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PUBLISHED SIX TIMES A YEAR BY

### S. S. STEWART

Nos. 221 and 223 Church Street, Philadelphia, Fenna.

#### S. S. STEWART'S BANJO MUSIC.

ADDITIONS	TO	INCTDUME	NTAL	CATALOGUE.

- large page and therefore the parts can not be sold separately.)

  480 College Hornpipe, an old favorite, arranged for two banjos, by Stewart. A..... 10

- 485 Ring, Ring De Banjo, an old favorite negro melody, here arranged for two banjos, by Stewart, key of El. Excellent for teaching, to 486 Oh! Susana, another old favorite, ar-

- 489 "Old Time Banjo Tunes," three pieces on one page, as follows: "Jim along Josey," "Goin' ober de Mountain" and "Camptown Hormpine."

- 494 Rippling Streamlet Waltz, by
  W. A. Huntley, banjo solo. A, E and D... 25
  495 Old Time "49 er" Jig, by Tom

- 498 Intropid Quick Stop, banjo duett, by G. C. Stephens, an excellent march in 6-8 time.....

- 504 Otto Polka, banjo duett, by R. A. Smith. An excellent polka, A, E and D.... 25
  505 "The Rough Diamond" Minor

Piano accompaniment alone ...... 25

- 512 Lorraine Schottische, by R. A. Smith
  This number is arranged for banjo, with part for second banjo, and also with part for guitar and may be used for banjo and guitar or two banjos, or two banjos and guitar, as desired. The banjo part is in key of E.
- 514 Little Daisy Schottische, by Frey, for banjo and guitar. B and A..... Lew Brimmer's Jig, for banjo alone.
  The two above named pieces making one number.

Vol. VIII. No. 2. Whole No. 64.

June and July, 1891.

PRICE, TEN CENTS.

### A TRIBUTE TO THE STEWART BANJO. BY W. W. WATKINS.

If within your columns you'll allow as much room, I would just like to speak of the ""Uh" Banjo's doom; But before I proceed, I would just like to say, How many young people have been led astray, By teachers of Banjo, so-called in their time, And also by players who played "in their mind."

And all that they knew, was one eld-fashloned Jig. And they charged fifty cents for a lesson, a dig; They taught all by ear, their Banjos were fine. The strings were like ropes, the brass rim did shine. "Tis true, what I say, I have been through the mill, But it's easy enough to get out, if you will.

But let us not worry, the day must soon come, When tubs and their teachers will fade in the sun. The road will be smooth and the forest will fall. To make way for Stewart, the Master of all. For he whose experience and knowledge so great, In making a Banjo all others to beat.

In making a banjo an others to beat.

In beauty of finish and sweet ringing tone,
Makes S. S. Stewart so widely known.
Then let us rejoice in pushing along,
The work of a genius, that hasn't a wrong;
All Hail to the Banjo, with its aweet mellow ring;
Which makes S. S. Stewart the great "Banjo King."

#### WILL STAND IN TUNE.

Every experienced banjo player knows what an annoyance it is to have the bridge on his instrument slip out of position while executing a rapid passage, especially when it occurs white playing in public and before a critical audience where the performer is anxious to do his best.

The banjo has been carefully tuned with the piano and the artist begins his solo with piano accompaniment. All goes well for a few moments, when a few extra heavy strokes on the bass string occasions the bridge to slip slightly out of place, and behold I the instrument is out of tune and annoyance and discord the result. With the ordinary bridge, used a few years ago, this was a constant annoyance, for the feet of the bridge not being properly trued up, and the notches not having been sawed with a properly constructed saw, or tool adapted to the purpose, there was always some trouble or other with the bridge.

S. S. Stewart, after careful experiment with various qualities of wood, and with various methods of cutting the notches and making the bridges, finally perfected the banjo bridge, and has been for some time past putting on the market a reliable bridge for the banjo. These bridges are all stamped with his name and have the five notches for the strings properly cut and are ready for instant use and cost only five cents each. One of these bridges, if rightly used, will last a long time, and, therefore, the cost is next to nothing.

Some unscrupulous dealers are in the habit of selling very poor imitations of this bridge

-made of soft and unsuitable wood, and having the notches improperly cut-when the Stewart bridge has been called for. This is so small and contemptible a matter that we should not mention it at all were it not for the annovance it causes the performer, The Stewart bridges may be had, mailed to any address at fifty cents per dozen, or six cents for a single bridge—the one cent over the regular price being for postage. The trouble with the bridge slipping out of place, or working from side to side, however, does not always lie in the bridge; very often the fault is in the tail-piece. With the ivory tail-piece, so popular of recent years, where the bolt holding it permits it to have full play—as is the case with nearly all of this style of tail-piece—it is impossible to play full and strong and have the banjo keep in tune, because the tail-piece will not stand firm and stationary and permits the bridge to shift. Not only has this annoyance been often noted to the sorrow of public performers, but another great trouble with this sort of tail-piece is that strings are so often cut or broken at the knot, and with some of them no amount of smoothing off the surface of the holes appears to afford any permanent remedy, for the walrus ivory will chip off again and leave a ragged cutting

In the improved tail-piece, now being put on all the first grade banjos manufactured by Stewart, this trouble is entirely overcome. The lug on the metal portion of the tailpiece rests snugly against the banjo-hoop and the appendage remains firmly in place; thus the pressure of the strings holds the bridge in position and the instrument remains in tune. The strings are simply tied to the small bar, a portion of the tail-piece itself, and there are no holes to pass the strings through and no ragged edges to cut or break them. When a string breaks it does not have to be passed through a small hole, but is quickly and easily attached, and thus loss of time and annoyance is avoided.

