

- aug 14, 1894

and continues of

PREFACE.

IN offering the following adaptation of Artaxerxes to the Public, I have been chiefly actuated by the desire of rendering the performance of it practicable to those who have not made the scientific part of Music their peculiar study. At all events, I shall enjoy the gratification of having been tributary to the memory of one who, in the versatility of his genius, the graceful simplicity of his Melodies, the unsophisticated progression of his Harmonies, and the number of his Compositions, may be allowed the envied distinction of ranking next to Henry Purcell.

In justice to the memory of those who first stampt celebrity on the vocal parts by their performance of them, I have inserted their names, in the Index, to each Song and Duet.

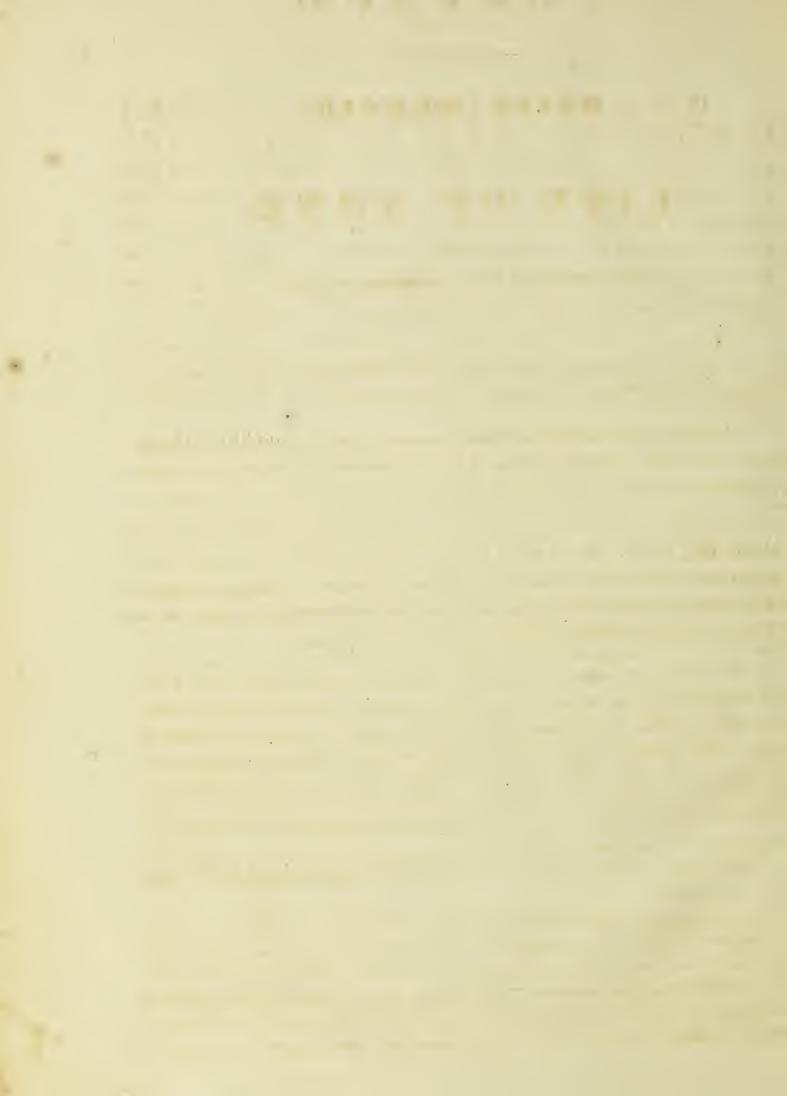
As the effect of a Musical Composition is always diminished, and sometimes destroyed, by transposition, I have written all the Songs, &c. in their original Keys, excepting "In infancy our hopes and fears," which, in modern times, it would be found rather difficult for any Gentleman to sing in the Key of C. In the other Songs, where the Melodies run either too high or too low for the generality of Singers, I have, for their accommodation, added small Notes (corresponding with the Harmonies) to those of the Text; which may be adopted or rejected at their pleasure.

On comparing my adaptation with the Score, it will appear that I have taken no liberties but with the rapid violin passages; and then only, if liberties they may be called, by changing the position of a very few Chords, or Notes, in order to render the execution of them less embarrassing to the Accompanist, without the slightest deviation from the original Harmonies, or, I trust, lessening the effect intended to be produced by the Composer.

JOHN CLARKE WHITFELD.

Hereford, April 28, 1821.

Artaxerxes was first performed at Covent-Garden Theatre in 1763; revived there in 1787, the part of Mandane by Mrs. Billington; and at the Crow-Street Theatre, Dublin, in 1795, or 1796, the part of Mandane by the unrivalled Mara.—(Editor's Note).



BRIEF MEMOIR

OF THE

LIFE OF ARNE.

EXTRACTED FROM BURNEY'S HISTORY OF MUSIC.

"THOMAS AUGUSTINE ARNE was the son of Arne, the celebrated Upholsterer, of King-street, Covent-garden, at whose house the Indian Kings lodged in the reign of Queen Anne, as mentioned in the Spectator, No. 50.

"Arne had a good school education, having been sent to Eton by his father, who intended him for the Law. But I have been assured by several of his school-fellows, that his love for Music operated upon him too powerfully, even while he was at Eton, for his own peace or that of his companions; for with a miserable cracked common flute, he used to torment them night and day, when not obliged to attend the school. And he told me himself, that when he left Eton, such was his passion for Music, that he used to avail himself of the privilege of a servant, by borrowing a livery, and going into the upper gallery of the Opera, which was appropriated to domestics. At home he had contrived to secrete a spinet in his room, upon which, after muffling the strings with a handkerchief, he used to practise in the night, while the rest of the family were asleep; for had his father discovered how he spent his time, he would, probably, have thrown the instrument out of the window, if not the player. This young votary of Apollo was at length obliged to serve a threeyears' clerkship to the Law, without ever intending to make it his profession; but even during this servitude, he dedicated every moment he could obtain fairly, or otherwise, to the study of Besides practising on the spinet and studying composition by himself, he contrived, during his clerkship, to acquire some instructions on the violin, of Festing, upon which instrument he had made so considerable a progress, that soon after he had quitted his legal master, his father accidentally calling at a gentleman's house in the neighbourhood upon business, found him engaged with company; but sending in his name, he was invited up stairs, where there was a large company, and a concert, in which, to his great astonishment, he caught his son in the very act of playing the first fiddle!

"Finding him more admired for his musical talents than knowledge in the law, he was soon prevailed upon to forgive his unruly passion, and to let him try to turn it to some account. No sooner was the young musician able to practise aloud in his father's house, than he bewitched the whole family. In discovering that his sister was not only fond of music, but had a very sweet-toned and touching voice, he gave her such instructions as soon enabled her to sing for Lampe, in his Opera of Amelia: and finding her so well received in that performance, he soon prepared a new character

for her, by setting Addison's Opera of Rosamond, in which he employed his younger brother likewise, in the character of the Page. This Musical Drama was first performed March 7th, 1733, at Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, where Mrs. Barbier performed the part of the King; Leveridge, Sir Trusty; Page, Master Arne, who had never appeared in public; Messenger, Mr. Corfe; Queen, Mrs. Jones; Grideline, Miss Chambers; and the part of Rosamond by Mrs. Arne. The Opera was performed ten nights successively, and with great applause; the last time, for the benefit of Mr. Arne, jun., the Composer. Having succeeded so well in a serious Opera, our young musician tried his powers at a Burletta, and fixed upon Fielding's Tom Thumb for that purpose, which, under the title of Tragedy of Tragedies, having met with great success in 1731, he now got it transformed into the Opera of Operas, and setting it to music, "after the Italian manner," had it performed May 31st, at the New Theatre in the Haymarket; the part of Tom Thumb by Master Arne, his brother. Princess Amelia and the Duke of Cumberland honoured the second representation with their presence; the Prince of Wales the sixth; the youngest Princesses the eighth; and afterwards it had a considerable run.

