mensis & amica templis.*

FOR all the Abuses of it, there were still some, even of the best Characters, that knew how to make an innocent Use of it: *Sueton* in *Titus's* Life, whom he calls *Amor ac deliciæ generis humani*, among his other Accomplishments adds, *Sed ne Musicæ quidem rudis, ut qui cantaret & psalleret jucunde scienterque.*

THERE is enough said to shew the real Value and Use of *Musick* among the Ancients. I believe it will be needless to insist much upon our own Experience; I shall only say, these Powers of *Musick* remain to this Day, and are as universal as ever. We use it still in *War* and in *sacred Things*, with Advantages that they only know who have the Experience. But in common Life almost every Body is a Witness of its sweet Influences.

WHAT a powerful Impression musical Sounds make even upon the *Brute* Animals, especially the feathered Kind, we are not without some Instances. But how surprising are the Accounts we meet with among the old Writers? I have reserved no Place for them here. You may see a Variety of Stories in *Ælian's* *History of Animals*;

mals, *Strabo*, *Pliny*, *Marcianus Capella*, and others.

BEFORE I leave this, I must take Notice of some of the extraordinary Effects ascribed to *Musick*. *Pythagoras* is said to have had an absolute Command of the human Passions, to turn them as he pleased by *Musick*: They tell us, that meeting a young Man who in great Fury was running to burn his Rival's House, *Pythagoras* allayed his Temper, and diverted the Design, by the sole Power of *Musick*. The Story is famous how *Timotheus*, by a certain Strain or Modulation, fired *Alexander's* Temper to that Degree, that forgetting himself, in a warlike Rage he killed one of the Company; and by a Change of the *Musick* was softened again, even to a bitter Repentance of what he had done. But *Plutarch* speaks of one *Antigenides* a *Tibicen* or Piper, who by some warlike Strain had transported that *Hero*, so far that he fell upon some of the Company. *Terpander* quelled a Sedition at *Sparta* by means of *Musick*. *Thales* being called from *Crete*, by Advice of the Oracle, to *Sparta*, cured a raging Pestilence by the same Means. The Cure of Diseases by *Musick* is talked of with enough of Confidence. *Aulus Gellius Lib. 4. Chap. 13.* tells us it was a common Tradition, that those who were troubled with the *Sciatica* (he calls them *Ischiaci*) when their Pain was most exquisite, were eased by certain gentle Modulations of *Musick* performed upon the *Tibiæ*; and says, he had read in *Theophrastus* that, by certain artful

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Modulations of the same Kind of Instrument, the Bites of Serpents or Vipers had been cured. *Clytemnestra* had her vicious Inclinations to Unchastity corrected by the Applications of *Musicians*. And a virtuous Woman is said to have diverted the wicked Design of two Rakes that assaulted her, by ordering a Piece of *Musick* to be performed in the *Spondean* Mode. The Truth and Reality of these Effects shall be considered afterwards.

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§ 4. *Explaining the HARMONICK Principles of the Ancients; and their Scale of Musick.*

Indroduction. *Of the ancient Writers on Musick.*

THESE Principles are certainly to be found no where, but among those who have written professedly upon the Subject; I shall therefore introduce what I'm to deliver, with a short Account of the ancient Writers upon *Musick*.

I have already observed, that the first Writer upon *Musick* was *Lafus Hermionensis*; but his Work is lost, as are the Works of very many more, both *Greek* and *Latin*, of which you'll find a large Catalogue in the 3<sup>d</sup> Book of *Fabritius's Bibliotheca græca*; where you'll also find an Account of some others, that are pretended to be still in Manuscript in some Libraries.

ries. Here I shall only say a few Words concerning these Authors that are still extant and already made publick.

ARISTOXENUS the Disciple of *Aristotle*, is the eldest Writer extant on this Subject; he calls his Book *Elements of Harmonicks*; and tho' in his *Division* he speaks of the rest of the Parts, yet he explains there only the *Harmonica*. He wrote a Treatise upon the other Parts, which is lost.

EUCLID, the Author of the *Elements of Geometry*, is next to *Aristoxenus*, he writes an *Introduction to Harmonicks*.

ARISTIDES QUINTILIANUS wrote after *Cicero's* Time; he calls his Book, *Of Musick*; because he treats of both the *Harmonica* and *Rythmica*.

ALYPIUS stands next, who writes only an Account of the Greek *Semeiotica*, or of the Signs by which the various Degrees of *Time* were noted in any Song.

GAUDENTIUS the Philosopher makes a Kind of short Compend of *Aristoxenus*, which he calls an *Introduction to Harmonicks*.

NICOMACHUS the *Pythagorean* writes a Compend of *Harmonicks*, which he says was done at the Request of some great Woman, and promises a more complete Treatise of *Musick*: 'tis supposed that *Boethius* had seen and made Use of it, from several Passages he cites, which are not in this Compend; but 'tis lost since.

BACCHIUS a Follower of *Aristoxenus*, writes a very short *Introduction to the Art of Musick* in *Dialogue*.

OF these Seven *Greek* Authors, we have a fair Copy, with Translation and Notes, by *Meibomius*.

CLAUDIUS PTOLOMAEUS the famous Mathematician, about the Time of the Emperor *Antoninus Pius*, writes in *Greek* Three Books of *Harmonicks*. He strikes a Medium betwixt the *Pythagoreans* and *Aristoxenians*, in explaining the *harmonick* Principles. Of this Author, with his prolix Commentator *Porphyrius*, we have a fair Copy with Translations and Notes, by the learned Doctor *Wallis*. Vol. III. of his mathematical Works. And from the same Hand we have also, with Translation and Notes.

MANUEL BRYENNIUS, long after any of the former, who writes of *Harmonicks*. In his first Book he follows *Euclid*, and in his 2d and 3d *Ptolomy*.

I have spoken of *Plutarch's* Book de *Musica*, in the § 1.

OF the *Latins* we have

BOETHIUS, in the Time of *Theodorick* the *Goth*, he writes de *musica*, but explains only the *harmonick* Principles; 'tis with his other Works.

MARTIANUS CAPELLA in the 9th Book of his Treatise de *nuptiis Philologiae & Veneris*, writes de *musica*, in which he is but a sorry Copier from *Aristides*. We have this Work with *Meibomius's* Collection of the *Greek* Writers.

St. AUGUSTIN writes *de musica*, but he treats only of the *Rythmi* and *pedes metrici*; 'tis among his Works.

AURELIUS CASSIODORUS, in the Time of *Theodorick*, among his other Works, and particularly *de artibus ac disciplinis liberalium literarum*, treats *de musica*; 'tis a very short Sketch, amounting to no more than some general Definitions and Divisions.

THERE are one or Two more Authors, which I have not seen: But these mentioned contain the whole Doctrine that's left us by the Ancients; and perhaps we might spare severals of these without great Loss, Two or Three of them containing the Whole; so true it is what *Gerhard Vossius* remarks of them, *nempe alii alios illaudato more exscripserunt*.

THESE then are the Authorities and Originals, from which I have taken the following Account of the ancient *System of Musick*. It will be needless therefore, after I have told you this, to make a troublesome and tedious Citation for every Thing I mention.

### Of the ancient HARMONICA.

How the ancient Writers *defined* and *divided* MUSICK has been explained in § 1. of this *Ch.* and needs not be repeted. My Business here is with the Part they called *Harmonica*, which treats of Sounds and their Differences, with respect to *acute* and *grave*. *Ptolomy* calls it a *Power or Faculty* *perceptive of the Difference*

of Sounds, with respect to Acuteness and Gravity; and *Bryennius* calls it a speculative and practical Science, of the Nature of the *harmnick* Agreement in Sounds.

THEY reduce the Doctrine of *Harmonicks* into Seven Parts, *viz.* 1st. Of Sounds. 2d. Of Intervals. 3d. Of Systems. 4th. Of the Genera or different Kinds, with respect to the Constitution and Division of the Scale. 5th. Of the Tones or Modes. 6th. Of Mutations or Changes. 7th. Of the *Melopœia* or Art of making *Melody* or Songs. Of these in Order.

I. OF SOUND. This *Ptolomy* considers in a large Sense, comprehending the whole Object of Hearing, and calls it by a general Name *Ψοφος*, *i. e.* *Streptus*, or any Kind of Sound. As it is capable of a Difference in *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, *Aristoxenus* calls it *Φωνή*, *i. e.* *Vox*, or Voice. As to the Nature and Cause of Sound, they agree that it is the Effect of the Percussion of the Air, whose Motion is propagated to the Ear, and there raises a Perception. The principal Difference they consider in Sounds is, of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, which is produced by a quicker or slower Motion in the Vibrations of the Air. A Sound considered in a certain determinate Degree of *Acuteness* or *Gravity*, they call *Ψόφος*, *i. e.* *Sonus*; and they define it thus, *Aristox.* *Φωνῆς πῶσις ἐπὶ μιᾷ τάσῳ, ὁ Ψόφος, i. e. Sonus est vocis casus in unam tensionem.* *Aristides* considers it with regard to its Use, and calls it *τάσῳ μελωδικῇ*, *tensionem melodicam.* *Nicomachus* defines it,  
Φωνῆς

φωνῆς ἐμμελῆς ἀπλατῆ τάσῳ, *vocis ad cantum apta tensionem, latitudinis expertem*. Thus they distinguished Sounds, according as their Degree of *Acuteness* or *Gravity* was fit or not for Song; such as were fit were also called *concinuous* Sounds, and others *inconcinuous*. These Words wanting *Latitude*, were added to contradict a Notion of *Lafus* and the *Epigonians*, that a Voice could not possibly remain for any determinate Time in one Degree, but made continually some little Variations up and down, tho' not very sensible.

THEN they consider a Voice as changing from *acute* to *grave*, or from this to that; and hereby form the Notion of a Motion of the Voice, which they say is Twofold; the one *concinuous*, by which we change the Voice in common Speaking, the other *discrete*, as in Singing. See above *Ch. 2*. And some added a Third and middle Kind, whereby, say they, we read a Poem.

IN Sounds (Φθοῖσγοι) they consider Three Things, *Tension*, which is the Rest or Standing of the Voice in any Degree, *Intension* and *Remission* are the Motions of the Voice upward and downward, whereby it acquires *Acuteness* or *Gravity*: And when it moves, all the Distance or Difference betwixt the first and last Degree or *Tension*, they called the *Place* thro' which it moved. Then there is *Distension* or Difference of *acute* and *grave*, in which the Quantity that is the mathematical Object consists; this they said is naturally infinite, but with respect either to our Senses, or what Sounds we

can possibly raise by any Means, it is limited ; and this brings us to the Second Head.

II. OF INTERVALS. An *Interval* is the Difference of Two Sounds, in respect of *acute* and *grave*; or, that imaginary Space which is terminated by Two Sounds differing in *Acuteness* or *Gravity*. *Intervals* were considered as differing, *1mo.* in Magnitude. *2do.* As the Extremes were *Concord* or *Discord*. *3tio.* As composite or incomposite, *that is*, simple or compound. *4to.* As belonging to the different *genera* ( of which again. ) *5to.* As rational or irrational, *i. e.* such as we can discern and measure, and which neither exceed our Capacities in Greatness or Littleness.

As to the measuring of *Intervals*, and, as *Ptolomy* calls it, the *Criteria* in *Harmonicks*, there was a notable Difference among the *Philosophers*, which divided them into Two Sects, the *Pythagoreans* and *Aristoxenians* ; betwixt whom *Ptolomy* striking a Midst, made a Third Sect.

PYTHAGORAS and his Followers measured all the Differences of *Acuteness* and *Gravity*, by the *Ratios* of Numbers. They supposed these Differences to depend upon the different Velocities of the Motions that cause Sound ; and thought therefore, that they could only be accurately measured by the *Ratios* of these Velocities. Which *Ratios* were first investigate by *Pythagoras*, as *Nicomachus* and others inform us, in this Manner, *viz.* Passing by a Smith's Shop, he perceiv'd a Concord or Agreement betwixt the

the Sounds of Hammers striking the Anvil: He went in, and made several Experiments, to find upon what the Difference really depended; and at last making Experiments upon Strings, which he stretched by various Weights, he found, say they, that if Four Chords, in every Thing else equal and alike, are stretched by Four Weights, as 6 . 8 . 9 . 12. they yield the *Concord* of *Octave* betwixt the first and last, a *4th* betwixt the first and Second, as also betwixt the Third and last, a *5th* betwixt the first and Third, and also betwixt the Second and last; and that betwixt the Second and Third was exactly the Difference of *4th* and *5th*; being all proven by the Judgment of a well tuned Ear: Hence he determined these to be the true *Ratios* that accurately express these *Intervals*.

BUT we have found an Error in this Account, which *Vincenzo Galileo*, in his Dialogues of the ancient and modern *Musick*, is, for what I know, the first who observes; and from him *Meibomius* repetes it in his Notes upon *Nicomachus*. We know, that if Four Strings are in Length, as these Numbers 6 . 8 . 9 . 12. (*cæteris paribus*) their Sounds make the *Intervals* mentioned. But whatever *Ratio* of Length makes any *Interval*, to make the same by Two Chords, in every other Thing equal, but stretcht by different Weights, these Weights must be as the Squares of the unequal Lengths, *i. e.* for an *Octave* 1 : 4, for a *5th* 4 : 9, and for a *4th* 9 : 16. (See above *Ch. 2.*) Hence by the *Ratios* of the Lengths of Chords, which are reciprocally as

the Numbers of Vibrations, all the Differences of *acute* and *grave* are measured. The *Pythagoreans* justly reckoned that the minute Differences could by no means be trusted to the Ear, and therefore judged and measured all by *Ratios*.

ARISTOXENUS on the contrary, thought Reason had nothing to do in the Case; that Sense was the only Judge; and that the other was too subtil, to be of any good Use: He therefore took the *8ve*, *5th* and *4th*, which are the first and most simple *Concords* by the Ear. By the Difference of the *4th* and *5th* he found the *Tonus*: And this being once settled as an *Interval* the Ear could judge of, he pretended to measure every *Interval* by various Additions and Subductions made of these mentioned, one with another. Particularly, he calls *Diateffaron* equal to Two *Tones* and a Half; and taking Two *Tones*, or *Ditonum*, out of *Diateffaron*, the Remainder is the *Hemitonium*; then the Sum of *Tonus* and *Hemitonium* is the *Triemitonium*. To get an Idea of the Method of bringing out these *Intervals*, suppose Six Sounds  $a : b : c : d : e : f$ . If  $a$  is the lowest, we can by the Ear take  $d$  a *4th* and  $e$  a *5th* upward; then from  $e$  downward we can take  $b$  a *4th*, so that  $a : b$  and  $d : e$  are each the *Tonus*, or Difference of *4th* and *5th*; also from  $b$  we can take upward  $f$  a *5th*, and downward from  $f$  a *4th* at  $c$ ; hence we have other Two *Tones*  $b : c$  and  $e : f$ , also a *Hemitonium*  $c . d$ , a *Ditonum*  $a - c$  or  $d - f$ , a *Triemitonium*  $b - d$  or  $c - e$ .

But

But the Inaccuracy of this Method of determining *Intervals* is very great.

P T O L O M E Y argues strongly against the last Sect, that while they own these different Ideas of *acute* and *grave*, which arise from the Relations of the Sounds among themselves; and that the Differences in the Lengths of Chords which yield these Sounds, are the same; yet they neither know nor enquire into the Relation: But as if the *Interval* were the real Thing, and the Sound the imaginary, they only compare the Differences of the *Intervals*, making by this Means a Shew of doing something in *Musick* by Number and Proportion; which yet, says he, they act contrary to; for they don't determine what every Species is in it self; as we define a *Tone* to be the Difference of Two Sounds which are to one another as 8 : 9; but they send us to another Thing as indeterminate, when they call it the Difference of a *4th* and *5th*. Whereas if we would raise a *Tone* exactly, we need neither *4th* nor *5th*. And if we ask how great that Difference is; they cannot tell us; if perhaps they don't say, 'tis equal to Two such Intervals, whereof *Diateffaron* contains 5, or *Diapason* 12, and so of the rest; but what that is they determine not. Again, by considering the mere Interval, they do nothing at all; for the mere Distance is neither Concord nor concinnous, nor any Thing real; whereas by comparing Two Sounds together we determine the *Ratio* or Relation, and the Quality of their Difference, *i. e.* whether it constitutes Concord

or Discord, by the Form of that *Ratio*. Next, he shews the Fallacy of *Aristoxenus's* Demonstration, whereby he pretended to prove that a 4<sup>th</sup> was equal to Two *Tones* and a Half. I need not trouble you with it here; for we have learnt already that a *Tone* 8 : 9 is not divisible into Two equal Parts. But then he also finds fault with the *Pythagoreans* for some false Speculations about the Proportions; and having too little Regard to the Judgment of the Ear, while they refuse some *Concords* that the Ear approves, only because the *Ratio* does not agree with their arbitrary Rule; as we shall hear immediately.

THEREFORE he would have Sense and Reason always taken together in all our Judgments, about Sounds, that they may mutually help and confirm one another. And of all the Methods to prove and find the *Ratios* of Sounds, he recommends as the most accurate; this, *viz.* to stretch over a plain Table an evenly well made String, fixt and raised equally at both Ends, over Two immoveable Bridges of Wood, set perpendicularly to the Table, and parallel to each other; betwixt them a Line is to be drawn on the Table, and divided into as many equal Parts as you need, for trying all Manner of *Ratios*; then a moveable Bridge runs betwixt the other Two, which just touches the String, and being set at the several Divisions of the Line, it divides the Chord into any *Ratio* of Parts; whose Sounds are to be compared together, or  
with

with the Sound of the Whole. This he calls *Canon Harmonicus*. And those who determined the *Intervals* this Way, were particularly called *Canonici*, and the others by the general Name of *Musici*.

OF CONCORDS. They defined this, An Agreement of Two Sounds that makes them, either successively or jointly heard, pleasant to the Ear. They owned only these Three simple ones, viz. the *Fourth*  $3 : 4$ , and *Fifth*  $2 : 3$  called *Dia-tessaron* and *Dia-pente*, and the *Octave*  $1 : 2$ , which they called *Dia-pason*; the Reason of these Names we shall hear again. Of *compound Concords*, the *Pythagoreans* owned only the Sum of the *5th* and *8ve*  $1 : 3$ , and the double *8ve*  $1 : 4$  or *Dis-dia-pason*, but others owned also the Sum of *4th* and *8ve*,  $3 : 8$ . The Reason why the *Pythagoreans* rejected the compound *4th*,  $3 : 8$  was, That they admitted nothing for *Concord* but the *Intervals* whose *Ratios* were *multiple* or *superparticular*, i. e. where the greater Term contained the other a precise Number of Times, as  $3 : 1$ , or where the greater exceeded the lesser only by 1, as  $3 : 2$  or  $4 : 3$ . because these are the most simple and perfect Forms of Proportion: But *Ptolomy* argues against them from the Perfection of the *Dia-pason*, whereby 'tis impossible that any Sound should be *Concord* to its one Extreme, and *Discord* to the other. The Extremes *Dia-pason* and *Disdia-pason*, *Ptolomy* calls *Omophoni* or *Unisons*, because they agree as one Sound. The *4th* and *5th* and their Com-

Compounds he calls *Synphoni* or *consonant*; the other *Intervals* belonging to *Musick* he calls *Emmelli* or *concinuous*. Others call those of equal Degree *Omophoni*, the 8ves *Antiphoni*, the 4ths and 5ths *Paraphoni*; others call the 5ths only *Paraphoni*, and the 4ths *Synphoni*, but all agree to call the Discords *Diaphoni*.

THE abstract Reasonings of the *Pythagoreans* about the *Ratios* of the *Concords*, you have in *Ptolomy*; but more particularly in *Euclid's Sectio Canonis*. The *fundamental Principle* is, That every *Concord* arises either from a *Multiple* or *superparticular Ratio*. The other necessary *Premisses* are. 1mo. That a *multiple Ratio* twice compounded, (*i. e.* multiplied by 2,) makes the *Total* a *multiple Ratio*. *Euclid* proves it his own Way; but to our Purpose it is shorter done thus  $a : ra$ , and  $ra : rra$ , are both *Multiples*, and in the same *Ratio*; then  $a : rra$  is the *Compound* of these Two, and is also *multiple*. 2do. The *Converse* is true, that if any *Ratio* twice compounded makes the total *Multiple*, that *Ratio* is it self *multiple*. 3tio. A *superparticular Ratio*, admits neither of one or more geometrical mean *Proportionals*: Which I thus demonstrate, *viz.* the *Difference* of the *Terms* being 1, 'tis plain there can be no middle *Term* in whole *Numbers*; but the first of any *Number* ( $n$ ) of *geometrical Means* betwixt  $a$  and  $a+1$ , (which represents any *superparticular Ratio*) is the  $n+1$  Root of this Quantity  $\overline{a^n \times a+1}$  which being a whole *Number*, if it have no *Root* in whole *Numbers*, cannot have one in

a mixt Number, *that is*, can have no Root at all; and consequently there can be no Mean betwixt  $a$  and  $a+1$ . Nor can the Matter be mended by multiplying the Terms of the *Ratio*, as if for  $a : a+1$  we take  $ra : ra + r$ ; because if we have not here a *Mean* in whole Numbers, we cannot have it at all; and if we have it in whole Numbers, then all the Series as well as the Extremes, will reduce to radical Terms contrary to the last *Demonstr.* 4<sup>to</sup>. From the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> follows, that a *Ratio* not multiple being twice compounded, the Total is a *Ratio*, neither *multiple* nor *superparticular*. Again, from the 2<sup>d</sup> follows, that if any *Ratio* twice composed make not a *multiple Ratio*, it self is not *multiple*. 5<sup>to</sup>, The *multiple Ratio* 2 : 1 (which is the least and most simple of the Kind) is composed of the Two greatest *superparticular Ratios* 3 : 2 and 4 : 3, and cannot be composed of any other Two that are *superparticular*. From these Premisses the *Concords* are deduced thus: *Diateffaron* and *Diapente* are *Concords*; and they must be *superparticular Ratios*, for neither of them twice composed makes a *Concord*; the Sum therefore not being *multiple*, the simple *Ratio* is not *multiple*; yet this *Ratio* being *Concord*, must be *superparticular*. *Diapason* and *Disdiapason* are both *Concords*, and they are also *multiple*: The *Disdiapason* cannot be *superparticular*, because it has a *Mean* (which is the *Diapason*), therefore 'tis *multiple*; and *diapason* is *multiple*, because being twice composed, it makes a *Multiple*, viz. the *Disdiapason*

*pafon* ; then he proves that *Diapafon* is duple  $2 : 1$ . Thus, it cannot be any greater *Multiple* as  $1 : 3$  ; for it is composed of Two *superparticulars*, viz. *Diateffaron* and *Diapente* : But  $2 : 1$  is composed of the Two greatest *superparticulars*  $3 : 2$  and  $4 : 3$ . Now if the Two greatest *superparticulars* make the least *Multiple*  $2 : 1$ , no other Two are equal to it, and far less to a greater ; and the *8ve* being multiple, and composed of Two *superparticulars*, must therefore be  $2 : 1$ . From this 'tis also concluded that *Diateffaron* is  $4 : 3$ , *Diapente*  $3 : 2$ , and *Disdiapafon*  $1 : 4$  ; and the rest are deduced from these.

DISCORDS are either (*Emmeli*) *concinuous*, i. e. fit for *Musick*, which is by some also applied to *Concords*, or (*Ecmeli*) *inconcinuous*. Of the *Concinuous* they numbred these, viz. *Diesis*, *Hemitonium*, *Tonus*, *Triemitonium*, *Ditonum*. There are different Species of each ; and of their Quantities we shall hear again.