These tail-pieces ("The Common Sense Tail-piece") can be had by mail for 50 cents. They are made of brass, nickel-plated, and are finished with an ivory rosette, possessing a neat and attractive appearance, and being ornamental as well as useful. This tail-piece has received the endorsement of E. M. Hall, and other celebrated players, and fills a long existing void, or empty, space in the banjo world.

From the New York Clipper, April 25th.

#### MR. STEWART AND HIS BANJOS

It is not likely that there is a Clipper reader, be he weer so far away," who will need an introduction to Mr. Stewart and his Banjos. Mr. Stewart has had good reasons to believe that nearly everybody who has ever read 'The Clipper has also formed his acquaintance. If anybody hasn't, it isn't Mr. Stewart's fault. Fifty two weeks in the year, for a very long time past, this newspaper has had something pleasant to say about S. S. Stewart and the instruments that come from his Philadelphia factory; and, though these highly commendatory words have nearly always appeared in our advertising columns, we have yet to hear that Mr. Stewart has not fulfilled to the letter every promise therein made to his patrons.

This week Mr. Stewart enjoys a special and peculiar distraction that is bound to make him which the distraction of the state of the sta

This weik Mr. Stewart has purchased four fall pages of advertising space in The Copper. His advertisement is the largest ever published in a single issue of this journal. And it has never been exceeded in point of cost, as in size. There is glory in this achievement for Mr. Stewart, and there is likely to be profit in It, too, or it would not have been accessed and his conservative idealings. Mr. Stewart manufactures banjos. The secret of his success seems to consist in the fact that he makes a fine instrument, sells it at a reasonable price and never disappoints not consist in the fact that he makes a fine instrument, sells it at a reasonable price and never disappoints not enecessed the consist in the fact that he makes a fine instrument, sells it at a reasonable price and never have been selled to the sell of the most and the sell of the sell of the have been the have bought his banjos, and most of them have written to him, telling of their satisfaction with their bargain. Four pages of this week's Clipper are used to confirm Mr. Stewart's statement that the most expert and the most famous of banjoists endouse his search of the sell of t



W. L. Battell, St. Francis, Wis., writes:

"I subscribed for the Journal recently (through A. W. Cutting) and think I made a mistake in not subscribing for it a great deal sooner, as it has furnished me with a different style of music from what I have been thumping on. I am much obliged for the Guitarist's Delight. It is well named, and more than I expected."

"Many thanks for sending me the Waltzes. I particularly wanted the Wayfarer, and value it more

than ever, and it has your autograph on the title.

My pupil is delighted with the tone and finish of
the \$40.00 Banjo which I purchased of you last week. May your deserved success continue, is the hope Yours most sincerely,
HENRY MEYERS.

W. S. Wolfe, Evansville, Ind., writes:

"'Hail to the Chief." The Banjo arrived safe and sound, and she is a Thoroughord and no mistake, and I hasten to enclose you a check for the amount. This is the third Banjo my wife has had within a year and the others are tubs with a big 'T' compared with yours. Even the neighbors are delighted with it, and that is saying a good deal.

I enclose you \$1.00 extra, for which please send by mail, at once, that amount in 1st and 4th strings; your very best. One hundred dollars cash would not buy our 'Thoroughbred.'

C. S. Minter, Little Rock, Arkansas, writes:

"The Banjo Case, etc., came all right in good order. My pupil for whom I ordered the Banjo was surprised at such a fine Banjo. The book and circulars I will distribute among my pupils, and I think you will hear from me soon for another Banio."

Gay Marshall, of El Paso, Texas, writes, concerning the \$125.00 Presentation Banjo:

"On my arrival at Big Springs yesterday, I found the Banjo awaiting me. In reply to your query as to how I liked the instrument, I will say, I was looking for something fine, but it far surpasses my expectations.

It is acknowledged by every one to be the finest thing they ever saw. I am more than satisfied with it both as to tone and finish."

"E. M. Hall, the popular and accomplished banjo-ist with Carneross' Minstrels, was presented, April 13, by S. S. Stewart, the well known Philadelphia Banjo Manufacturer, with an instrument said to be the handsomest banjo in the world. The rim is of silver, beautifully engraved. The screws are of heavy gold plate and the keys of ebony, with garnets and rubies in the apex. The handle is of ebony, with a surface of mosaic designs in mother of pearl. It is, indeed, of mosaic designs in mother of pearl. It is, indeed, a magnificent instrument, and one of the finest ever made by Mr. Stewart. The gift speaks volumes for the high esteem in which Mr. Hall is held. A largeaudience applauded the presentation incident. Stage Manager Frank Dumont interrupted Mr. Hall in his performance, and, after upbraiding him for playing for three seasons on an "old" banjo, brought forth the dazzling new instrument, and with a few appro-priate remarks placed it in Mr. Hall's hands. When he recovered from his astonishment, the genial come-dian responded in a happy vein, and then "tried." the banjo, receiving two encores for his artistic selections. It was certainly a most fitting tribute to a popular and talented artist."—New York Clipper.

