## Maia Bang Violin Method

## Part 1 - Elementary

Author's Preface ..... 2-3
Autograph Letter from Prof. L. Auer ..... 4
The Violin and Its Component Parts ..... 5-6
The Bow and Its Component Parts. ..... 7
How to Hold the Violin Correctly ..... 8
How to Hold the Bow Correctly ..... 9
How to Draw the Bow Correctly ..... 10
Illustrations of Correct Postures ..... 11-14
The Simplest Rudiments of Music ..... 15
Staff, Bars, Measures and Time ..... 16
Notes-their Shape and Time-Value ..... 17
Rests ..... 18
The Four Strings of the Violin ..... 19
The Tuning of the Four Strings ..... 20
How to Attach the Strings Correctly ..... 21
First Exercises for the Open Strings ..... 22
First Exercises for the Combination of all Four Strings ..... 25
Exercise for Gaining Firmer Control of the Bow ..... 26
Position and Action of the Fingers of the Left Hand. ..... 26
Whole-steps and Half-steps ..... 27
Additional Remarks Concerning Action of the Fingers. ..... 28
Additional Remarks Concerning Use of the Bow. ..... 28
First Use of the Fingers ..... 29
First Finger on A and E Strings ..... 29
First Finger on D and G Strings ..... 30
Second Finger on A and E Strings ..... 31
Second Finger on $D$ and $G$ Strings ..... 32
Third Finger on $A$ and $E$ Strings. ..... 33
Third Finger on D and G Strings. ..... 34
Fourth Finger on A and E Strings ..... 35
Fourth Finger on D and G Strings ..... 36
Preparatory Exercises for Crossing and Gradual Connection of the Four Strings. ..... 37
Additional Exercises in Quarter Notes ..... 37-39
Two-Four Time ..... 40
Three-Four Time ..... 41
Four-Four Time ..... 42
The Scale. ..... 43
The Minor Scale ..... 43
Scale of C Major ..... 44
Eighth Notes ..... 45
Dotted Notes ..... 46
Legato Playing-The Slur ..... 47-48
Exercises for Gaining Experience in Legato Playing During String Transfers ..... 49-51
Varieties of Bowing ..... 52
Correct Finger Action Across the Strings ..... 53-54
Preparatory Exercises for Establishing the Exact Position of B and $\mathbf{F}$ ..... 55
Six-Eight Time ..... 55
Scale of A Minor ..... 56
Notes of Different Time-Value in One Bow ..... 57
The Up-Beat ..... 58
Scale of G Major ..... 59
Exercises for Crossing the Strings ..... 60
Detached Notes in One Bow ..... 61-62
Skips Across One and Two Strings. ..... 63
Exercises for Change of Bow ..... 64
Exercises Across Two Strings ..... 64
Dynamic Signs ..... 65
Duet (Pleyel) ..... 66
Scale of E Minor ..... 67
Bowing Varieties ..... 68-69
Scale of D Major ..... 70
Tempo Marks ..... 71
Rustic Dance ..... 72
Intervals ..... 73-74
Exercises for Crossing the Strings ..... 75
Minuet (Mozart) ..... 76
Bowing Exercises ..... 77
Scale of B Minor ..... 78-79
Sixteenth Notes ..... 80-81
Scale of A Major ..... 82-83
Staccato Bowing ..... 84
Combination of Legato and Staccato Bowing ..... 85-86
Happy School Days (Spohr) ..... 87
Scale of F\# Minor ..... 88
Dotted Eighths (Legato) ..... 89
Dotted Eighths (Staccato) ..... 90
Scale of E Major ..... 91
Home, Sweet Home (Bishop) ..... 92
The March of Spain ..... 92
Daily Finger Studies ..... 93
Scale of C\# Minor ..... 94
Tenth and Last Etude ..... 95
Dear Old Mother (Grieg) ..... 96

## - AUTHOR'S PREFACE -

Inspired by that most prominent of all modern violin pedagogues, Professor Leopold Auer, with whom I had the great opportunity of studying in Petrograd, I conceived the idea to write, as clearly as possible, a Violin Method wherein Prof. Auer's new and unconventional teaching principles would be set forth and thus made available for the teaching fraternity.

I have, ever since earliest childhood, had a rapt interest in that most marvelous of all instruments, the Violin. My constant desire to acquaint myself with every phase of violin playing led me to investigate a great variety of methods, and for many years, I devoted myself to the thorough study of the "German School" in Leipzig, the "Belgian School" and "French School" in Paris and Geneva, and finally the "Russian School" in Petrograd. To the latter I came at the most opportune time, when Prof. Auer's classes were attended by some of his most gifted young violin prodigies.

The opportunities to profit through the advice of this master, the intellectual uplift gained through personal contact and the remarkable results I achieved through his entirely original teaching proved a revelation to me and I realized 'ere long how much in advance his teaching principles those of all other pedagogues with whom I had studied.

When the great European war forced the Master to leave Russia and come to the United States, I grasped the wonderful opportunity to follow him as his assistant teacher; and it was here I wrote the "Maia Bang Violin Method," published in seven volumes. The work covers every phase of violin teaching and violin playing from the very beginning to the highest artistic realization. Into this method has been introduced Prof. Auer's most important instructive principles, not only as a developing feature, but so closely fitted to the exercise material as to prove of the utmost benefit to the student.

In arranging for a well-graded plan of development in this method, I followed one of the most important principles of my illustrious master: to combine purely technical with musical needs at all times by providing a liberal, progressive amount of technical material and relieving it with melodious little pieces designed to interest the pupil and accustom his ear to pleasing and gratifying musical impressions from the very start.

Practical experience proves to every teacher how irksome a task it is to teach the elementary principles of violin playing, and I have long since arrived at the conclusion that in order to succeed we must present every instructive principle and every technical problem in as clear and simple a manner as possible. To this end I would advise the following procedure of practice:

With exercises of pieces offering difficulties for both fingers and bow, the task for mastering the technical details should be divided, owing to the fact that it is a difficult problem for young pupils to concentrate simultaneously upon such different work as the right and left hand are called upon to execute. In other words: the entire attention of the pupil should be concentrated at first upon the fingers of the left hand-using a separate bow for each note-and only when comparative surety in intonation and finger action have been gained should he play with the marked bowings. For instance:

Practice at first with separate bow to each note:

and later on with the bowing as marked:


This system of practising will bring about rapid and satisfactory results and should be employed throughout the entire method.

Before closing I beg to refer in brief to the responsibilities and nerve-racking duties of our violin teachers. Only through their devotion and conscientious work can we look forward to the artistic development of our future soloists, discriminating amateurs, and last but not least, of those important members of symphonic organizations such as first and second violinists and viola players.