THE *simple Intervals* are called *Diastems*, which are different according to the *Genera*, of which below ; the *Compound* are called *Systems*, of which next.

III. OF SYSTEMS. A *System* is an *Interval* composed, or conceived as composed, of several lesser. As there is no least *Interval* in the Nature of the Thing, so we can conceive any given *Interval* as composed of, or equal to the Sum of others ; but here a *System* is an *Interval* which is actually divided in Practice ; and where

where along with the Extremes we conceive always some intermediate Terms. As *Systems* are only a Species of *Intervals*, so they have all the same Distinctions, except that of *Composite* and *Incomposite*. They were also distinguished several other Ways not worth Pains to repeat. But there are Two we cannot pass over, which are these, *viz.* into *concinuous* and *inconcinuous*; the first composed of such Parts, and in such Order as is fit for *Melody*; the other is of an opposite Nature. Then into *perfect* and *imperfect*: Any *System* less than *Disdiapason* was reckoned *imperfect*; and that only called *Perfect*, because within its Extremes are contained Examples of the simple and original *Concords*, and in all the Variety of Order, in which their *concinuous* Part ought to be taken; which Differences constitute what they call'd the *Species* or *Figure consonantiarum*; which were also different according to the *Genera*: It was also called the *Systema maximum*, or *immutatum*, because they thought it was the greatest Extent, or Difference of *Tune*, that we can go in making good *Melody*; tho' some added a *5th* to the *Disdiapason* for the greatest System; and some suppose Three *8ves*; but they all owned the *Diapason* to be the most *perfect*, with respect to the Agreement of its Extremes; and that however many *8ves* we put in the *Systema maximum*, they must all be constituted or subdivided the same Way as the first: And therefore when we know how *8ve* was divided, we know the Nature of their *Diagramma*, which we now call

call the *Scale of Musick*; the Variety of which constitutes what they called the *Genera melodia*, which were also subdivided into *Species*; and these must next be explained.

IV. OF the GENERA. By this Title is meant the various Ways of subdividing the consonant *Intervals* (which are the chief Principles of *Melody*) into their *concinuous* Parts. As the *Octave* is the most perfect Interval, and all other *Concords* depend upon it; so according to the modern *Theory* we consider the Division of this *Interval*, as containing the true Division of the whole *Scale*: (See above *Chap. 8.*) But the Ancients went to work with this somewhat differently: The *Diateffaron* or *4th* was the least *Interval* they admitted as *Concord*; and therefore they sought first how that might be most concinnously divided; from which they constituted the *Diapente* or *5th*, and *Diapason* or *8ve*: Thus, the Sum of *4th* and *5th* is an *Octave*, and their Difference is a *Tonus*; if therefore to the same Fundamental, suppose *a*, we take a *4th* *b*, *5th* *c*, and *8ve* *d*, then also *b-d* is a *5th*, and *c-d* a *4th*, and *b:c* is the *Tonus*; which they called particularly the *Tonus diazeucticus*, because it separates or stands in the Middle betwixt Two *4ths*, one on either Hand, *a-b*, and *c-d*. This *Tonus* they reckoned indispensable in rising to a *5th*: And therefore, the Division of the *4th* being made, the Addition of this *Tone* made the *5th*; and adding another *4th*, the same Way divided as the first, completed the *8ve*. Now the *Diateffaron* being

as

as it were the Root or Foundation of their Scale; what they call'd the *Genera* arose from its various Divisions: Hence they defined the GENUS (*modulandi*) *the manner of dividing the TETRACHORD, and disposing its four Sounds* (as to their Succession:) And this Definition shews us in general, That the 4th was divided into 3 *Intervals* by two middle Terms; so as to contain 4 Sounds betwixt the Extremes: Hence we have the Reason of the Name *Diatessaron*, (i. e. *per quatuor*;) and because from the 4th to the 5th was always the *Tone*; the 5th contained 5 Notes, and hence called *Diapente* (i. e. *per quinque*;) And with respect to the *Lyra* and its Strings, these Intervals were called *Tetrachordum* and *Pentechordum*. But the 8ve was called *Diapason*, (as it were *per omnes*) because it contains in a manner all the different Notes of Musick; for after one *Octave* all the rest of the Notes of the Scale were reckoned but as it were Repetitions of it: Yet with respect to the Lyre, it was also called *Octochordum*. The *Disdiapason* and all other Names of this Kind being now plain enough; need not be insisted on: And we shall proceed.

By universal Consent the *Genera* were Three; *viz.* the *Enharmonick*, *Chromatick* and *Diatonick*. The Reasons of these Names we shall have presently; but the two last were variously subdivided into different *Species*; and even the first, tho' 'tis commonly reckoned to be without any *Species*, yet different Authors proposed dif-

ferent Divisions, under that Name, tho' without distinguishing Names of Species, as were added to the other Two.

ARISTOXENUS who measured all by the Ear, expressed his Constitutions of the *Genera* in this Manner: He supposes the *Tonus* (*diæzeucticus*) or Difference of the 4th and 5th, to be divided into 12 equal Parts; which, to prevent Fractions, *Ptolomy*, when he explains them, doubles, and makes 24; so that the whole 4th must contain 60 of them. A certain Number of these *imaginary* Intervals he assigned to each of the Three Parts into which the 4th is to be divided; and all together made up these Six following Divisions, which I take with the common Latin Names.

		4th			
		a	b	c	d
<i>Enharmonium</i>	{	6	6	48	=60
	{	8	8	44	=60
<i>Chroma</i>	{	9	9	42	=60
	{	12	12	36	=60
<i>Diatonum</i>	{	12	18	30	=60
	{	12	24	24	=60

IN the *Enharmonium*, suppose *a*, (marked at the Top of the Table) the first and lowest Note of the *Tetrachord*, from that to the 2d *b*, is 6 of the Parts mentioned; to the 3d *c*, is other 6, and from the 3d to the acutest Note *d*, is an Interval equal to 48 of these Parts: In this Manner you can explain all the rest. Six of them he called a *Diesis Enharmonica*; 8 a *Diesis*

*Diesis trientalis*, 9 a *Diesis quadrantalis*, 12 a *Hemitonium*, 24 a *Tonus*, 36 a *Triemitonium*, and 48 a *Ditonum*; but to measure all these accurately by the Ear was an extravagant Pre-  
tence. Let us consider the Divisions that were made by *Ratios*.

BESIDES some particular *Ratios* of *Archytas*, *Eratosthenes* and *Didymus*, (who were all Musicians) which I pass by, *Ptolomy* gives us an Account of the following 8 Divisions of the *Tetrachord*; where the Fractions express the *Ratio* betwixt each Sound (marked by the Letters standing above) and the next, in order from *a* the lowest, *i. e.* suppose any of the lower Notes *a*, *b* or *c* to be 1. the Fraction betwixt that and the next expresses the Proportion of that next to it:

		<i>Diateffaron.</i>								
		<i>a</i>	— <i>b</i> —	<i>c</i>	— <i>d</i> .					
<i>Enharmonium</i>	∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴	$\frac{45}{46}$	X	$\frac{23}{24}$	X	$\frac{4}{5}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$		
<i>Chromia</i>	{	<i>Molle</i>		$\frac{27}{28}$	X	$\frac{14}{15}$	X	$\frac{5}{6}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		or		$\frac{21}{22}$	X	$\frac{11}{12}$	X	$\frac{6}{7}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		<i>Antiquum</i>		$\frac{20}{21}$	X	$\frac{9}{10}$	X	$\frac{7}{8}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
<i>Diatonium</i>	{	<i>Intensum</i>		$\frac{27}{28}$	X	$\frac{7}{8}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		<i>Molle</i>		$\frac{243}{256}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		<i>Tonicum</i>		$\frac{27}{28}$	X	$\frac{7}{8}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		<i>Ditonicum</i>		$\frac{243}{256}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		or		$\frac{243}{256}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$
		<i>Pythagor.</i>		$\frac{243}{256}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	X	$\frac{8}{9}$	=	$\frac{3}{4}$

The Table continued

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Diatonum} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Intensum} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{Syntonum} \\ \text{\u00c6quabile.} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \frac{15}{16} \times \frac{8}{9} \times \frac{9}{10} = \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{11}{12} \times \frac{10}{11} \times \frac{9}{10} = \frac{3}{4} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

THESE different *Species* were also called the *Colores (Chroai) generum*: *Molle* expresses a Progression by small Intervals, as *Intensum* by greater; the other Names are plain enough. The Two first Intervals of the *Enharmonium*, are called each a *Diesis*; the Third is a *Ditonum*, and particularly the 3d g. already explained. The Two first of the *Chromatick* are called *Hemitones*, and the Third is *Triemitonium*; and in the *Antiquum* it is the 3d l. above explained. The first in the *diatonick* is called *Hemitonium*, and the other Two are *Tones*; particularly the  $\frac{243}{256}$  is called *Limma (Pythagoricum)*;  $\frac{7}{8}$  is the greatest of the *Tones*, and  $\frac{10}{11}$  the least; but the  $\frac{8}{9}$  and  $\frac{9}{10}$  are the *Tonus major* and *minor* above explained.

As to the Names of the *Genera* themselves, the *Enharm.* was so called as by a general Name; or some say for its Excellence (tho' where that lies we don't well know.) The *Diatonum*, because the *Tones* prevail in it. The *Chromatick* was so called, say some, from  $\chi\rho\acute{o}\alpha$  color, because as Colour is something betwixt Black and White, so the *Chrom.* is a *medium* betwixt the other Two.

BUT now to what Purpose all these Divisions were contrived, we cannot well learn by any Thing that they have told us. The *Enbarm.* was by all acknowledged to be so difficult, that few could practise it, if indeed any ever could do it accurately; and they own much the same of the *Chromatick*. Such Inequalities in the Degrees of the *Scale*, might be used for attacking the Fancy, and humouring some disorderly Motions: But what true Melody could be made of them, we cannot conceive. All acknowledged, that the *Diatonick* was the true Melody which Nature had formed all Mens Ears to receive and be satisfied with; and therefore it was the general Practice; tho' in their Speculations of the Proportions they had the Differences you see in the *Table*. And tho' *Diatonick* was the prevailing Kind, yet still a Question remained among them, Whether it should be *Aristoxenus's Diatonum intensum*, or the *Pythagorick*, which *Eratosthenes* contended for: (But here observe, the *Pythagoreans* departed from their Principles, by admitting the *Limma*, which is neither multiple nor superparticular;) or what *Ptolomy* calls the *Syntonium* or *intensum*, which *Didymus* maintain'd. The *Aristox.* could give no Proof of theirs, because it was impossible for the Ear to determine the Difference accurately: The other Two might be tried and proven by the *Canon harmonicus*; but if they tuned by the Ear, they might dispute on without any Certainty of the Kind they followed. As to the Species we now

make Use of, the same may be said ; but I shall consider it afterwards.

Now, these Parts of the *Diateffaron* are what they called the *Diastems* of the several *Genera*, upon which their Differences depend : Which are called in the *Enharm.* the *Diesis* and *Ditonum* ; in the *Chromatick*, the *Hemitonium* and *Triemitonium* ; in the *Diaton.* the *Hemitonium* (or *Limma*) and the *Tonus* ; but under these general Names, which distinguish the *Genera*, there are several different *Intervals* or *Ratios*, which constitute the *colores generum*, or Species of *Enharm. Chrom. and Diatonick*, as we have seen : And we are also to observe, that what is a *Diastem* in one *genus* is a *System* in another : But the *Tonus diazeuëticus* 8 : 9 is essential in all the *Kinds*, not as a necessary Part of every *Tetrachord*, but necessary in every *System* of *8ve*, to separate the *4th* and *5th*, or disjoin the several *Tetrachords* one from another.

### Of the DIAGRAMMA or Scale.

WE have already seen the essential Principles, of which the ancient *Scale* or *Diagramma*, which they called their *Systema perfectum*, was composed, in all its different *Kinds*. Let us now consider the Construction of it ; in order to which I shall take the *Tetrachords diatonically*. I have already said, that the Extent of it is a *Disdiapason*, or Two 8ves in the *Ra-*  
tio

*tio* 1:4: But in that Space they make Eighteen Chords, tho' they are not all different Sounds. And, to explain it, they represent to us Eighteen Chords or Strings of an Instrument, as the *Lyre*, supposed to be tuned according to the Proportions explained in any one *Genus*. To each of these Chords (or Sounds) they gave a particular Name, taken from its Situation in the *Diagramma*, or also in the *Lyre*; which Names are commonly used by the *Latins* without any Change. They are these, *Proslambanomenos*, *Hypate-hypaton*, *parhypate-hypaton*, *Lichanos-hypaton*, *Hypate-meson*, *parhypate-meson*, *Lichanos-meson*, *Mese*, *Trite-synemmenon*, *Paranete-synemmenon*, *Nete-synemmenon*, *Paramese*, *Trite-diezeugmenon*, *Paranete-diezeugmenon*, *Nete-diezeugmenon*, *Trite-hyperboleon*, *Paranete-hyperboleon*, *Nete-hyperboleon*.

THAT you may understand the Order and Constitution of their *Scale* and the Sense of these Names, take this short History of it. While the *Lyre* was *Tetra*. (or had but Four Strings) these were called in order from the *gravest* Sound *Hypate*, *Parhypate*, *Paranete*, *Nete*; which Names are taken from their Place in the *Diagram*, in which anciently they set the *gravest* uppermost, or their Situation in the *Lyre*, hence called *Hypate*, *i. e. suprema*, (*Chorda*, *scil.*) the next is *parhypate*, *i. e. subsuprema* or *juxta upremam*; then *Paranete*, *i. e. penultima* or *juxta ultimam*, and then *Nete*, *i. e. ultima*, as here.

	<i>Hypate</i>	}	THIS respects the ancient <i>Lyra</i> , whose Chords were dedicate to, or made symbolical of the Four Elements: Which according to some contained an <i>8ve</i> , but some say only a <i>Diateffaron</i> 3 : 4, and the Degrees I have marked by <i>f</i> for <i>Semitone</i> , and <i>t</i> for a <i>Tone</i> ,
<i>f</i> :	<i>Parhypate</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Paranete</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Nete</i>		

without Distinction.

	<i>Hypate</i>	}	NEXT to this succeeded the <i>Septichord Lyre</i> of <i>Mercury</i> , which stands thus. <i>Mese</i> is <i>media</i> . <i>Lichanos</i> , so called from the <i>digitus index</i> with which the Chord was struck, as some say, or from its being the <i>Index</i> of the <i>Genus</i> , according to its Distance from <i>Hypate</i> ; it was also called <i>Hypernese</i> , <i>i. e. supra mediam</i> . <i>Trite</i> so called as the Third from <i>Nete</i> ; and it is also called <i>Paranese</i> , <i>i. e. juxta mediam</i> . This contains
<i>f</i> :	<i>Parhypate</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Lichanos</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Mese</i>		
<i>f</i> :	<i>Trite</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Paranete</i>		
<i>t</i> :	<i>Nete</i>		

Two Tetrachords conjunct in *Mese*, which is common to both, and are particularly called the Tetrachords *Hypaton*, and *Neton*; so that these which were formerly Names of single Chords, are now Names of whole Tetrachords; but as yet there was no great Necessity for the Distinction, as we shall see afterwards.

*Hypate*  
*f:*  
*Parhypate*  
*t:*  
*Lichanos*  
*t:*  
*Mese*  
*t:*  
*Paramese*  
*f:*  
*Trite*  
*t:*  
*Paranete*  
*t:*  
*Nete*

BUT *Pythagoras* finding the Imperfection of this *System*, added an 8th Chord to complete an 8ve: And this he did by separating the Two *Tetrachords* by the *Tonus diazeuëticus*; so the Whole stood thus. Where we have Two *Tetrachords*, one from *Hypate* to *Mese*; and the other from *Paramese* to *Nete*; the *Tonus diazeuëticus* coming betwixt them, *i. e.* betwixt *Mese* and *Paramese*. So here *Paramese* and *Trite* are different Chords, which were the same before.

BUT there was another *octichord Lyre* attributed to *Terpander*; where instead of disjoining the Two *Tetrachords* of the *septichord Lyre*, he added another Chord a *Tone* lower than *Hypate*, called *Hyper-hypate*, *i. e.* *super supremam*, because it stood above in the *Diagram*; or *Proslambanomenos*, *i. e.* *assumptus*, because it belonged to none of the Two *Tetrachords*: The rest of the Names were unchanged.

OBSERVE, the *septichord Lyre* was made symbolical of the Seven Planets. *Hypate* represented *Saturn*, with respect to his periodical Revolution, which is slower than that of any of the rest, as the gravest Sounds are always produced by slowest Vibrations, and so of the rest

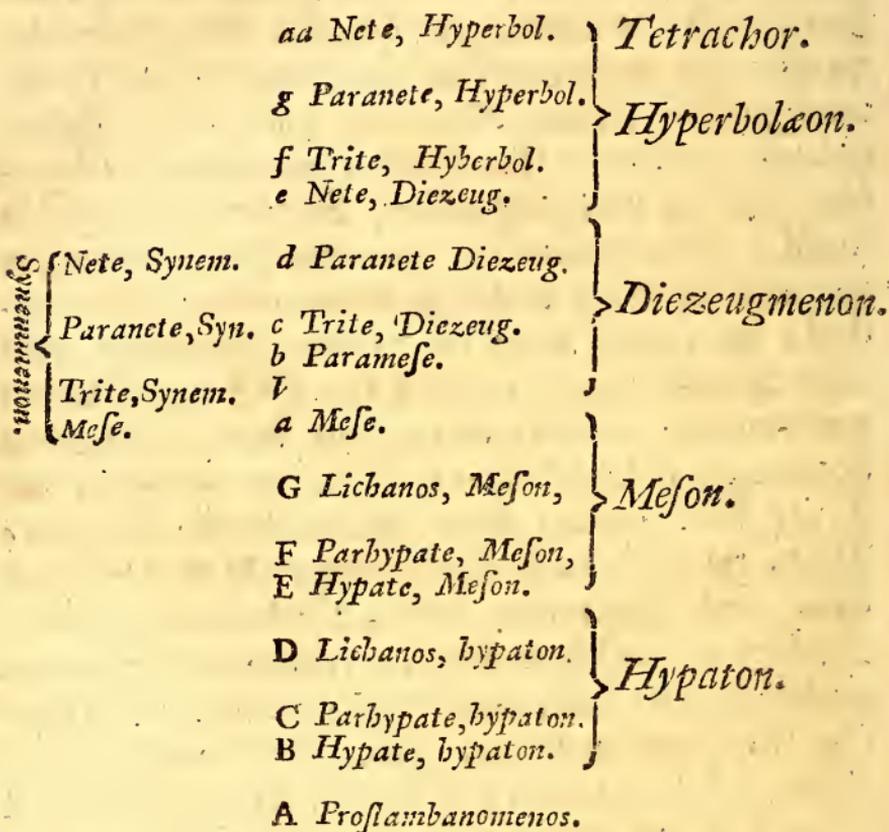
rest gradually. But others make *Nete* represent *Saturn* with respect to his diurnal Motion round the Earth (in the old Astronomy) which is the swiftest, as the acutest Sounds are also produced by quickest Vibrations, and so of the rest. When the 8th Chord was added, it represented the *Cælum stelliferum*.

AFTERWARDS a third Tetrachord was added to the *septichord Lyre*; which was either conjunct with it, making Ten Chords, or disjunct, making Eleven. The Conjunct was particularly distinguished by the Name *Synemmenon*, i. e. *Tetrachordum conjunctarum*; and the other by the Name of *Diezeugmenon*, i. e. *disjunctarum*. And now the middle Tetrachord was called *Meson* (*mediarum*;) and to the Words *Hypate*, *Parhypate*, *Lichanos*, *Trite*, *Paranete*, *Nete*, are now added the Name of the Tetrachord, which is necessary for Distinction; and the Whole stands thus,

Tetra.	{	<i>Hypate</i> , <i>hypaton</i> .		
		<i>Parhypate</i> , <i>hyp</i> .		
Hyp.	{	<i>Lichanos</i> , <i>hyp</i> .		
		<i>Hypate</i> , <i>meson</i> ,		
	{	<i>Parh</i> , <i>Mes</i> .		
Mes.		<i>Lich</i> . <i>Mes</i> .		
	{	<i>Mese</i> - - -	<i>Mese</i> .	} <i>Tonus</i>
		<i>Trite Synem</i> .	<i>Paramese</i> ; <i>diezeug</i> .	
Syn.	{	<i>Paranete</i> , <i>Syn</i> .	<i>Trite Diezeug</i> .	
		<i>Nete</i> , <i>Syn</i> .	<i>Paranete Diezeug</i> .	
			<i>Nete Diezeug</i> .	

A  $\tau$  length another Tetrachord was added, called *Hyperbolæon* (*i. e. excellentium* or *excedentium*) the acutest of all ; which being conjunct with the *Diæzeugmenon*, the *Nete Diezeugmenon* was its gravest Chord, the other Three being called *Trite*, *Paranete*, and *Nete Hyperbolæon* ; and now the Four Tetrachords *Hypaton*, *Meson*, *Diezeugmenon*, *Hyperbolæon*, made in all Fourteen Chords, to which, to complete the *Disdiapason*, a *Proslambanomenos* was added ; all which with the *Trite Paranete*, and *Nete Synemmenon* make up the Eighteen Chords mentioned ; which yet are but Sixteen different Sounds, for the *Paranete Syn.* coincides in the *Trite Diez.* as the *Nete Syn.* with the *Paranete Diez.* So that these Two differ only in the *Trite Syn.* and *Paramefe* betwixt which there is a *Semitone*. And now see the whole *Diagram* together in the following Page ; where to favour the Imagination more, instead of marking the *Tone* and *Semitone* by *f* and *t*. the Chords that have a *Tone* betwixt them are set further asunder than those that have a *Semitone*. At the same Time I have annexed the Letters by which the *modern Scale* is above explained, that you may see to what Part of that this ancient *Scale* corresponds. And because we place the gravest Notes in the lower Part of our *Diagram* (as the ancient *Latins* came at last to do, tho' they still applied *Hypate* to the gravest, and *Nete* to the acutest, to prevent Confusion) I shall do it so here.

## DIAGRAMMA VETERUM.



You see, that by twice applying *Hypate*, *Parhypate* and *Lichanos*; also *Trite*, *Paranete* and *Nete* Three Times; the Difficulty of too many Names is avoided: And by the Distinction of *Tetrachords* with these particular Names for the respective Chords, 'tis easily imagined in what Place of the *Diagram* any Chord stands. But if we consider every *Tetrachord* by it self, then we may apply these common Names to its Chords, viz. *Hypate*, *Parhypate* ( or *Trite* )  
*Licha-*

*Lichanos*. ( or *Paranete* ) and *Nete*: And then when Two *Tetrachords* are conjunct, the *Hypate* of the one is the *Nete* of the other, as *Hypate meson* is equivalent to *Nete hypaton*; and in the *Diagram*, *Mese* is the *Nete meson* and the *Hypate synem.* and *Paramese* is the *Hypate diezeug.* And lastly, *Nete diezeug.* is equal to *Hypate hyperbolæon.* We shall know the Use of the *Tetrachord synemmenon*, when we come to explain the Business of their *Mutations*. The Rest of the *Diagram* from *Proslamban.* is a concinnous Series, answering to the *flat Series* of the *diatonick Genus*, explained in the *Ch. 8.* and the Order from *Parhypate hypaton* contains the *sharp Series* above explained. Observe, tho' there are certain *Systems*, particularly distinguished as *Tetrachords*, yet we have *Tetrachords* ( *i. e.* *Intervals* of Four Sounds ) in other Parts of the *Scale*, that are true *4ths* 3 : 4. Again, if to any true *4th* a *Tonus diazeug.* is added, we have the *Diapente*, as from *Proslamb.* to *Hypate meson.*

I have explained the *Diagram* in the *diatonick genus*; but the same Names are applied to all the Three *Genera*; and according to the Differences of these, so are the Relations of the several Chords to one another. But since the Constitution of the *Scale* by *Tetrachords* is the same in all, and that the *Genera* differ only in the *Ratios* which the Two middle Chords of the *Tetrachord* bear to the Extremes; therefore these Extremes were called *standing* or *immovable Sounds* (ἐξῶτες *soni stantes*) and all the middle ones

ones were called *moveable* (*κίνητοι* *soni mobiles*) for to raise a Series from a given *Fundamental* or *Proslambanomenos*, the first and last Chord of each *Tetrachord* is invariably the same, or common to every *Genus*; but the middle Chords vary according to the *Genus*. So the *Parhypate* or *Trite*, *Lichanos* or *Paranete* of each *Tetrachord* is variable, and all the rest of the Chords of the *Diagram* are invariable.