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"In 1738, Arne established his reputation as a Lyric Composer, by the admirable manner in which he set Milton's Comus. In this Masque he introduced a light, airy, original, and pleasing melody, wholly different from that of Purcell or Handel, whom all English Composers had hitherto either pillaged or imitated. Indeed, the melody of Arne at this time, and of his Vauxhall Songs afterwards, forms an æra in English Music; it was so easy, natural, and agreeable to the whole kingdom, that it had an effect upon our national taste; and till a more modern Italian style was introduced in the pasticcio English Operas of Messrs. Bickerstaff and Cumberland, it was the standard of all perfection at our theatres, and public gardens.

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"Mr. Arne, afterwards Dr. Arne, on his return from Ireland, in autumn 1744, was engaged as Composer to Drury-Lane playhouse.

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"Dr. Greene was now at the head of our Cathedral Music and the King's band, and Mr. Arne and Mr. Boyce were frequently concurrents at the theatres, and in each other's way, particularly at Drury-Lane. Arne was aspiring, and always regarded Handel as a tyrant and usurper, against whom he frequently rebelled, but with as little effect as Marsyas against Apollo. The late Mr. Tyers, proprietor of Vauxhall Gardens, who by his taste in laying them out, paintings of Hayman, band of music, good wines, and cold collations, had attracted much company thither, and rendered it a favourite and delightful place of public amusement in fine weather; in the summer of 1745, added, for the first time, vocal to his instrumental performances; engaging Mrs. Arne, Messrs. Lowe and the elder Reinhold, to sing. On this occasion the orchestra was enlarged, and Mr. Arne's ballads, dialogues, duets, and trios, were performed here with great applause, and circulated all over the kingdom. During this first summer, his little dialogue of Colin and Phœbe, written by the late Mr. Moore, author of Fables for the Female Sex, was constantly encored every night for more than three months successively.

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"In 1762, Arne quitted the former style of melody, in which he had so well set Comus, and furnished Vauxhall and the whole kingdom with such Songs as had improved and polished our national taste; and when he set the bald translation of Metastasio's Opera of Artaserses, he crouded the airs, particularly in the part of Mandane, for Miss Brent, with all the Italian divisions and difficulties which had ever been heard at the opera. This drama, by the novelty of the music to English ears, with the talents of Tenducci, Peretti, and the Doctor's scholar Miss Brent,

had very great success; and still continues to be represented whenever singers can be found who are possessed of sufficient abilities for its performance. But in setting Artaxerxes, though the melody is less original than that of Comus, Arne had the merit of first adapting many of the best passages of Italy, which all Europe admired, to our own language, and of incorporating them with his own property, and with what was still in favour of former English Composers.

"The general melody of our countryman, if analyzed, would perhaps appear to be neither Italian nor English, but an agreeable mixture of Italian, English, and Scots. Many of his ballads, indeed, were professed imitations of the Scots style; but in his other songs he frequently dropped into it, perhaps without design. Arne was never a close imitator of Handel, nor thought, by the votaries of that great musician, to be a sound contrapuntist. However, he had an inward and secret reverence for his abilities, and for those of Geminiani, as well as for the science of Pepusch; but except when he attempted Oratorios, theirs was not the merit requisite for him, a popular composer who had different performers and different hearers to write for. In the science of Harmony, though he was chiefly self-taught, yet being a man of genius, quick parts, and great penetration in his art, he betrayed no ignorance or want of study in his scores. The Oratorios he produced were so unfortunate, that he was always a loser whenever they were performed. And yet it would be unjust to say that they did not merit a better fate; for though the Chorusses were much inferior in force to those of Handel, yet the Airs were frequently admirable. But besides the great reputation of Handel, with whom he had to contend, Arne never was able to have his music so well performed, as his competitor had always a numerous and select band, a better organ, which he played himself, and better singers.

"None of this ingenious and pleasing Composer's capital productions had full and unequivocal success but Comus and Artaxerxes, at the distance of 24 years from each other. Rosamond, his first musical drama, had a few songs in it that were long in favour; and the Judgment of Paris many; but except when his sister, Miss Arne, afterwards Mrs. Cibber, sung in them, he never gained any thing by either. Thomas and Sally, indeed, as a Farce, with very little musical merit, was often acted; and previous to that, Eliza was a little while in favour; but the number of his unfortunate pieces for the Stage was prodigious (The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green, Fall of Phæton, King Pepin's Campaign, Don Saverio, Temple of Dulness, Guardian Outwitted, Achilles in Petticoats, &c. &c.); yet none of them were condemned or neglected for want of merit in the music, but words, of which the Doctor was too frequently guilty of being the author. Upon the whole, though this Composer, who died March 5, 1778, had formed a new style of his own, there did not appear that fertility of ideas, original grandeur of thought, or those resources upon all occasions which are discoverable in the works of his predecessor, Purcell, both for the church and stage; yet, in secular music, he must be allowed to have surpassed him in ease, grace, and variety; which is no inconsiderable praise, when it is remembered that, from the death of Purcell to that of Arne, a period of more than four score years, no candidate for musical fame among our countrymen had appeared, who was equally admired by the nation at large.

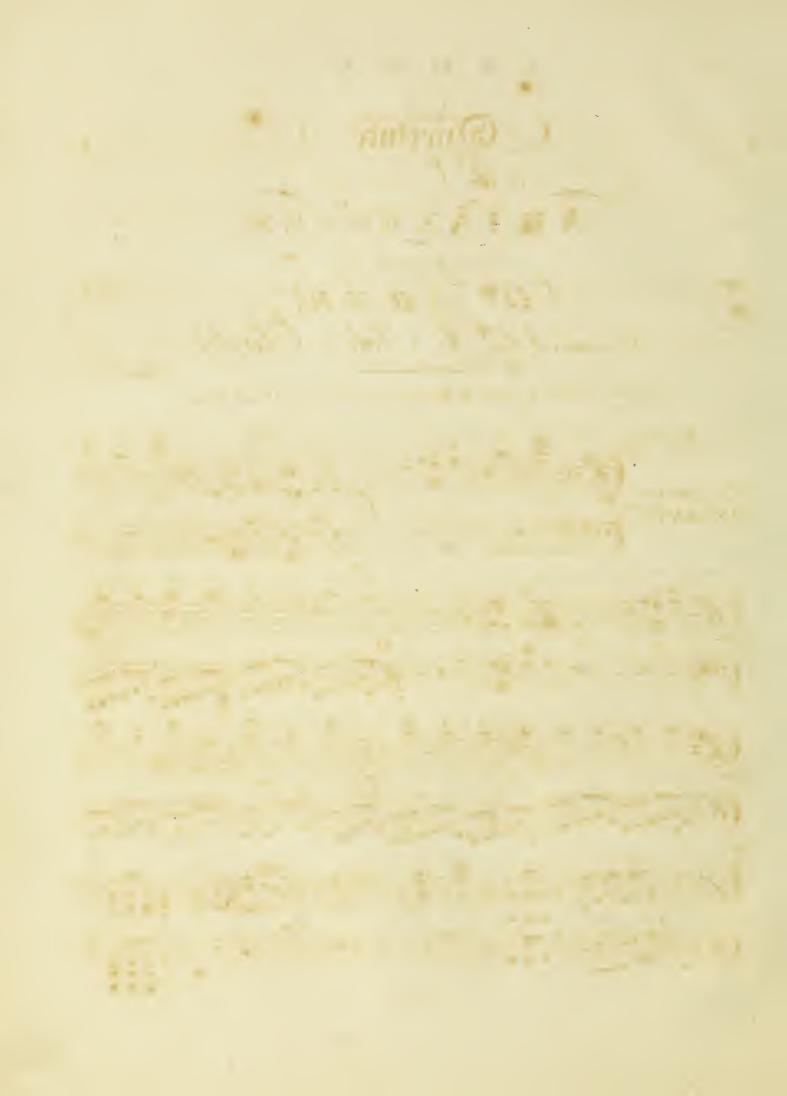
"Of near a hundred and fifty Musical Pieces that have been brought on the Stage at our two National Theatres within these forty years, thirty of them, at least, were set by Arne."