The violin teacher in truth is one of the fundamental pillars of musical development and if in the presentation of this new method I have succeeded in lightening his arduous and trying duties to even a partial extent, I shall find myself amply rewarded.

The ad mirable art of violin playing demands long, incessant and painstaking application and in closing let me recall the old Latin proverb, applicable alike to violin playing as to all the other arts:

## Per aspers ad astral!

(Through bolts and bars to the stars!)

MAIA BANG.

## Preface to the Revised Edition

It is a great pleasure to offer this new, revised edition of my popular Violin Method, made possible through the courtesy of my esteemed publisher.

Naturally-nothing has been changed either in plan or general layout of my methodI have only brought it up to date and made it more accurate and concise.

More than 300,000 copies of this method have been sold-what a pleasure to see one's work so appreciated and used. I hope it may continue to be of great use and help to my dear friends, the violin teachers, in their strenuous and important work.
chain Bang

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F_{\text {amuary }} \leq 1919
$$

Gear Miso Bang．
I have read and re－read Your Miolen－Pchool with great interest and（recognize with Bleavcure how thoroughly You have been guided by my own teaching principles and hon－ completely and clear ky you have presented them in the book．：IV consider the method an excellent one for beginners and sincerely hope that it will find the deserved sympathy and support of teachers who，from the start， wish to lead their upics along the real and sure mood of violin playing
©Diveve one Yous onostrimerily CA．Pres

# THE VIOLIN and ITS COMPONENT PARTS 

Front View<br>The Top<br>(Made of Pine wood)<br>Side View<br>The Ribs<br>(Made of Maple wood)<br>Back View<br>The Back<br>(Made of Maple wood)



## COMPONENT PARTS OF THE VIOLIN (continued)



Inside of the Violin with Top removed

The inside of the Violin is like an empty box with a number of small corner-blocks placed at the top, bottom and sides, stabilizing the different parts of the Violin.

It also has a lining which follows the contour of the instrument.

The Bass-bir is a narrow strip of wood glued against the inner surface of the top and running parallel with the outside $G$-string. It serves to strengthen the top under the heavy pressure of the thickest string on the Violin (the G-string) and equalize the vibrations.

The Sound-post is a small round wooden prop set inside the Violin, between the Top and Back, just behind the right foot of the bridge. Its function is to brace the Top against the pressure of the strings, transmitting as well as regulating their vibrations. It is through this little prop that the whole body of the Violin is rendered resonant. Owing to its great influence upon the tone of the Violin it is rightly called "l'âme du Violon", (the soul of the Violir).

The End Butron sets in the lower end of the ribs of the violin and serves the purpose of holding the Tail-piece to which it is fastened with a strand of heavy gut.

The Bass-bar
(dotted line inside the Violin shows position of Bass-bar under the top)

## THE BOW ITS COMPONENT PARTS



The Stick of the bow is made of Pernambuco wood. It is ordinarily round, but occasionally octagonal.


The Frog of the bow is made of Ebony. Fine bows are mounted with silver or gold. The hairs are horse hairs.

Before using the bow tighten the hair by means of the screw in order to impart the necessary tension to the stick. This tension, however, must never be so great as to cause the stick to become straight; the latter should always remain slightly bent towards the hair. Before playing, the hair should be rubbed with a moderate amount of rosin, and after playing, the hair should invariably be loosened. When the hair becomes worn out, or shiny, and refuses to retain the rosin, it must be renewed.

## Always Keep Your Violin and Bow in Perfect Condition and Spotlessly Cleanl

Great importance attaches to the size of the violin and bow with which a beginner starts. Both must neither be too large nor too small and a mistake in this respect is liable to increase the difficulties of the pupil to a very considerable extent. To make sure, the teacher should always select the violin and bow, as he or she is best qualified to judge of the practical needs of the beginner.

## When you come for a lesson: <br> "Don't Make Excuses! Make Good!" <br> (Remark by Professor Leopold Auer)

The above is one of the first of Prof. Leopold Auer's teaching principles and remarks to be applied to the general instructive plan of this Method; others of equal importance are mentioned throughout this Method in his customary concise, authoritative manner and always signed with his initials:L.A.

The Authoress

## HOW TO HOLD THE VIOLIN CORRECTLY

1. Stand erect, with weight of the body resting on the left foot. (See illustration 12, p. 15)

> Stand erect, perfectly quiet, with freedom and ease, and always hold your shoulders well to the rear. Such a position will enable freer breathing and better tone production. L.A.
2. Bend the left arm well toward the right, in order to enable your fingers to fall upon the strings from above and with the necessary surety and strength; in fact your elbow must be drawn under the instrument to such an extent that you can see a little part of it. (See III. 1, p. 13). Never hold the elbow towards the left. Also remember, that the Violin should never be held in position by the left hand-only by collar-bone and jaw-bone. The hand should always be free and independent for the purpose of playing.
3. Hold the violin in a horizontal and slanting position-the right side lower than $t$ he left, place it upon the collarbone and hold it firmly in position with the jaw-bone upon the chin-rest. (See III. 2, p. 13)

Hold the Violin well ap in front of you and in such a manner that the top of the instrument will face the listemer. Such a position will enable the tone to leave the $F$ holes in a direct line towards the listener, without detriment to its volume or quality. L.A.
4. Never use your left shoulder to support the instrument and hold the latter firmly in position with aid of the collar and jaw-bone only (see III. 4, p. 13). In fact do not allow the Violin to touch your shoulder or use a cushion to support the instrument, as such methods will invariably muffle the tone.

> Draucing up of the left shoulder as well as the use of a cushion for supporting the Violin is absolutely wrong and both methods will tend to muffle the tone. A cushion will rob the Violin of a third of its tomal volume. L.A. ${ }^{*}$ )
5. The fore-arm, vorist and hand should form a straight line. (See 111. 7, p. 14) Do not bend the wrist either too far out or too far inward, so as not to touch the body of the violin. Hold the neck of the Violin between the first joint of the thumb and the third joint of the fore-finger and never forget that there must be a very noticeable space between the thumb and neck. (See III. 8, p. 14) In addition, do not press the thumb against the neck of the Violin.

[^0]
## HOW TO HOLD THE BOW CORRECTLY

1. Place the thumb of the right hand, slightly curved, close to the nut, beneath the stick and opposite to the middle finger, with the other fingers placed side by side on the bow within touch of each other.