Geo. F. Gellenbeck, of Omaha, Neb., continues to give good reports of his Banjo Club, which has appeared at several public and private entertainments recently.

C. S. Mattison, teacher of Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin, San Antonio, Texas, writes that his business has increased to such an extent that he has been compelled to employ assistant teachers.

Geo. B. Ross' "First Grand Annual Banjo and Guitar Concert," took place at Association Hall, Philadelphia, on the evening of April 11th. The program consisted of selections by the Hamilton Banjo Club, of twelve performers, introducing Banjos, Guitars, Mandolins and Cornet, a really good club. Reuben R. Brooks, in his fine Banjo playing, Sig. Louis T. Romero, in his excellent Guitar solos, Mandolin solos by Sig. F. M. Lapertina, Harp solos by Sig. Giovanni Setaro, Miss Susie L. Ross in Classical Piano solos, Miss Josephine Richardson, Contralto, Geo. B. Ross, Banjo.solos, and Mr. Clarence Shank, Accompanist. The concert was a very novel and unique affair, and was a complete success from an artistic standpoint.



Mr. Geo. C. Stephens, whose portrait appears above will hardly need an introduction to our readers. His excellent compositions for the banjo are well known to all lovers of the banjo and to the readers of the Journal in particular.

Mr. Stephens has been pursuing a course of studies at Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., for some time past, and is considered a young man of superior talent and intelligence, and one destined to make his mark in the world. He has our very best wishes for his future success and prosperity, and we are quite sure that all our readers will wish him the same.

The Clover Banjo Club, Walter A. Munns, Mana-The Clover Banjo Club, Walter A. Munns, Mana-ger, No. 4329 Haveford Ave., West Philadelphia, now consists of the following members: Walter A. Munns, Banjeaurine; J. Lewis Morse, Banjeaurine; Richard L. Weaver, First Banjo; Geo. S. Holloway, Guitar, and Harry Beans, Guitar.

The concert of the Symphony Banjo and Guitar Club, announced in our last issue, took place at Association Hall, Philadelphia, on the evening of April 6th, and proved a very enjoyable affair. The Philadelphia Mandolin Club and The American Male Quartette appeared, meeting with well merited success. The Symphony Club did well in their numerous selections. The "Orchestra of one hun-dred Banjos and Guitars," however, failed to fully materialize, there being not more than half that number of performers visible.

Jas. H. Phipps' Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Concert, announced for the 13th of April, in New York City, at Lenox Lyceum, came off in great shape, to he house being crowded and people turned away at the doors. The soloists were Louis T. Romero, Guitar; Dan. Emerson, Banjo; D. Tipaldi, Mandolin; Geo. W. Gregory, Banjo; V. S. Ossmon, Banjo; Chas. E. Dobson, Banjo. The Princeton Banjo; Chas. E. Dobson, Banjo. The Princeton College Banjo Club participated, as did also the Columbia College Banjo Club and the Haverford College Banjo Club. Several Mandolin and Glee Clubs also appeared.

"The much looked for Banjo that I ordered some time back, has just arrived. I am very much pleased with it, and it is the finest toned one I ever heard; also the finish is very fine."

The above was written us by W. S. Hinton, of Honolulu, H. I., after receiving his Banjo, which had been cruising around the World by mistake and barely escaped being shipwrecked three times.

H. B. Masters, Leader of the San Jose Ideal Banjo Club (California), writes that his organization is meeting with good success in their various entertainments in that part of the country. Not long ago Mr. Masters located in the West and has now a large class of Banjo pupils.

Banjo and Guitar Concerts are becoming very popular and fashionable. The Banjo has helped the Guitar back into popularity; for a few years ago it was rare to hear this instrument on the concert stage.

To hear the Guitar in the hands of a really fine player like Sig. Romero, is indeed a treat; he is a master of the instrument, and his performances in New York, Boston and Philadelphia will, no doubt, create a renewed interest in the study of the guitar. The Guitar, like the Banjo, has many votaries; but among the thousands upon thousands of players of these instruments there are few masters. Banjo it may be said that many of the so-called expert performers on that instrument have yet to learn the art of keeping their instruments in good playing condition—properly headed and correctly strung.

"I received the Special Banjo some time ago, and after testing it in all its positions, I find that it is all right and perfect. The tone is very fine, loud and brilliant, and all that could be asked for, and the finish is also very fine. All I can say is, that I am well pleased with it. Everyone that sees it says it is a little dandy. I think I am about right, when I say that the Stewart is the best Banjo in the World. Well, I will not say any more-for I know it is nothing new for you to receive such letters, for I think everyone who purchases a Stewart Banjo has about the same thing to say—so I will close by enclosing ten cents for which I wish you to send me your last Fournal,"

This is what Geo. Barber, Banjo Teacher, of Petosky, Mich., writes: They all love their Stewart

The Calumet Club, of Richmond, Quebec, is composed of the following talent: J. A. Bouthillier, Ban-jeaurine and Mandolin; J. L. Barrie, Banjo; G. J. Alexander, 1st Guitar; J. A. Barrie, 2d Guitar.

