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978-1-108-06517-7 - Elements of Musical Composition: Comprehending the Rules of Thorough Bass,
and the Theory of Tuning

William Crotch

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Elements of Musical Composition

An exceptional child prodigy at the keyboard, the organist and composer William Crotch (1775–1847) attracted the attention of both George III and Charles Burney, going on to become one of the most eminent musical figures of his day. Following a period of study in Cambridge, at the age of fifteen he was appointed organist at Christ Church, Oxford. At twenty-one he assumed the university's chair of music, a post he retained until his death. The first principal of the Royal Academy of Music between 1822 and 1832, Crotch is remembered today for his oratorio *Palestine*. The present work, first published in 1812, made his expertise available to a wider audience. A clearly written primer on music theory, composition and figured bass, it includes an abundance of musical examples. Crotch's *Substance of Several Courses of Lectures on Music* (1831) is also reissued in this series.

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WILLIAM CROTCH



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UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

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It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108065177

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2013

This edition first published 1812
This digitally printed version 2013

ISBN 978-1-108-06517-7 Paperback

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Plate II.

Fig. 6
Section of the Monochoord.

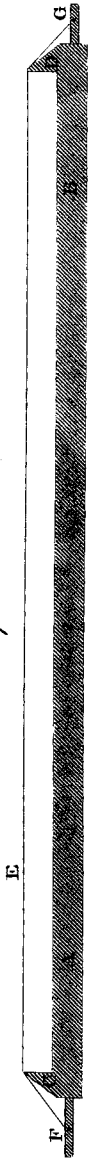


Fig. 7
Plan of the Monochoord.

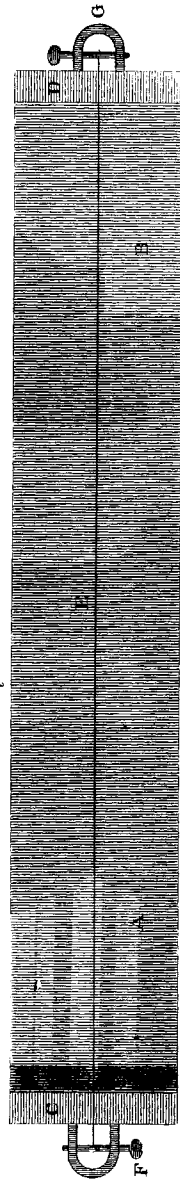
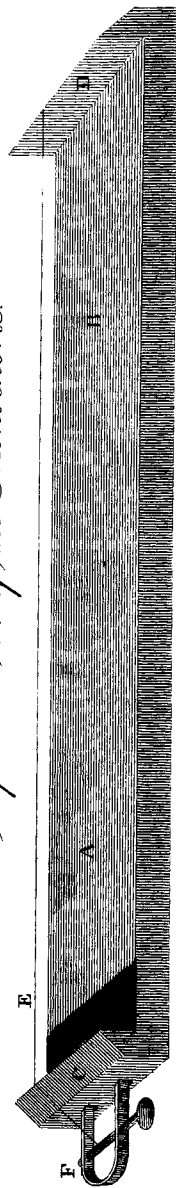


Fig. 8
Perspective View of the Monochoord.



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ELEMENTS

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BY WILLIAM CROTCH,

MUS. DOC. PROF. MUS. OXON.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED FOR

LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, & BROWN, PATERNOSTER ROW,

BY NATHANIEL BLISS, OXFORD.

—
1812.

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PREFACE.



A KNOWLEDGE of the Elements of Musical Composition and of Thorough Bass is happily become almost indispensable to a Musical Education.

The present work was at first intended for the author's pupils, but is now published with the hope that it may become more generally useful.

Originality seldom forms the leading feature of a work of this nature, the excellence of which should consist chiefly in the accumulated experience of many treatises. Those already published have been consulted, but their language has not, intentionally at least, been adopted. They have contributed materially to such parts of this work as may be found to possess any merit; and for the rest the author wishes he could offer a better recommendation than novelty.

NO. 2, DUCHESS STREET,
JAN. 6, 1812.

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