(Also, See Ill. 5, p. 14)

(Also, See III. 6, p. 141)
2. The thumb must be placed simultaneously against the nut and the stick at the point marked $x$ on the bow:

3. The bow must lie in a slanting position between the first and second joints of the index finger and between the end
 and the first joint of the little finger. (Russian School).
4. Hold the bow firmly but in doing so, the thumb and fingers must never be strained, and should not touch the hair of

(End View of Bow position at the Frog) the bow.
5. Never forget that next to the fingers and the arm itself, the wrist is the most important factor for ultimate mastery of bowing, To play with a stiff or cramped wrist will not bring satisfactory results in violin playing as a loose and flexible wrist is one of the main essentials of correct and artistic bowing.

## HOW TO DRAW THE BOW CORRECTLY

1. The bow should be drawn straight across the string, parallel to the bridge and midway between the bridge and the fingerboard. It should be drawn evenly, touching only one string at a time.
2. The wrist should be entirely loose and flexible, capable of moving with absolute ease. In fact, the bow can not be drawn straight across the string without raising the wrist at the frog and lowering the wrist at the tip.


A supple, flexible wrist enables the production of a beautiful, singing tone, while a stiff and inflexible wrist invariably produces a tone of harsh, unmusical quality. L.A.
3. The change of bow should not be noticed but be done as inaudibly as possible, and here again a loose wrist is required. In fact, mastery of this most important requirement would be impossible without a flexible and pliant wrist.


Fig. A-Incorrect


Fig. C-Correct


Fig. B-Incorrect
4. The bow should never be drawn in a direction too far backward (Fig. A) or too far forward, (Fig. B) but always in a straight line, parallel to the bridge. (Fig. C)
5. The lower arm and wrist should always be moved to and fro with natural freedom and simultaneous action. Do not hold the elbow too near the body and also beware of holding it too high. When playing upon the $G$ string the elbow must always, and quite naturally, be held considerably higher than when playing upon the E string. The faulty method of forcing or pressing the bow with the aid of the shoulder in order to produce a more voluminous tone, will never result in anything else but scratching; and this method must be severely condemned.
6. And finally: ithe straining of muscles and ligaments of both the left and right hands, fingers, wrists, arms and shoulders, through stiff or cramped exertions on the part of the player, must be absolutely avoided and all movements must be carried out with natural freedom and pliancy. Remember: "There should be no effort in art."

## Photographic Illustrations -ofHOW TO HOLD THE VIOLIN



No. 1. FRONT VIEW
Left arm bent inward.


No. 3. REAR VIEW
The violin held in correct position.


No. 2. FRONT VIEW
The violin held in horizontal position only by aid of the jawbone and collar-bone.


No. 4. REAR VIEW
The violin, left arm and hand in correct position.


No. 5. FRONT VIEW Right Hand holding the bow.


No. 7. FRONT VIEW
Left Hand and Arm forming a straight line.


No. 6. VIEW from INSIDE Right Hand holding the bow,


No. 8. SIDE VIEW
Open space underneath the neck, between the thumb and first finger.

## HOW TO DRAW THE BOW



No. 9. FRONT VIEW
Correct position of the right hand while playing with the TIP of the bow.


No. 11. FRONT VIEW
Correct position of the right hand while playing at the NUT (Frog) of the bow.


No. 10. FRONT VIEW
Correct position of the right hand while playing with the MIDDLE of the bow.


No. 12. FRONT VIEW
Correct position in general.
The body rests on the left foot.

## HOW TO DRAW THE BOW



No. 13. CORRECT POSITION Viewed from the right side.


No. 15. CORRECT POSITION Rear view.


No. 14. CORRECT POSITION Viewed from the left side.


No. 16. CORRECT POSITION
Front (face) view.

## THE SIMPLEST RUDIMENTS OF MUSIC <br> Notes: Their Names and Notation

Musical sounds are represented on paper by means of Notes, named after the first seven letters of the alphabet:
A
B C
D
E F
G

These Notes are written on the five Lines and in the four Spaces of the Staff.


In addition the Notes are also written $u$ pon and between shorter Lines above and below the Staff, known as Leger Lines:

Leger-lines above


Leger-lines below

The Names of the Notes on the
Five Lines:


The $G$ or Violin Clef ir always placed at the beginning of the Staff. It encircles the second line ( $G$ ) and es-
 tablishes the pitch.

(Remember: Every Good Boy Deserves Fun)


The names of the Notes in succession:


The Shart (\#) raises a note one half tone.
The Flat (b) lowers a note one half tone.
The Natural $(\underline{b})$ places a note into its original position.

## THE STAFF, BARS, MEASURES <br> and

## TIME

The Staff:-the name for the 5 lines and 4 spaces.
Bars:-the vertical lines which divide the Staff into Measures.
Measures:-the systematized division of the Staff according to Time.
Time is marked at the beginning of a piece of music in fractional numbers.

There are many different kinds of Time. The following illustrate some of the principal varieties.


The arrows in each of the above diagrams indicate the Up, Down or Side movements, for beating time with the hand, just as the director of an orchestra would use.

The upper number, known as the numerator, establishes the number of beats in each measure.
The lower number, known as the denominator, establishes the note-value of each beat.

> Always count according to the Numerator. M.B.

At the end of a piece, a heavy double-line serves as the sign of conclusion :


When necessary to repeat a part, or a whole section of a piece the repetition sign is used:


## NOTES

## Their Shape and Time-Value

There are different kinds of notes, each of a definite, precise time-value:



An apple divided into equal parts will illustrate how the whole-note can be divided:


## RESTS

The rest indicates a pause or interval of silence between two tones. Its time value corresponds exactly with that of the similarly named note:

Whole-rest
Half-rest
Quarter-rest
Eighth-rest
Sixteenth-rest


Notes


Rests


A rest is as important as a note!
Never overlcok a rest but count it accurately! M.B.

## THE FOUR STRINGS OF THE VIOLIN



C means corda: String. $m$ indicates Down-Bow. $V$ indicates Up-Bow. o indicates Open String.

## TUNING OF THE FOUR STRINGS

The Four Strings are tuned in so-called Perfect Fifths. A perfect Fifth is an interval of five (5) diatonic degrees, counted from the first note (prime) in a scale.


G to D is a Perfect Fifth

It is of the utmost importance that the Violin be properly tuned. As correct tuning of the Violin by ear is difficult for a beginner, the Violin may at first be tuned with the aid


D to A is a Perfect Fifth


Tuning Pipe


A to E is a Perfect Fifth
of a piano or a tuning pipe.
As soon as possible, the pupils should be taught to tune their own Violins by ear. This is one of the reasons why Eartraining should begin early.

## HOW TO ATTACH THE STRINGS CORRECTLY



The above illustration shows clearly how the strings should be attached and wound around the pegs.


The above illustration shows clearly how not to attach the strings and wind them around the pegs.

