

Contents of Volume I

| Introduction | vii |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| CHAPTER I. Fall of the Ecclesiastical-Civil States in Germany—Character of Their Rulers—The Electors of Cologne in the Eighteenth Century—Joseph Clemens—Clemens August—Max Friedrich—Incidents and Achievements in Their Reigns—The Electoral Courts and Their Music—Earliest Records of the Beethovens in the Rhineland—Musical Culture in Bonn at the Time of Ludwig van Beethoven's Birth—Operatic Repertories—Christian Gottlob Neefe—Appearance of the City | 1 |
| CHAPTER II. Beethoven's Ancestors in Belgium—Louis van Beethoven, His Grandfather—He Leaves His Paternal Home—Tenor Singer at Louvain—His Removal to Bonn—Marriage—Activities as Bass Singer and Chapelmaster in the Electoral Chapel—Birth and Education of Johann van Beethoven, Father of the Composer—Domestic Afflictions—His Marriage—Appearance and Character of the Composer's Mother | 42 |
| CHAPTER III. Birth of Ludwig van Beethoven, the Composer—Conflict of Dates—The House in Which He Was Born—Poverty of the Family—An Inebriate Grandmother and a Dissipated Father—The Composer's Scant Schooling—His First Music Teachers—Lessons on the Pianoforte, Organ and Violin—Neefe Instructs Him in Composition—A Visit to Holland | 53 |
| CHAPTER IV. Beethoven a Pupil of Neefe—Early Employment of His Talent and Skill—First Efforts at Composition—Assists Neefe at the Organ in the Orchestra of the Electoral Court—Is Appointed Assistant Court Organist—Johann van Beethoven's Family—Domestic Tribulations—Youthful Publications [xix] | 67 |

PAGE



CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

| - | • | , |
|---|---|---|

CHAPTER V. Elector Max Franz—Appearance and Character of Maria Theresias's Youngest Son—His Career in Church and State—Musical Culture in the Austrian Imperial Family—The Elector's Admiration for Mozart and Mozart's Characterization of Him—His Court Music at Bonn

77

CHAPTER VI. Beethoven Again—His Studies Interrupted
—A Period of Artistic Inactivity in Bonn—The Young
Organist Indulges in a Prank—A Visit to Vienna—
Mozart Hears the Youthful Beethoven Play—Sympathethic Acquaintances—Death of Beethoven's Mother
—Association with the von Breuning Family—Some
Questions of Chronology Discussed

85

CHAPTER VII. The Family von Breuning—Beethoven Brought Under Refining Influences—Count Waldstein— Beethoven's First Mæcenas—Time of the Count's Arrival in Bonn—Beethoven Forced to Become Head of His Father's Family

98

CHAPTER VIII. The National Theatre of Elector Max Franz—Beethoven's Associates in the Court Orchestra— Anton Reicha—Andreas and Bernhard Romberg— His Practical Experience in the Electoral Band—The Operatic Repertory of Five Years in the Court Theatre

105

CHAPTER IX. The Last Three Years of Beethoven's Life in Bonn—Gleanings of Fact and Anecdote—A Visit from Haydn—Merry Journey up the Rhine—Beethoven's Meeting with Abbé Sterkel—He Extemporizes—His Playing Described by Carl Ludwig Junker—He Shows a Cantata to Haydn—The Extent of Max Franz's Patronage of the Composer—Social and Artistic Life in Bonn—Madame von Breuning a Guardian Angel—The Circle of Companions—Friendships with Young Women—Jeannette d'Honrath—Fräulein Westerhold—Eleonore von Breuning—Beethoven Leaves Bonn Forever—The Parting with His Friends—Incidents of His Journey to Vienna

110

CHAPTER X. Beethoven's Creative Activity in Bonn—An Inquiry into the Genesis of Many Compositions—The



CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

xxi

Cantatas on the Death of Joseph II and the Elevation of Leopold II—Vicissitudes of These Compositions—A Group of Songs—The "Ritterballet" and Other Instrumental Works—Several Chamber Compositions—The String Trio, Op. 3, Carried to England—Manuscripts Taken by Beethoven from Bonn to Vienna

129

CHAPTER XI. Beethoven in Vienna—Care for His Personal Appearance—Death of His Father—Records of Minor Receipts and Expenditures—His Studies with Haydn—Clandestine Lessons in Composition with Johann Schenk—A Rupture with Haydn—Becomes a Pupil of Albrechtsberger and Salieri—Characteristics as a Pupil

146

CHAPTER XII. Music in Vienna at the Time of Beethoven's Arrival There—Theatre, Church and Concert-Room—Salieri and the Royal Imperial Opera—Schikaneder's Theater auf der Wieden—Composers and Conductors in the Imperial Capital—Paucity of Public Concerts—A Music-loving Nobility: The Esterhazys; Kinsky; Lichnowsky; von Kees; van Swieten—Private Orchestras—Composers: Haydn, Koželuch, Förster, Eberl, Vanhall—Private Theatres

163

CHAPTER XIII. Beethoven in Society—Success as a Virtuoso—The Trios, Op. 1—Tender Memories of Friends in Bonn—A Letter to Leonore von Breuning—Wegeler Comes to Vienna—His Reminiscences—A Quarrel and Petition for Reconciliation—Irksome Social Conventions—Affairs of the Heart—Variations for Simrock—First Public Appearance as Pianist and Composer—The Pianoforte Concertos in C and B-flat—The Trios, Op. 1, Revised—Sonatas Dedicated to Haydn—Dances for the Ridotto Room—Plays at Haydn's Concert