THE next Thing to be considered is, what they called the *Figures* or *Species* of the *consonant Systems*, viz. of the 4th, 5th and 8ve (for they extended this Speculation no further than the *simple Concords*.) The *colores generum* differed according to the Difference of the constituent Parts of the *Diateffaron*; but the *figura* or *species consonantiarum* differ only according to the Order and Position of the *concinuous* Parts of the *System*: So that in the same *Diagram* (or Series) and under every Difference of *Genus* and *Color*, there are Differences of the *Figura*. Now, tho' of a certain Number of different constituent Parts, there will be a certain Number of different Positions or Combinations of the Whole; yet in every *Genus* there is a certain *Diastem* agreed upon to be the *Characteristick*; and according to the Position of this in the *System*, so are the different *Figura* reckoned; the Combinations proceeding from the Differences of the other *Diastems* being neglected in this Matter. *Ptolomy* makes the *Characteristick* of the *Diateffaron*, the *Ratio* of the *Two acutest Chords* in every *Genus*; and

of

of the *Diapason*, the *Tonus diezeuēticus*: But *Euclid* reckons them otherwise, and applies the same Mark to 4th, and 5th and 8ve; thus in the *Enharmonic* the *Ditonum* is the Characteristick; in the *Chromatick* it is the *Tritemionium*; and in the *Diatonick* the *Semitone*. If we take Two conjunct *Tetrachords*, as from *Hypate-hypaton* to *Mese*, we shall find in that all the Figures of the *Diateffaron*, which are only Three; for there are but Three Places of the *Diateffaron* in which the Characteristick can exist; there are Four Figures of the *Diapente* which are to be found in Two disjunct *Tetrachords*, betwixt *Hypate-meson* and *Nete-diezeugmenon*. The 8ve is composed of the 4th and 5th, and the Three Species of 4th joined to each of the Four Species of 5th, make in all 12 Species of 8ves; but we consider here only those Connections of 4th and 5th, that are actually in the *System*, which are only Seven, to be found from *Proslambanomenos* to *Nete-hyperbolaon*, i. e. in the Compass of a *Disdiapason*. *Proslambanomenos* being the lowest Chord of the first 8ve, and *Lichanos-meson* of the last 8ve; for *Mese* begins another Revolution of the *Diapason*, proceeding the same Way as from *Proslambanomenos*: And because this *System* of *Disdiapason* contains all the Species of the *Concords* it was called *perfect*. And observe, that in every 8ve *Euclid's* Characteristick occurs twice, and they are always asunder by Two and Three *Dieses*, or *Hemitones*, or *Tones* (according to the *Genus*) alternatively. What was the Order they thought

thought most *concinuous* and *harmonious*, we shall see presently.

V. OF TONES OR MODES. They took the Word *Tone* in four different Senses. 1. For a single Sound, as when they said the *Tyra* has Seven *Tones*, i. e. Notes. 2. For a certain *Interval*, as the Difference of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. 3. For the *Tension* of the Voice, as when we say, One sings with an *acute* or a *grave* Voice. 4. For a certain *System*, as when they said, The *Dorick* or *Lydian Mode*, or *Tone*; which is the Sense to be particularly considered in this Place.

THIS is the Part of the ancient *Harmonica* which we wish they had explained more clearly to us; for it must be owned there is an unaccountable Difference among the Writers, in their Definitions, Divisions and Names of the *Modes*. As to the Definition, I find an Agreement in this, that a *Mode*, or *Tone* in this Sense, is a certain *System* or *Constitution* of Sounds; and they agree too, that an *Octave* with all its intermediate Sounds is such a Constitution: But the specific Differences of them some place in the Manner of Division or Order of its *concinuous* Parts; and others place merely in the *Tension* of the Whole, i. e. as the whole Notes are *acuter* or *graver*, or stand higher and lower in the *Scale* of *Musick*, as *Bryennius* says very expressly. *Boethius* has a very ambiguous Definition, he first tells us, that the *Modes* depend on the Seven different Species of the *Diapason*, which are also called *Tropi*; and these, says he, are *Con-*  
stitu-

*stitutiones in totis vocum ordinibus, vel gravitate vel acumine differentes.* Again he says, *Constitutio est plenum veluti modulationis corpus, ex consonantiarum conjunctione consistens, quale est Diapason, &c. Has igitur constitutiones, si quis totas faciat acutiores, vel in gravius totas remittat secundum supradictas Diapason consonantia species, efficiet modos septem.*

This is indeed a very ambiguous Determination, for if they depend on the Species of 8ves, to what Purpose is the last Clause; and if they differ only by the Tenor or Place of the whole 8ve, i. e. as 'tis taken at a higher or lower Pitch, what Need the Species of 8ves be at all brought in: His Meaning perhaps is only to signify, that the different Orders or Species of 8ves ly in different Places, i. e. higher and lower in the Scale. *Ptolomy* makes them the same with the Species of *Diapason*; but at the same Time he speaks of their being at certain Distances from one another. Some contended for Thirteen, some for Fifteen Modes, which they placed at a *Semitone's* Distance from each other; but 'tis plain, these understood the Differences to be only in their Place or Distances one from another; and that there is one certain *harmonious* Species of *Octave* applied to all, viz. that Order which proceeds from *Proslamb.* of the *Systema immutatum*, or the *A* of the modern System. *Ptolomy* argues, that if this be all, they may be infinite, tho' they must be limited for Use and Practice; but indeed the Generality define them by the *Species diapason*, and there-

fore make only Seven Modes; but to what they tend, and the true Use, is scarcely well explained, and we are left to guess and reason about it; I shall consider them upon both the Suppositions, and first as they are the Species of *Octaves*, and here I shall follow *Ptolomy*.

The *Tones* have no different Denominations from the *Genera*; and what's said of them in one *Genus* is applicable to all; and I shall here take the *diatonick*. The *System* of *Disdiapason* already explained in the *Diagram* (coinciding with the Series from *A* of the modern *Scale*) is the *Systema inmutatum*; which I shall, in what follows here, call the *System* without Distinction. The Seven Species of *Octaves*, as they proceed in Order from *A . B . C . D . E . F . G*, are the Seven *Tones*, which differ in their Modulations, *i. e.* in the Distances of the successive Sounds, according to the fixt *Ratios* in the *System*. These Seven *Ptolomy* calls, The 1<sup>st</sup>, *Dorick*, the same with the *System*, or beginning in *A* or *Proslamb*. 2<sup>d</sup>, *Hypo-lydian*, beginning in and following the Order from *B* or *Hyp-hyp*. 3<sup>d</sup>, *Hypophrygian*, beginning at *C* or *Parh-hy*. 4<sup>th</sup>, *Hypodorian* at *D*. 5<sup>th</sup>, *Mixolydian* in *E*. 6<sup>th</sup>, *Lydian* in *F*. 7<sup>th</sup>, *Phrygian* in *G*. The last Three he takes in the *Octaves* above, for a Reason will presently appear. Now, every *Mode* being considered by it self as a distinct *System*, may have the Names *Proslamb*. *hyp-hyp*. &c. applied to it; for these signify only in general the Positions of the Chords in any particular *System*; if they are so applied, he calls them the *Positions*; for

*Example*, the first Chord, or graveſt Note of any *Mode* is called its *Proſlamb. poſitione*, and ſo of the reſt in Order. But again theſe are conſidered as coinciding, or being uniſon, with certain Chords of the *System*; and theſe Chords are called the *potestas*, with reſpect to that *Mode*; for *Example*, the *Hypodorian* begins in *D*, or *Lichanos hypaton* of the *System*, which therefore is the *potestas* of its *Proſlamb.* as *Hypomeſon* is the *potestas* of its *hyp-hyp.* and ſo of others, that is, theſe Two Chords coincide and differ only in Name; and we alſo ſay, that ſuch a numerical Chord as *Proſl. poſitione* of any *Mode* is ſuch a Chord, as *hyp-hyp. potestate*, which is equivalent to ſaying, that *hyp-hyp.* of the *System* is the *Potestas* of the *Proſlamb. poſitione* of that *Mode*.

YOU'LL eaſily find what Chord of the *System* or *Dorick Mode* is the 2d, 3d, &c. Chord of any other *Mode*, by counting up from the Chord of the *System* in which that *Mode* begins. Or contrarily, to know what numerical Chord of any *Mode* correſponds to any Chord of the *System*, count from this Chord to that in which the *Mode* begins, and you have the Number of the Chord; to which you may apply the Names *Proſlamb.* &c. or *a, b,* &c. And the Chords of any *Mode* being thus named to you, you'll ſolve the preceeding *Problems* eaſieſt, by finding what numerical Chord of the *Mode*, that is the Name of; for *Example*, to find what Chord of the *Mode Hypedorian* coincides with the *Parhypate-meſon* of the *System* (or *Dorick Mode*)

The *Hypo-dor. Mode* begins, or has its *Proslamb. positione*, in *D* or *Lichanos-hyp.* of the *System*, betwixt which and *Parhy-mes.* are Three Chords ( inclusive ) therefore the Thing sought is the Third Chord, or *Parhyp-hyp. positione* of the *hyperdorian Mode*. Again, to find what Chord of the *System* is the *potestas* of the *Lych-hyp* or 4th Chord of the *Hypo-phr. Mode*. This begins in *C* or *Parhyp-hyp.* of the *System*, and the 4th above is *Parhy-meson* or *F* the Thing sought. But more universally, to find what Chord of any Mode corresponds to any Chord of any other Mode; you may easily solve this by the *Table Plate 2. Fig. 1.* explained above in *Chap. 11. § 3.* Thus, find in the Column of plain Letters, the Letters at which the Modes proposed begin, against which in the same Lines you must find the Letter *a*, which is the *Proslamb. positione*, or first Chord of these Modes; and then these respective Columns compared, shew what Chord of the one corresponds to any of the other. Observe also, that were it proposed to begin in any Chord of any Mode ( *i. e.* at any Chord of the *System*, or Letter of the *plain Scale* ) and make a Series proceeding from that, in the Order of any other Mode; we easily know by this *Table* what Chords of the *System* must be altered to effect this; for *Example*, to begin in *e*, (which is *Hyp-meson* of the *System* or *dorick Mode*, *Proslamb.* of the *Phrygian Mode*, &c.) if we would proceed from this in the Order of the *Hypo-lydian*, which begins at *b* of the *System*, we must find *e* in the Column of plain Letters,

and

and in the same Line find *b*; the Signature of the Letters of that Column where *b* stands, shews what Chords are to be changed: And by this *Table* you solve all these *Problems*, with a great deal more Ease, than by the long and perplext Schemes which some of the Ancients give us: But let us return.

PTOLOMY in *Chap. 10. Lib. 2.* proposes to have his *Modes* at these Distances, *viz. tone, tone, limma, tone, tone, limma.* The *Hypodorian* being set lowest, then *Hypo-phr. Hypolyd. Dorick, Phrygian* and *Mixolydian*, yet according to the System they won't stand at these Distances, nor in that Order. But in the next *Chap.* it appears that he means only to take them so as their *Mese-potestate* (or these Chords of each which is the first of a Series similar to the *Systema immutatum*,) shall stand in that Order; and to this Purpose he makes the *Dorick* the *Systema immut.* and the *Prosl.* of the rest in order as already mentioned; only he takes *Mixolyd. Lyd.* and *Phryg.* in the 8<sup>ve</sup> above, *i. e.* at *Nete diez. Trite hyperbol. Parahyperbol.* whereby their *Meses potestate* stand in the Order mentioned; otherwise they had stood in an Order just reverse of their *proslamb. positione.* And now, if we would know at what Distances the *Meses potestate* of these *Modes* are let us find what numerical Chord of each *Mode* is its *Mese potestate*, and let it be express'd by the Letters applied *positione*, as already explained: Then we must suppose that from *a* of the *System* (or *Dorick Mode*) a Series proceeds in each of

the Seven different Orders; and by the Table last mentioned, we shall know, in the Manner also explained, what Chords are to be altered for each; therefore taking these Chords that are the *Meses potestate* of each Mode, we shall see their mutual Distances. As *Ptolomy* has placed the *Proslambanomenos*, or *a*, *positione* of each Mode, their *Meses potestate* are in the Chords  $e : f^{\ast} . g : a : b : c^{\ast} . d$ . in order from *Hypo-dor.* as above mentioned, *that is*, when all the Orders are transferred to the *Proslamb.* of the *Dorick Mode*, the necessary Variety of Signatures causes the *f* and *c* to be marked  $\ast$  for the *Hypo-phr.* and *Lydian Modes*, and these  $f^{\ast}$  and  $c^{\ast}$  are the *Meses potestate* of these Modes; all the rest are plain; therefore the *mutual Distances* of these *Meses potestate* are expressed in the Scheme by (:) which signifies a *Tone*, (.) a *Semitone* or *limma*, which are different from what he had formerly proposed.

DOCTOR *Wallis* in explaining these by the modern *System*, chuses the Signature for the *Lydian Mode*, so that *a* (its *Proslamb.*) has a *flat Sign*, and the *Mese-potestate* of it is *c plain*: But since this explained is the only Sense according to which the Distances of these *Meses-potestate* can be found, and since 'tis more rational, that when any *Mode* is to be transferred to the *Prosl-positione* of another, that *Prosl.* should not be altered; for otherwise it is transferred to another Note; therefore I was obliged to differ from the Doctor in that Particular: But neither does his Method set the *Meses potestate* at the Distances

Distances which *Ptolomy* mentions, and which by Examination I find cannot possibly be done without changing the *Prosl.* of the *Systema immutatum*.

ANCIENTLY there were but Three *Modes*, the *Dorick*, *Lydian* and *Phrygian*, so called from the Countries that used them, and particularly called *Tones* because they were at a *Tone's* Distance from each other; and afterwards the rest were added and named from their Relations to the former, particularly the *Hypodorian*, as being below the *Dorian*, and so of the rest; for which Reason 'tis by some placed first, and they make its *Proslambanomenos* the lowest Sound that can be distinctly heard. But we should be easy about their Names or Order, if we understood the true Nature and Use of them.

IF the *Modes* are indeed nothing else but the Seven Species of *Octaves*, the Use of them we can only conceive to be this, *viz.* That the *Prosl.* of any Mode being made the principal Note of any Song, there may be different Species of Melody answering to these different Constitutions; but then we are not to conceive that the *Prosl.* or Fundamental of any Mode is fixt to one particular Chord of the *System*, for *Ex.* the *Phrygian* to *g*; so that we must always begin there, when we would have a Piece of Melody of that Species: When we say in general that such a *Mode* begins in *g*. 'tis no more than to signify the Species of *8ve*, according as they

appear in a certain fixt *System* ; but we may begin in any Chord of the *System*, and make it the *Profl.* of any *Mode*, by adding new Chords, or altering the Tuning of the old ( in the Manner already mentioned.) If the Design is no more, but that a Song may be begun higher or lower, that may be done by beginning at the same Chord, which is the *Profl.* of any *Mode* in the *System*, and altering the *Tune* of the Whole, keeping still the fixt Order (which as I have already said, is that in our modern natural Scale, from *a*) but it will be easier to begin in a Chord which is already higher or lower, and transfer the *Mode* in which the Song is, to that Chord. If every Song kept in one *Mode*, there was Need for no more than one *diatonick* Series, and by occasional changing the *Tune* of certain Chords, these Transpositions of every *Mode* to every Chord may be easily performed ; and I have spoken already of the Way to find what Chords are to be altered in their tuning to effect this, by the various Signatures of  $\ast$  and  $\flat$  : But if we suppose that in the Course of any Song a new Species is brought in, this can only be effected by having more Chords than in the fixt *System*, so as from any Chord of that, any Order or Species of *8ve* may be found.

IF this be the true Nature and Use of the *Tones*, I shall only observe here, that according to the Notions we have at present of the Principles and Rules of *Melody*, as they have been explained in some of the preceeding *Chapters*, most of these Modes are imperfect, and incapable

pable of good Melody; because they want some of those we reckon the essential and natural Notes of a true *Mode* (or *Key*). of which we reckon only Two Species, *viz.* that from *c* and *a*, or the *Parhypate-hypaton* and *Proslambano-menos* of the ancient fixt System.

Again, if the essential Difference of the *Modes* consists only in the *Gravity* or *Acuteness* of the whole *8ve*; then we must suppose there is one Species or concinnous Division of the *8ve*, which being applied to all the Chords of the *System*; makes them true *Fundamentals* for a certain Series of successive Notes. These Applications may be made in the Manner already mentioned; by changing the *Tune* of certain Chords in some Cases; but more universally, by adding new Chords to the *System*, as the artificial or *sharp* and *flat* Notes of the modern Scale above explained. But in this Case, again, where we suppose they admitted only one *concinnous* Species, we must suppose it to be corresponding to the *8ve a*, of what we call the *natural* Scale; because they all state the Order of the *Systema immutatum* in the *Diagram*, so as it answers to that *8ve*.

BUT what a simple *Melody* must have been produced by admitting only one concinnous Series, and that too wanting some useful and necessary Chords? We have above explained, that the *flat* Series, such as that beginning in *a*, has Two of its Chords that are variable, *viz.* the *6th* and *7th*, whereof sometimes the greater, sometimes the lesser is used; and therefore a  
*System*

*System* that wants this Variety must be so far imperfect: And what has been explained in *Chap. 13.* shews how impossible it is to make any good Modulation or Change from one *Key* to another, unless both the Species of *sharp* and *flat Key* be admitted in the *System*; which Experience and all the Reasonings in the preceding *Chapters* demonstrate to be necessary.

PROLOMY has a Passage relating to the *Modes*, with which I shall end this Head, *Lib. 2. Chap. 7.* of the *Mutations with respect to what they call Tones.* He says, these Mutations with respect to *Tones* was not introduced for the sake of *acuter* or *graver* Sounds; which might be produced by raising or lowering the whole Instrument or Voice, without any Change in the Song; but upon this Account, that the same Voice beginning the same Song now in a higher Note than in a lower, may make a Kind of Change of the *Mode.* This, to make any Sense, must signify that the same Song might be contrived so, as several Notes higher or lower might be used as *Fundamentals* to a certain Number of successive Notes; and all together make one Song; like what I explained of our modern Songs making Cadences in different Notes; so as the Song may be said to begin there again. If this is not the Sense, then what he says is plainly a Contradiction. But this may be the true Use of the *Tones*, in either of the Hypotheses concerning their essential Differences. He says in the Beginning of that *Chap.* “ The Mutations which are made  
“ by

“ by whole *Systems*, which we properly call  
 “ *Tones*, because these Differences consist in  
 “ *Tension*, are infinite with respect to Possibility,  
 “ as Sounds are, but actually and with respect  
 “ to Sense they are finite.” All this seems plain-  
 ly to put the Difference of the *Tones* only in the  
*Acuteness* or *Gravity* of the Whole, else how  
 do their Differences consist in *Tension*, which  
 signifies a certain Tenor or Degree of *Tune* ;  
 and how can they be called *infinite*, if they  
 depend on the different Constitutions of the *8ve*.  
 Yet elsewhere he argues, that they are no o-  
 ther than the Species of *8ves*, and as such makes  
 their Number Seven ; and accordingly, in all  
 his Schemes, sets down their different Modula-  
 tions : But in *Chap. 6.* he seems more plainly  
 to take in both these Differences, for he says,  
 there are Two principal Differences with respect  
 to the Change of the *Tone*, one whereby the  
 whole Song is sung higher or lower, the other  
 wherein there is a Change of the *Melody* to a-  
 nother Species than it was begun in ; but this  
 he thinks is rather a Change of the Song or  
*Melos* than of the *Tone*, as if again he would  
 have us think this depended only on the *Acute-  
 ness* and *Gravity* of the Whole ; so obscurely  
 has the best of all the ancient Writers delivered  
 himself on this Article that deserved to have  
 been most clearly handled. But that I may  
 have done with it, I shall only say, it must be  
 taken in one of the Senses mentioned, if not in  
 both, for another I think cannot be found. Let  
 me

me also add, that the Moderns who have endeavoured to explain the ancient Musick take these *Modes* for the Species of *8ves*. If you'll except *Meibomius*, who, in his Notes upon *Aristides*, affirms that the Differences of the *Modes* upon which all the different Effects depended, were only in the Tension or Acuteness and Gravity of the whole *System*. But there are *Modes* I call the *Antiquo-modern Modes*, which shall be considered afterwards.

OBSERVE. The *Tetrachord Synemmenon*, which makes what they called the *Systema conjunctum*, was added for joyning the upper and lower *Diapason* of the *Systema immutatum*; that when the Song having modulated thro' Two conjunct Tetrachords, and being come to *Mese*, might for Variety pass either into the disjunct Tetrachord *Diezeugmenon* or the conjunct *Synemmenon*. 'Tis made in our *System* by *b flat*, *i. e.* putting only a *Semitone* betwixt *a* and *b*; so that from *b* to *d* (in *8ve*.) makes Three conjunct Tetrachords; and the Use of that new Chord *b* with us is properly for perfecting some *8ve* from whose Fundamental in the fixt *Scale* there is not a right concinnous Series.

VI. OF MUTATIONS. This signifies the Changes or Alterations that happen in the Order of the Sounds that compose the *Melody*. *Aristox.* says, 'tis as it were a certain *Passion* in the Order of the *Melody*. It properly belongs to the *Melopœia* to explain this, but is always put by it self as a distinct Part of the *Harmo-*  
*nica.*

*nica.* These Changes are Four. 1. In the *Genus*; when the Song begins in one as the *Chromatick*, and passes into another as the *Diatonick*. 2. In the *System*, as when the Song passes out of one Tetrachord, as *Meson*, into another, as *Diezeugmenon*; or more generally, when it passes from a high Place of the *Scale* to a low, or contrarily, *that is*, the Whole is sung sometimes high, sometimes low; or rather, a Part of it is high, and a Part of it low. 3. In the *Mode* or *Tone*, as when the Song begins in one, as the *Dorick*, and passes into another, as the *Lydian*: What this Change of the *Mode* signifies according to the modern Theory has been explained already. 4. In the *Melopœia*, that is, when the Song changes the very *Air*, so as from gay and sprightly to become soft and languishing, or from a *Manner* that expresses one Passion or Subject to the Expression of some other; and therefore some of them call this a Change in the *Manner* (*secundum morem*): But to express Passion, or to have what they called *Pathetick Musick*, the various *Rythmus* is absolutely necessary to be join'd; and therefore among the *Mutations* some place this of the *Rythmus*, as from *Fambick* to *Choraick*; but this belongs properly to the *Rythmica*. Now these are at best but mere Definitions, the Rules when and how to use these Changes, ought to be found in the *Melopœia*.