Archie S. Anderson, Charlotte, N. C., writes that he has organized a Boy's Banjo Clab in that city. Composed of the following members: Archie S. Anderson, Mandolin; L. Smith, 1st Banjo; H. Oerecash, ad Banjo and Harp; H. Ashbury, Bass Banjo and Flute; C. Farzier, Guitar. The organization is called "The Glee Banjo,

Mandolin and Guitar Club."

S. Duncan Baker, Natchez, Miss., writes under date of April 9th:

"As already acknowledged per my postal card of 6th inst., yours of 3d, and box containing articles ordered from you on 31st ulta were received on that day, and I now beg to report that everything was found to be eminently satisfactory. This much would suffice ordinarily, but I am constrained to more fully express my appreciation not only of your promptness, but also of your liberality in voluntarily adding to the shipment some very useful articles.

Besides, I could not let this opportunity pass without expressing my opinion of, and admiration for, your invention—the banjeaurine, but particularly am I anxious to say something regarding the 'Imperial Banjeaurine,' which is most judiciously named, and rightly clothed in a case or covering the color of which is appropriately suggestive of 'royal purple' itself. The instrument just received from you is the first banjeaurine I ever owned, and I must candidly say I am heartily glad it is a Stewart. Of the other eleven banjos in my collection one is a piccolo of your make. Several times I have thought of getting an American Princess, or some other instrument of like dimensions, because of my short fingers and the like dimensions, occause or my snort rangers and the consequent effort required in making certain, chords. But the banjeaurine fills the bill, and I would not be without it, for I intend to use it for all purposes, club and otherwise. I assure you that it has proven a boon to me, and I already feel a sense of gratefulness towards its originator. As to the construction of the particular one you sent me, an experience acquired

by over fifteen years of somewhat irregular and periodic playing on different banjos, from the veriest tub to my superb banjeaurine, impels me to exclaim—
Perfect. Nothing more need be said in this con-

Of the useful articles, previously spoken of in this, the two copies of The Banjo are particularly deserv-ing of especial mention, and I highly appreciate them, and, although I have had a copy of my own for some time I had not intended to loan it out, but now, it and the two you kindly sent shall be immediately placed at the disposal of the other banjoists of the club knowing, as I do, that the informa-tion contained therein, and the knowledge to be derived from the perusal of same will prove of substantial benefit to my colleagues both as individuals and as members of the organization.

As intimated, in a former letter to you, our club is modeled after The Philadelphia Banjo Club, and we are guided by Mr. Armstrong's teachings, coupled with such hints as may be otherwise gleaned from

The Natchez Banjo Club is composed of the following: Banjeaurine, S. Duncan Baker; Piccolo Banjo, Joseph Eidt; 1st Banjo, Will J. Kaiser; 2d Banjo, Will A. Foster; Guitar, Emanuel L. Kaiser.

Later on, for a second combination, Mr. Will Kaiser will probably take up the Mandolin and Mr. Eidt another Banjo. We were regularly organized on the 16th ult., and I doubt if there is another club of the kind in the South, although I may be mistaken in the supposition. We found the music a little heavy for beginners, but have made a start never-

In addition to this small orchestra I have the honor of belonging to another musical society, 'The Natchez Orchestral Club,' composed of twenty-four young men, and having the reputation of being the best amateur organization of its kind in this section, if not in the whole South. But more of 'The N.O. C.,' later on if your desire.

Although this letter is already lengthy and the subject somewhat worn threadbare, I would like to say a word or two about the origin of the banjo and its supposed popularity among the negroes of the South. This city is in the heart of the cotton belt and rice, and sugar-cane flourishes within a few hundred miles of here, and consequently the plantation nigger, as well as the town nigger, is no curiosity to me, but on the contrary, I am well-acquainted with his peculiarities, and have frequently written for the local papers dialect verse attempting to illustrate his quaint and humorous sayings and doings; therefore, quaint and humorous sayings and doings'; therefore, being in a position to know, I can safely endorse what Mr. W. H. Whitcomb, of Wascousit, said in his letter, which was published in the last issue of the Journal, to wil, that ten negroes play violins, harmonicas and guitans, to one who plays the banjo. I will venture further and add to the list the jewsharp, here, beard, who in this compute while in the nursuit have heard that, in this county, while in the pursuit of the education which is freely accorded them, some of the dusky belles have become expert pianists. So far as I know, the darkie's musical tastes are even more varied than are those of our more cultivated and favored anglo-saxon race. So much for the alleged preference of the colored man for the banjo.

anleged preference of the colored man for the sanjo.

Now, as an admirer who has loved the banjo from
boyhood, and previous to its advent as a perfected and
popular instrument, I am prone to doubt that it was
the invention of an inferior race of people not noted
for a single invention, although willing to admit the possibility of its origin being due to an attempt by a negro to make an *imitation* of some other kind of instrument, said attempt resulting very naturally in instrument, said attempt resulting very naturally in an ignominious failure. However, be this as it may, the banjo of to-day is a very perfect instrument, and my first admiration for S. S. Stewart was caused by my knowledge of his having conduced very considerably towards the realization of that state of perfection."