The pegs should always be in good condition, should fit exactly and should respond to the slightest touch of the player.

If the pegs begin to stick and do not work easily, they should be taken out-one at a timeand be rubbed with a little soap if too tight, or with a little chalk if too loose.


## RECAPITULATION

Adjustor for the Steel E String
I. Stand erect, with shoulders well back and chest forward; the weight of your body resting on the left foot.
2. Do not let your Violin sag but keep it in a straight, horizontal position.
3. Draw your bow mid-way betucen bridge and fingerboard, straight across the string; the point of contact must never vary and the clirection in which it is drawn must always be parallel to the bridge.
4. In changing from down-bow to up-bow, or from up-bow to down-bow, move the wrist.
5. Play in exact time giving the precise value to each note. Train your sense of rhythm incessantly through correct and proper counting.
6. Be sure that your Violin is perfectly tuned.
7. The music must be placed exactly in line with your eyes, the height to be regulated by the necessary raising or lowering of the music stand.
8. Good bodily health is of the utmost advantage to a violinist. Above all, students should accustom themselves to well-regulated breathing while practising, remembering that inhaling of ozone will cause the blood to circulate more freely and in this way bring about the healthiest and most active condition of both body and mind.


Count: 1234 (quarter notes)

*) Keep bow quiet on the string, while counting the rest.


Count: 1234 (whole, half and quarter notes)

$O D_{\text {Music" }^{*}}^{\text {Sheet }}$

Maia Bang - Violin Method, Part I
E STRING

*) Keep bow quiet on the string while counting the rest.


Count: 1234


Maia Bang - Violin Method, Part I
D STRING

*) Keep bow quiet on the string, while counting the rest.

G STRING

$Q D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$


Ensemble playing should be cultivated from the very beginning; it is of great value in developing musicianship in the pupil. Part 2 page 3 contains a piano accompaniment to "Marching to School." Study every tune with piano.

## Marching to School

In gay mood



25

## EXERCISE

for gaining firmer control of the bow
Be careful to exert even pressure upon both strings.


POSITION AND ACTION<br>of the Fingers of the Left Hand

As may be seen from the pictorial illustrations and explanatory remarks, the fingers of the left hand should be held above the fingerboard in a natural and curved position, and for the actual stopping of the notes only the tips of the fingers, where the sensory nerves are located, should touch the strings. To do this correctly, and enable all the fingers to be kept above the finger-board, ready to fall into place with the necessary strength and precision, requires an upright attitude of the hand and correct position of the elbow alluded to in preceding instructions, and as a further necessary detail, short trimming of all the finger nails. (See Part VI, page 513.)

For the very first attemps at setting the fingers it should be remembered that the finger in use should touch only one string at a time.

Fingering for violin music is marked as follows:-

```
0 indicates use of an open string.
1 indicates use of the first or index finger.
2 indicates use of the second or middle finger.
3 indicates use of the third or ring finger.
4 indicates use of the fourth or little finger.
```


## Whole-Steps and Half-Steps

There are two different ways of placing the fingers on the strings as shown ot the following diagram.

1. Whole-steps, taken somewhat apart.
2. Half-steps, taken closely together.

## DIAGRAM OF THE VIOLIN FINGER-BOARD

 showing the four strings, distances between whole and half steps, names of notes and fingers with which the notes are taken

EXPLANATION OF THE DIAGRAM
E String: A String: D String: G String:

| E to F\# <br> whole-step | A to B <br> whole-step | D to E <br> whole-step | G to A <br> whole-step |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| F\# to G <br> half-step | B to C <br> half-step | E to F $\#$ <br> whole-step | A to B <br> whole-step |
| G to A <br> whole-step | C to D <br> whole-step | F\& to G <br> half-step | B to C <br> half-step |
| A to B <br> whole-step | D to E <br> whole-step | G to A <br> whole-step | C to D <br> whole-step |

Notice that: 1st Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings
2nd Finger is placed alike on 2 strings and 2 strings (see pages 35 and 36 )
3rd Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings
4th Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings


# Professor Auer's Two Most Important Principles concerning FINGER and BOW PRESSURE 

## 1. CORRECT ACTION OF THE LEFT HAND FINGERS

The fingers should stop the strings with exceedingly strong pressure, but without stiffening or cramping the hand or fingers.

The pupil should gradually strengthen and develop the fingers, so that they will fall upon the strings like individual little hammers.

> Thoroughly developed and completely trained left hand fingers should be as strong and unfailingly certain, as though made of iron. L. A.

## 2. CORRECT ACTION OF THE BOW ARM

The bow should be drawn lightly and smoothly over the strings without any rough or heavy pressure.

This calls for a different dynamic pressure from the two hands:
a) Strong Finger pressure
b) Light Bow pressure

The Wrist should be free and flexible to insure free movements of the arm.
The Change of the Bow should not be heard.

> Ideal perfection in this detail of bowoing requires that the change itself be made zith utmost smoothness and reithout the slightest soundor scratching noise. To gain this perfection requires constant use of a flexible wrist. L. A.

These two principles of Professor Auer, together with holding the violin without a cushion constitute the most important of his scientific discoveries in connection with the art of violin playing; it cannot be mastered with ease, but if finally gained through unceasing ef fort and toil, it will result in the production of that luscious, wonderful tonal quality for which all the foremost disciples of the Auer School have earned such world-wide fame.

A STRING
1st Finger

## A String: $0 \longrightarrow$ B



Count:1 234


Count:1234


For quarter, half and whole-notes use the bowing exactly as marked on page $\mathbf{2 5}$ for Exercises on Open Strings.


Count: 1234


The 1st finger is placed alike on the A-E-D-G strings.

## $\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Shet }}$ <br> Music"

## D STRING

D String:


Place the finger first, then draw the bow. L.A.

G SIRING


Count: 1234


Count: 1234


The 1st finger is placed alike on all four strings.

## $\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## A STRING <br> 2nd Finger

A String: 0 ————CB


Count: 1234


Count: 1234


Keep 1st finger down for the length of the dotted lines.

## E STRING



Count: 1234


Count: 1234


Do not press with the bow! Draw it lightly!
The 2nd finger is placed alike on the $A$ and $E$ strings.
CD $D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## D STRING

D String:


The and finger is placed alike on the $D$ and $G$ strings.