VII. OF the MELOPOEIA, or Art of making *Melody* or Songs. After the End and Principles of any Art are supposed to be distinctly enough

enough shewn, the Thing to be expected is, that the *Rules* of Application be clearly set forth. But in this, I must say it, the Ancients have left us little else than a Parcel of Words and Names; such a Thing they call such a Name; but the Use of that Thing they leave you to find. The Substance of their Doctrine according to *Euclid* is this. After he has said that the *Melopœia* is the Use of the Parts (or Principles) already explained. He tells us, it consists of Four Parts; first *αγογή*, which the *Latins* called *ductus*, that is, when the Sounds or Notes proceed by continuous Degrees of the *Scale*, as *a. b. c. 2d. πλοκή*, *nexus*, which is, when the Sounds either ascending or descending are taken alternately, or not immediately next in the *Scale*, as *a, c, b, d.* or *a, d, b, e, c, f,* or these reverfely *d, b, c, a.* 3d. *πετρίαια*, *Petteia*, (for the *Latins* made this *Greek* Name their own) when the same Note was frequently repeated together, as *a, a, a.* 4th, *τομή*, *Extensio*, when any one Note was held out or sounded remarkably longer than the rest. This is all *Euclid* teaches us about it. But *Aristides Quintilianus*; who writes more fully than any of them, explains the *Melopœia* otherwise. He calls it the *Faculty* or *Art* of making Songs, which has Three Parts, viz. *λήψις*, *μῆσις*, *χρησις*, which the *Latins* call *sumtio*, *mistio*, *usus*.

NOT to trouble our selves with long *Greek* Passages, I shall give you the Definitions of these in *Meibomius's* Words, 1. *SUMTIO est per quam musico datur a quali vocis loco Systema sit*  
*faci-*

faciendum, utrum ab Hypatoide an reliquorum aliquo. 2. *MISTIO*, per quam aut sonos inter se aut vocis locos coagmentamus, aut modulationis genera, aut modorum Systema. 3. *USUS*, certa quædam modulationis confectio, cujus species tres, viz. *Ductus*, *Petteia*, *Nexus*. As to the Definitions of the Three principal Parts, the Author of the *DiCTIONAIRE de Musique* puts this Sense upon them, viz. *Suntio* teaches the Composer in what System he ought to place his Song, whether high or low, and consequently in what *Mode* or *Tone*, and at what Note to begin and end. *Mistio*, says he, is properly what we call the Art of *Modulating* well, *i. e.* after having begun in a convenient Place, to prosecute or conduct the Song, so as the Voice be always in a convenient *Tension*; and that the essential Chords of the *Mode* be right placed and used, and that the Song be carried out of it, and return again agreeably. *Ufus* teaches the Composer how the Sounds ought to follow one another, and in what Situations each may and ought to be in, to make an agreeable *Melody*, or a good *Modulation*. For the Species of the *Ufus*: *Aristides* defines the *ductus* and *nexus* the same Way as *Euclid* does; and adds, that the *ductus* may be performed Three Ways, or is threefold, viz. *ductus rectus*, when the Notes ascend, as *a, b, c*; *revertens*, when they descend *c, b, a*; or *circumcurrens*, when having ascended by the *systema disjunctum*, they immediately descend by the *systema conjunctum*, or move downwards betwixt the same Extremes,

in a different Order of the intermediate Degrees, as having ascended thus,  $a : b : c : d$ , the Descent is  $d : c : b : a$ , or  $c : d : e : f$ , and  $f : e : d : c$ . But the *Petteia* he defines, *Qua cognoscimus quinam sonorum omittendi, & qui sunt adsumendi, tum quoties illorum singuli: porro a quonam incipiendum, & in quem definiendum: atque hac quoque morem exhibet.* In short, according to this Definition the *Petteia* is the whole Art.

THERE were also what they called, The *modi melopœiæ*, of which *Aristides* names these, *Dithyrambick*, *Nomick*, and *Tragick*; called *Modes* for their expressing the several Motions and Affections of the Mind. The best Notion we can form of this is, to suppose them something like what we call the different Stiles in *Musick*, as the *Ecclesiastick*, the *Choraick*, the *Recitative*, &c. But I think the *Rythmus* must have a considerable or the greatest Share in these Differences.

BUT now if you'll ask where are the particular practical Rules, that teach when and how all these Things are to be done and used, I must own, I have found nothing of this Kind particular enough to give me a distinct *Idea* of their Practice in *Melody*. It is true, that *Aristoxenus* employs his whole 3<sup>d</sup> Book very near, in something that seems designed for Rules, in the right Conduct of Sounds for making *Melody*. But Truth is, all the tedious and perplexed Work he makes of it, amounts to no more than shewing

ing, what general Limitations we are under, with respect to the placing of *Intervals* in Succession, according to the several *Genera*; and the Constitution of the *Systema immutatum*, or what we call the naturally *concinuous* Series. You'll understand it by One or Two *Examples*: First, in the *Diatonick* Kind, he says, That Two *Semitones* never follow other immediately, and that a *Hemitonè* is not to be placed immediately above and below one *Tone*, but may be placed above and below Two or Three *Tones*; and that Two or Three *Tones* may be placed together but no more. Then as to the Two other *Genera*, to understand what he says; observe, that the lower Part of the *Tetrachord* containing Two *Dieses* in the One, and Two *Hemitones* in the other *Genus* (whose Sums are always less than the remaining *Ditone* or *Tritemitone* that makes up the *Diateffaron*) is called *πυκνὸν spissum*, because the *Intervals* being small; the Sounds are as it were set thick and near other; opposite to which is *απυκνὸν non spissum* or *rarum*: Notice too, that the Chords that belonged to the *spissum* were called *πυκνοὶ*, and particularly the lowest or *gravest* of the Three in every *Tetrachord* were called *βαρὺπυκνοὶ*, (from *βάρος gravis*;) the middle *μεσοπυκνοὶ* (from *μεσος medius*) the acutest *ὀξύπυκνοὶ* (from *ὄξύς acutus*). Those that belonged not to the *πυκνὸν* were called *απυκνοὶ*, *extra spissum*. Now then, with respect to the *Enharmonic* and *Chromatick* we are told, that Two *Spissa*, or

Two *Ditones*, *Triemitones*, or *Tones* cannot be put together; but that a *Ditone* may stand betwixt Two *spiffa*; that a *Tone* (it must be the *diazeucticus* betwixt Two *Tetrachords*) may be placed immediately above the *Ditone* or *Triem*. but not below, and below the *Spiffum* but not above. There is a World more of this kind, that one sees at Sight almost in the *Diagram*, without long tedious Explications; and at best they are but very general Rules. There is a Heap of other Words and Names mentioned by several Authors, but not worth mentioning.

BUT at last I must observe and own, That any Rules that can possibly be given about this Practice, are far too general, either to teach one to compose different Species of *Melody*, or to give a distinct Idea of the Practice of others; and that 'tis absolutely necessary for these Purposes that we have a Plenty of *Examples* in actual Compositions, which we have not of the Ancients. There is a natural Genius, without which no Rules are sufficient: And indeed what Rules can be given, when a very few general Principles are capable of such an infinite Application; therefore Practice and Experience must be the Rule; and for this Reason we find both among the Ancients and Moderns, so very few, and these very general Rules for the Composition of *Melody*. Besides the Knowledge of the *System*, and what we call *Modulation* or keeping in and changing the *Mode* or *Key*; there are other general Principles that Nature teacheth

teacheth us, and which must be attended to, if we would produce good Effects, either for the Entertainment of the Fancy with the Variety we find so indispensable in our Pleasures, or for imitating Nature; and moving the Affections: These are, *first*, the different Species of Sounds abstract from the Acuteness, as Drums; Trumpets, Violins, Flutes; Voice, &c. which as they give different Sensations, so they are fit for expressing different Things, and raising or humouring different Passions; to which we may add the Differences of strong and weak; or loud and low Sounds. *2do*. Tho' a Piece of Melody is strictly the same, whether it is performed by an acute or grave Voice; yet 'tis certain, That acute Sounds and grave, have different Effects; so that the one is more applicable to some Subjects than the other; and we know that, in general, *acute* Sounds (which are owing to quicker Vibrations) have something more brisk and sprightly than the graver, which are better applied to the more calm Affections, or to sad and melancholy Subjects; but there is a great Variety betwixt the Extremes; and different Customs and Manners may also make a Difference: We find by Experience a lively Motion in our Blood and Nerves, under some Affections of Mind, as Joy and Gladness; and in the more boisterous Passions, as Anger; that Motion is still greater; but others are accompanied with more calm and slow Motions; and since Bodies communicate their Motion, and the Effect is proportional to the Cause, we see a

natural Reason of these different Effects of acute and grave Sounds. *3tio.* The Effects of Melody have a great Dependence on the alternate Passage or Movement of the Sounds up and down, *i. e.* from acute to grave, and contrarily; or its continuing for less or more Time in one Place; but the Variety here is infinite; yet Experience teaches some general Lessons; for *Example*, if a Man in the Middle of a Discourse turns angry, 'tis natural to raise his Voice; this therefore ought to be express'd by raising the Melody from grave to acute; and contrarily a sinking of the Mind to Melancholy must be imitated by the falling of the Sounds; a more evenly State by a like Conduct of the Melody. Again, the taking of the Sounds by immediate Degrees, or alternatively, or repeating the same Note, and the moving by greater or lesser Intervals, have all their proper and different Effects: These, and their various Combinations, must all be under the Composer's Consideration; but who can possibly give Rules for the infinite Variety in the State and Temper of human Minds, and the proper Application of Sounds for expressing or exciting these? And when Compositions are designed only for Pleasure in general, what an infinite Number of Ways may this be produced?

AGAIN it must be minded, That the *Rythmus* is a very principal Thing in *Musick*, especially of the *pathetick* Kind; for 'tis this Variety of Movements in the quick or slow Successions, or Length and Shortness of Notes, that's  
the

the conspicuous Part of the *Air*, without which the other can produce but very weak Effects; and therefore most of the Ancients used to call the *Rythmus* the *Male*, and the *Harmonica* the *Female*. And as to this I must take Notice here, That the Ancients seem to have used none but the long and short Syllables of the Words and Verses which were sung, and always made a Part of their *Musick*; therefore the *Rythmica* was nothing with them but the Explication of the *metrical Feet*, and the various Kinds of Verses which were made of them: And for the *Rythmopœia*, or the Art of applying these, I am confident no Body will affirm they have left us any more than very general Hints, that can scarce be called *Rules*: The reading of *Aristides* and *St. Augustin* will, I believe, convince you of this; and all the rest put together have not said as much about it. I suppose the ancient Writers, who in their Divisions of *Musick*, make the *Rythmica* one Part, and in their Explications of this speak of no other than that which belongs to the Words and Verses of their Songs, I say these will be a sufficient Proof that they had no other. But you'll see it further confirmed immediately, when we consider the *ancient Notes* or Writing of *Musick*. As to the *modern Rythmus*, I need say little about it; that it is a Thing very different from the ancient, is manifest to any Body who considers what I have said of theirs, and has but the smallest Acquaintance with our *Musick*. That the *Measures* and *Modes* of TIME explained

in *Ch. 12.* and all the possible Subdivisions and Constitutions of them, are capable to afford an endless Variety of *Rythmus*, and express any Thing that the Motion of Sound is capable of, is equally certain to the experienced; and therefore I shall say no more of it here: Only *observe*, That as I said about the *Harmonica*, so of this 'tis certainly true, That the Rules are very general: We know that quick and slow Movements suit different Objects; when we are gay and cheerful we love airy Motions; and to different Subjects and Passions different Movements must be applied, for which Nature is our best Guide: Therefore the *practical Writers* leave us to our own Observations and Experience, to learn how to apply these Measures of Time, which they can only describe in general, as I have done, and refer us to Examples for perfecting our Idea of them, and what they are capable of.

*Of the ancient Notes, and Writing of Musick.*

WE learn from *Alipius* (*vid. Meibom. Edition.*) how the *Greeks* marked their Sounds. They made use of the Letters of their Alphabet: And because they needed more Signs than there were Letters, they supplied that out of the same Alphabet; by making the same Letter express different Notes, as it was placed upright or reversed, or otherwise put out of the common Position; and also making them imperfect, by cutting off something, or by doubling some Strokes. For *Example*, the Letter *Pi* expresses

expresses different Notes in all these Positions and Forms, viz. Π . Π . □ . □ Π . Π, &c. But that we may know the whole Task a Scholar had to learn, consider, that for every *Mode* there were 18 Signs (because they considered the *Tetrachordum synemmenon*, as if all its Chords had been really different from the *Diezeugmenon*) and for every one of the Three *Genera* they were also different; again the Signs that expressed the same Note were different for the Voice and for the Instruments. *Alipius* gives us the Signs for 15 different Modes, which with the Differences of the 3 *Genera*, and the Distinction betwixt Voice and Instrument, makes in all 1620; not that these are all different Characters, for the same Character is used several Times, but then it has different Significations; for *Example*, in the *diatonick Genus* Φ is *Lichanos hypaton* of the *Elydian Mode*, and *Hypate meson* of the *Phrygian*, both for the Voice; so that they are in effect as different Characters to a Learner. What a happy Contrivance this was for making the Practice of *Musick* easy, every Body will judge who considers, that 15 Letters with some small Variation for the *Chordæ mobiles*, in order to distinguish the *Genera*, was sufficient for all. In *Boethius's* Time the *Romans* were wise enough to ease themselves of this unnecessary Difficulty; and therefore they made use only of the first 15 Letters of their Alphabet: But afterwards *Pope Gregory the Great*, considering that the *8ve* was the same in effect with the first, and that the Order of Degrees was the

same in the upper and lower *8ve* of the *Diagram*, he introduced the Use of 7 Letters, which were repeated in a different Character. But hitherto there was no such Thing as any Mark of *Time*; these Characters expressing only the Degrees of *Tune*, which therefore were always placed in a Line, and the Words of the Song under them, so that over every Syllable stood a Note to mark the Accent of the Voice: And for the *Time*, that was according to the long and short Syllable of the Verse; tho' in some very extraordinary Cases we hear of some particular Marks for altering the natural or ordinary Quantity.

I shall end this Part with observing that among all the ancient Writers on *Musick*, there is not one Word to be found relating to *Composition* in *Parts*, or joining several different *Melodies* in one *Harmony*, as what we call *Treble*, *Tenor*, *Bass*, &c. But this shall be more particularly examined in the next *Section*.

§ 5. *A short HISTORY of the Improvements in MUSICK.*

FOR what Reasons the *Greek* Musicians made such a difficult Matter of their Notes and Signs we cannot guess, unless they did it designedly to make their Art mysterious, which is an odious Supposition; but one can scarcely think it was otherwise, who considers how ob-  
vious

vious it was to find a more easy Method. This was therefore the first Thing the *Latins* corrected in the *Greek Musick*, as we have already heard was done by *Boethius*, and further improved by *Gregory* the Great.

THE next Step in this Improvement is commonly ascribed to *Guido Aretinus* a *Benedictin* Monk, of *Aretium* in *Tuscany*, who, about the Year 1024, (tho' there are some Differences about the Year) contrived the Use of a Staff of 5 Lines, upon which, with its Spaces he marked his Notes, by setting Points (.) up and down upon them, to denote the Rise and Fall of the Voice, (but as yet there were no different Marks of *Time*;) he marked each Line and Space at the Beginning of the Staff, with *Gregory's* 7 Letters, and when he spake of the Notes, he named them by these instead of the long *Greek* Names of *Proslambanomenos*, &c. The Correspondence of these Letters to the Names of the Chords in the *Greek System* being settled, such as I have already represented in their *Diagram*, the Degrees and Intervals betwixt any Line or Space, and any other were hereby understood. But this Artifice of Points and Lines was used before his Time, by whom invented is not known; and this we learn from *Kircher*, who says he found in the *Jesuites* Library at *Messina* a *Greek* manuscript Book of Hymns, more than 700 Years old; in which some Hymns were written on a Staff of 8 Lines, marked at the Beginning with 8 *Greek* Letters; the Notes or Points were set upon the Lines, but no Use

made

made of the Spaces: *Vincenzo Galileo* confirms us also in this. But whether *Guido* knew this, is a Question; and tho' he did, yet it was well contrived to use the Spaces and Lines both, by which the Notes ly nearer other, fewer Lines are needful for any Interval, and the Distances of Notes are easier reckoned.

BUT there is yet more of *Guido's* Contrivance, which deserves to be considered; *First*. He contrived the 6 musical Syllables, *ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la*, which he took out of this Latin Hymn.

*UT* queant laxis *RE* sonare fibris  
*MIRA* gestorum *FAM*uli tuorum,  
*SOL*ve polluti *LAB*ii reatum,  
 O pater alme.

In repeating this it came into his Mind, by a Kind of divine Instinct says *Kircher*, to apply these Syllables to his Notes of *Musick*: A wonderful Contrivance certainly for a *divine Instinct*! But let us see where the Excellency of it lies: *Kircher* says, by them alone he unfolded all the Nature of *Musick*, distinguished the *Tones* (or *Modes*) and the Seats of the Semitones: Elsewhere he says, That by the Application of these Syllables he cultivated *Musick*, and made it fitter for Singing. In order to know how he applied them, there is another Piece of the History we must take along, *viz.* That finding the *Greek Diagram* of too small Extent, he added 5 more Chords or Notes in this Manner; having

having applied the Letter A to the *Proslambanomenos*, and the rest in Order to *Nete Hyperboleon*, he added a Chord, a *Tonus* below *Proslam.* and called it *Hypo-proslambanomenos*, and after the Latins *g.* but commonly marked with the Greek *Gamma* Γ; to shew by this, say some, that the Greeks were the Inventors of *Musick*; but others say he meant to record himself (that Letter being the first in his Name) as the Improver of *Musick*; hence the *Scale* came to be called the *Gamm.* Above *Nete Hyperboleon* he added other 4 Chords, which made a new disjunct *Tetrachord*, he called *Hyper-hyperboleon*; so that his whole *Scale* contained 20 *diatonick Notes*, (for this was the only *Genus* now used) besides the *b flat*, which corresponded to the *Trite Synemmenon* of the Ancients, and made what was afterwards called the Series of *b molle*, as we shall hear.

Now the Application of these Syllables to the *Scale* was made thus: Betwixt *mi* and *fa* is a *Semitone*; *ut : re, re : mi, fa : sol*, and *sol : la* are *Tones* (without distinguishing greater and lesser;) then because there are but 6 Syllables, and 7 different Notes or Letters in the *8ve*; therefore, to make *mi* and *fa* fall upon the true Places of the natural *Semitones*, *ut* was applied to different Letters, and the rest of the 6 in order to the others above; the Letters to which *ut* was applied are *g . c . f.* according to which he distinguished three Series, *viz.* that which begun with *ut* in *g*, and he called it the Series of *b durum*, because *b* was a whole Tone above

a; that which begun with *ut* in *c* was the Series of *b* natural, the same as the former; and when *ut* was in *f*, it was called *b molle*, wherein *b* was only a *Semitone* above *a*. See the whole Scale in the following Scheme, where ob-

GUIDO'S SCALE.

	<i>B dur.</i>	<i>nat.</i>	<i>molle</i>
<i>ee</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>mi</i>	
<i>dd</i>	<i>sol</i>	<i>re</i>	<i>la</i>
<i>cc</i>	<i>fa</i>	<i>ut</i>	<i>sol</i>
<i>bb</i>	<i>mi</i>		
<i>aa</i> <sup>v</sup>	<i>re</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>fa</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>ut</i>	<i>sol</i>	<i>mi</i>
<i>f</i>		<i>fa</i>	<i>re</i>
<i>e</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>mi</i>	<i>ut</i>
<i>d</i>	<i>sol</i>	<i>re</i>	<i>la</i>
<i>c</i>	<i>fa</i>	<i>ut</i>	<i>sol</i>
<i>b</i>	<i>mi</i>		
<i>a</i> <sup>v</sup>	<i>re</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>fa</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>ut</i>	<i>sol</i>	<i>mi</i>
<i>F</i>		<i>fa</i>	<i>re</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>mi</i>	<i>ut</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>sol</i>	<i>re</i>	
<i>C</i>	<i>fa</i>	<i>ut</i>	
<i>B</i>	<i>mi</i>		
<i>A</i>	<i>re</i>		
<i>Gamm</i>	<i>ut</i>		

*serve*, the Series of *b* natural stands betwixt the other two, and communicates with both; so that to name the Chords of the Scale by these Syllables, if we would have the Semitones in their natural Places, viz. *b . c*, and *e . f*, then we apply *ut* to *g*, and after *la*, we go into the Series of *b* natural at *fa*, and after *la* of this, we return to the former at *mi*, and so on; or we may begin at *ut* in *c*, and pass into the first Series at *mi*, and then back to the other at *fa*: By which Means the one Transition is a *Semitone*, viz. *la . fa*, and the

other a Tone *la : mi*. To follow the Order of *b molle*

*b molle*, we may begin with *ut* in *c* or *f*, and make Transitions the same Way as formerly : Hence came the barbarous Names of *Gammut*, *Are*, *Bmi*, &c. with which the Memories of Learners used to be oppressed. But now what a perplext Work is here, with so many different Syllables applied to every Chord, and all for no other Purpose but marking the Places of the Semitones, which the simple Letters, *a . b . c*, &c. do as well and with infinite more Ease. Afterwards some contrived better, by making Seven Syllables, adding *si* in the Blanks you see in the Series betwixt *la* and *ut*, so that *mi-fa* and *si-ut* are the two natural Semitones : These 7 completing the *8ve*, they took away the middle Series as of no Use, and so *ut* being in *g* or *f*, made the Series of *B durum* (or natural, which is all-one) and *B molle*. But the *English* throw out both *ut* and *si*, and make the other 5 serve for all in the Manner explained in *Chap. 11.* where I have also shewn, the Unnecessariness of the Difficulty that the best of these Methods occasions, and therefore shall not repete it here. This wonderful Contrivance of *Guido's* 6 Syllables, is what a very ingenious Man thought fit to call *Crux tenellorum ingeniorum* ; but he might have said it of any of the Methods ; for which Reason, I believe, they are laid aside with very many, and, I am sure, ought to be so with every Body.

BUT to go on with *Guido* ; the Letters he applied to his Lines and Spaces, were called *Keys*, and at first he marked every Line  
and

and Space at the Beginning of a Staff with its Letter ; afterwards marked only the Lines, as some old Examples shew ; and at last marked only one, which was therefore called the *signed Clef* ; of which he distinguished Three different ones, *g*, *c*, *f* ; (the three Letters he had plac'd his *ut* in) and the Reason of this leads us to another Article of the History, *viz.* That *Guido* was the Inventor of *Symphonick Composition*, (for if the Ancients had it, it was lost ; but this shall be considered again) the first who joyned in one *Harmony* several distinct *Melodies*, and brought it even the length of 4 *Parts*, *viz.* *Bass*, *Tenor*, *Counter*, *Treble* ; and therefore to determine the Places of the several *Parts* in the general *System*, and their Relations to one another, it was necessary to have 3 different signed Clefs (*vid. Chap. II.*)

HE is also said to be the Contriver of those Instruments they call *Polyplectra*, as *Spinets* and *Harpfichords* : However they may now differ in Shape, he contriv'd what is called the *Abacus* and the *Palmula*, that is, the *Machinery* by which the String is struck with a *Plectrum* made of Quills. Thus far go the Improvements of *Guido Aretinus*, and what is called the *Guidonian System* ; to explain which he wrote a Book he calls his *Micrologum*.