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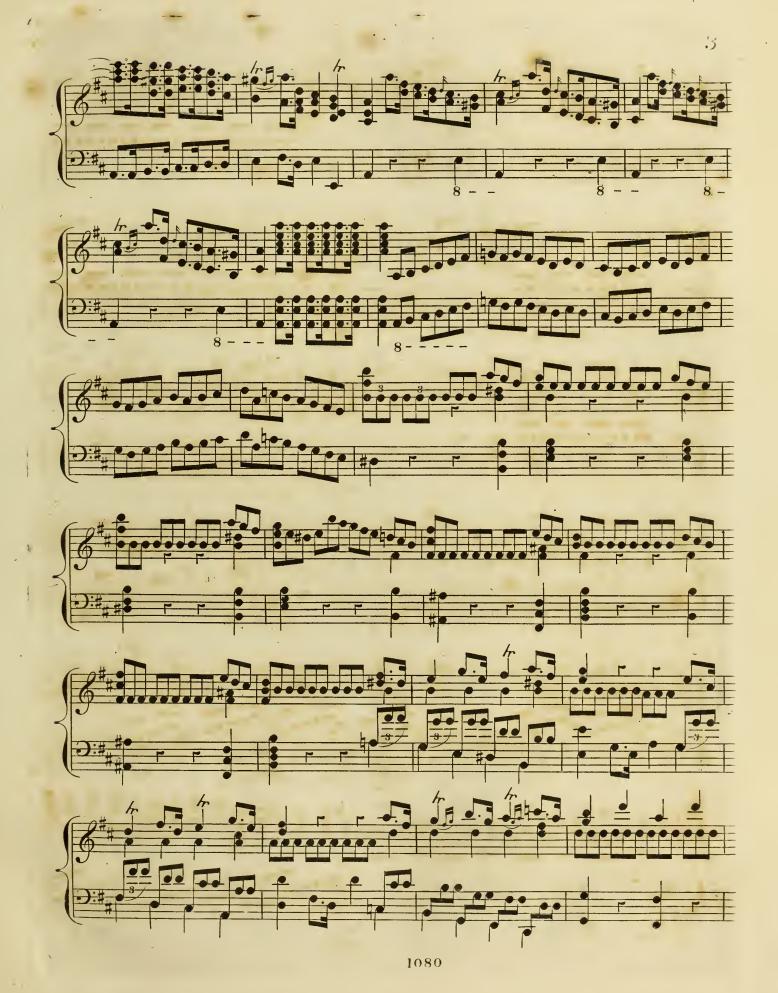


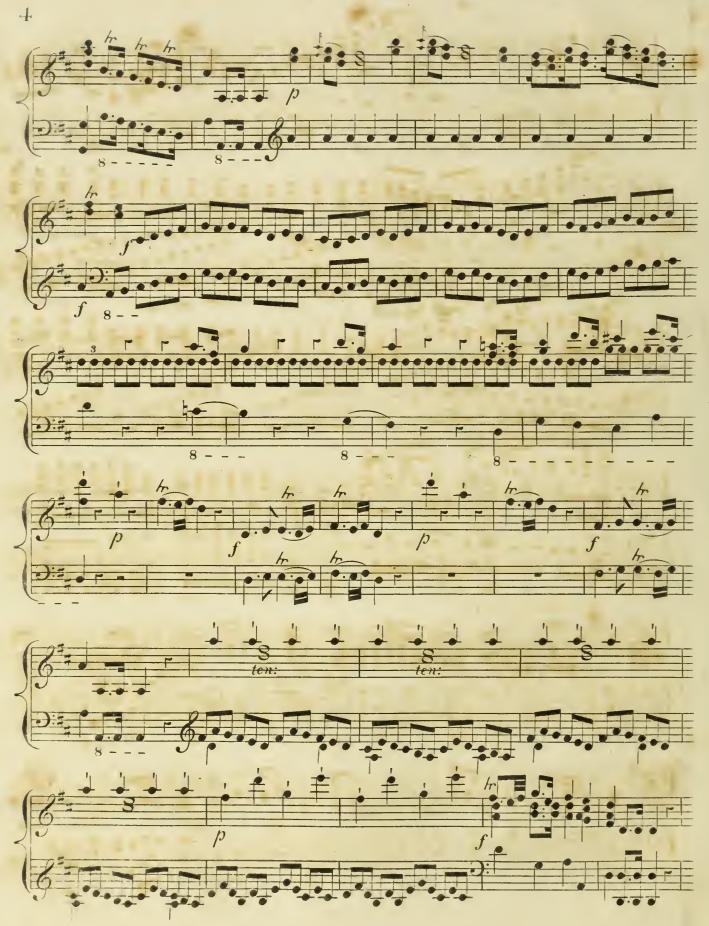


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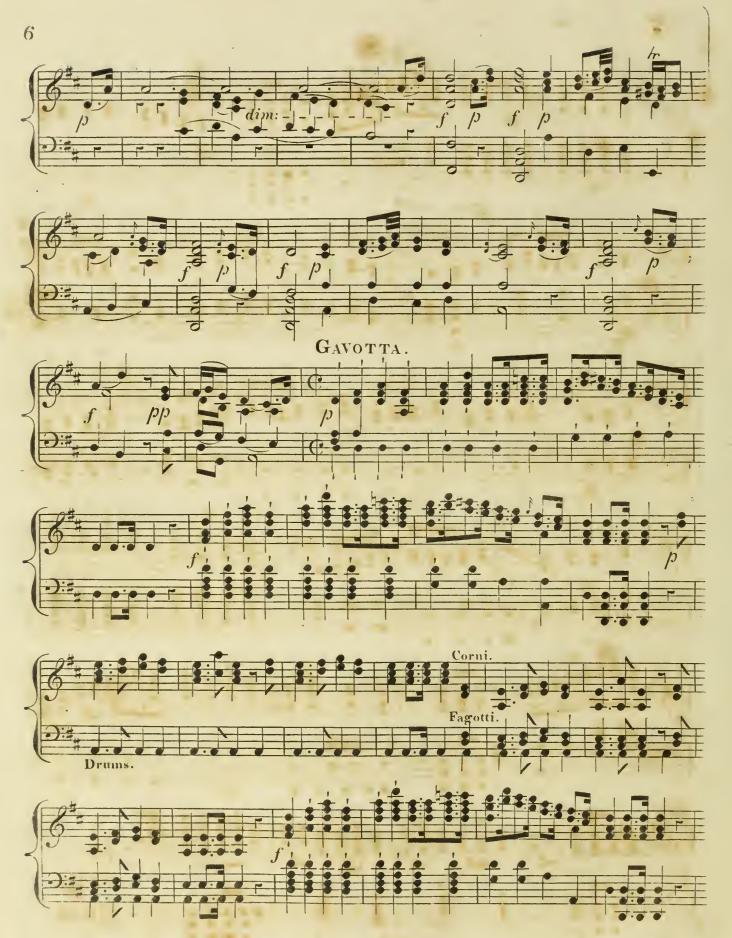