Kohler & Chase, the great California musical Konier & Chase, the great California musical instrument house, have removed to their new building, Nos. 26, 28 and 30 O'Farrel St., San Francisco, Cal. Kohler & Chase have long been agents for the S. S. Stewart. Banjo in the West, and our friends in California and Oregon would do well to deal with this well-known house. W. I. Kitchener, New York City, writes:

"Your little book. The Guitarist's Delight, came to hand, and it is the best twenty-five cents worth I have seen. The arrangement of 'Heimweh' is worth the money of itself. I dare say you will have to send me more copies of the same. I must also congratume more copies of the same. I must also congratu-late you upon your manner of managing business. When I read your Journal I could not help thinking many of the letters of your correspondents extreme cases of bluff, but can now testify that all they say is correct, and your house runs like a well-oiled

Fletcher A. Payne, of Wahash, Ind., writes:

"I have received the three last numbers of your Journal, and am more than pleased with them. Do not see how you can give so much for fifty cents. As they contain selections from the greatest banjo artists in the world, I consider them invaluable.

I intend to take it as long as it is printed, for it seems that each number is better than the one pre-



Mr. John C. Folwell, the well-known Banjo Teacher, of Camden, N. J., well-known to the readers of the *Yournal*, as a composer of music for the Banjo, occupies the post of honor with his portait above annexed.

Mr. Folwell has composed some very excellent music for the Banjo, and those players who have not as yet made themselves acquainted with this fact should lose no time in doing so.

Chas. Wegelin, of New York City, writes:

"Please excuse me for not writing to you before this. I wish to let you know that I have received my Banjo and was quite surprised, for you have sent me more than I have bargained for; and as for the Banjo, to say that I am pleased with it, is too mild an expression to use, for I am wild with delight. I have expression to use, for fail with dengin. I have not drawn the head down even, as yet, and if it sounds like a grand piano (as a friend of mine says who heard it last night), what will it sound like when the head is down even? I can only say this much, you are the King Bee of all Banjo makers, as I have had all the different makes of Banjos that have been made in the last ten years so you may know that although only an amateur as yet, I have been asked to leave my place and go on the stage for a living.

Now, I do not say as a brag, but to show you that I know a good Banjo when I see one. You deserve all the good luck that you have, and may it be a thousand fold greater in the future than it has been in the past."

F. J. Sney, New Orleans, writes:

"The \$40.00 U. F. Banjo which you made me to order, arrived safe on the 10th inst., and I must say order, arrived sale on the 10th inst., and I must say I am more than pleased with it. It is one of the best toned Banjos in New Orleans to-day. Last night we opened the new theatre here called the People's Theatre, our trio. When I say our trio, I mean the Theatre, our trio. When I say our trio, I mean the Crescent City Trio, Caradies, Felmeden and Sney. Caradies and I had our Banjos which we bought from you, and Felmeden had a guitar. We made a decided hit, and everybody said we were 'in it' with hose Banjos. Caradies and I also played a duett. We played the 'Mocking Bird' and captured the house. Caradies and I are more than pleased with our Banjos, and so is everybody that heard them.

If our testimonial is worth anything to you, you

Many thanks for the books you sent me. The little book is a Little Daisy, and every Banjo player should have one. Enclosed find fifty cents for one year's subscription to the *Journal*." Geo. Carr, Milton, Pa., writes:

"Please find enclosed postal note for seventy-five cents, for which send your Journal (commencing with No. 62), and your book, The Banjo. Let me also thank you for the immense lot of information I received from your Lecture on the Banio."

Grant Brower, of Brooklyn, New York, has announced a concert for Wednesdey evening, May 20, at the First Baptist Church, in that city. Mr. Brower has been directing the banjo performances in the opera of "Wang," at the Broadway theatre, New York, during the run of the opera.

Al. Baur, the well-known arranger of banjo music. of Brookville, Pa., will contribute a new article to the Journal shortly. His "Reminiscences of a Banjo Player," which appeared a few months ago, were very interesting and will be continued,

Chas. H. Magee, Emory, Va., writing under date of May 11, says: "The Thoroughbred Banjo, ordered a few weeks ago came to hand safely per express. I must say least that it is simply grand. In tone, style and finish, and in every other way, it fully superseded my highest expectation. It is a fine solo instrument."

Carr Dyke, Hatley Carr, Dewsbury, England, April 27, 1801.

Mr. S. S. Stewart, Philadelphia. Dear Sir :- You will no doubt be surprised at not

hearing from me, but the Piccolo Banjo arrived safely on March 24, and I have been using it at different concerts to test it, and I can only endorse what other people have said.

I used it on Tuesday last, in this town, at a very

large place, capable of seating over 2,000, and every note could be distinctly heard in every part of the

The tone of the instrument is peculiarly sweet and full, and I am very well pleased with it. So many people have sent you testimonials, that it is useless for ness with which you executed order.

Yours, very truly,

ALBERT LYLES. me to say any more, only I must thank you for prompt-

Cortland, N. Y., May 7, 1891.