THE next considerable Improvement was about 300 Years after *Guido*, relating to the *Rythmus*, and the Marks by which the Duration of every Note was known ; for hitherto they had but imitated the Simplicity of the Ancients, and

and barely followed the Quantity of the Syllables, or perhaps not so accurate in that, made all their Notes of equal Duration, as some of the old *Ecclesiastick Musick* is an Instance of. To produce all the Effects *Musick* is capable of, the Necessity of Notes of different Quantity was very obvious; for the *Rythmus* is the Soul of *Musick*; and because the natural Quantity of the Syllables was not thought sufficient for all the Variety of Movements, which we know to be so agreeable in *Musick*, therefore about the Year 1330 or 1333, says *Kircher*, the famous *Foannes de Muris*, Doctor at *Paris*, invented the different Figures of Notes, which express the *Time*, or Length of every Note, at least their true relative Proportions to one another; you see their Names and Figures in *Plate, 2 Fig. 3.* as we commonly call them. But anciently they were called, *Maxima, Longa, Brevis, Semibrevis, Minima, Semiminima, Chroma*, (or *Fusa*) *Semichroma*. What we call the *Demisemiquaver* is of modern Addition. But whether all these were invented at once is not certain, nor is it probable they were; at first 'tis like they used only the *Longa* and *Brevis*, and the rest were added by Degrees. Now also was invented the Division of every Song in separate and distinct *Bars* or *Measures*. Then for the Proportion of these *Notes* one to another it was not always the same; so a *Long* was in some Cases equal to Two *Breves*, sometimes to Three, and so of others; and this Difference was marked generally at the Beginning; and sometimes by the Position

Position or Way of joyning them together in the Middle of the Song; but this Variety happened only to the first Four. *Again*, respecting the mutual Proportions of the Notes, they had what they called *Modes*, *Prolations* and *Times*: The Two last were distinguished into *Perfect* and *Imperfect*; and the first into *greater* and *lesser*, and each of these into *perfect* and *imperfect*: But afterwards they reduced all into 4 *Modes* including the *Prolations* and *Times*. I could not think it worth Pains to make a tedious Description of all these, with their Marks or Signs, which you may see in the already mentioned *Dictionnaire de Musique*: I shall only observe here, That as we now make little Use of any Note above the *Semibreve*, because indeed the remaining 6 are sufficient for all Purposes, so we have cast off that Difficulty of various and changeable Proportions betwixt the same Notes: The Proportions of 3 to 1 and 2 to 1 was all they wanted, and how much more easy and simple is it to have one Proportion fixt, *viz.* 2 : 1 (*i. e.* a *Large* equal to Two *Longs*, and so on in Order) and if the Proportion of 3 : 1 betwixt Two successive Notes is required, this is, without any Manner of Confusion or Difficulty, expressed by annexing a Point (.) on the Right Hand of the greatest of the Two Notes, as has been above explained; so that 'tis almost a Wonder how the Elements of *Musick* were so long involved in these Perplexities, when a far easier Way of coming to the same End was not very hard to find.

WE shall observe here too, That till these *Notes* of various *Time* were invented, instrumental Performances without Song must have been very imperfect if they had any; and what a wonderful Variety of Entertainments we have by this Kind of Composition, I need not tell you.

THERE remain Two other very considerable Steps, before we come to the present State of the Scale of Musick. *Guido* first contrived the joyning different *Parts* in one *Concert*, as has been said, yet he carried his *System* no further than 20 *diatonick* Notes: Now for the more simple and plain Compositions of the Ecclesiastick Stile, which is probable was the most considerable Application he made of Musick; this Extent would afford no little Variety: But Experience has since found it necessary to enlarge the *System* even to 34 diatonick Notes, which are represented in the foremost Range of Keys on the Breast of a *Harpfichord*; for so many are required to produce all that admirable Variety of Harmony, which the Parts in modern Compositions consist of, according to the many different Stiles practised: But a more considerable Defect of his System is, That except the Tone betwixt *a* and *b*, which is divided into Two Semitones by  $\flat$  (flat) there was not another Tone in all the Scale divided; and without this the System is very imperfect, with respect to fixt Sounds, because without these there can be no right Modulation or Change from

*Key to Key*, taking Mode or *Key* in the Sense which I have explained in *Chap. 9*. Therefore the *modern System* has in every *8ve* 5 artificial Chords or Notes which we mark by the Letters of the *natural* Chords, with the Distinction of  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$ , the Necessity and true Use of which has been largely explained in *Chap. 8*. and therefore not to be insisted on here; I shall only observe, That by these additional Chords, we have the *diatonick* and *chromatick* Genera of the Ancients mixed; so that Compositions may be made in either Kind, tho' we reckon the *diatonick* the true natural Species; and if at any Time, Two *Semitones* are placed immediately in Succession; for *Example*, if we sing *c. c $\sharp$ . d*, which is done for Variety, tho' seldom, so far this is a Mixture of the *Chromatick*; but then to make it pure *Chromatick*, no smaller Interval can be sung after Two *Semitones* ascending than a *Triemitone*, nor descending less than a *Tone*; because in the pure *chromatick* Scale the *Spissum* has always above it a *Triemitone*, and below it either a *Triemitone* or a *Tone*.

THE last Thing I shall consider here is, how the *Modes* were defined in these Days of Improvement; and I find they were generally characterized by the Species of *8ve* after *Ptolomy's* Manner, and therefore reckoned in all 7. But afterwards they considered the *harmonical* and *arithmetical* Divisions of the *8ve*, whereby it resolves into a *4th* above a *5th*, or a *5th* above a *4th*

a 4th. And from this they constituted 12 Modes, making of each 8ve two different Modes according to this different Division; but because there are Two of them that cannot be divided both Ways, therefore there are but 12 Modes. To be more particular, consider, in the natural System there are 7 different Octaves proceeding from these 7 Letters, *a, b, c, d, e, f, g*; each of which has Two middle Chords, which divide it *harmonically* and *arithmetically*, except *f*, which has not a true 4th, (because *b* is Three Tones above it, and a 4th is but Two Tones and a Semitone) and *b*, which consequently wants the true 5th (because *f* is only Two Tones and Two Semitones above it, and a true 5th contains 3 Tones and a Semitone) therefore we have only 5 Octaves that are divided both Ways, *viz. a, c, d, e, g*, which make 10 Modes according to these different Divisions, and the other Two *f* and *b* make up the 12. These that are divided harmonically, *i. e.* with the 5ths lowest were called *authentick*, and the other *plagal* Modes. See the following Scheme.

To these Modes they gave the Names of the ancient *Greek Tones*, as *Dorian, Phrygian*: But several Authors differ in the Application of these Names, as they do about the Order, as which they shall call the first and second, &c. which being arbitrary Things, as far as I can understand, it were as idle to pretend to recon-

## MODES.

*Plagal.*      *Authentick.*

8ve.

8ve.

4th.

5th.

4th.

g	---	c	---	g	---	c
a	---	d	---	a	---	d
b	---	e	---	b	---	e
c	---	f	---	c	---	f
d	---	g	---	d	---	g
e	---	a	---	e	---	a

cile them, as it was in them to differ about it. The material Point is, if we can find it, to know what they meant by these Distinctions, and what was the real Use of them in *Musick*; but even here where they ought to have agreed, we find

they differed. The best Account I am able to give you of it is this: They considered that an 8ve which wants a 4th or 5th, is imperfect; these being the *Concords* next to 8ve, the Song ought to touch these Chords most frequently and remarkably; and because their *Concord* is different, which makes the Melody different, they established by this Two Modes in every natural *Octave*, that had a true 4th and 5th: Then if the Song was carried as far as the *Octave* above, it was called a *perfect Mode*; if less, as to the 4th or 5th, it was *imperfect*; if it moved both above and below, it was called a *mixt Mode*: Thus some Authors speak about these *Modes*. Others considering how indispensable a Chord the 5th is in every *Mode*, they took for the *final* or *Key-note* in the arithmetically divided *Octaves*, not the lowest Chord of that *Octave*, but that very 4th; for *Example*, the *Octave* g is arithmetically divided thus, g - c - g, c is a 4th above the lower g, and a 5th below the upper

per *g*, this *c* therefore they made the *final* Chord of the Mode, which therefore properly speaking is *c* and not *g*; the only Difference then in this Method, betwixt the *authentick* and *plagal* Modes is, that the *Authentick* goes above its Final to the *Octave*, the other ascends a *5th*, and descends a *4th*, which will indeed be attended with different Effects, but the Mode is essentially the same, having the same Final to which all the Notes refer. We must next consider wherein the Modes of one Species, as *Authentick* or *Plagal*, differ among themselves: This is either by their standing higher or lower in the Scale, *i. e.* the different Tension of the whole *Octave*; or rather the different Subdivision of the *Octave* into its concinnous Degrees; there is not another. Let us consider then whether these Differences are sufficient to produce so very different Effects, as have been ascribed to them, for *Example*, one is said to be proper for Mirth, another for Sadness, a Third proper to Religion, another for tender and amorous Subjects, and so on: Whether we are to ascribe such Effects merely to the Constitution of the *Octave*, without Regard to other Differences and Ingredients in the Composition of Melody, I doubt any Body now a Days will be absurd enough to affirm; these have their proper Differences, 'tis true, but which have so little Influence, that by the various Combinations of other Causes, one of these Modes may be used to different Purposes. The greatest and most influencing Difference is that of

these *Octaves*, which have the 3<sup>d</sup> l. or 3<sup>d</sup> g. making what is above called the *sharp* and *flat Key*: But we are to notice, that of all the *8ves*, except *c* and *a*, none of them have all their essential Chords in just Proportion, unless we neglect the Difference of Tone greater and lesser, and also allow the *Semitone* to stand next the Fundamental in some flat Keys (which may be useful, and is sometimes used;) and when that is done, the *Octaves* that have a flat 3<sup>d</sup> will want the 6<sup>th</sup> g. and 7<sup>th</sup> g. which are very necessary on some Occasions; and therefore the artificial Notes  $\sharp$  and  $\flat$  are of absolute Use to perfect the *System*. Again, if the Modes depend upon the Species of *8ves*, how can they be more than 7? And as to this Distinction of *authentick* and *plagal*, I have shewn that it is imaginary, with respect to any essential Difference constituted hereby in the Kind of the Melody; for tho' the carrying the Song above or below the *Final*, may have a different Effect, yet this is to be numbred among the other Causes, and not ascribed to the Constitution of the *Octaves*. But 'tis particularly to be remarked, that these Authors who give us *Examples* in actual Composition of their 12 Modes, frequently take in the artificial Notes  $\sharp$  and  $\flat$  to perfect the *Melody* of their *Key*; and by this Means depart from the Constitution of the *8ve*, as it stands in the fixt natural System. So we can find little certain and consistent in their Way of speaking about these Things; and their Modes are all reducible to Two, viz. the *sharp* and *flat*; o-  
ther

ther Differences respecting only the Place of the Scale where the Fundamental is taken: I conclude therefore that the true Theory of *Modes* is that explained in *Chap. 9.* where they are distinguished into Two Species, *sharp* and *flat*, whose Effects I own are different; but other Causes (*vid. Pag. 547, &c.*) must concur to any remarkable Effect; and therefore 'tis unreasonable to talk as if all were owing to any one Thing. Before I have done there is another Thing you are to be informed of; *viz.* That what they called the Series of *b molle*, was no more than this, That because the *8ve f* had a *4th* above at *b*, *excessive* by a *Semitone*, and consequently the *8ve b* had a *5th* above as much deficient, therefore this artificial Note *b flat* or  $\flat$ , served them to transpose their *Modes* to the Distance of a *4th* or *5th*, above or below; for taking  $\flat$  a *Semitone* above *a*, the rest keeping their *Ratios* already fixt, the Series proceeding from *c* with *b* natural (*i. e.* a *Tone* above *a*) is in the same Order of Degrees, as that from *f* with *b flat* (*i. e.*  $\flat$  a *Semitone* above *a*;) but *f* is a *4th* above *c*, or a *5th* below; therefore to transpose from the Series of *b* natural to *b molle* we ascend a *4th* or descend a *5th*; and contrarily from *b molle* to the other: This is the whole Mystery; but they never speak of the other Transpositions that may be made by other artificial Notes.

You may also observe, that what they called the Ecclesiastick Tones, are no other than cer-

tain Notes in the *Organ* which are made the *Final* or *Fundamental* of the Hymns; and as Modes they differ, some by their Place in the Scale, others by the *sharp* and *flat* 3<sup>d</sup>; but even here every Author speaks not the same Way: 'Tis enough we know they can differ no other Way, or at least all their Differences can be reduced to these. At first they were Four in Number, whose *Finals* were *d, e, f, g* constituted *authentically*: This Choice, we are told, was first made by St. *Ambrose* Bishop of *Milan*; and for being thus chosen and approved, they pretend the Name *Authentick* was added: Afterwards *Gregory* the *Great* added Four *Plagals* *a, b, c, d*, whose *Finals* are the very same with the first Four, and in effect are only a Continuation of these to the 4<sup>th</sup> below; and for this Connection with them were called *plagal*, tho' the Derivation of the Word is not so plain.

BUT 'tis Time to have done; for I think I have shewn you the principal Steps of the Improvement of the *System* of *Musick*, to the present State of it, as that is more largely explained in the preceding *Chapters*. I have only one Word to add, that in *Guido's* Time and long after, they supposed the Division of the *Tetrachord* to be *Ptolomy's Diatonum diatonicum*, i. e. Two Tones 8 : 9, and a *limma*  $\frac{243}{256}$ ; till *Zarlinus* explained and demonstrated, that it ought to be the *intensum*, containing the Tone greater  $\frac{9}{8}$ , and *Semitone* 15 : 16; as he also shews

shews how inconsistently they spake about the *Modes*, where he reduces all to the Two Species of *sharp* and *flat*. 'Tis true, *Galileo* approves the other, as common Practice shewed that the Difference was insensible; yet it must be meant only with respect to common Practice. I have already explained, how this Difference in fixt Instruments is the very Reason of their Imperfection after the greatest Pains to correct them; and how the natural Voice will, without any Direction, and even without perceiving it, choose sometimes a greater, sometimes a lesser *Tone*: Therefore I think Nature guides us to the Choice of this Species: If the commensurate *Ratios* of Vibrations are the Cause of *Concord* then certainly 4 : 5 is better than 64 : 81. The first arises from the Application of a simple general Rule upon which the more perfect *Concords* depend; the other comes in as it were arbitrarily. How the Proportions happen upon Instruments depends upon the Method of tuning them; of which enough has been already said.

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§ 6. *The ancient and modern Musick compared.*

THE last Age was famous for the War that was raised, and eagerly maintain'd by two different Parties, concerning the ancient and modern *Genius* and *Learning*. Among the disputed Points *Musick* was one. I know of nothing

thing new to be advanced on either Side; so that I might refer you to those who have examined the Question already: But that nothing in my Power may be wanting to make this Work more acceptable, I shall put the Substance of that Controversy into the best Form I can, and shall endeavour to be at the same Time short and distinct.

THE Question in general is, Whether the *Ancients* or the *Moderns* best understood and practised *Musick*? Some affirm that the *ancient Art of Musick* is quite lost, among other valuable Things of Antiquity, *vid. Pancirollus, de Musica*. Others pretend, That the true Science of *Harmony* is arrived to much greater Perfection than what was known or practised among the *Ancients*. The Fault with many of the *Contenders* on this Point is, that they fight at long Weapons; I mean they keep the Argument in *generals*, by which they make little more of it than some innocent Harangues and Flourishes of Rhetorick, or at most make bold Assertions upon the Authority of some misapplied Expressions and incredible Stories of ancient Writers, for I'm now speaking chiefly of the *Patrons* of the ancient *Musick*.

IF Sir *William Temple* was indeed serious, and had any Thing else in his View, but to shew how he could declaim, he is a notable Instance of this. Says he, "What are become  
" of the Charms of *Musick*, by which  
" Men and Beasts were so frequently enchanted,  
" and

and their very Natures changed, by which the Passions of Men were raised to the greatest Height and Violence, and then as suddenly appeas'd, so as they might be *justly* said, to be turned into Lions or Lambs, into Wolves or into Harts, by the Power and Charms of this admirable Art?" And he might have added too, by which the Trees and Stones were animated; in Spite of the Sense which *Horace* puts upon the Stories of *Orpheus* and *Amphion*. But this Question shall be considered presently. Again he says, "'Tis agreed by the Learned, that the Science of Musick, so admired of the Ancients, is wholly lost in the World, and that what we have now, is made up out of certain Notes that fell into the Fancy or Observation of a poor Friar, in chanting his Mattins. So that those Two divine Excellencies of *Musick* and *Poetry*, are grown in a Manner, but the one *Fiddling* and the other *Rhyming*, and are indeed very worthy the Ignorance of the *Friar*, and the Barbarousness of the *Goths* that introduced them among us." Some learned Men indeed have said so; but as learned have said otherwise: And for the Description Sir *William* gives of the modern *Musick*, it is the poorest Thing ever was said, and demonstrates the Author's utter Ignorance of Musick: Did he know what Use *Guido* made of these Notes? He means the Syllables, *ut, re, mi, &c.* for these are the Notes he invented. If the modern Musick falls short of the ancient,  
it

it must be in the Use and Application ; for the Materials and Principles of *Harmony* are the same Thing, or rather they are improv'd ; for *Guido's* Scale to which he applied these Syllables, is the ancient *Greek* Scale only carried to a greater Extent ; and which is much improv'd since.

As I have stated the Question, we are first to compare the *Principles* and then the *Practice*. As to the *Principles* I have already explained them pretty largely, at least as far as they have come to our Knowledge, by the Writings on this Subject that have escap'd the Wrack of Time. Nor is there any great Reason to suspect that the best are lost, or that what we have are but Sketches of their Writings : For we have not a few Authors of them, and these written at different Times ; and some of them at good Length ; and by their Introductions they propose to handle the Subject in all its Parts and Extent, and have actually treated of them all.

MEIBOMIUS, no Enemy to the ancient Cause, speaking of *Aristides*, calls him, *Incomparabilis antiquæ musicæ Auctor, & vere exemplar unicum*, who, he says, has taught and explained all that was ever known or taught before him, in all the Parts' We have *Aristoxenus* ; and for what was written before him, he affirms to have been very deficient : Nor do the later Writers ever complain of the Loss of any valuable Author that was before them.

Now I suppose it will be manifest to the unprejudic'd, who consider what has been explained

plained both of the ancient and modern Principles and Theory of *Harmonicks*, that they have not known more of it than we do, plainly because we know all theirs; and that we have improv'd upon their Foundation, will be as plain from the Accounts I have given of both, and the Comparifon I have drawn all along in explaining the *ancient Theory*; therefore I need infift no more upon this Part. The great Difpute is about the Practice.

To underftand the ancient *Practice* of *Mufick*, we are firft to confider what the Name fignified with them. I have already explained its various Significations; and fhewn, that in the moft particular Senfe, *Mufick* included thefe Three Things, *Harmony*, *Rythmus* and *Verfe*: If there needs any Thing to be added, take thefe few Authorities. In *Plato's* firft *Alcibiades*, *Socrates* asks what he calls that Art which teaches to *ſing*, *play* on the *Harp*, and *dance*? and makes him Anfwer, *Mufick*: But ſinging among them was never without *Verfe*. This is again confirmed by *Plutarch*, who ſays, “ That in  
 “ judging of the Parts of *Mufick*, Reason and  
 “ Senfe muſt be employed; for theſe three  
 “ muſt always meet in our Hearing, *viz.* *Sound*,  
 “ whereby we perceive *Harmony*; *Time*,  
 “ whereby we perceive *Rythmus*; and *Letters*  
 “ or *Syllables*, by which we underftand what  
 “ is ſaid.” Therefore we reaſonably conclude, that their *Mufick* conſiſted of *Verfes* ſung by one or more *Voices*, alternately, or in *Choirs*; ſometimes

times with the Sound of Instruments, and sometimes by Voices only ; and whether they had any *Musick* without Singing, shall be again considered.

LET us now consider what *Idea* their Writers give us of the *practical Musick* : I don't speak of the Effects, which shall be examined again; but of the *practical Art*. This we may expect, if 'tis to be found at all, from the Authors who write *ex professo* upon Musick, and pretend to explain it in all its Parts. I have already shewn, that they make the *musical Faculties* (as they call them) these, *viz.* *Melopœia*, *Rythmopœia*, and *Poesis*. For the *First*, to make the Comparison right, I shall consider it under these Two Heads, *Melody* and *Symphony*, and begin with the last. I have observed, in explaining the Principles of the ancient *Melopœia*, that it contains nothing but what relates to the Conduct of a single Voice, or making what we call *Melody*: There is not the least Word of the *Concert* or *Harmony* of Parts ; from which there is very great Reason to conclude, that this was no Part of the ancient Practice, and is altogether a modern Invention, and a noble one too; the first Rudiments of which I have already said we owe to that same poor Friar (as Sir *William Temple* calls him) *Guido Aretinus*. But that there be no Difference about mere Words, observe, that the Question is not, Whether the Ancients ever joyned more Voices or Instruments together in one *Symphony* ; but, whether several Voices were joyned, so as each had

had a distinct and proper *Melody*, which made among them a Succession of various *Concords*; and were not in every Note *Unisons*, or at the same Distance from each other, as *8ves*? which last will agree to the general Signification of the Word *Symphonia*; yet 'tis plain, that in such Cases there is but one Song, and all the Voices perform the same individual *Melody*; but when the *Parts* differ, not by the Tension of the Whole, but by the different Relations of the successive Notes, This is the modern Art that requires so peculiar a Genius, and good Judgment, in which therefore 'tis so difficult to succeed well. The ancient *Harmonick* Writers, in their Rules and Explications of the *Melopaia*, speak nothing of this Art: They tell us, that the *Melopaia* is the Art of making Songs; or more generally, that it is the Use of all the Parts and Principles that are the Subjects of *harmonical Contemplation*. Now is it at all probable, that so considerable an Use of these Principles was known among the Ancients, and yet never once mentioned by those who professed to write of *Musick* in all its Parts? Shall we think these concealed it, because they envied Posterity so valuable an Art? Or, was it the Difficulty of explaining it that made them silent? They might at least have said there was such an Art; the Definition of it is easy enough: Is it like the rest of their Conduct to neglect any Thing that might redound in any Degree to their own Praise and Glory? Since we find no Notice of this  
Art

Art under the *Melopœia*, I think we cannot expect it in any other Part. If any Body should think to find it in the Part that treats of *Systems*, because that expresses a Composition of several Things, they'll be disappointed: For these Authors have considered Systems only as greater *Intervals* betwixt whose Extremes other Notes are placed, dividing them into lesser *Intervals*, in such Manner as a single Voice may pass agreeably from the one Extreme to the other. But in distinguishing *Systems* they tell us, some are *συμφωνα* some *διαφωνα*, *i. e.* some *consonant* some *dissonant*: Which Names expressed the Quality of these *Systems*, *viz.* that of the first, the Extremes are fit to be heard together, and the other not; and if they were not used in Consonance, may some say, these Names are wrong applied: But tho' they signified that Quality, it will not prove they were used in Consonance, at least in the modern Way: Besides, when they speak plainly and expressly of their Use in Succession or *Melody*, they use the same Names, to signify their Agreement: And if they were used in Consonance in the Manner described, why have we not at least some general Rules to guide us in the Practice? Or rather, does not their Silence in this demonstrate there was no such Practice? But tho' there is nothing to be found in those who have written more fully and expressly on Musick, yet the Advocates for the ancient Musick find Demonstration enough, they think, in some Passages of Authors that have given transient Descriptions of Musick:

But

But if these Passages are capable of any other good Sense than they put upon them, I think the Silence of the professed Writers on *Musick* will undoubtedly cast the Balance on that Side. To do all Justice to the Argument, I shall produce the principal and fullest of these Kind of Passages in their Authors Words. *Aristotle* in his Treatise concerning the World, *περι κοσμου, Lib. 5.* answers that Question, If the World is made of contrary Principles, how comes it that it is not long ago dissolved? He shews that the Beauty and Perfection of it consists in the admirable Mixture and Temperament of different Things, and among his Illustrations brings in *Musick* thus, *Μεσικὴ δὲ ὀξεῖς ἅμα καὶ βαρεῖς, μακρὺς τε καὶ βραχεῖς Φθόγγες μίξασα, ἐν διαφόραις Φωναῖς, μίαν ἀπετέλεσεν ἁρμονίαν,* which the Translators justly render thus, *Musica acutis & gravibus sonis, longisque & brevibus una permixtis in diversis vocibus, unum ex illis concentum reddit, i. e. Musick,* by a Mixture of acute and grave, also of long and short Sounds of different Voices, yields one absolute or perfect Concert. Again, in *Lib. 6.* explaining the Harmony of the celestial Motions, where each Orb, says he, has its own proper Motion, yet all tend to one harmonious End, as they also proceed from one Principle, making a *Choir* in the Heavens by their Concord, and he carries on the Comparison with *Musick* thus: *Καθὰπερ δὲ ἐν χορῶ κορυφαῖς καταρξάντες, συνεπηχεῖ πᾶς ὁ χορὸς ἀνδρῶν ἔθ' ὅτε καὶ γυναικῶν ἐν διαφόραις Φωναῖς ὀξυτέραις καὶ βαρυτέραις μίαν ἁρμονίαν ἐμμελῆ κεραινῶντων.*

ὁμοῦ. *Quemadmodum fit in Choro, ut auspicianti præfili aut præcentori, accinat omnis chorus, e viris interdum fœminisque compositus, qui diversis ipsis vocibus, gravibus scilicet & acutis concentum attemperant. i. e.* As in a Choir, after the *Præcentor* the whole Choir sings, composed sometimes of Men and Women, who by the different Acuteness and Gravity of their Voices, make one *concinuous* Harmony.