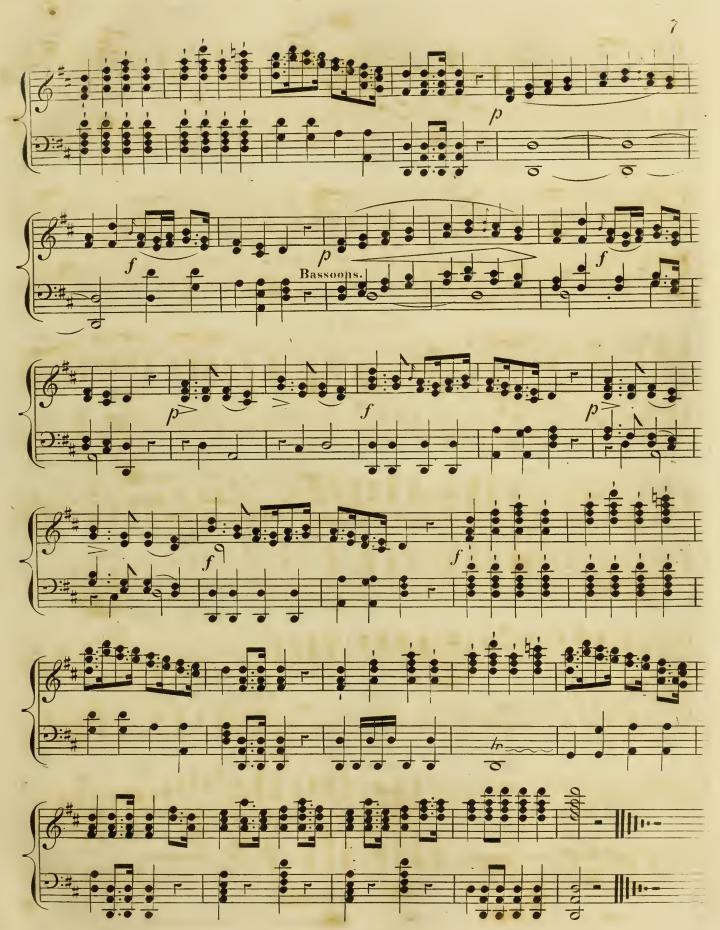














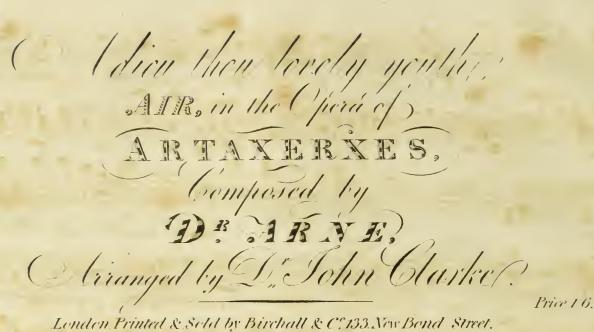
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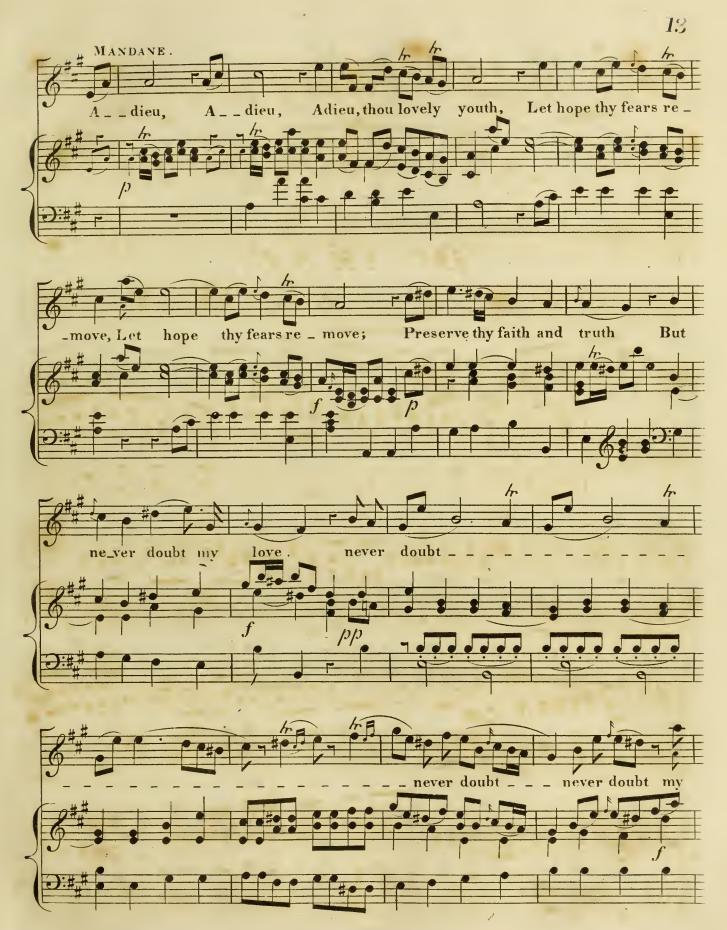






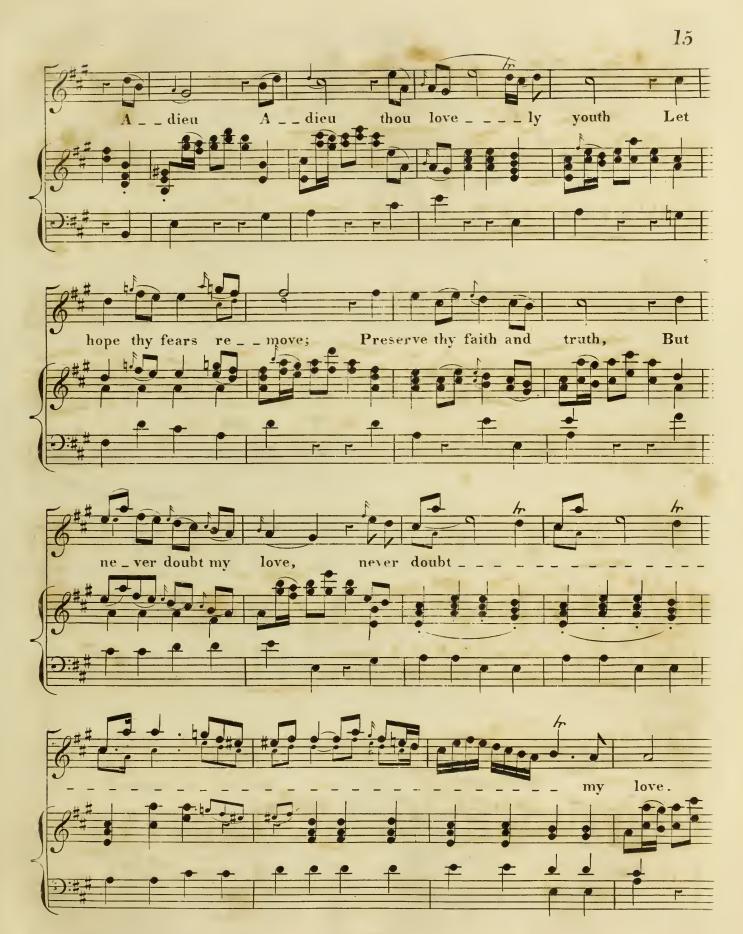














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Composed by 332 ARNE,

(Arranged by L. John Clarkef?