Mr. S. S. Stewart, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir :- The American Princess, No. 2, arrived O. K. Tuesday, and we are all delighted with it; it is beautiful, and the tone is away "out of sight." 'Tis by far the finest instrument in town. Many thanks Yours, very truly, W. B. LEONARD. for kindness.

"S. S. Stewart, the leading manufacturer of fine Banjos in the United States, as an advertiser, is "out of sight," having four full pages in the New York Clipper, this week, each page costing a good round sum. Mr. Stewart evidently knows and appreciates sum. Mr. Stewart evidently knows and appreciates the value of advertising, hence the wonderful success of his really meritorious instruments."—Rocky Mountain Cricket (Denver, Col.)

Orefield, Pa., April 23, 1891.

S. S. Stewart, Esq.,

Dear Sir :- I read with pleasure, your extensive advertisement in the Clipper of this week, and see that it gives you the credit of giving them the most extensive ad ever given in a single paper. Good for Philadelphia! Nothing like ads in the proper channel. It was column ads that built up my 11th St. place, also made Fox when I managed his

You remember when I was at your place how surprised I was to see the magnitude you had brought the Banjo too. Now there is only one thing; if the Clipper people could see your establishment and the Clipper people could see your establishment and the people at work, they would readily place you in comparison to the Steinways of piano fame. Well, all I have to say is, if your business justifies sauch extensive ads, you will no doubt have to double the size of your building.

Trusting to hear of this, I am, respectfully.

SAM. S. SANFORD.

Geo. F. Gellenbeck, leader of the Omaha (Neb.) Banjo Club, recently sent in sixty new subscribers to the *Journal*, and received the banjo offered as premium for that number of new subscriptions.

#### THE RISE OF THE BANJO.

The banjo, "that darkey's instrument," as it is sometimes contemptuously called, has steadily within the past twenty years pushed its long and eager neck upward, and now, giraffe-like, culls only the topmost branches. In other and home-phrace, society has taken up the banjo, and society, like England's kines, can do no wrone.

Philadelphia has the proud distinction of owning the largest and best establishment for the manufacturing of basis and the state of the confacturing of basis and the state of the past and good-looking man has had his stand for the past hirteen years. Beginning in a humble way, being his own office boy and fire lighter, his own maker and canvaser, thirteen years of steady plodding have borne fruit, and to-day his establishment stands as a monument of determination, pulce, and a meritorious

To follow the construction of a banjo from its earliest stages to that when all refulgent in nickle it takes its place among the finished products of the world, is no easy matter. And although the writer of this article has gone through Mr. Stewarf's establishment with that gentlegnan, yet the variety and the complex nature of the work made observation only clouded, and a complete whole obliterated the series of individual and separate parts.

Bits there were of wood, rough and unfashioned. A few steps further and those bits of wood were shaped into necks. Then strips of chony were glued on the necks, and then a whirling wheel of sandstone smoothed and caressed the shapely billet—the neck needed but the varnish to be a finished part of the whole.

In another room six men were in[aying the banjo cayines, were fitting in minute particles of shell into cayines, and then rubbing ground ebony and glue into the crevices. Thin slices of elephant and walrus ivory were being cut into keys and bridges; not turned out by machinery, mark you, but laboriously and artistically cut by hand.

ously and artistically cut of panio strings hid their tones in layers of compressed melody; stacks of banjo heads slept side by side, and all over the basy hum, of machinery thrummed in adagio the music of the

And just to follow out the simile, Mr. Stewart turned and said: "Come down a flight, and I'll show yon how I print my banjo music." Down the steps we went, and in a large room four men were basy engraving the melodies that soon will spread their gay gerplints over many a banjo. Like beavers the men were working. No time had they to stop and look around. With a precision that but acceptance which were the step of the step o

But Mr. Stewart was talking: "I turn out about ten hanjos a day," said, he, and I ship them to every part of the civilized globe. A good product soon becomes known, and my banjos advertise themselves, and to, once having made a costomer, it is easy to and to, once having made a costomer, it is easy to made? Let me see—oh, yes—I gave Mr. E. M. Hall, of Caracross' Minstrels, a banjo last month that cost \$150 to make. That's about the most expensive one I ever turned to

"You see that pile of letters? Well, about fifty of them are requests for pamphlets. I have an average of 300 requests a week, and as each person that writes for a pamphlet gets one, you can easily see that the interest in banjo playing is increasing wonderfully.

Talk then turned on Philadelphia players. "It would take me some time to give you a complete list, but E. M. Hall, of Carneross' Minstrels; Thomas J. Armstong, George B. Ross, D. C. Everest, Frank H. Lockwood and Otto H, Albrecht are all expert 'pickers,'"

"Miss Edith Secor is a remarkable fine banjoist, as well as a wonderful sylophone performer. Among the most clever of the amateur players of this city are Dr. Penn Skillern, of South Broad Street, E. Spencer Blight, of Pine Street, and Mrs. Albert Tucker, nee Catherwood, of Seventeenth and Walnut Streets,"

nut Streets."