LET *Seneca* appear next, *Epistle 84. Non vides quam multorum vocibus Chorus constet? Unustamen ex omnibus sonus redditur, aliqua illic acuta est, aliqua gravis, aliqua media. Accedunt viris fœminæ, interponuntur tibiæ, singulorum latent voces, omnium apparent. i. e.* Don't you see of how many Voices the *Chorus* consists? yet they make but one Sound: In it some are acute, some grave, and some middle: Women are joyned with Men, and Whistles also put in among them: Each single Voice is concealed, yet the Whole is manifest.

CASSIODORUS says, *Symphonia est temperamentum sonitus gravis ad acutum, vel acuti ad gravem, modulamen efficiens, sive in voce sive in percussione, sive in flatu. i. e.* Symphony is an Adjustment of a grave Sound to an acute, or an acute to a grave, making *Melody*.

Now the most that can be made of these Passages is, That the Ancients used *Choirs* of several Voices differing in Acuteness and Gravity; which was never denied: But the Whole of these Definitions will be fully answered, supposing

posing they fung all the same *Part* or *Song* only in different *Tensions*, as *8ve* in every *Note*. And from what was premised I think there is Reason to believe this to be the only true Meaning.

BUT there are other considerable Things to be said that will put this Question beyond all reasonable Doubt. The Word *Harmonia* signifies more generally the Agreement of several Things that make up one Whole; but so do several Sounds in Succession make up one *Song*, which is in a very proper Sense a *Composition*; And in this Sense we have in *Plato* and others several Comparisons to the *Harmony* of Sounds in *Musick*. But 'tis also used in the strict Sense for *Consonance*, and so is equivalent to the Word *Symphonia*. Now we shall make *Aristotle* clear his own Meaning in the Passages adduced; He uses *Symphonia* to express Two Kinds of *Consonance*; the one, which he calls by the general Name *Symphonia*, is the *Consonance* of Two Voices that are in every *Note unison*, and the other, which he calls *Antiphonia*, of Two Voices that are in every *Note 8ve*: In his *Problems*, § 19. *Prob.* 16. He asks why *Symphonia* is not as agreeable as *Antiphonia*; and answers, because in *Symphonia* the one Voice being altogether like or as *One* with the other, they eclipse one another. The *Symphoni* here plainly must signify *Unisons*, and he explains it elsewhere by calling them *Omophoni*: And that the *8ve* is the *Antiphoni* is plain, for it was a common Name to *8ve*; and *Aristotle* himself

explains the *Antiphoni* by the Voice of a Boy and a Man that are as *Nete* and *Hypate*, which were *8ve* in *Pythagoras's* Lyre. Again, I own he is not speaking here of *Unison* and *8ve* simply considered, but as used in *Song*: And tho' in modern *Symphonies* it is also true, that *Unison* cannot be so frequently used with as good Effect as *8ve*, yet his Meaning is plainly this, *viz.* that when Two Voices sing together one Song, 'tis more agreeable that they be *8ve* than *unison* with one another, in every Note: This I prove from the 17th *Probl.* in which he asks why *Diapente* and *Diateffaron* are never sung as the *Antiphoni*? He answers, because the *Antiphoni*, or Sounds of *8ve*, are in a Manner both the same and different Voices; and by this Likeness, where at the same Time each keeps its own distinct Character, we are better pleased: Therefore he affirms, that the *8ve* only can be sung in *Symphony* (*διὰ πασῶν συμφωνία μόνη ἄδεται.*) Now that by this he means such a *Symphony* as I have explained, is certain, because in modern *Counterpoint* the 4th, and especially the 5th are indispensable; and indeed the 5th with its Two 3ds, are the Life of the Whole. Again, in *Probl.* 18. he asks why why the *Diapason* only is *magadised*? And answers, because its Terms are the only *Antiphoni*: Now that this signifies a Manner of Singing, where the Sounds are in every Note *8ve* to one another, is plain from this Word *magadised*, taken from the Name of an Instrument *μαγάδιος*, in which Two Strings were always struck toge-

together for one Note. *Athenæus* makes the *Magadis* the same with the *Barbiton* and *Pectis*; and *Horace* makes the Muse *Polyhymnia* the Inventor of the *Barbiton*. — *Nec Polyhymnia Lesboum refugit tendere Barbiton*. — And from the Nature of this Instrument, that it had Two Strings to every Note, some think it probable the Name *Polyhymnia* was deduced. *Athenæus* reports from *Anacreon*, that the *Magadis* had Twenty Chords; which is a Number sufficient to make us allow they were doubled; so that it had in all Ten Notes: Now anciently they had but Three Tones or Modes, and each extended only to an 8ve. and being a Tone asunder, required precisely Ten Chords; therefore *Athenæus* corrects *Possidonius* for saying the Twenty Chords were all distinct Notes, and necessary for the Three Modes. But he further confirms this Point by a Citation from the Comick Poet *Alexandrides*, who takes a Comparison from the *Magadis*, and says, *I am, like the Magadis, about to make you understand a Thing that is at the same Time both sublime and low*; which proves that Two Strings were struck together, and that they were not *unison*. He reports also the Opinion of the Poet *Jon*, that the *Magadis* consisted of Two Flutes, which were both sounded together. From all this 'tis plain, That by *magadised*, *Aristotle* means such a Consonance of Sounds as to be in every Note at the same Distance, and consequently to be without *Symphony* and Parts according to the modern Practice. *Athenæus* reports also

of *Pindar*, that he called the Musick sung by a Boy and a Man *Magadis*; because they sung together the same Song in Two *Modes*. Mr. *Perault* concludes from this, that the Strings of the *Magadis* were sometimes 3ds, because *Aristotle* says, the 4th and 5th are never *magadised*: But why may not *Pindar* mean that they were at an 8ve's Distance; for certainly *Aristotle* used that Comparison of a Boy and a Man to express an 8ve: Mr. *Perault* thinks it must be a 3d because of the Word *Mode*, whereof anciently there were but Three; and confirms it by a Passage out of *Horace*, *Epod. 9. Sonante mistum tibiis carmen lyra; hac Dorium illis Barbarum*: By the *Barbarum*, says he, is to be understood the *Lydian*, which was a *Ditone* above the *Dorian*: But the Difficulty is, that the Ancients reckoned the *Ditone* at best a *concinuous Discord*; and therefore 'tis not probable they would use it in so remarkable a Manner: But we have enough of this. The Author last named observes, that the Ancients probably had a Kind of simple Harmony, in which Two or Three Notes were tuned to the principal Chords of the *Key*, and accompanied the Song. This he thinks probable from the Name of an Instrument *Pandora* that *Athenæus* mentions; which is likely the same with the *Mandora*, an Instrument not very long ago used, says he, in which there were Four Strings, whereof one served for the Song, and was struck by a *Plectrum* or Quill tied to the Forefinger: The other Three were tuned

so as Two of them were an 8ve, and the other a Middle dividing the 8ve into a 4th and 5th: They were struck by the Thumb, and this regulated by the *Rythmus* or Measure of the Song, i. e. Four Strokes for every Measure of common Time, and Three for Triple. He thinks *Horace* points out the Manner of this Instrument in *Ode* 6. *Lesbium servate pedem, meique pollicis ictum*, which he thus translates. *Take Notice, you who would joyn your Voice to the Sound of my Lyre, that the Measure of my Song is Sapphick, which the striking of my Thumb marks out to you.* This Instrument is parallel to our common Bagpipe.

THE Passages of *Aristotle* being thus cleared, I think *Seneca* and *Cassiodorus* may be easily given up. *Seneca* speaks of *vox media*, as well as *acuta* and *gravis*; but this can signify nothing, but that there might be Two 8ves, one betwixt the Men and Women, and the shrill *Tibia* might be 8ve above the Women: But then the latter Part of what he says destroys their Cause; for *singulorum voces latent* can very well be said of such as sing the same Melody *Unison* or *Octave*, but would by no Means be true of several Voices performing a modern *Symphony*, where every Part is conspicuous, with a perfect Harmony in the Whole. For *Cassiodorus*, I think what he says has no Relation to *Consonance*, and therefore I have translated it, *An Adjustment of a grave Sound to an acute, or an acute to a grave making Melody*: If it be alledged that *temperamentum* may signifie a Mixture, I shall

yield it ; but then he ought to have said, *Temperamentum sonitus gravis & acuti* ; for what means *sonitus gravis ad acutum*, and again *acuti ad gravem* ? But in the other Case this is well enough, for he means, That Melody may consist either in a Progress from acute to grave, or contrarily : And then the Word *Modulamen* was never applied any other way than to successive Sounds. There is another Passage which *Is. Vossius* cites from *Ælian the Platonick*, Συμφωνία δε ἐστὶ δυοῖν ἢ πλειόνων φθόγων ὁξύτητι καὶ βαρύτητι διαφερόντων κατὰ τὸ αὐτὸ πῶσις καὶ κρᾶσις, i. e. Symphony consists of Two or more Sounds differing in Acuteness and Gravity, with the same Cadence and Temperament: But this rather adds another Proof that what Symphonies they had were only of several Voices singing the same *Melody* only in a different Tone.

AFTER such evident Demonstrations, I think there needs no more to be said to prove that *Symphonies* of different *Parts* are a modern Improvement. From their rejecting the 3<sup>ds</sup> and 6<sup>ths</sup> out of the Number of *Concords*, the small Extent of their System being only Two *Octaves*, and having no Tone divided but that betwixt *Mese* and *Paramese*, we might argue that they had no different *Parts* : For tho' some simple Compositions of Parts might be contrived with these Principles, yet 'tis hard to think they would lay the Foundations of that Practice, and carry it no further ; and much harder to believe they would never speak one Word of such an Art and Practice, where they profess to explain all the

the Parts of *Musick*. But for the *Symphonies* which we allow them to have had, you'll ask why these Writers don't speak of them, and why it seems so incredible that they should have had the other Kind without being ever mention'd, when they don't mention these we allow? The Reason is plain, because the *Musician's* Business was only to compose the *Melody*, and therefore they wanted only Rules about that; but there was no Rule required to teach how several Voices might joyn in the same Song, for there is no Art in it: Experience taught them that this might be done in *Unison* or *Octave*; and pray what had the Writers more to say about it? But the modern *Symphony* is a quite different Thing, and needs much to be explain'd both by Rules and Examples. But 'tis Time to make an End of this Point: I shall only add, That if plain *Reason* needs any Authority to support it, I can adduce many Moderns of Character, who make no Doubt to say, That after all their Pains to know the true State of the ancient *Musick*, they could not find the least Ground to believe there was any such Thing in these Days as *Musick* in *Parts*. I have nam'd *Perrault*, and shall only add to him *Kircher* and Doctor *Wallis*, Authors of great Capacity and infinite Industry.

OUR next Comparison shall be of the *Melody* of the Ancients and Moderns; and here comes in what's necessary to be said on the other Parts of *Musick*, viz. the *Rythmus* and *Verse*. In order to this Comparison, I shall distinguish  
*Melody*

*Melody* into *vocal* and *instrumental*. By the first I mean *Musick* set to Words, especially Verses; and by the other *Musick* composed only for Instruments without Singing. For the *vocal* you see by the Definition that *Poetry* makes a necessary Part of it: This was not only of ancient Practice, but the chief, if not their only Practice, as appears from their Definitions of *Musick* already explain'd. 'Tis not to be expected that I should make any Comparison of the ancient and modern Poetry; 'tis enough for my Purpose to observe, That there are admirable Performances in both; and if we come short of them, I believe 'tis not for want either of Genius or Application: But perhaps we shall be obliged to own that the *Greek* and *Latin* Languages were better contrived for pleasing the Ear. We are next to consider, that the *Rythmus* of their *vocal Musick* was only that of the Poetry, depending altogether on the Verse, and had no other Forms or Variety than what the metrical Art afforded: This has been already shewn, particularly in explaining their musical Notes; to which add, That under the Head of *Mutations*, those who consider the *Rythmus* make the Changes of it no other than from one Kind of *metrum* or *Verse* to another, as from *Jambick* to *Choraick*: And we may notice too, That in the more general Sense, the *Rythmus* includes also their Dancings, and all the theatrical Action. I conclude therefore that their *vocal Musick* consisted of Verses, set to *musical Tones*, and sung by one or more

Voices

Voices in Choirs or alternately ; sometimes with and also without the Accompaniment of Instruments: To which we may add, from the last Article, That their Symphonies consisted only of several Voices performing the same Song in different Tones as *Unison* and *Octave*. For *instrumental Musick* (as I have defined it) 'tis not so very plain that they used any : And if they did, 'tis more than probable the *Rythmus* was only an Imitation of the poetical Numbers, and consisted of no other Measures than what were taken from the Variety and Kinds of their Verses ; of which they pretended a sufficient Variety for expressing any Subject according to its Nature and Property: And since the chief Design of their *Musick* seems to have been to move the Heart and Passions, they needed no other *Rythmus*. I cannot indeed deny that there are many Passages which fairly insinuate their Practice upon Instruments without Singing; so *Athenæus* says, *The Synaulia was a Contest of Pipes performing alternately without singing*. And *Quintilian* hath this Expression, *If the Numbers and Airs of Musick have such a Virtue, how much more ought eloquent Words to have ?* That is to say, the other has Virtue or Power to move us, without Respect to the Words. But if they had any *Rythmus* for instrumental Performances, which was different from that of their *poetical Measures*, how comes it to pass that those Authors who have been so full in explaining the Signs by which their Notes of *Musick* were represented, speak

not a Word of the Signs of Time for Instruments? Whatever be in this, it must be owned that Singing with Words was the most ancient Practice of *Musick*, and the Practice of their more solemn and perfect Entertainments, as appears from all the Instances above adduced, to prove the ancient Use and Esteem of *Musick*: And that it was the universal and common Practice, even with the Vulgar, appears by the pastoral Dialogues of the Poets, where the Contest is ordinarily about their Skill in *Musick*, and chiefly in Singing.

LET us next consider what the present Practice (among *Europeans* at least) consists of. We have, *first*, *vocal Musick*; and this differs from the ancient in these Respects, *viz.* That the Constitution of the *Rythmus* is different from that of the Verse, so far, that in setting Musick to Words, the Thing principally minded is, to accommodate the long and short Notes to the Syllables in such Manner, as the Words may be well separated, and the accented Syllable of every Word so conspicuous, that what is sung may be distinctly understood: The Movement and Measure is also suited to the different Subjects, for which the Variety of Notes, and the Constitutions or Modes of Time explained in *Chap.* 12. afford sufficient means. Then we differ from the Ancients in our instrumental Accompaniments, which compose Symphonies with the Voice, some in *Unison*, others making a distinct *Melody*; which produces a ravishing Entertainment they were not blest with, or at least with

without which we should think ours imperfect. Then there is a delightful Mixture of pure instrumental Symphonies, performed alternately with the Song. *Lastly*, We have Compositions fitted altogether for Instruments: The Design whereof is not so much to move the Passions, as to entertain the Mind and please the Fancy with a Variety of Harmony and *Rythmus*; the principal Effect of which is to raise Delight and Admiration. This is the plain State of the ancient and modern *Musick*, in respect of Practice: But to determine which of them is most perfect, will not perhaps be so easily done to satisfy every Body. Tho' we believe theirs to have been excellent in its Kind, and to have had noble Effects; this will not please some, unless we acknowledge ours to be barbarous, and altogether ineffectual. The Effects are indeed the true Arguments; but how shall we compare these, when there remain no Examples of ancient Composition to judge by? so that the Defenders of the ancient *Musick* admire a Thing they don't know; and in all Probability judge not of the modern by their personal Acquaintance with it, but by their Fondness for their own Notions. Those who study our *Musick*, and have well tuned Ears, can bear Witness to its noble Effects: Yet perhaps it will be replied, *That this proceeds from a bad Taste, and something natural, in applauding the best Thing we know of any Kind.* But let any Body produce a better, and we shall heartily applaud it. They bid us bring back the ancient *Musicians*,  
and

and then they'll effectually shew us the Difference; and we bid them learn to understand the *modern Musick*, and believe their own Senses: In short we think we have better Reason to determine in our own Favours, from the Effects we actually feel, than any Body can have from a Thing they have no Experience of, and can pretend to know no other Way than by Report: But we shall consider the Pretences of each Party a little nearer. I have already observed, that the principal End the Ancients proposed in their *Musick*, was to move the Passions; and to this purpose Poetry was a necessary Ingredient. We have no Dispute about the Power of poetical Compositions to affect the Heart, and move the Passions, by such a strong and lively Representation of their proper Objects, as that noble Art is capable of: The Poetry of the Ancients we own is admirable; and their Verses being sung with harmonious Cadences and Modulati- ons, by a clear and sweet Voice, supported by the agreeable Sound of some Instrument, in such Manner that the Hearer understood every Word that was said, which was all delivered with a proper Action, *that is*, Pronunciation and Gestures suitable to, or expressive of the Subject, as we also suppose the Kind of Verse, and the Modulation applied to it was; taking their vocal *Musick* in this View, we make no Doubt that it had admirable Effects in exciting Love, Pity, Anger, Grief, or any Thing else the Poet had a Mind to: But then they must be allowed to affirm, who pretend to have the Experience of it,

it, That the modern *Musick* taking it in the same Senſe, has all theſe Effects. *Whatever Truth* may be in it, I ſhall paſs what Doctor *Wallis* alledges, *viz. That theſe ancient Effects were moſt remarkably produced upon Ruſticks, and at a Time when Muſick was new, or a very rare Thing*: But I cannot however miſs to obſerve with him, That the Paſſions are eaſily wrought upon. The deliberate Reading of a Romance well written will produce Tears, Joy, or Indignation, if one gives his Imaginations a Loofe; but much more powerfully when attended with the Things mentioned: So that it can't be thought ſo very myſterious and wonderful an Art to excite Paſſion, as that it ſhould be quite loſt. Our Poets are capable to expreſs any moving Story in a very pathetick Manner: Our *Muſicians* too know how to apply a ſuitable Modulation and *Rythmus*: And we have thoſe who can put the Whole in Execution; ſo that a Heart capable of being moved will be forced to own the wonderful Power of *modern Muſick*: The *Italian* and *English* Theatres afford ſufficient Proof of this; ſo that I believe, were we to collect Examples of the Effects that the acting of *modern Tragedies* and *Operas* have produced, there would be no Reason to ſay we had loſt the Art of exciting Paſſion. But 'tis needleſs to inſiſt on a Thing which ſo many know by their own Experience. If ſome are obſtinate to affirm, *That we are ſtill behind the Ancients in this Art, becauſe they have never felt ſuch Effects of it*; I ſhall aſk them if they

they think every Temper and Mind among the Ancients was equally disposed to relish, and be moved by the same Things? If Tempers differed then, why may they not now, and yet the Art be at least as powerful as ever? Again have we not as good Reason to believe those who affirm they feel this Influence, as you who say you have never experienced it? And if you put the Matter altogether upon the Authority of others, pray, is not the Testimony of the Living for the one, as good as that of the Dead for the other?

BUT still there are Wonders pretended to have been performed by the ancient *Musick*, which we can produce nothing like; such as those amazing Transports of Mind, and hurrying of Men from one Passion to another, all on a sudden, like the moving of a Machine, of which we have so many Examples in History, See Page 495. For these I shall answer, That what we reckon incredible in them may justly be laid upon the Historians, who frequently aggravate Things beyond what's strictly true, or even their Credulity in receiving them upon weak Grounds; and most of these Stories are delivered to us by Writers who were not themselves Witnesses of them, and had them only by Tradition and common Report. If nothing like this had ever been justly objected to the ancient Historians, I should think my self obliged to find another Answer: But since 'tis so, we may be allowed to doubt of these Facts, or suspect at least that they are in a great Degree *hyperbolical*. Consider but the

Circumstances of some of them as they are told, and if they are literally true, and can be accounted for no other Way but by the Power of Sound, I must own they had an Art which is lost: For *Example*, the quelling of a Sedition; let us represent to our selves a furious Rabble, envenomed with Discontent, and enraged with Oppression; or let the Grounds of their Rebellion be as imaginary as you please, still we must consider them as all in a Flame; suppose next they are attacked by a skilful Musician, who addresses them with his Pipe or Lyre; how likely is it that he shall perswade them by a Song to return to their Obedience, and lay down their Arms? Or rather how probable is it that he may be torn to Pieces, as a solemn Mocker of their just Resentment? But that I may allow some Foundation for such a Story, I shall suppose a Man of great Authority for Virtue, Wisdom and the Love of Mankind, comes to offer his humble and affectionate Advice to such a Company; I suppose too, he delivers it in Verse, and perhaps sings it to the Sound of his Lyre, (which seems to have been a common Way of delivering publick Exhortations in more ancient Times, the *Musick* being used as a Means to gain their Attention.) I don't think it impossible that this Man may perswade them to Peace, by representing the Danger they run, aggravating the Mischief they are like to bring upon themselves and the Society, or also correcting the false Views they may have had of Things. But then will any Body say, all this

is the proper Effect of *Musick*, unless Reasoning be also a Part of it? And must this be an *Example* of the Perfection of the ancient Art, and its Preference to ours? In the same Manner may other Instances alledged be accounted for, such as *Pythagoras's* diverting a young Man from the Execution of a wicked Design, the Reconcilement of Two inveterate Enemies, the curing of *Clytemnestra's* vicious Inclinations, &c. *Horace's* Explication of the Stories of *Orpheus* and *Amphion*, makes it probable we ought to explain all the rest the same Way. For the Story of *Timotheus* and *Alexander*, as commonly represented, it is indeed a very wonderful one, but I doubt we must here allow something to the Boldness or Credulity of the Historian: That *Timotheus*, by singing to his Lyre, with moving Gesture and Pronunciation, a well composed Poem of the Atchievements of some renowned Hero, as *Achilles*, might awaken *Alexander's* natural Passion for warlike Glory, and make him express his Satisfaction with the Entertainment in a remarkable Manner, is nowise incredible: We are to consider too the Fondness he had for the *Iliad*, which would dispose him to be moved with any particular Story out of that: But how he should forget himself so far, as to commit Violence on his best Friend, is not so easily accounted for, unless we suppose him at that Time as much under the Power of *Bacchus* as of the *Muses*: And that a softer Theme sung with equal Art, should please a Hero who was not

not insensible of *Venus's* Influences is no Mystery, especially when his Mistress was in Company: But there is nothing here above the Power of modern *Poetry* and *Musick*, where it meets with a Subject the same Way disposed, to be wrought upon. To make an End of this, I must observe, that the Historians, by saying too much, have given us Ground to believe very little. What do you think of curing a raging Pestilence by *Musick*? For curing the Bites of Serpents, we cannot so much doubt it, since that of the *Tarantula* has been cured in *Italy*. But then they have no Advantage in this Instance: And we must mind too that this Cure is not performed by exquisite Art and Skill in *Musick*; it does not require a *Correlli* or *Valentini*, but is performed by Strains discovered by random Trials without any Rule: And this will serve for an Answer to all that's alledged of the Cure of Diseases by the ancient *Musick*.