The fingers must remain upon the strings wherever and whenever possible! Never lift afinger unless obliged to do so.
$\Theta D$

## A STRING <br> 3rd Finger



Count: 1234


> E STRING


Watch the intonation! Play in tune!
The 3rd finger is placed alike on all four strings.
$\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$
Music"


## G STRING

G String: of


The ard finger is placed alike on all four strings.
Play in strict rhythm and count!
$\Theta D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## A STRING <br> 4th Finger

The fourth finger as the shortest and weakest of the left hand fingers, demands particular attention and special training in order to impart to it the same strength, stretching power and flexibility, which nature has so freely bestowed upon the other fingers of the left hand.
A String:
O-
D)
E

Count: 1234


Count: 1234


## Count:1234



## E STRING

E String:





The 4th finger is placed alike on all four strings.
© D Dhusic"

## D STRING

## D String:





Count: 1234


G STRING


Count: 1234


Count: 1234
Count: 1234


The fth finger is placed alike on all four strings.
CD Sheet
Music"

## EXERCISES FOR CROSSING AND CONNECTING THE FOUR STRINGS

Count: 1234









 © $D_{\text {Music }}$ Sheet


Always anticipate the next note to be played and prepare forit with the necessary finger.


| Listen attentively to your own 'play ing! |
| :--- |
| Try to detect the least flaws in your intonation |
| and use your ear incessantly to play in tune. |

DD

Maia Bang - Violin Method, Part I
F NATURAL

F natural on the E String is a half-step from the open string. Bend ist finger well to the left and place it very closely to the nut.

> E STRING
> 1st Finger


E STRING
2nd Finger


Count: 12


E STRING
3rd Finger


E STRING
4th Finger


Stretch the 4th finger well up to B.
( $)$ Sheet $\begin{gathered}\text { Music }\end{gathered}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { F NATURAL } \\
& \text { on the D Striag }
\end{aligned}
$$

Fnatural is a Half-step from E. Place the 2nd finger close po the 1st finger.


## First Little Etude 2/4TIME



The Babbling Brook
Cheerfully

*. Keep the 2nd finger on the string.
$O D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## Second Little Etude 3/4TIME

In this etude in $3 / 4$ time the down bow is used on the first note of every other measure.


## The Ring

Use the same length of bow for the quarter-notes as for half-notes. Draw the bow slowly for the Down- Bow and quickly and lightly for the Up-Bow.


> When crossing strings do not raise the finger with which you have just played, until the next finger has been placed in position.
> L.A.

# The Cricket <br> 4/4 TIME 

Count: 1234
HENNING


FOURTH FINGER OR OPEN STRING


The above three notes may be played either os the open strings, or with the 4 th finger on either $G, D$ or Astrings.


The :ule is: Use the open string for ascending, the fourth finger for descending scales or passages or when the note in question allows of resting on the string.
L. A.

## The Scale

A scale is a succession of ascending and descending notes. There are two kinds of scales:
Diatonic and Chromatic
The diatonic scale may be either
MAJOR or MINOR
The Major Scale consists of:
2 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step
3 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step


The Major scale can be formed from every tone and derives its name from the first note.

## THE MINOR SCALE

The Major scale has its parallel Minor scale, the key-note of which is found one whole and one-half tones (a minorthird) lower than the key-note of the Major Scale.

The Minor scale is different in its ascending and descending form:

$$
\left.\begin{array}{l}
\text { It consists of: } \\
\left.\begin{array}{l}
1 \text { Whole-step and } 1 \text { Half-step } \\
4 \text { Whole-steps and } 1 \text { Half-step }
\end{array}\right\} \text { ascending } \\
2 \text { Whole-steps and } 1 \text { Half-step } \\
2 \text { Whole-steps and } 1 \text { Half-step } \\
1 \text { Whole-step }
\end{array}\right\} \text { descending }
$$



In the playing of both the Major and Minor Scale it is necessary to play certain of the important steps somewhat sharper or flatter than others in order to emphasize the character of the scale more decidedly. Therefore mind the following rule:

Play a high third and a high seventh (the leading tone) in the Major Scale.

Play a low third and a high seventh in the Minor Scale.
L.A.

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I
SCALE OF C MAJOR
Half-steps: E-F and B-C




Also to be practised


> BROKEN CHORDS

*) Counterpoint by Cherubini

## CD Must <br> Music"

## Seymour



## EIGHTH NOTES

To be played with supple wrist and with the part of Bow as marked (from A to B)
THIRD ETUDE


## Merry-Go-Round

 Count:

## DOTTED NOTES

A Dot placed after a note prolongs its time-value by half.
Play the Down-bow slowly, and the Up-bow quickly, using the same length of bow, up and down.


Down-bow quickly, Up-bow slowly
Count: 1234


Down-bow slowly, Up-bow quickly
Count: 1 \& 2 \& 3 \& 4 \&


## CD Dhusic"

## America



## LEGATO PLAYING The Slur

Legato means the playing of a number of notes or a passage in a smooth and connected manner, with no break between the notes. The sign for such playirg is the so-called siur, a curved line drawn over or under the notes, signifying that they are to be played legato and indicating to the Violinist that they are to be played in one bow.

For this kind of playing particular care must be given to the cqual division of the bow, f. i.: -

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { With } 2 \text { notes to one bow: } \\
& \text { Divide the bow into two parts } \\
& \text { With } 3 \text { notes to one bow: } \\
& \text { Divide the bow into three parts } \\
& \text { With } 4 \text { notes to one bow: } \\
& \text { Divide the bow into four parts }
\end{aligned}
$$

> SLURRED NOTES ON ONE STRING
> 2 notes in one bow


Exactly one-half of the bow for each note

*) Tenuto means sustained, simile or segue means to continue in the same manner

## © D ${ }_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$ <br> Music"



4 notes in one bow


Exactly one-quarter of the bow for each note

© D Mheet $_{\text {Music }}$

## The Secret of Perfect String Transfer ONE OF PROFESSOR AUER'S MOST IMPORTANT RULES

Any bowing is relatively simple as long as the bow is used on one string only. It is when the bow is transferred to a neze string that the difficulty arises. It can really be said that the main problem of Bow technique is embedded in the art of a perfect change of strings.

## CHANGE OF STRINGS

In order to gain a smooth inaudible String Transfer, Prof. Auer recommended that the finger, just used, should remain on the string until the bow has changed to the new string, that is: A momentary and simultaneous resting of both fingers on two strings.

Prof. Auer claimed (and rightly so) that a perfect String Transfer zoas impossible without adhering to this important rule.

EXERCISES FOR STRING TRANSFERS with stationery position of two fingers


String transfers with 2 notes to each bow


Count: 1234


String transfers with 3 notes to each bow


## CD $D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## String transfers with 4 notes to each bow



## The Doll

A. TÉGNÉR

© $D \begin{aligned} & \text { Music } \\ & \text { Sheet }\end{aligned}$

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I

## VARIETIES OF BOWING

## Practise: a) Separate bows <br> b) 2 notes in a bow <br> c) 4 notes in a bow

Always use the open string wherever the fourth finger is not marked.


