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S. S. STEWART'S.

FIRST LESSONS FOR THE BANJO.

TUNING THE BANJO.

25¢.

The Banjo strings open are tuned to the following notes (with Piano or Organ.)

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: E (The 3rd. String Open.), G# (The 2nd. String Open.), B (The 1st. String Open.), E (The Short 5th. String.), and A (The Bass or Silver String Open.).

By "open" is meant without stopping the strings on the frets.

THE EASIEST KEY OR NATURAL SCALE OF THE BANJO.

Two musical staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The first staff shows notes A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A with fret positions: Open., 2nd. fret., 4th. fret., 5th. fret., Open., 2nd. fret., Open., 1st. fret. Below the staff, a dashed box groups the notes from A to E as 'On 4th. or Silver String.' and notes from F# to A as 'On 2d. String.'. The second staff shows notes B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A with fret positions: Open., 2nd. fret., 3rd. fret., 5th. fret., 7th. fret., 9th. fret., 10th. fret. A dashed box groups the notes from B to A as 'On 1st. String.'. A note for E is also shown as '(Also the short 5th. stg) Open.' Below the second staff is a single note E on a treble clef staff.

When the E has a double stem like above, it signifies the short 5th. string.
The 5th. string open makes the same note as the 1st. string stopped at 5th. fret.

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MUSIC DEPOT.

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FIRST EXERCISE.

The "Snap" —. In making a snap, the first note is picked as usual; the next note is made by pulling or snapping the string with the finger of the left hand which is used to stop the previous note. The snap is used to facilitate rapid execution.

SECOND EXERCISE.

PLANTATION JIG.

The figures over or under the notes, stand for the fingers of the left hand used in stopping the notes, and the 0 for open string. It is very important to use the right fingers and avoid awkwardness.

THE TRIPLET.

When the figure 3 is placed over or under three notes, it signifies that they are played in the same time as two notes of the same kind

Example .

STEWART'S EASY JIG.

A Major.

BANJO WALTZ.

A Major.

When a sharp is placed before a note as in the above, it is called an accidental. For instance: in this key we have F, C and G sharp; the D has a sharp before it which is called an accidental, and if the following D in the same bar was not contradicted by a natural, it would also have to be made sharp.

BANJO POLKA.

The musical notation for 'Banjo Polka' consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with fingerings '2', '4', and '2'. A 'snap.' instruction is placed below the end of the first staff. The subsequent three staves continue the melodic and rhythmic patterns, ending with a double bar line.

CHORDS.

When two or more notes are on one stein they are to be played together. In the following exercise pick the 1st. string with the 3rd. finger, 2nd. string with 2nd. finger, 3rd. string with 1st. finger, and use the thumb for 4th. and 5th. strings.

Accompaniment CHORDS in A Major and F sharp Minor.

The accompaniment chords are shown in two staves. The first staff is for A Major and the second for F sharp Minor. Both are in 4/4 time. The notation shows chords on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th strings, with fingerings '2', '1', and '2' indicated below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the progression.