"Comptroller Robert W. Downing, of the Pennsylvania Ralliroad, is a skilful player, as is his son, Charles G. Downing, of Mt. Vernon Street. But Philadelphia banjo amateurs, and as I must run upsairs and look after a particularly fine piece of inlaid work, I think I'll postpone the conclusion of the list until some future time. But come in soon, for if you don't my increasing business will force me to leave the conclusion of the list with the conclusion of the list of the conclusion. The control street is the conclusion of the list of of th

#### E. M. HALL.

Mr. Hall closed his second consecutive season with Caracross' Minstrels, at the Eleventh Street Opera House, Philadelphia, early in May. On May 11th, he left for his home, in Chicago, with the best wishes of many Philadelphia friends and admirers. He joins Goodyear, Elitch & Schilling's Minstrels, on August 17th, at Denver, Colorado, to make a tour of the extreme western section during the eason of '91 and

The interest in banjo playing in the west is very great and is constantly on the increase, and many friends in the extreme western states will hail his coming with delight.

T. C. Meyer, Wheeling, W. Va., writes:

"The banjeaurine ordered from you arrived by express in good condition. It is certainly an elegant instrument, and for tone and finish I think has no equal.

I used it with great success in connection with the Premier Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin Club, at a concert given at the Opera House here. Thanks for prompt attention. If you have any new music, send me a list."

C. H. Young, Lynn, Mass., writes:

"The Champion Banjo arrived on the 13th inst, in fine condition. I have given it a thorough trial, and pronounce it the finest banjo I ever played on, both in finish and tone. I have cowned several fine banjos, but this one gese abrasi of all I have ever selecting this banjo for me, and will be sure to recommend the Stewart banjo in preference to all others."

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Frey	25
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	25
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520 Fruhling's March, by Parlow, arranged by Thos. J. Armstrong. Com- plete for Banjo Club of five instruments: Banjeaurine, first and second banjo, pic- colo banjo and guitar	00
521 Vesta March, by Pandert, arranged for banjo and piano, by W. W. Rumsey	35
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ranged for banjo and piano, by Rumsey The two foregoing Marches are excellent. Both in 2-4 time.	35
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531 Playful Polka, arranged by Rum-	35
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533 Piney Woods Schottische,

by E. H. Frey, for Banjo and Guitar, 25 534 "Thoughts of Home," Ga-

votte, by Frey, for Banjo and Guitar, 25

20 The Hermit's Serenade, by E. H. Frey, for two guitars	25
21 Brighton March, by E. H. Frey, for two guitars	25
22 Harmonic Fantasie, by E. H.	ar

23 Fascination Glide Waltz...... 25

# BANJO ORCHESTRA MUSIC.

Few Hints to Arrangers and Leaders of Banjo Clubs.

By THOMAS J. ARMSTRONG.

2019 Zw1

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Chapter VI.

The banjeaurine being the most acceptable instrument for solo work in a club, it is no longer a disputed question among banjo players as to which instrument is entitled to that proud position. It occupies the same place in the banjo club as the violin does in an orchestra. Its peculiar construction enables passages of a difficult nature to be executed with comparative ease; and runs and arpeggios, played in quick time, are no longer looked upon with awe by the average player.

This instrument, then, is the first to attract our attention when arranging music for the banjo and guitar club.

Leave out the banjeaurine and it is like taking out the 1st violin from the orchestra. It should play the melody, or solo, and all the other instruments are for the harmonies, the coloring and embellishments.

Although the banjeaurine is a melodic instrument, it is sometimes freed from that capacity when a bassisolo is executed on the large banjos. A charming effect is thus gained by giving the banjeaurine the harmonies with the second banjo, adding to the fullness of the chord.

Banjeaurine.

The proper tuning of the banjeaurine for use in the club is with "Elevated Bass," or in other words—"Bass to B."

This, for some unknown reason, meets with opposition by many excellent performers. Why they object, is, and always
has been, a mystery. If they wish to exercise a feeling of economy in the matter of breaking bass strings, the mystery
is explained, for the risk of breaking is greater (a trifle greater) than with bass to A.

"A poor excuse," however, "is better than none." Some players are too lazy to put forth enough extra exertion for tuning the bass up. Others claim the character of the banjo is lost when the bass is elevated.

The most logical argument in defense of the A bass would be, to retain it, in order to overcome the difficulty of playing this same note on the first and second banjos at the fifth fret on their bass strings. This note, which is D, corresponds with A on the banjeaurine, and if the banjeaurine bass is to A, it is at the same pitch as the fifth fret of the ordinary banjo's bass string.

This mode of tuning the banjeaurine bass to A, however, if adopted, destroys the principal object of this charming instrument's introduction into the club. The object of the solo instrument is not to play bass notes, but endeavor to keep above them. If the first and second banjos experience some difficulty in obtaining D on the bass string, it is no reason for the solo banjo playing that note, which would be low A. It would be far better and more pleasing for it to take a third above, which on the banjeaurine would be 0\psi, played on the elevated bass at the second fret.

To illustrate the advantage gained by using the elevated bass for the banjeaurine, or solo banjo, the following example is given. The banjeaurine is playing in E major, which chords with A major of the first and second banjos, and also with C major of the guitar. These parts are also given to show the effect of the combination.