In the following exercises the down-bow should be played quickly and the up-bow slowly, using this part of the bow: A-B, B-A

## The Squirrel



Scherzando
Count: 123123


## $\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$ <br> Music"

## Correct Finger-action Across the Strings

To learn how a correct finger-action across the strings is carried out, is of equal importance to knowing how a smooth and correct string transfer is to be carried out with the bow.

A correct Finger-action when crossing the strings calls for a sidezay movement of the fingers. This sideway movement should be carried out with ease and freedom by the fingers, independent of the hand.

Do not move the Hand!
Move only the Fingers!
We have another movement of the hand: The lengthrise movement, which is considered in Part III.

It is also important to learn not only the exact position of each note on the 4 strings, but also hoze the different notes on the different strings correspond to each other across the strings as well as their correct fingering.


## EXPLANATION

The above diagram clearly shows the position of each and every note on the 4 strings, as well as their relationship to each other and the appropriate fingering for them across the strings.

## $\mathbf{C D} D_{\text {nhesict }}^{\text {Shic }}$

Maia Bang - Violin Nehotod, Part
RELATIVE DIST
between notes on neighboring strings, as indicated
with dotted lines on the diagram, are as follows:-
with dotted lines on the diagram, are as follows:-



多 ${ }^{5}$




The interval from B to F is a so-called diminished fifth, and as these two notes are not exactly opposite to each other on the violin fingerboard, their production with the same finger brings about a peculiar difficulty and necessitates particular care.

To play these notes, the finger must always be lifted after each note, and reset upon the neighboring string either higher or lower, as called for by the new note.

Practise the following exercises very slowly and carefully and remember to place the finger first before drawing the bow.

Part II, page 125, contains a marvellous fingering for diminished fifths. But a beginner should at first study this ordinary fingering.


## FIFTH ETUDE <br> 6/8 TIME


*) The 2nd finger should be raised and renet as explained as above.
CD $\mathrm{D}_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## SCALE OF A MINOR

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Half steps: } B-C \text { and } G \#-A \text { when ascending } \\
& \text { F-E and } C-B \text { when descending }
\end{aligned}
$$

Two secrets of how to gain perfect intonation:
(1) Play the half-steps as closely together as possible
(2) Play a high leading tone- (the seventh tone)
L. A.

## Preparation:



Also to be practised:
Count: 1234 Count: 12334


BROKEN CHORDS


For Down-bow: Use $2 / 3$ of the bow for the half note ( $A-B$ ). Use $1 / 3$ of the bow for the quarter note ( $B-C$ ) and reverse for Up-bow.


Dotted Quarter and Eighth Notes


For Down-bow: Use $3 / 4$ of the bow for the dotted quarter note (A-B). Use $1 / 4$ of the bow for the eighth note (B-C) Reverse for Up-bow.

$\mathbf{C D}$
57

## THE RHYTHMIC PULSE

which beats throughout this tune is:
4123,4123
It should be clearly understood that the rhythmic pulse is not 4, 1234, but 4123 . Before playing, count 412 -aloud-throughout the whole tune and sec how exactly this rhythmic pulse fits to the very last measure.

## Old French Song

Espressivo


## SIXTH ETUDE

Use whole bow with supple wrist. Mind correct inward bend of your left arm.... (See 1ll. 14)

$\Theta D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

Count: 1234


Nearer My God to Thee
MASON


EXERCISES FOR CROSSING THE STRINGS

*) The second finger must be placed upon both strings simultaneously.
**) Diminished Fifths like these ( $F \sharp$ to $C$ ) also referred to at times as false vis a vis, occur very frequently and particular attention must always be given to perfect intonation. The fingers must be lifted and reset as explained on page 57.

## CD ${ }_{\text {Music }}$

## DETACHED NOTES IN ONE BOW

Dots under slurred notes signify, that these notes should sound detached within one stroke.

are to be played


To obtain this effect a momentary halt must be made between the two notes; but the bow must not be taken away from the string; it must simply be stopped and then started again.

Each note must be produced clearly and evenly.

## WHOLE BOW



## Springtime



## CD Music'



## The Burgomaster

Swedish Song
A. TÉGNÉR

Pupil
69
Teacher

*) The second finger to be lifted and reset as explained on the preceeding page.

## $\mathbf{C} D_{\text {nhusic }}^{\text {sheic }}$

## SKIPS ACROSS ONE OR TWO STRINGS

| In shipping weross one ar tuno unused strings alurtys hold the bow firmly |
| :---: |
| in the hand and guide it acioss the strings with a loose wrist. |
| L. A. |



## Dolly's Little Minuet

Con moto (In playful mood)




$\Rightarrow \sqrt{1}$ First Ending $\sqrt{2}$ Second Euding. In repeating, the First Ending is omitted and the piece comes to a close with the Second Ending.
$C D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## EXERCISES FOR CHANGE OF BOW

 at the Nut and Tip, developing flexibility of the Wrist.The following exercises are to be practised very near to nut or tip, with short, soft strokes of the bow. Only the Wrist is to be moved and the entire upper and lower arm must be held absolutely quiet.

## EXERCISES ON ONE STRING

Count: $1 \begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & 3\end{aligned}$


## EXERCISES ACROSS TWO STRINGS

Count: $\begin{array}{lllll}1 & 2 & 3 & 4\end{array}$
72b


This style of "Bowing" is only to be used for exercising purposes, such as the above.

## CD Sheet <br> Music

## DYNAMIC SIGNS

Dynamio Signs are used for indicating the varying and contrasting degrees of loudnessor intensity in musical tones.

The most necessary of these for the young player are two indications, expressed through means of Italian words: Forte and Pifno.

Forte (abbreviated $f$ ) meaning loud
Piano (abbreviated $\boldsymbol{p}$ ) meaning softly
Forte is produced on the violin through slightly increased pressure upon the bow and by playing nearer to the bridge. For Piano, the pressure upon the bow must be diminished and the playing dune somewhat nearer to the fingerboard. Also see Part VI, payes 518, 519.

For ploying piano be sure to remember that the fingers of the left hand must never play softly. Piano passiges in particular require unusurlly strong and powevful setting of the fingers, but the bow, must be drawn delicately and very smoothly.
L. A.

If produced in this way the tone of the instrument, even in the softest pirano will speak clearly and carry to the greatest distance. Expert mastery of these radically different dynamic actions of both hands is a rare achievement and constitutes one of the most advanced problems of the high school of violin playing. See Part VI, page 453.