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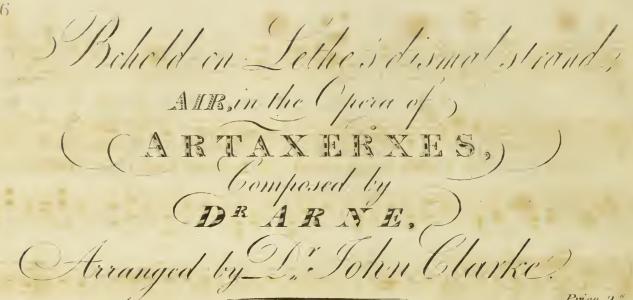






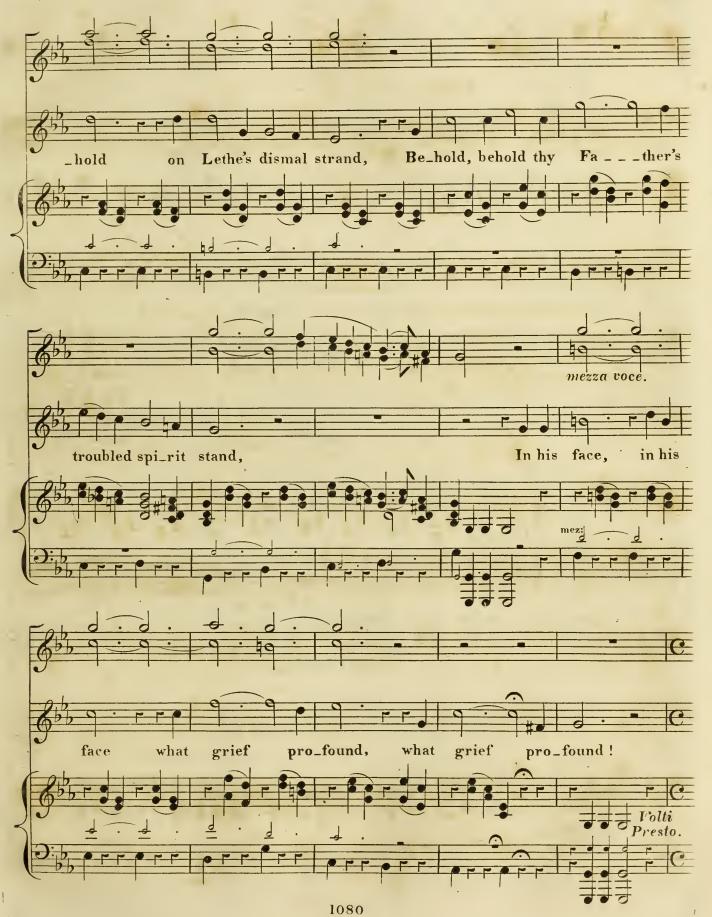






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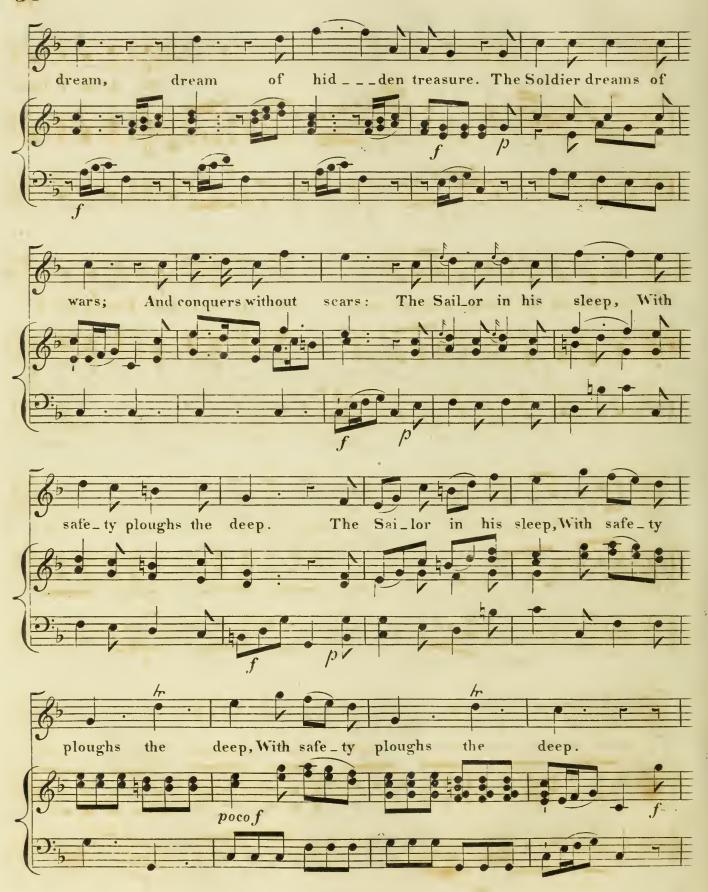