'Tis Time to bring this Comparison to an End; and after what's explained I shall make no Difficulty to own, that I think the State of *Musick* is much more perfect now than it was among the ancient *Greeks* and *Romans*. The Art of *Musick*, and the true Science of *Harmony* in Sounds is greatly improv'd. I have allow'd their *Musick* (including Poetry and the theatrical Action) to have been very moving; but at the same Time I must say, their *Melody* has been a very simple Thing, as their *System* or *Scale* plainly shews, whose Difference from the modern I have already explained.

And the confining all their *Rythmus* to the poetical Numbers, is to me another Proof of it, and shews that there has been little Air in their *Musick*; which by this appears to have been only of the recitative Kind, *that is*, only a more *musical* Speaking, or *modulated* Elocution; the Character of which is to come near Nature, and be only an Improvement of the natural Accents of Words by more pathetick or emphatical *Tones*; the Subject whereof may be either Verse or Prose. And as to their Instruments of *Musick*, for any Thing that appears certain and plain to us, they have been very simple. Indeed the publick Laws in *Greece* gave Check to the Improvement of the Art of *Harmony*, because they forbade all Innovations in the primitive simple *Musick*; of which there are abundance of Testimonies, some whereof have been mentioned in this *Chapter*, and I shall add what *Plato* says in his *Treatise* of the Laws, *viz.* That they entertain'd not in the City the Makers of such Instruments as have many Strings, as the *Trigonus* and *Pectis*; but the *Lyra* and *Cithara* they used, and allowed also some simple *Fistulae* in the Country. But 'tis certain, that primitive Simplicity was altered; so that from a very few Strings, they used a greater Number: But there is much Uncertainty about the Use of them, as whether it was for mixing their *Modes*, and the *Genera*, or for striking Two Chords together as in the *Magadis*. Since I have mentioned *Instruments*, I must observe Two Things, *First*, That they pretend to have had *Tibiae* of

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different Kinds, whose specifick Sounds were excellently chosen for expressing different Subjects. Then, there is a Description of the *Organum hydraulicum* in *Tertullian*, which some adduce to prove how perfect their Instruments were. --- *Spēcta portentosam Archimedis munificentiam ; organum hydraulicum dico, tot membra, tot partes, tot compagine, tot itinera vocum, tot compendia sonorum, tot commercia modorum, tot acies tiliarum, & una moles erunt omnia ;* where he had learnt this pompous Description of it I know not ; for one can get but a very obscure *Idea* of it from *Vitruvius*, even after *Kircher* and *Vossius's* Explications. But I hope it will not be pretended to have been more perfect than our modern Organs: And what have they to compare of the stringed Kind, with our Harpsichords; and all the Instruments that are struck with a Bow ?

AFTER all, if our *Melody* or Songs are only equal to the Ancients, I hope the Art of *Musick* is not lost as some pretend. But then, what an Improvement in the Knowledge of pure *Harmony* has been made, since the Introduction of the modern *Symphonies*? Here it is, that the Mind is ravished with the Agreement of Things seemingly contrary to one another. We have here a Kind of Imitation of the Works of Nature, where different Things are wonderfully joyned in one harmonious Unity : And as some Things appear at first View the farthest removed from Symmetry and Order, which from the Course of Things we learn to be absolutely necessary for the Perfecti-

on and Beauty of the Whole ; so *Discords* being artfully mixed with *Concords*, make a more perfect Composition, which surprises us with Delight. If the Mind is naturally pleased with perceiving of Order and Proportion, with comparing several Things together, and discerning in the midst of a seeming Confusion, the most perfect and exact Disposition and united Agreement; then the modern *Concerts* must undoubtedly be allowed to be Entertainments worthy of our Natures : And with the Harmony of the Whole we must consider the surprising Variety of Air, which the modern *Constitutions* and *Modes* of *Time* or *Rythmus* afford ; by which, in our instrumental Performances, the Sense and Imagination are so mightily charmed. Now, this is an Application of Musick to a quite different Purpose from that of moving Passion : But is it reasonable upon that Account, to call it idle and insignificant, as some do, who I therefore suspect are ignorant of it ? It was certainly a noble Use of *Musick* to make it subservient to Morality and Virtue ; and if we apply it less that Way, I believe 'tis because we have less Need of such Allurements to our Duty : But whatever be the Reason of this, 'tis enough to the present Argument, that our *Musick* is at least not inferior to the ancient in the pathetick Kind : And if it be not a low and unworthy Thing for us to be pleased with Proportion and Harmony, in which there is properly an intellectual Beauty, then it must be confessed, that the modern *Musick* is more perfect than the ancient. But why must

must the moving of particular Passions be the only Use of *Musick*? If we look upon a noble Building, or a curious Painting, we are allowed to admire the Design, and view all its Proportions and Relation of Parts with Pleasure to our Understandings, without any respect to the Passions. We must observe again, that there is scarce any Piece of *Melody* that has not some general Influence upon the Heart; and by being more sprightly or heavy in its Movements, will have different Effects; tho' it is not designed to excite any particular Passion, and can only be said in general to give Pleasure, and recreate the Mind. But why should we dispute about a Thing which only Strangers to *Musick* can speak ill of? And for the *Harmony* of different Parts, the Defenders of the ancient *Musick* own it to be a valuable Art, by their contending for its being ancient: Let me therefore again affirm, that the *Moderns* have wonderfully improved the Art of *Musick*. It must be acknowledged indeed, that to judge well, and have a true Relish of our more elaborate and complex *Musick*, or to be sensible of its Beauty, and taken with it, requires a peculiar Genius, and much Experience, without which it will seem only a confused Noise; but I hope this is no Fault in the Thing. If one altogether ignorant of Painting looks upon the most curious Piece, wherein he finds nothing extraordinary moving to him, because the Excellency of it may ly in the Design and admirable Proportion and Situation of the Parts which he takes no Notice of: Must we there-

fore say, it has nothing valuable in it, and capable to give Pleasure to a better Judge? What, in *Musick* or *Painting*, would seem intricate and confused, and so give no Satisfaction to the unskilled, will ravish with Admiration and Delight, one who is able to unravel all the Parts, observe their Relations and the united *Concord* of the Whole. But now, if this be such a real and valuable Improvement in *Musick*, you'll ask, How it can be thought the Ancients could be ignorant of it, and satisfy themselves with such a simple *Musick*, when we consider their great Perfection in the Sister Arts of Poetry and Painting, and all other Sciences. I shall answer this by asking again, How it comes that the Ancients left us any thing to invent or improve? And how comes it that different Ages and Nations have Genius and Fondness for different Things. The Ancients studied only how to move the Heart, to which a great many Things necessarily concurred, as *Words*, *Tune* and *Action*; and by these we can still produce the same Effects; but we have also a new Art, whose End is rather to entertain the Understanding, than to move particular Passions. What Connection there is betwixt their improving other Sciences and this, is not so plain as to make any certain Conclusion from it. And as to their *Painting*, there have been very good Reasons alledged to prove, That they followed the same Taste there as in the *Musick*, *i. e.* the simple obvious Beauties, of which every Body might judge and be sensible. Their End was to please and move the People, which is

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better done by the Senses and the Heart than by the Understanding ; and when they found sufficient Means to accomplish this, why should we wonder that they proceeded no further, especially when to have gone much beyond, would likely have losed their Design. But, say you, this looks as if they had been sensible there were Improvements of another Kind to be made : Suppose it was so, yet they might stop when, their principal End was obtained. And *Plutarch* says as much, for he tells us it was not Ignorance that made the ancient Musick so simple, but it was so out of Politick : Yet he complains, that in his own Time, the very Memory of the ancient Modes that had been so useful in the Education of Youth, and moving the Passions was lost thro' the Innovations and luxurious Variety introduced by later Musicians ; and now, when a full Liberty seems to have been taken, may we not wonder that so little Improvement was made, or at least so little of it explained and recorded to us by these who wrote of Musick, after such Innovations were so far advanced.

I shall end this Dispute, which is perhaps too tedious already, with a short Consideration of what the boldest Accuser of the modern *Musick*, *Isaac Vossius*, says against it, in his Book *de poematum cantu & viribus Rythmi*. He observes, what a wonderful Power Motion has upon the Mind, by Communication with the Body ; how we are pleased with *rythmical* or *regular Motion* ; then he observes, that the ancient *Greeks* and *Latins* perceiving this, took an infinite

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Pains to cultivate their Language, and make it as harmonious, especially in what related to the *Rythmus*, or Number, and Combination of long and short Syllables, as possible; to this End particularly were the *pedes metrici* invented, which are the Foundations of their Versification; and this he owns was the only *Rythmus* of their *Musick*, and so powerful, that the whole Effect of *Musick* was ascribed to it, as appears, says he, by this Saying of theirs, τὸ πᾶν παρά μουσικῶν ὁ ρυθμὸς: And to prove the Power attributed to the *Rythmus*, he cites several other Passages. That it gives Life to *Musick*, especially the *pathetick*, will not be denied; and we see the Power of it even in plain Prose and Oration: But to make it the *Whole*, is perhaps attributing more than is due: I rather reckon the Words and Sense of what's sung, the principal Ingredient; and the other a noble Servant to them, for raising and keeping up the Attention, because of the natural Pleasure annexed to these Sensations. 'Tis very true, that there is a Connection betwixt certain Passions, which we call Motions of the Mind, and certain Motions in our Bodies; and when by any external Motion these can be imitated and excited, no doubt we shall be much moved; and the Mind, by that Influence, becomes either gay, soft, brisk or drowsy: But how any particular Passion can be excited without such a lively Representation of its proper Object, as only Words afford, is not very intelligible; at least this appears to me the most just and effectual Way. But let us

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hear what Notion others had of this Matter, *Quintilian* says, *If the Numbers of Musick have such Influence, how much more ought eloquent Words to have?* And in all the ancient *Musick* the greatest Care was taken, that not a Syllable of the Words should be lost, for spoiling the Sense, which *Vossius* himself observes and owns. *Pancirollus*, who thinks the Art lost, ascribes the chief Virtue of it to the Words. — *Siquidem una cum melodia integra percipiebantur verba*: And the very Reason he gives, that the modern *Musick* is less perfect, is, that we hear Sounds without Words, by which says he, the ear is a little pleas'd, without any Entertainment to the Understanding: But all this has been considered already. *Vossius* alledges the *mimick* Art, to prove, that the Power of Motion was equal to the most eloquent Words; but we shall be as much straitned to believe this, as the rest of their Wonders. Let them believe it who will, that a *Pantomime* had Art to make himself easily understood without Words, by People of all Languages: And that *Roscius* the Comedian, could express any Sentence by his Gestures, as significantly and variously, as *Cicero* with all his Oration. Whatever this Art was, 'tis lost, and perhaps it was something very surprizing; but 'tis hard to believe these Stories literally. However to the Thing in Hand, we are concern'd only to consider the *musical* or *poetical Rythmus*.

*Vossius* says, that *Rythmus* which does not contain and express the very Forms and Figures of

of Things, can have no Effect; and that the ancient poetical Numbers alone are justly contrived for this End. And therefore the modern Languages and Verse are altogether unfit for *Musick*; and we shall never have, says he, any right *vocal Musick*, till our Poets learn to make Verses that are capable to be sung, *that is*, as he explains it, till we new model our Languages, restore the ancient metrical Feet, and banish our barbarous Rhimes. Our Verses, says he, run all as it were on one Foot, without Distinction of Members and Parts, in which the Beauty of Proportion is to be found; therefore he reckons, that we have no *Rythmus* at all in our Poetry; and affirms, that we mind nothing but to have such a certain Number of Syllables in a Verse, of whatever Nature, and in whatever Order. Now, what a rash and unjust Criticism is this! if it was so in his Mother Tongue, the *Dutch*, I know not; but I'm certain it is otherwise in *English*. 'Tis true, we don't follow the metrical Composition of the Ancients; yet we have such a Mixture of strong and soft, long and short Syllables, as makes our Verses slow, rapid, smooth, or rumbling, agreeable to the Subject. Take any good *English* Verse, and by a very small Change in the Transposition of a Word or Syllable, any Body who has an Ear will find, that we make a very great Matter of the *Nature* and *Order* of the Syllables. But why must the ancient be the only proper *Metre* for *Poetry* and *Musick*? He says, their *Odes* were sung, as to the *Rythmus*, in the same Manner

as we scan them, every *pes* being a distinct Bar or Measure, separate by a distinct Pause ; but in the bare Reading, that Distinction was not accurately observed, the Verse being read in a more continuous Manner. Again he notices, that after the Change of the ancient Pronunciation, and the Corruption of their Language, the *Musick* decayed till it became a poor and insignificant Art. Their *Odes* had a regular Return of the same Kind of Verse ; and the same Quantity of Syllables in the same Place of every similar Verse : But there's nothing, says he, but Confusion of Quantities in the modern *Odes* ; so that to follow the natural Quantity of our Syllables, every Stanza will be a different Song, otherwise than in the ancient Verses : ( He should have minded, that every Kind of *Ode* was not of this Nature ; and how heroick Verses were sung, if this was necessary, I cannot see, because in them the *Dactylus* and *Spondeus* are sometimes in one Place of the Verse, and sometimes in another. ) But instead of this, he says, the *Moderns* have no Regard to the natural Quantity of the Syllables, and have introduced an unnatural and barbarous Variety of long and short Notes, which they apply without any Regard to the Subject and Sense of the Verse, or the natural Pronunciation : So that nothing can be understood that's sung, unless one knows it before ; and therefore, no wonder, says he, that our *vocal Musick* has no Effects. Now here is indeed a heavy Charge, but Experience gives me Authority to affirm it to be absolutely false. We

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have *vocal Musick* as pathetick as ever the ancient was. If any Singer don't pronounce intelligibly, that is not the Fault of the *Musick*, which is always so contrived, as the Sense of the Words may be distinctly perceived. But this is impossible, says he, if we don't follow the natural Pronunciation and Quantity; which is I think, precariously said; for was the Singing of the ancient *Odes* by separate and distinct Measures of metrical Feet, in which there must frequently be a Stop in the very Middle of a Word, Was this I say the natural Pronunciation, and the Way to make what was sung best understood? Himself tells us, they read their Poems otherwise. And if Practice would make that distinct enough to them, will it not be as sufficient in the other Case. Again, to argue from what's strictly natural, will perhaps be no Advantage to their Cause; for don't we know, that the Ancients admitted the most unnatural Positions of Words, for the sake of a numerous Stile, even in plain Prose; and took still greater Liberties in Poetry, to depart from the natural Order in which Ideas ly in our Mind; far otherwise than it is in the modern Languages, which will therefore be moe easily and readily understood in Singing, if pronounced distinctly, than the ancient Verse could be, wherein the Construction of the Words was more difficult to find, because of the Transpositions. Again the Difference of long and short Syllables in common Speaking, is not accurately observed; not even in the ancient Languages; for *Example, in common Speaking,*  
 who

who can' distinguish the long and short Syllables in these Words, *satis, nivis, misit*. The Sense of a Word generally depends upon the right Pronunciation of one Syllable, or Two at most in very long Words; and if these are made conspicuous, and the Words well separated by a right Application of the long and short Notes, as we certainly know to be done, then we follow the natural Pronunciation more this Way than the other. If 'tis replied, that since we pretend to a poetical *Rythmus*, suitable to different Subjects, why don't we follow it in our *Musick*? I shall answer, that tho' that *Rythmus* is more distinguished in the Recitation of Poems, yet our *musical Rythmus* is accommodated also to it; but with such Liberty as is necessary to make good *Melody*; and even to produce stronger Effects than a simple Reciting can do; and I would ask, for what other Reason the Ancients sung their Poems in a Manner different from the bare reading of them? Still he tells us, that we want the true *Rythmus*, which can only make pathetick *Musick*; and if there is any Thing moving in our Songs, he says, 'tis only owing to the Words; so that Prose may be sung as well as Verse: That the Words ought naturally to have the greatest Influence, has been already considered; and I have seen no Reason why the ancient poetical *Rythmus* should have the only Claim to be pathetick; as if they had exhausted all the Combinations of long and short Sounds, that can be moving or agreeable: But indeed the Question is about

about Matter of Fact, therefore I shall appeal to Experience, and leave it; after I have minded you, that by this Defence of the *modern Musick*, I don't say it is all alike good, or that there can be no just Objection laid against any of our Compositions, especially in the setting of *Musick* to Words; I only say, we have admirable Compositions, and that the Art of *Musick*, taken in all that it is capable of, is more perfect than it was among the old *Greeks* and *Romans*, at least for what can possibly be made appear.

FINIS.



Plate. 1

Fig. 1

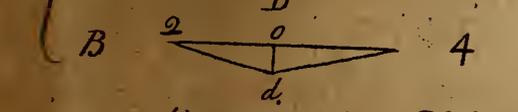
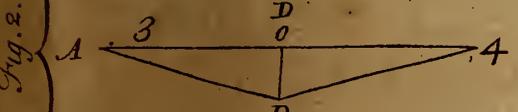
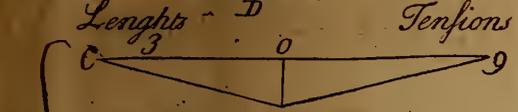
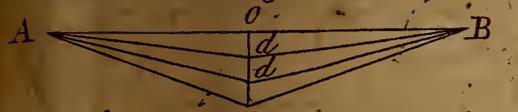


Fig. 3.

A	diameters	2	Tensions	9
B		3		9
C		2		4

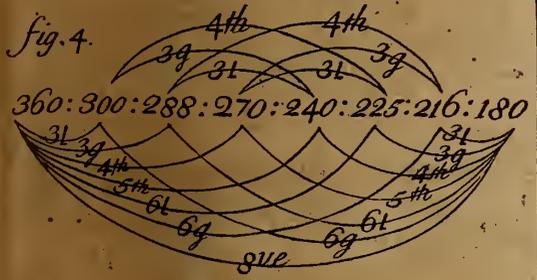


Fig. 5/ Table of All y<sup>e</sup> Simple Mutual ratios in the Diatonick Scale

15 <sup>th</sup>	C	1/4					1/2
14 <sup>th</sup>	B	4/15				1/2	8/15
13 <sup>th</sup>	A	3/10			1/2	9/16	3/5
12 <sup>th</sup>	G	1/3			1/2	5/9	2/3
11 <sup>th</sup>	F	3/8		1/2	9/16	5/8	3/4
10 <sup>th</sup>	E	2/5	1/2	8/15	3/5	2/3	3/4
9 <sup>th</sup>	D	4/9	1/2	5/9	16/27	2/3	5/6
8 <sup>th</sup>	C	1/2	9/16	5/8	2/3	3/4	5/6
7 <sup>th</sup>	B	8/15	3/5	2/3	32/45	4/5	8/9
6 <sup>g</sup>	A	3/5	27/40	3/4	4/5	9/10	J
5 <sup>th</sup>	G	2/3	3/4	5/6	8/9	J	
4 <sup>th</sup>	F	3/4	27/32	15/16	J		
3 <sup>g</sup>	E	4/5	9/10	J			
2 <sup>g</sup>	D	8/9	J				
fund	C	J					

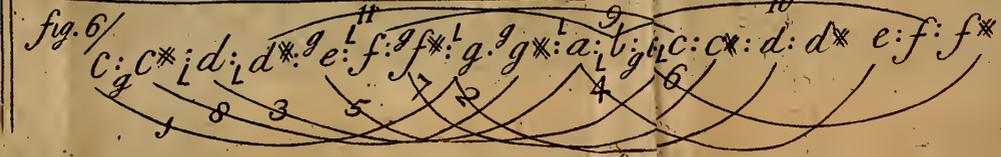
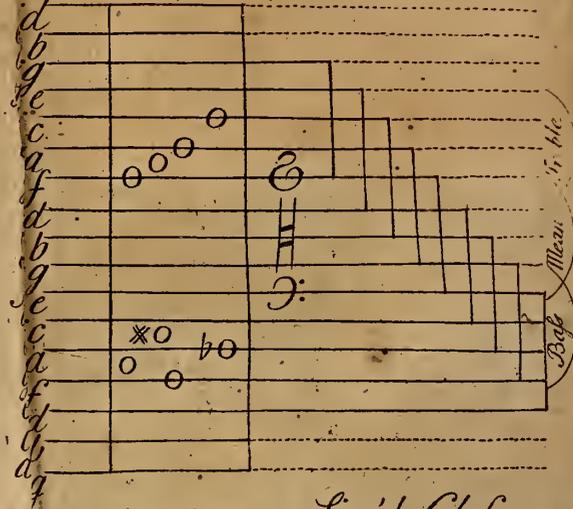
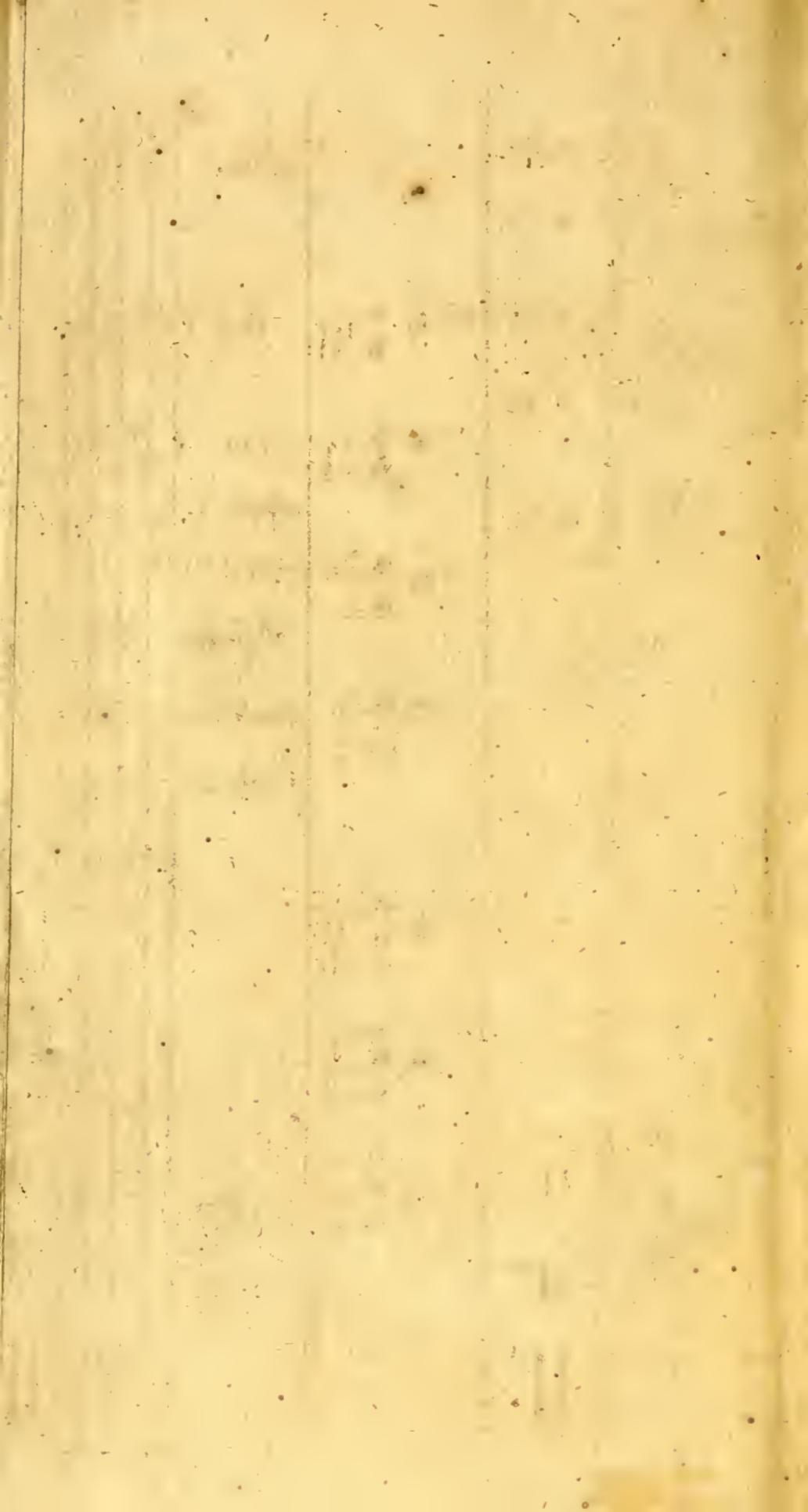