> Never overlook the dynamic signs but follow themexactly M.B.

## EXERCISES <br> for different Dynamic Expressions

forte: Play nearer to the bridge with slightly increased Bow-pressure.

piano: Play nearer to the fingerboard with diminished Bow-pressure.


## Duet*)

Marcato Pleyel

Pupil
73
Teacher

*) Duet or Duo, a composition for two instruments, or for two voices.
**) The little line (d) signifies that the note should be played with a long sustained stroke of the bow.

## $C D \begin{gathered}\text { Music } \\ \text { Sheet }\end{gathered}$

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I
SCALE OF E MINOR
Half-steps: $F \#-G$ and $D \#-E$ when ascending
$C-B$ and $G-F \#$ when descending
Preparation:



An important rule: Always have the finger firmly placed on the string, before playing.
Every new note should first be secured by the finger; then draw the bow.
Think of God in Your Youth

$O D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## BOWING VARIETIES

For gaining experience in different bowing combinations.
Use whole bow


Give one half length to the half note and the remaining length to the two quarter notes.


1st VARIATION


## $\mathbf{C} D_{\text {Nixec }}^{\text {Sinee }}$



Whole bow giving one-quarter length to each of the quarter notes.

## 4th VARIATION



## 5th VARIATION <br> Down-bow slowly, Up-bow quickly



6th VARIATION


| Always remember that the bow should be held |
| ---: |
| firmly with a loose wrist and not with loose |
| fingers and a gtiff wrist. Do not move thefin- |
| gers, only the wrist. |

This instruction "to hold the bow firmly" must not be misunderstood.
It does not mean a stiff and immovable grip upon the bow, which calls for rigid muscular tension from wrist to shoulder, but simply that it should rest securely within the fingers, that the player has complete control of it at all times, and that the loose, flexible movement of the wrist will never be interfered with.

## Black Roses

## Both sad and gay

Be careful to observe the exact time value of the rests as they occur in this piece; be sure to conent correctly.


$$
\begin{array}{r}
\text { SCALE OF D MAJOR } \\
\text { Half-steps: F\#-G and C\#-D }
\end{array}
$$

Preparation:


Also to be practised:


CD $D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$
Count: 1234

## THE D MAJOR TRIAD (In varied form)



## Remember the most important of all require-ments:- Always to play in tune. M.B.

## EXERCISE IN THE KEY OF D MAJOR



## TEMPO MARKS

As all pieces are not played in the same tempo, certain words and terms(mostly of Italian origin) are provided with which the pace or speed of a movement is indicated and with the aid of which the absolute time-value of the notes is established.

In a general way there are four principal groups of tempo-marks in use, descriptive of:
(1) Slow tempo
(2) Quick tempo
(3) Accelerating of speed
(4) Slackening of speed

The principal tempo marks necessary for present requirements of a beginner are included in the following fist:-

| Adagio | slow |
| :---: | :---: |
| Andante | moderately slow |
| Andantino | a little quickerthan andante |
| Moderato | at a moderate rate of speed |
| Allegretto | moderately fast, lively |
| Allegro | lively, brisk |
| Presto | rapid; very quickly |
| Ritardando |  |
| Rallentando | growing slower and slower |
| Ritenuto |  |
| à tempo |  |
| Tempo primo | freturn to the original tempo |

> Never overlook the tempo marks, butfollow them exactly! M.B.

Count:1 23

Pupil 81

Teacher

*) Lindeman : Norwegian Folksongs.
© D ${ }_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Mheet }}$

## Intervals

The difference in pitch between two tones is called an interval. For a beginner it is sufficient to learn the following intervals:-


As may be clearly seen:

1. The interval between two notes of the same degree is a Prime

2. The interval between two notes of different degrees is a Second

3. The interval between three notes is a Third

4. The interval between four notes is a Fourth

5. The interval between five notes is a Fifth.

6. The interval between six notes is a Sixth.
7. The interval between seven notes is a Seventh

8. The interval between eight notes is a Octave


It cannot be stressed too much how important is the study of intervals for the violinist to be.
The ability to recognize an interval when it occurs, the so called Interval Recognition should be especially cultivated as it greatly helps developing the violin pupil's musical sense and also enables to memorize better and more easily.

> When practising remember that you must do so slowly and slowly and again slowly! in order that you may have sufficient time to consider and think about each note and each bow before actually playing.
> L.A.

## THIRDS



FOURTHS


FIFTHS


## SIXTHS



SEVE NTHS


OCTAVES

*) Lying exactly opposite to each other on adjacent strings, perfect fifths are always taken with the same finger; excepting of course when they occur on the open strings.

The finger stopping these intervals should always be placed simultaneously upon the two strings.

## (O) Sheet <br> Music

## The Big Crow <br> Norwegian Folk Song



Particular care to be taken with the bowing in this piece. In some of the measures f.i.*) the DownBow is to be played rather slowly and the Up-Bow much quicker; then again this is reversed at **) where the Down-Bow must be played quickly and the Up-Bow much slower.

## EXERCISES FOR CROSSING THE STRINGS


*) The first finger placed simultaneously upon both strings and held down until end of dotted line.
**) Alternate raising and re-setting of the second finger as previously explained on pages 59 and 64.

## Minuet

Down-Bow to be drawn more rapidly than the Up-Bow
W. A. MOZART
(composed in his Fourth Year) Arranged by M.B.


*) First finger placed on both strings simultaneously.
**) Place first finger on ( $D \#$ ) one-half tone lower than $E$ and then glide up to $E$ without raising the finger.

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I

## BOWING EXERCISES

 across two strings for wrist developmentTo be practised with this length of the bow.


## A Norwegian Valdres Dance


*) See author's Preface, page 7.

## $\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## SCALE OF B MINOR

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { Half-steps: } & C \#-D \text { and } A \#-B \text { when ascending } \\
& G-F \# \text { and } D-C \# \text { when descending }
\end{aligned}
$$



Also to be practised:


CD $\mathrm{M}_{\text {Music }}$

## VARIED TRIAD IN B MINOR



> An Important Rule: Use the Bow sparingly at the start of long sustained notes; as a rule beginners will always draw the Bow too quick ly at the start and then find that there is hardly any Bow left with which to end the tone. M.B.

## The Orient

A Swedish Folksong
Andantino (Sorrowfully and longingly) Count: 341234

Arranged by M.B.

$\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## SIXTEENTH NOTES

Comparison of the Sixteenth Note with other Notes met with thus far:


> Devote special attention to the Up-Bow, as from nature it is weaker than the Down Bow. Therefore, in order to strengthen it and impart to it the frecdom and swing of the down-bow, the notes should be played more heavily and with extra strength. L.A.