Probably a much better example of the merits of the elevated bass could be given than the above, but it will serve its purpose, for the present, at least. It is an introduction to a march published for the bains of electra, called, "Frühling's March." In a case like this the melody contained in the introduction is brought out strong and full, by being played upon the solo banjo, piecolo banjo and first banjo. The chords accompanying the melody are also easily taken by all three of those instruments, leaving to the guitar and second banjo the bass notes

The advantage of the elevated bass for the banjeaurine, whilst playing with other instruments, can be more quickly recognized in the ability of the performer to play octaves with very little effort. This every banjoist knows, and it is not necessary to illustrate the fact with examples.

That the character of the banjo or banjeaurine is lost by elevating the bass string is a poor excuse and a great mistake. The fact is, we gain considerably in tuning it thus, particularly in the case of the banjeaurine.

When the bass is elevated, it is possible to obtain a complete chord of the first, third, fifth and octave of every key. This is a physical impossibility on the banjo with the bass to A, except when the performer has six fingers on his left hand, or when that part of his anatomy is so large, that he secures a position as a freak in some dime museum. It can of course be done by playing arpeggio; but with the bass elevated, the chords can be played at once, without changing or lifting the fingers from the fingerboard.



Therefore, in writing the solo part for clubs always select the banjeaurine with elevated bass and you have an instrument capable of holding its own. Many pleasing and melodious effects will be gained and numerous technical difficulties surmounted.

The piccolo baujo occupies a place in the banjo club similar to that of the flute or piccolo in the orchestra. Its mission is to assist the banjeaurine in playing the solo and very often to embellish the same with runs and little melodies of its own. On account of its being tuned an octave higher than the ordinary banjo, this instrument has a sharp, piercing effect, that is very pleasing in loud passages.

The first banjo, in the hands of a good player, is the most effective instrument in the banjo orchestra. At the risk of making some of our cornet players smile, I will say that the first banjo occupies a place in the banjo orchestra, similar to that of the cornet or clarionet in the regular orchestra. It is the most difficult part to arrange satisfactorily and should not be attempted until all the other parts have been arranged. Its mission is to perform the part of a melodic instrument and when not playing the melody with the banjeaurine, it generally has a contra melody or side melody of its own. These side melodies are very effective and pleasing, especially if they can be written in tremolo; but it is impossible to write them until you are familiar with the solo part and know the harmonies that belong to it. Portion of a melody will now be given, arranged for four instruments:—banjeaurine, first and second banjos and piccolo banjo. After playing the solo part several times, try the first banjo part and see if it agrees with your views. To do this properly you must hum or whistle the solo while playing the first part on your banjo, being careful to whistle and play in the same key.



The second banjo and guitar appear as harmonic instruments in the banjo and guitar club, playing the accompaniments and basses. Their importance can readily be seen by comparing them to the second violin, viola and bass of the regular orchestra. The guitar, although not being able to play quite as low as the bass banjo, is far superior in this respect to the second banjo and fills up the gap between the bass banjo and the second.

If the B'2 guitar is used, the part written for this instrument should retain the same character as the regular guitar, taking the same bass notes an octave lower, wherever practical.

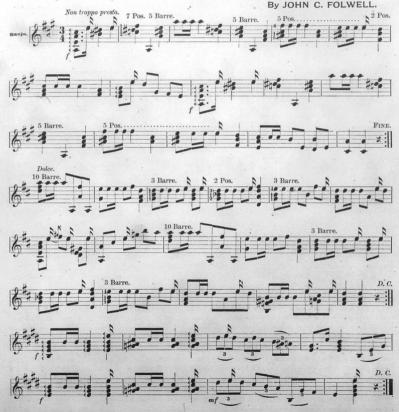
The bass banjo can be compared to the double bass in the orchestra. It should play the bass notes of the second banjo, which on the bass banjo sound an octave lower. The performer who manipulates this instrument therefore has a very important, although not a very attractive, part to play. If he does not hear himself playing, let him not be discouraged—the effect is all that is wanted. If the bass banjo is dispensed with, after having once been used, its absence will be visibly felt.

The mandolin, although not possessing the same characteristic tone of the banjo, is becoming quite a favorite among the banjo clubs throughout the country. It should only be introduced when the club is a large one, about twenty or thirty players. It is a grave mistake to include a mandolin in a small club of five or six banjo and guitar players, because its shrill tone is not in keeping with so small a number of instruments, except they be all guitarists.

The mandolin is an instrument of melody, and generally plays with the solo banjo or first banjo. In a large club of twenty players, a beautiful effect is obtained by the introduction of the mandolin playing tremolo to a given melody executed on the banjeaurines and first banjos.

# ASBURY SARABAND.

#### FOR THE BANJO.



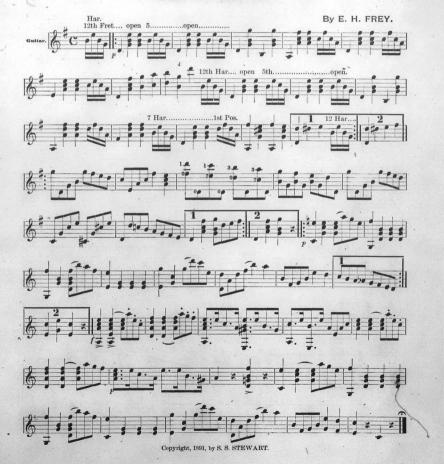
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