174

CHAPTER XIV. The Years 1796 and 1797—Success Achieved in the Austrian Capital—A Visit to Prague—The Scena: "Ah, perfido!"—Sojourn in Berlin—King Frederick William II—Prince Louis Ferdinand—Violoncello Sonatas—Relations with Himmel—Plays for the Singakademie—Fasch and Zelter—War-Songs—The Rombergs—A Forgotten Riding-Horse—Compositions



xxii

CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

and Publications of the Period—Matthisson and His "Adelaide"—Quintet for Strings, Op. 4—Pieces for Wind-Instruments—The "Jena" Symphony—Dances

190

CHAPTER XV. General Bernadotte—The Fiction about His Connection with the "Sinfonia eroica"—Rival Pianists—Joseph Wölffl—Tomaschek Describes Beethoven's Playing—Dragonetti—J. B. Cramer—Beethoven's Demeanor in Society—Compositions of 1798 and 1799—The Trios, Op. 9—Pianoforte Concertos in C and B-flat—An Unfinished Rondo for Pianoforte and Orchestra—Several Pianoforte Sonatas—"Sonate pathétique"—Trio for Pianoforte, Clarinet and Violoncello—Origin of the First Symphony—Protest Against an Arrangement of it as a Quintet

212

CHAPTER XVI. Beethoven's Social Life in Vienna—Vogl—
Kiesewetter—Zmeskall—Amenda—Count Lichnowsky
—Eppinger—Krumpholz—Schuppanzigh and His Quartet—Johann Nepomuk Hummel—Friendships with
Women—Magdalene Willmann—Christine Gerhardi—
Dedications to Pupils—Countess Keglevics—Countess
Henriette Lichnowsky—Countess Giulietta Guicciardi
—Countess Thun—Princess Liechtenstein—Baroness
Braun

229

CHAPTER XVII. Beethoven's Character and Personality—His Disposition—Evil Effects of Early Associations and Inadequate Intellectual Training—Sentimental Ideals not Realized in Conduct—Self-sufficiency and Pride—The Homage of Young Disciples—Love of Nature—Relations with Women—Conceptions of Virtue—Literary Tastes—His Letters—The Sketchbooks—His Manner of Compositions—Origin of His Deafness

245

CHAPTER XVIII. Beethoven's Brothers—His First Concert on His Own Account—Septet and First Symphony Performed—Punto and the Sonata for Horn—The Charlatan Steibelt Confounded—Beethoven's Homes in Vienna—Madame Grillparzer, the Poet's Mother—Doležalek—Hoffmeister—E. A. Förster—The Quartets, Op. 18—Prince Lichnowsky's Gift of a Quartet of Viols—Publications of 1800

265



CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

xxiii

CHAPTER XIX. The Year 1801—Compositions offered to Hoffmeister—Concerts for Wounded Soldiers—Vigano and the Ballet "Prometheus"—Interest in the Publication of Bach's Works and His Indigent Daughter—Stephan von Breuning—Summer Home in Hetzendorf—Composition of "The Mount of Olives"—Compositions and Publications of the Year—The Funeral March in the Sonata, Op. 26—The So-called "Moonlight" Sonata—Inspired by a Poem of Seume's—Illicit Publication of the String Quintet, Op. 29

281

CHAPTER XX. Important Letters of 1801—Communications to Amenda, Hoffmeister and Wegeler—The Composer's Ill Health—The Beginning of His Deafness—Early Symptoms Described by Himself—Thoughts of Marriage—Indignation Aroused by the Criticisms of the Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung—The "Leipsic Oxen"—Gradual Recognition of Beethoven's Genius—Anton Reicha—Von Breuning's Relations with Beethoven—Lessons to Ferdinand Ries and Carl Czerny

297

CHAPTER XXI. Beethoven's Love-Affairs—Countess Guicciardi—A Conversation with Schindler about Her Marriage—Schindler's Contradictory Story—Countess Erdödy—Schindler's Theory Disproved—The Letter to the "Immortal Beloved"—Critical Study of its Date—Countess Guicciardi Not the Woman Addressed—A Conjecture Concerning the Countess Therese von Brunswick—Other Candidates for the Honor of Being the Object of Beethoven's Supreme Love—Magdalena Willmann—Amalia Sebald—The Arguments of Kalischer, Mariam Tenger and Marie Lipsius (La Mara) Set Forth by the Editor of this Biography—Statements of Relations and Descendants of the Countesses Guicciardi and von Brunswick—The Memoirs of the Countess Therese—Later French Investigations

317

CHAPTER XXII. The Year 1802—The Village of Heiligenstadt—Beethoven's Views on Transcriptions—His Despondency—The "Heiligenstadt Will"—Confession of His Deafness—The Second Symphony—Return to Vienna—Marches for the Pianoforte, Four Hands—A



xxiv

CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

Defence of Brothers Johann and Karl Kaspar—Their Characters—Karl's Management of Beethoven's Business Affairs—The Bagatelles, Op. 33—The Songs, Op. 52—Compositions and Publications of 1802—Three Sonatas for Pianoforte and Violin—The Sonatas for Pianoforte, Op. 31—An Alteration by Nägeli—Finale of the Sonata in D minor—Beethoven on the Character of His Variations

348