Use the wrist


Correct use of the lower right arm will impart breadth and strength to your general tone production. See Prof. Auer's remark, Part III, page 182.
(e) $D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## SEVENTH ETUDE



There is Music in the air, There is Music everywhere

*) The third finger having moved beyond its usual position for the preceding A\# must be drawn buck again before placing it on this $D$.
**) Move the first fingerback one-half step for the A\# and forward again to B, without raising the finger.

| Neverpractise when you are tired. |
| ---: |
| L. A. |

You must be wide awake and use all your faculties when practising. N771

## $\Theta D_{\text {Music }}$ Sheet

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I

## Seven Women <br> Oriental Song





Always practise your technieal exercises softly
L.A

SCALE OF A MAJOR
Half-steps: C\#-D and G\#-A



Count: 1234

$\Theta D$ Sheet

Also to be practised:


## BROKEN CHORDS



Carry Me $\underset{\text { (Plantation Song) }}{\text { Back To Old Virginny }}$
Allegro moderato con sentimento
E. P. CHRISTY
Arranged by M. B.
Count: $6 \quad 123456$


## Staccato Bowing

Staccato-an Italian word-indicates that the notes should be played short and separated from each other by soundless rests.

Staccato is marked by small dots over or under the notes and is produced on the violin by a short bow stroke and then a sudden stop of the bow. During this pause the bow should remain silently on the string, whereby the vibrations of the string are stopped, the tone abruptly broken off and the short staccato effect obtained.

Too short a stroke should not be used and the wrist should be loose and very flexible.

## ILLUSTRATION FOR STACCATO BOWING


are to be played:


Count: 1234
EXERCISES FOR STACCATO BOWING

$\Theta D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$
Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I

$$
\text { STACCATO EXERCISE No. } 2
$$



Watch the intonation and listen to your own playing as attentively as possible. M. B.
COMBINATION
of legato and staccato bowing


Down-Bow slowly, Up-Bow quickly. Use same length of the Bow up and down


2nd VARIATION
Down-Bow quickly, Up-Bow slowly


3rd VARIATION
Staccato at the point of the bow

$Q D \begin{gathered}\text { Music" }\end{gathered}$







| Remember that you must hold the bow firmly and play with a loose wrist and |  |
| ---: | ---: |
| not contrarily hold the bow loosely and play with a stiff wrist. | L. A. |

*) Observe raising and resetting of the 3rd finger.
© $D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## SCALE OF F\# MINOR

Half-steps: G\#-A and E\#-F\# when ascending
D-C\# and A-G\# when descending

## Preparation:



Also to be practised:


BROKEN CHORDS


## $C D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I
DOTTED EIGHTHS

## Legato



## EIGHTH ETUDE


*) E \# (leading-note) is one-half-step lower than the $\mathrm{F} \#$. Nove ist finger back to E . and glide up to F \# without raising the finger.

| Always practise with careful attention to every detail. Violin |
| ---: | ---: |
| playing is a very complicated matter and requires your every thought |
| and complete concentration! |

(Also see Part VI, page 525).
$\mathcal{C} D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

are to be played:


Observe a momentary rest between the two notes. Do not lift the bow from the string and mark the staccato note well.


To be practised in a similar way on all strings.


Remember the necessary up-right attitude of your left hand and correct position of the arm and vorist. See illustration 1 page 13.
$\Theta D_{\text {Music" }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

## The Boy and the Girl <br> Andantino Norwegian Folk Song

Count: $3 \& 1 \& 2 \& 3 \& \quad$ Arranged by M.B.

Pupil
108
Teacher


SCALE OF E MAJOR
Flalf-steps: G\#-A and D\#-E
Preparation:

$$
\text { Flalf-steps: } G \#-A \text { and } D \#-E
$$

 Count: 1234

*) The double sharp ( x ) raises a note one-whule step.

Also to be practised:


BROKEN CHORDS

*) See Prof. Auer's remark on next page.

## $0 D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Sheet }}$

Revery individual note of a scale is of equal importance! Therefore bear each note in mind as you play it and make sure of its perfect production.
L. A.

This rule holds good only when practising slowly.
M.B.

## Home, Sweet Home

BISHOP
Arranged by M.B.
Moderato (With tender feeling)

Pupil
111
Teacher


$4 \quad 4$



The March of Spain
Arranged by M. B.

Pupil
112
Teacher




© $D_{\text {Music }}^{\text {Mheet }}$

# Correct Principles for the Practise of <br> FINGER EXERCISES 

1. Strong Finger-pressure
2. Soft Bow-pressure
3. Practise piano
4. Practise slowly
5. Move the fingers only. The hand must remana quiet.

Practise here: 1) Separate Bowing. 2) Two notes in a bow. 3) Four notes in a bow.


## $Q D$ Mheet

## Old Pilgrims Song

## Beautiful is the Earth

Andante (With feeling and peacefully)
Arranged by M. B.
Count: 1234
Pupi1
114
Teacher


*) mf: half-loud, between forte and piano.

Preparation:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { SCALE OF CH MINOR } \\
& \text { Half-steps: } D \#-E \text { and } \\
& A-G \# \text { and } E-D H \text { when ascending } \\
& A-D h e n ~ d e s c e n d i n g ~
\end{aligned}
$$


*) Stretch 4th finger. **) Be careful here. $B \#$ is taken very high-about the same as C natural.
Count: 1234
Pupil
115
Teacher


BROKEN CHORDS


## OD Disict

## CROSSING THE STRING

and preparation for the Etude


## TENTH AND LAST ETUDE

for development of supple wrist movements.
Use liberal bow length.
M. B.


## $\Theta D$ Mheet

## Dear Old Mother

EDV. GRIEG Arranged by M.B.



SHARP SCALES
taken up thus far:

| G Major | $1 \#$ | E Minor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| D Major | $2 \#$ | B Minor |
| A Major | $3 \#$ | F\# Minor |
| E Major | $4 \#$ | C\# Minor |

It is very easy for violin players to remember the order of these Major Scales, owing to the fact that they are named in the same order as the four strings of the Violin.

In their ascending succession they are a perfect fifth apart.


[^0]:    *It should be remembered here that this remark by Prof. Auer was intended for his artist pupils of whom he always asked the height of perfection. Beginners and amateurs should not take this request too literally. Pupils' necks differ; a pupil with a short neck needs no cushon while a pupil with a longer neck does need one. Use your own judgment.

    It also seems that Prof. Auer somewhat overestimated the harm of using a cushion. Modern scientific experiments show, that while the violin may be robbed a little of its tonal volume by using a cushion, this loss does not amount to as much as a third of its volume.