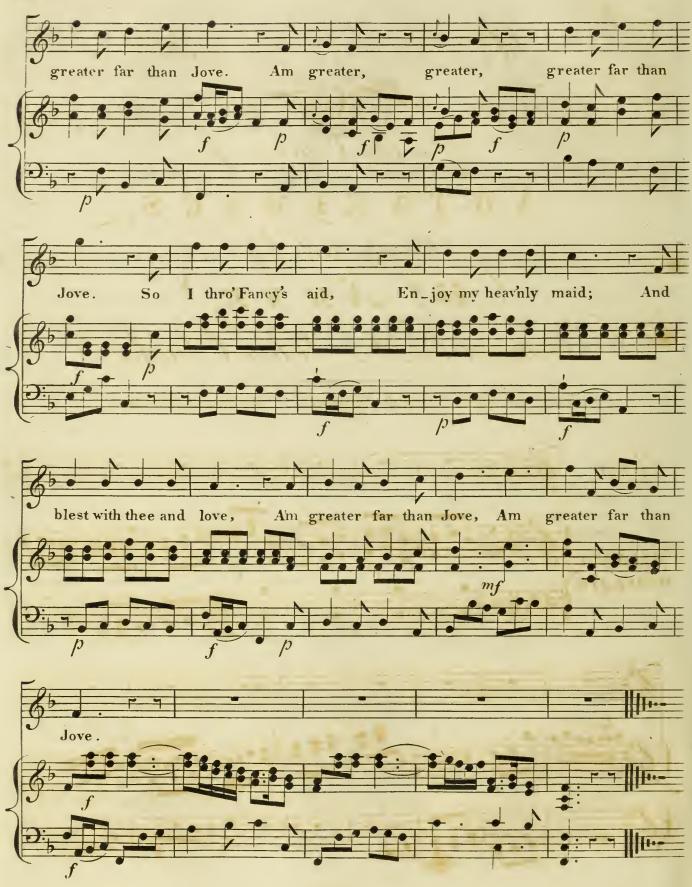


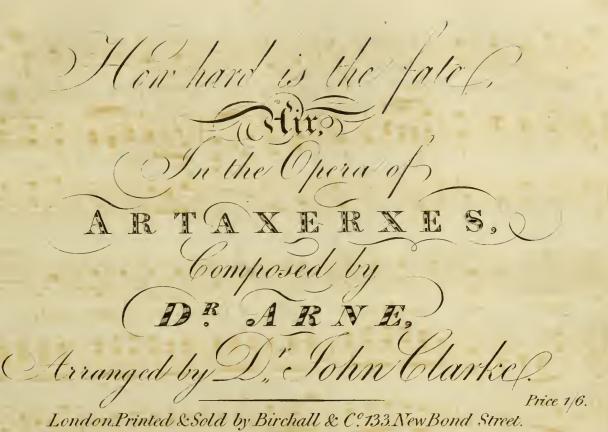












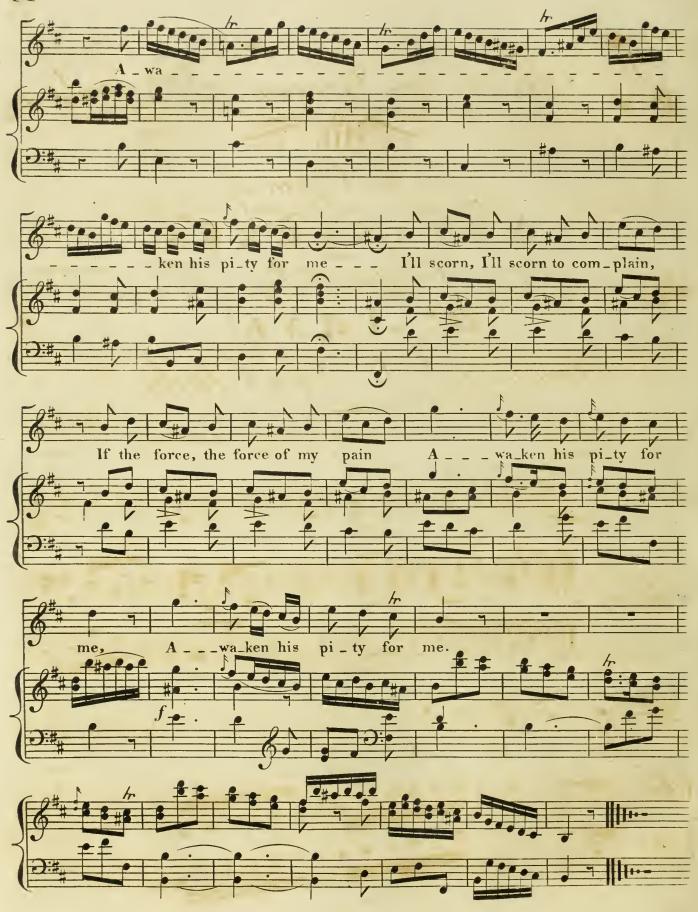


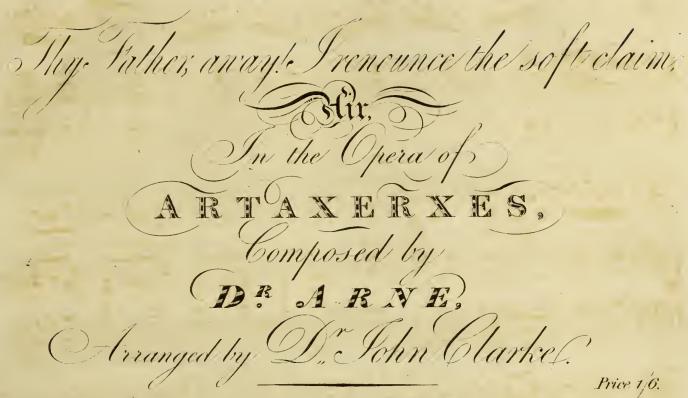




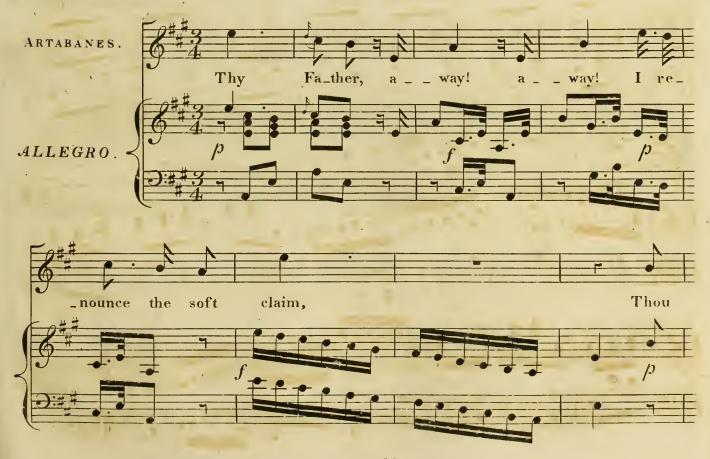








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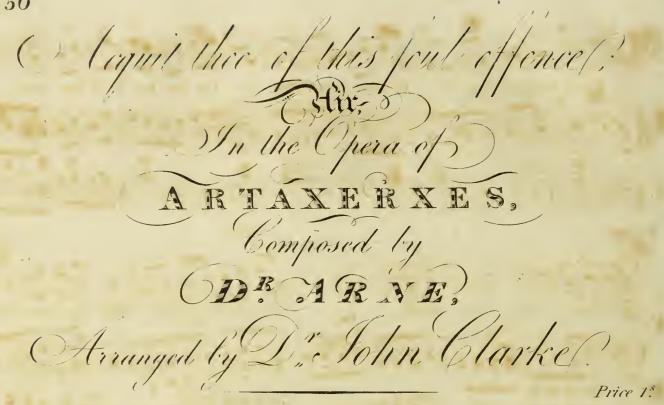








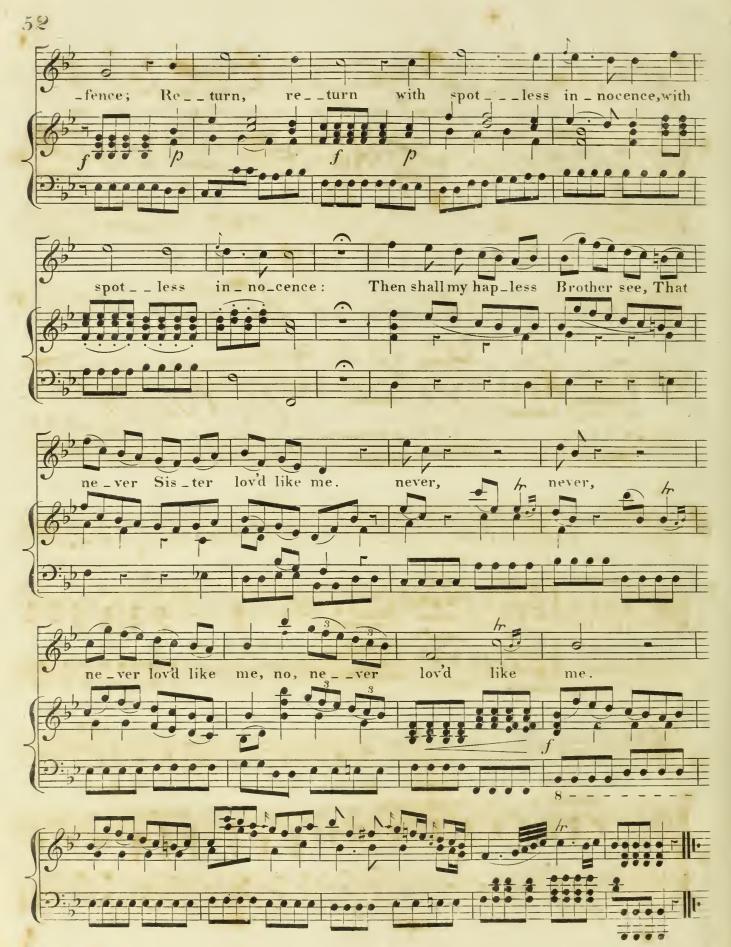




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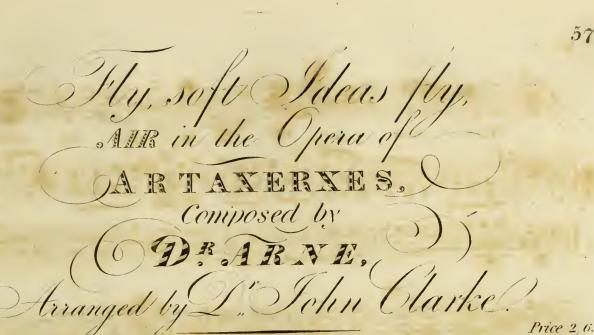












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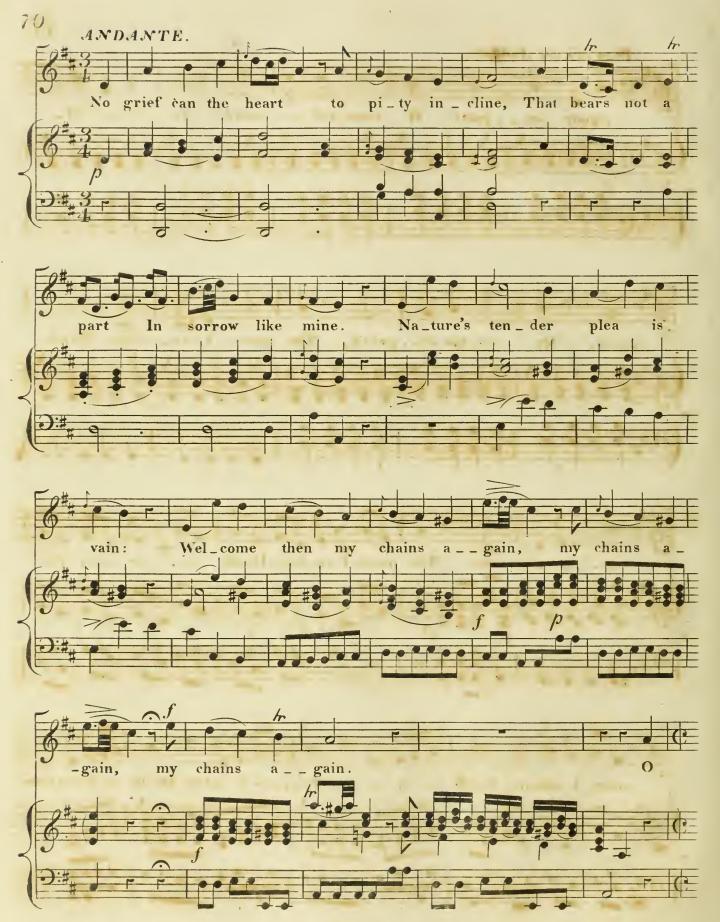