Fig. 7/ Scale with Examples of Notes and Clefs





Universal Table of the Signatures of Clefs; Shewing how to transpose from Any key to Any other; And how to Sol-fa Any Song.

fa	c	d	d <sup>b</sup>	e	f	g	g <sup>b</sup>	a	a <sup>b</sup>	b	b	8 <sup>ve</sup>	3 <sup>d</sup> L
mi	b	c	c <sup>*</sup>	d	d <sup>*</sup>	e	f	f <sup>*</sup>	g	g <sup>*</sup>	a	a <sup>*</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> g 2 <sup>d</sup> g
la	a	b	b <sup>*</sup>	c	c <sup>*</sup>	d	e	e <sup>*</sup>	f	f <sup>*</sup>	g	g <sup>*</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> g Fund
Sol	g	a	a <sup>b</sup>	b	b <sup>*</sup>	c	d	d <sup>b</sup>	e	e <sup>*</sup>	f	f <sup>*</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> L
fa	f	g	g <sup>b</sup>	a	a <sup>b</sup>	b	c	c <sup>b</sup>	d	d <sup>b</sup>	e	e	4 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> L
la	e	f	f <sup>*</sup>	g	g <sup>*</sup>	a	b	b <sup>*</sup>	c	c <sup>*</sup>	d	d <sup>*</sup>	3 <sup>d</sup> g 5 <sup>th</sup>
Sol	d	e	e <sup>*</sup>	f	f <sup>*</sup>	g	a	a <sup>b</sup>	b	b <sup>*</sup>	c	c <sup>*</sup>	2 <sup>d</sup> g 4 <sup>th</sup>
fa	c	d	d <sup>b</sup>	e	f	g	g <sup>b</sup>	a	a <sup>b</sup>	b	b	Fund	3 <sup>d</sup> L

	b	b <sup>*</sup>											
	b	b <sup>*</sup>											
	b	b <sup>*</sup>											
	b	b <sup>*</sup>											

Sharp key  
Flat key

Fig. 2 / Table of False Intervals in the Hemitonick Scale 8<sup>ve</sup>

Ratios 3<sup>d</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup> Ratios

64:75 = c<sup>\*</sup> - e - c<sup>\*</sup> = 75:128. e  
 id = d<sup>\*</sup> - f<sup>\*</sup> - d<sup>\*</sup> = idem.  
 id = g<sup>\*</sup> - b - g<sup>\*</sup> = id

27:32 = d - f - d = 16:27. e  
 id = f<sup>\*</sup> - a - f<sup>\*</sup> = id.  
 id = g - b - g = id.

3<sup>d</sup>g 6<sup>th</sup>

25:32 = e - g<sup>\*</sup> - e = 16:25. d  
 id = a - c<sup>\*</sup> - a = id.  
 id = b - d - b = id.

405:512 = f<sup>\*</sup> - v - f<sup>\*</sup> = 256:405. d  
 64:81 = v - d - v = 81:128. d

4<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup>

512:675 = c<sup>\*</sup> - f<sup>\*</sup> - c<sup>\*</sup> = 675:1024. e  
 20:27 = a - d - a = 27:40. d  
 id = v - d<sup>\*</sup> - v = id

Tritone Tritone

32:45 = c - f<sup>\*</sup> - c = 45:64  
 id = c<sup>\*</sup> - g - c<sup>\*</sup> = id  
 id = f - b - f = id  
 id = g<sup>\*</sup> - d - g<sup>\*</sup> = id  
 id = a<sup>\*</sup> - e - a<sup>\*</sup> = id

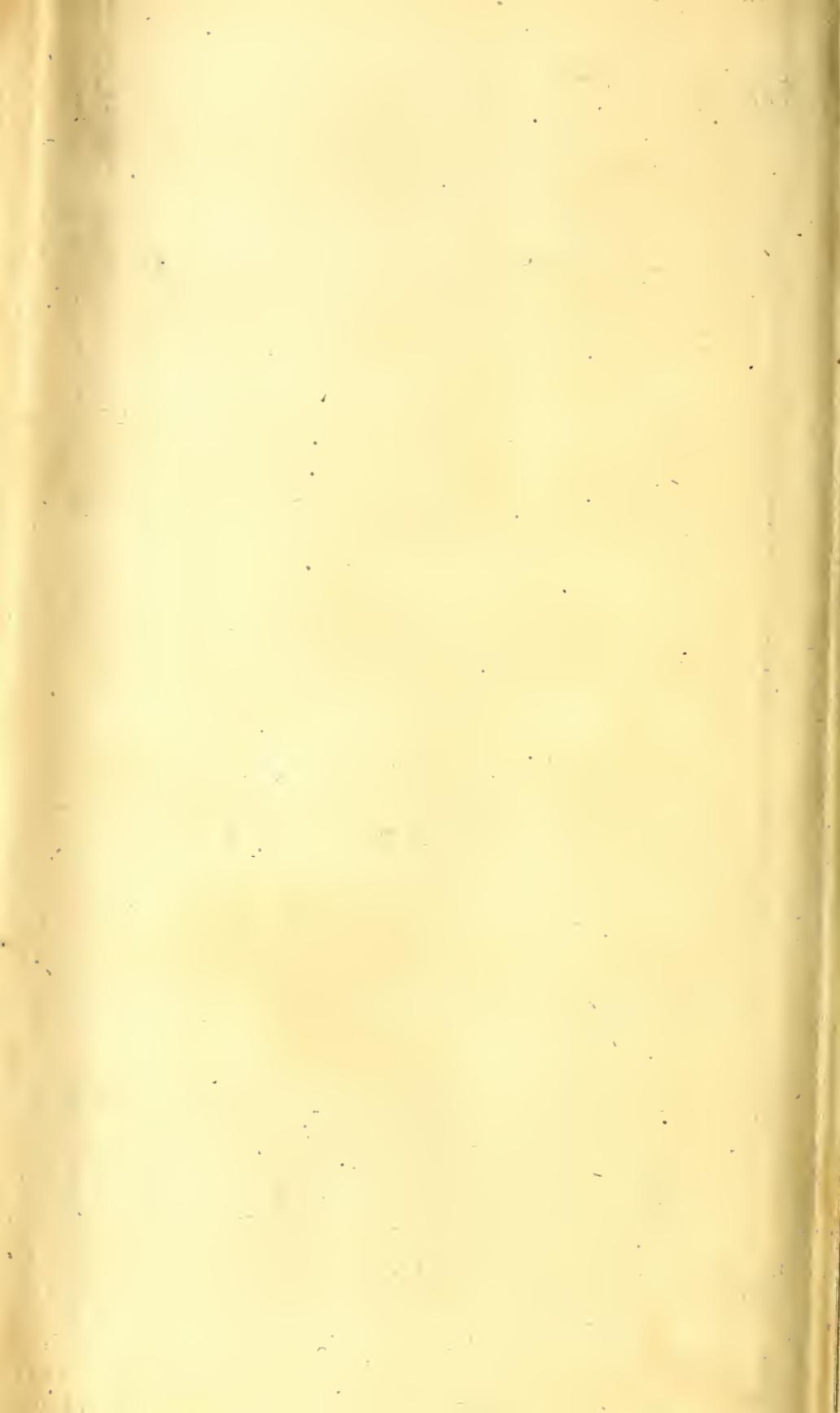
25 36 = a - d<sup>\*</sup> - a = 18:25

Fig 3 / Names, Figures and proportions of Notes.

8 . 4 . 2 . 1 . 1/2 . 1/4 . 1/8 . 1/16 . 1/32

Large-Long. breve Semibreve. Minim. Crotchet. quaver. Semiquaver. demysemioct

direct  
 eye  
 eye  
 close  
 repeat  
 Repeat  
 double bar  
 Single bar  
 Rests



Handwritten text in a vertical column on the right side of the page, possibly in a non-Latin script. The characters are small and closely spaced, making them difficult to decipher. The text appears to be a list or a series of entries, with some characters resembling 'H' or 'I' in a stylized font.

Plate. 3.

Ex.<sup>a</sup> 1



Musical notation for Example 1, featuring a treble clef, common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of *Adagio*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex.<sup>a</sup> 2



Musical notation for Example 2, featuring a treble clef, common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of *Allegro*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex. 3<sup>d</sup>



Musical notation for Example 3, featuring a treble clef, common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of *Allegro*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex. 3<sup>d</sup> transposed



Musical notation for Example 3 transposed, featuring a treble clef, common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of *Allegro*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex. 4<sup>th</sup>



Musical notation for Example 4, featuring a treble clef, common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of *Allegro*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex. 5<sup>th</sup>



Musical notation for Example 5, featuring a treble clef, 3/2 time signature, and a tempo marking of *Adagio*. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes with various accidentals and rests.

Ex. 5th. transposed.

3/2 \*  
\*  
Adagio

Ex. 6th.  
3/4  
Largo

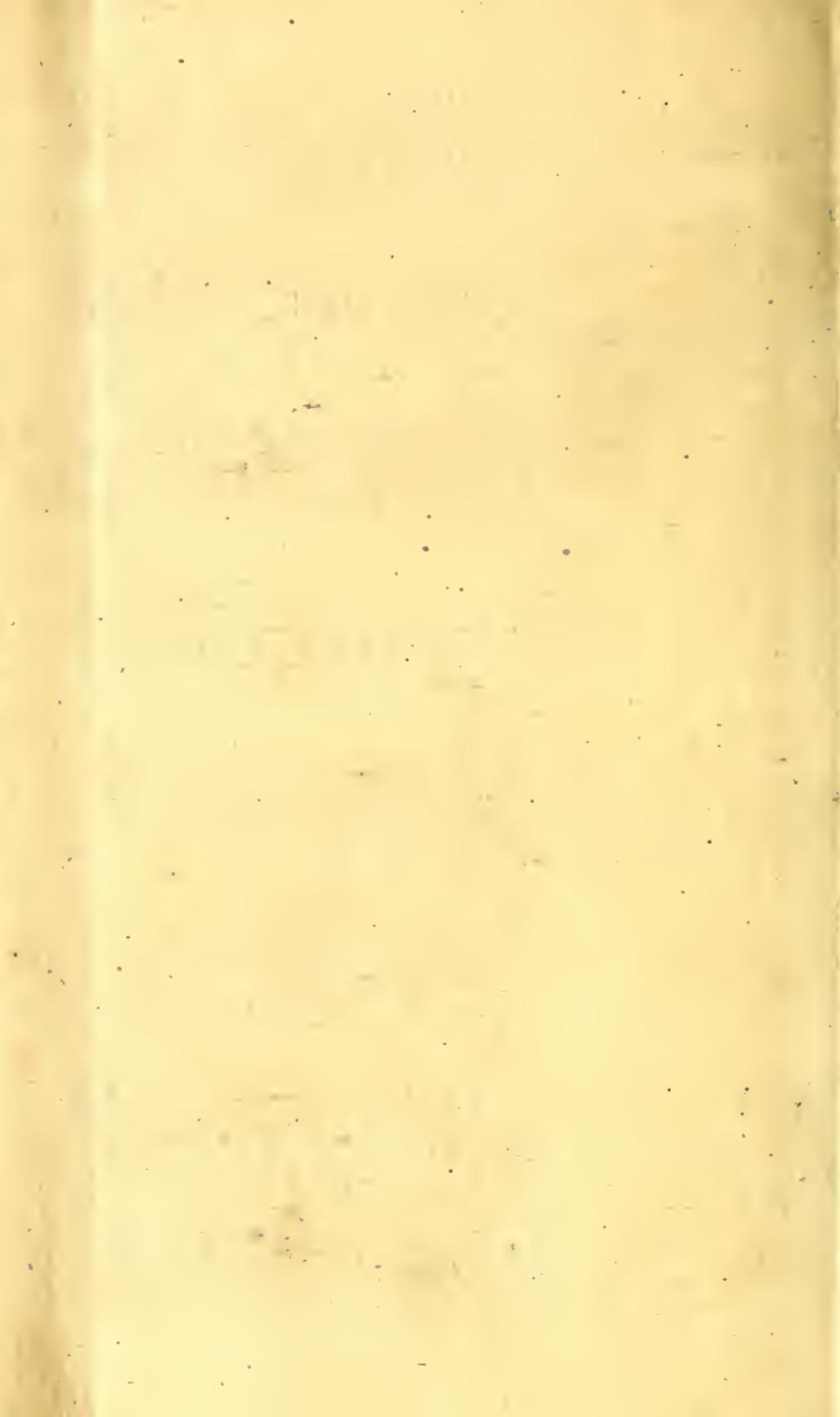
Ex. 7th.  
3/8  
Vivace

Ex. 8th.  
6/4  
Allegro

Ex. 9th.  
6/8  
Allegro

Ex. 10.  
9/8 \*  
Allegro

Ex. 11.  
12/8  
Allegro



Ex. 1. Plate 4<sup>th</sup>

Ex. 1. Plate 4<sup>th</sup>      Ex. 2.

Ex. 3.

Ex. 4.

Ex. 3.      Ex. 4.

Ex. 5<sup>th</sup>

Ex. 6.

Ex. 7

Ex. 8

Ex. 5<sup>th</sup>      Ex. 6.      Ex. 7      Ex. 8

8 5 3 *3<sup>may.</sup>* 3 *3<sup>Min.</sup>* 3 6 3 6 3 6 5 3 3

Key.f      2<sup>d</sup>.f      3<sup>d</sup>.f      4<sup>th</sup>.f

Ex. 9

Ex. 10

Ex. 11

Ex. 12

Ex. 9      Ex. 10      Ex. 11      Ex. 12

5 3 5 6 3 5 6 3 3 6 5

5<sup>th</sup>.f      6<sup>th</sup>.f      7<sup>th</sup>.f

Ex. 13.

Ex. 14. Ex. 15.

Ex. 16

bad bad bad good bad good good

Ex. 17.

Ex. 18.

Ex. 19. first Lesson.

49

50

51

52

53

Musical score for measures 49-53. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves contain rhythmic notation with various note values and rests. Measure 49 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 50 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 51 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 52 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 53 has a sharp sign above the first note. The system ends with a double bar line.

54

55

56

Musical score for measures 54-56. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves contain rhythmic notation with various note values and rests. Measure 54 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 55 has a sharp sign above the first note. Measure 56 has a sharp sign above the first note. The system ends with a double bar line.

57

Musical score for measure 57. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves contain rhythmic notation with various note values and rests. Measure 57 has a sharp sign above the first note. The system ends with a double bar line.

58

Musical score for measure 58. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves contain rhythmic notation with various note values and rests. Measure 58 has a sharp sign above the first note. The system ends with a double bar line.

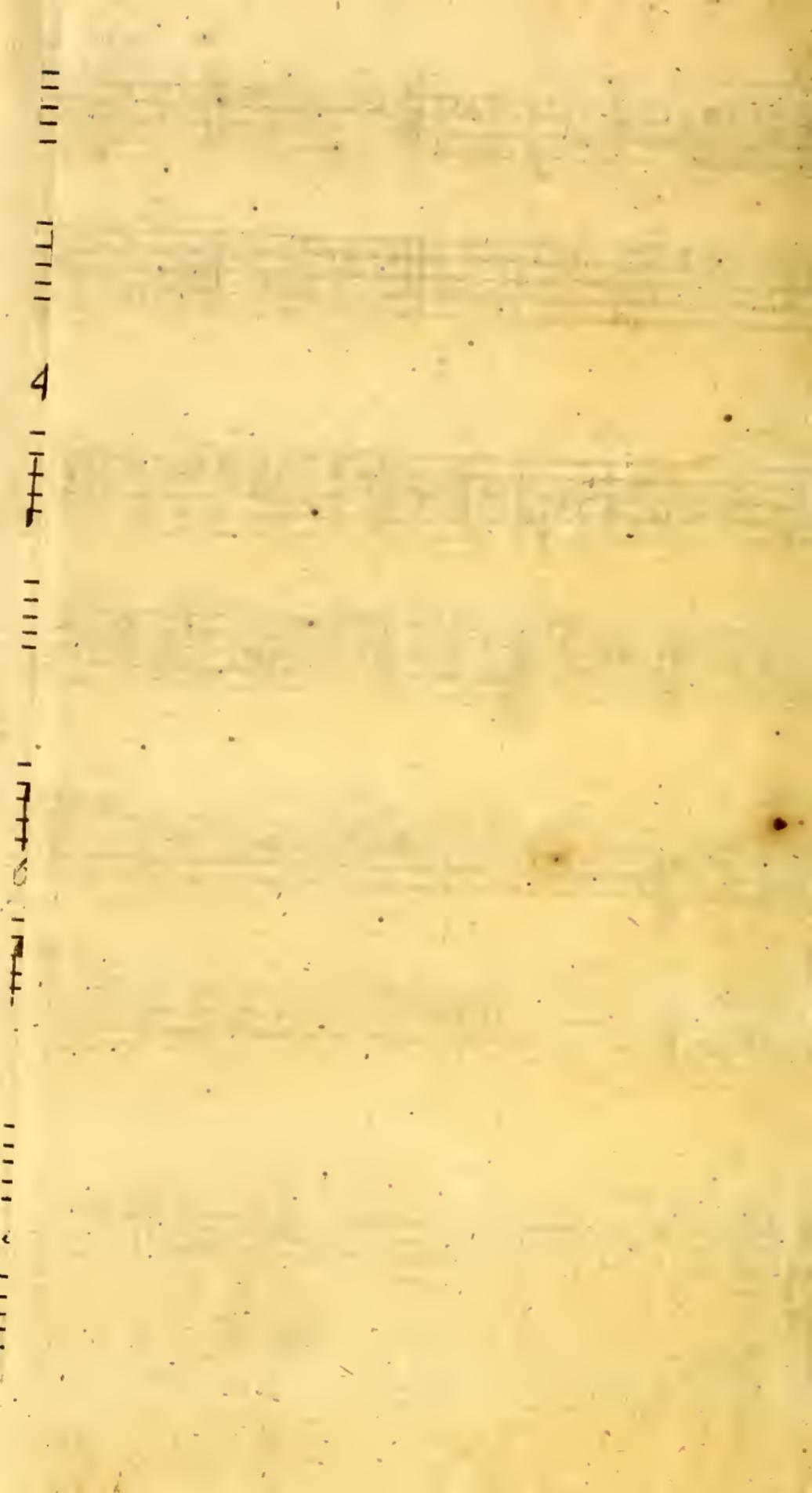


Plate 6.<sup>th</sup>

32

Musical score for exercise 32, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties, including a chromatic scale. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes, including a chromatic scale with a sharp sign.

33

Musical score for exercise 33, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties.

34

Musical score for exercise 34, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties.

35

Musical score for exercise 35, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties.

36

Musical score for exercise 36, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The treble staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and ties.

37

First system of musical notation, measures 37-43. The top staff is in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The bottom staff is in bass clef. Measure 37 starts with a rest in the treble and a quarter note in the bass. Measures 38-43 show complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and slurs. Fingering numbers (6, 5, 8) are present in the bass staff. Time signatures 6/8, 3/4, and 4/4 are indicated at the end of measures 38, 41, and 43 respectively.

Second system of musical notation, measures 37-43. The top staff continues the treble clef line with slurs and ties. The bottom staff continues the bass clef line with slurs and ties. Fingering numbers (7, 9) are present in the bass staff.

38

39

40

41

42

43

Third system of musical notation, measures 38-43. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is in bass clef. Measures 38-43 show complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and slurs. Asterisks (\*) are present in the bass staff.

44

45

46

47

48

Fourth system of musical notation, measures 44-48. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is in bass clef. Measures 44-48 show complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and slurs. Asterisks (\*) are present in the bass staff.

(Ex. 19) 1.<sup>st</sup> Lesson, transported to a flat-key.

Plate 5.

Musical notation for Ex. 19, 1st Lesson, transported to a flat-key. The piece is in 2/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody in the upper staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass line in the lower staff consists of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Ex. 19. 2d. Lesson.

Musical notation for Ex. 19, 2d. Lesson. The piece is in 2/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody in the upper staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass line in the lower staff consists of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

2d. Lesson, transported to a flat-key.

Musical notation for Ex. 19, 2d. Lesson, transported to a flat-key. The piece is in 2/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the upper staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass line in the lower staff consists of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Ex. 20 21

Musical notation for Ex. 20 and 21. The piece is in 2/4 time and consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the upper staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass line in the lower staff consists of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Ex. 22

Musical notation for Exercise 22, measures 23 and 24. The piece is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment of quarter notes. Measure 23 is marked with a '23' above the staff, and measure 24 is marked with a '24' above the staff.

Ex. 25

Musical notation for Exercise 25, measure 26. The piece is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand has a more complex melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including some triplets. The left hand continues with a simple harmonic accompaniment of quarter notes. Measure 26 is marked with a '26' above the staff.

27

28

29

Musical notation for Exercise 27, 28, and 29. The piece is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment of quarter notes. Measure 27 is marked with a '27' above the staff, measure 28 with a '28', and measure 29 with a '29'.

30

31

Musical notation for Exercise 30 and 31. The piece is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand has a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment of quarter notes. Measure 30 is marked with a '30' above the staff, and measure 31 with a '31'. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a 'W' time signature at the end of the staff.









m/o

CA