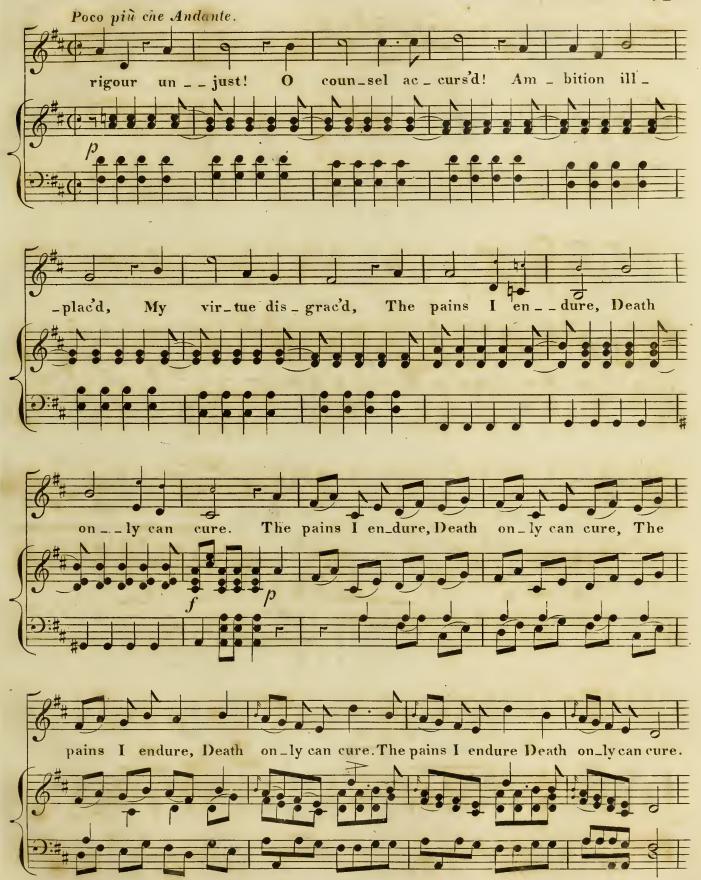


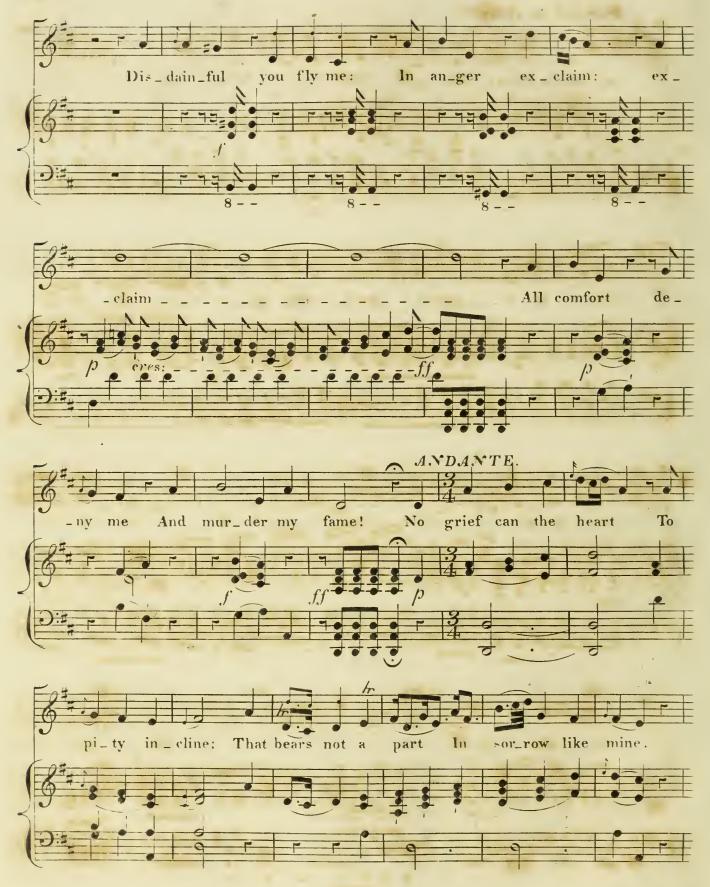
















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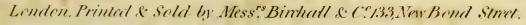








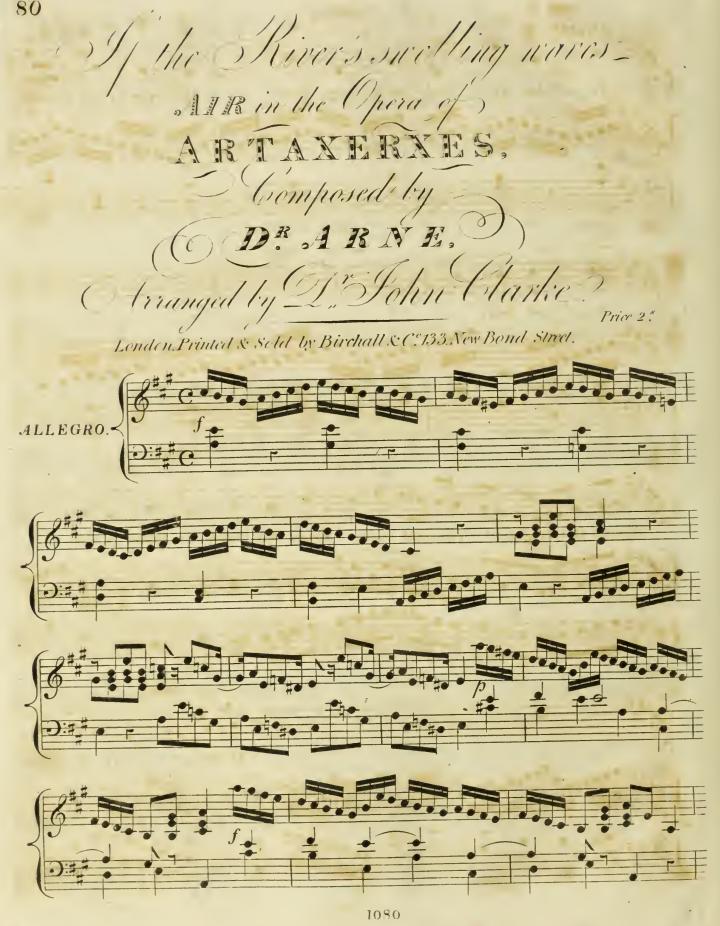




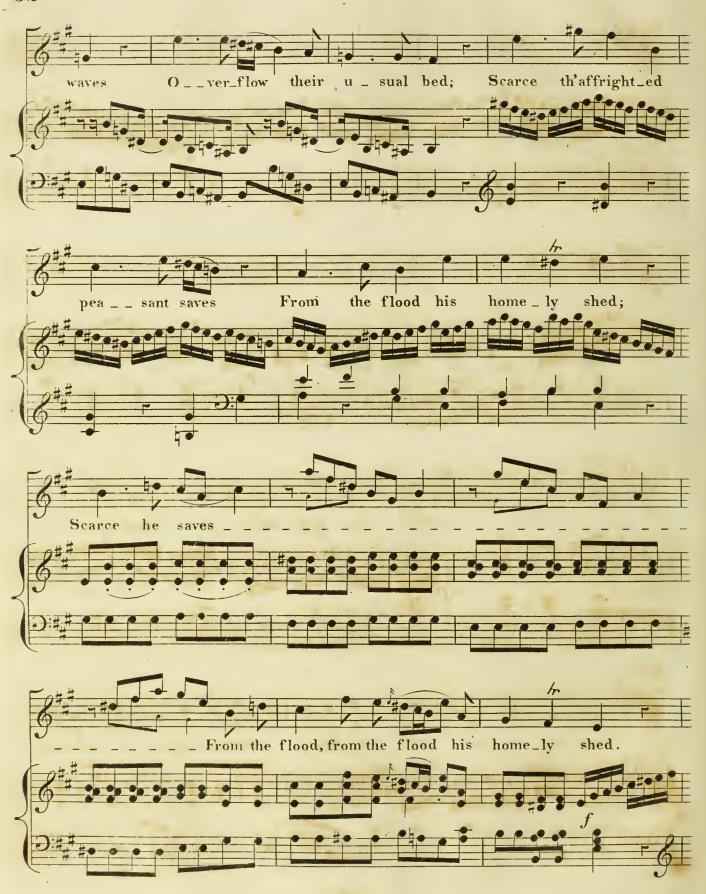




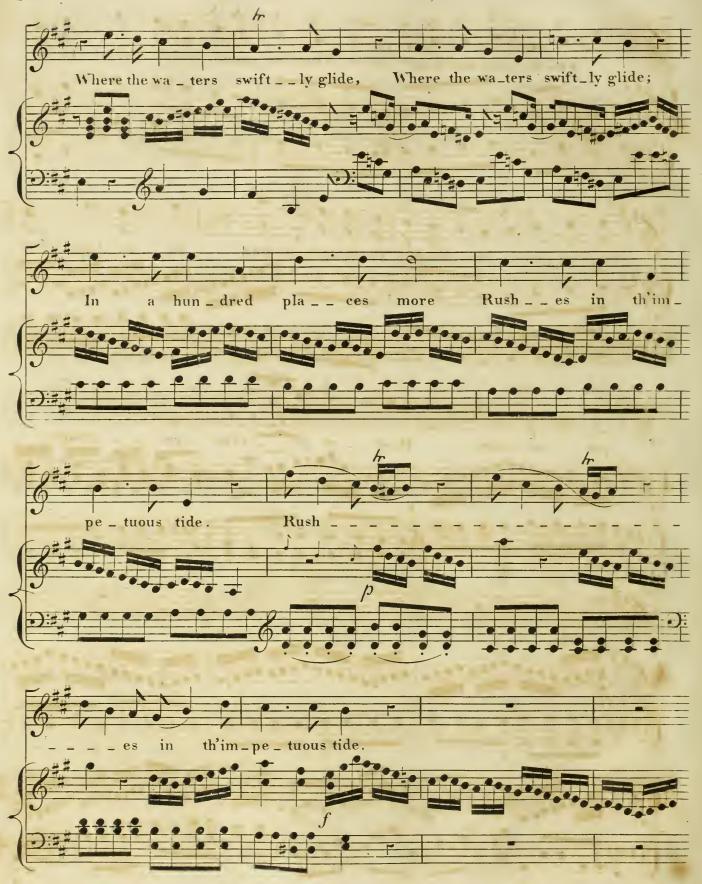










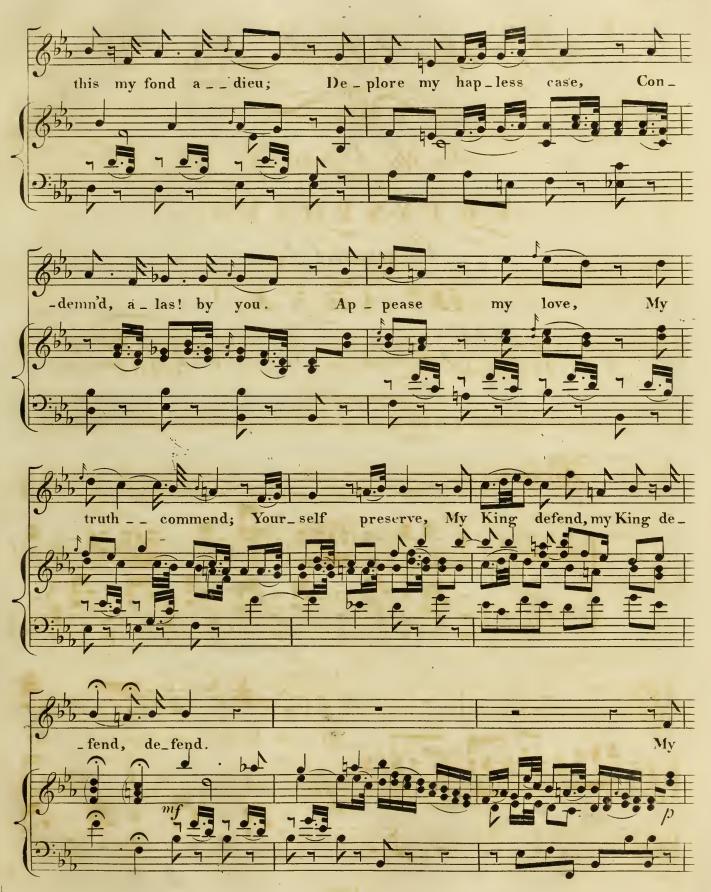


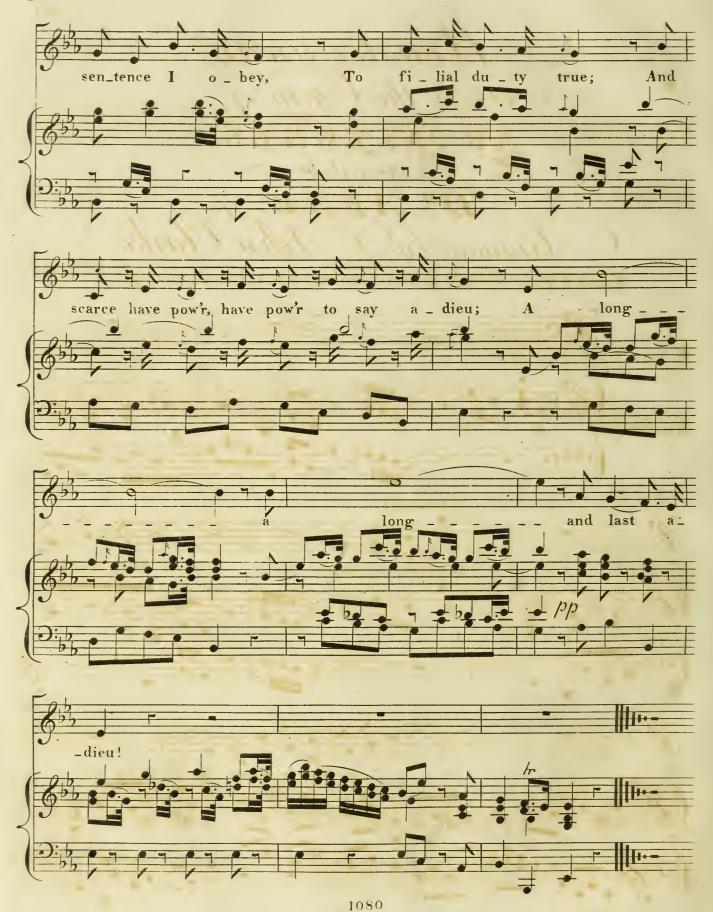


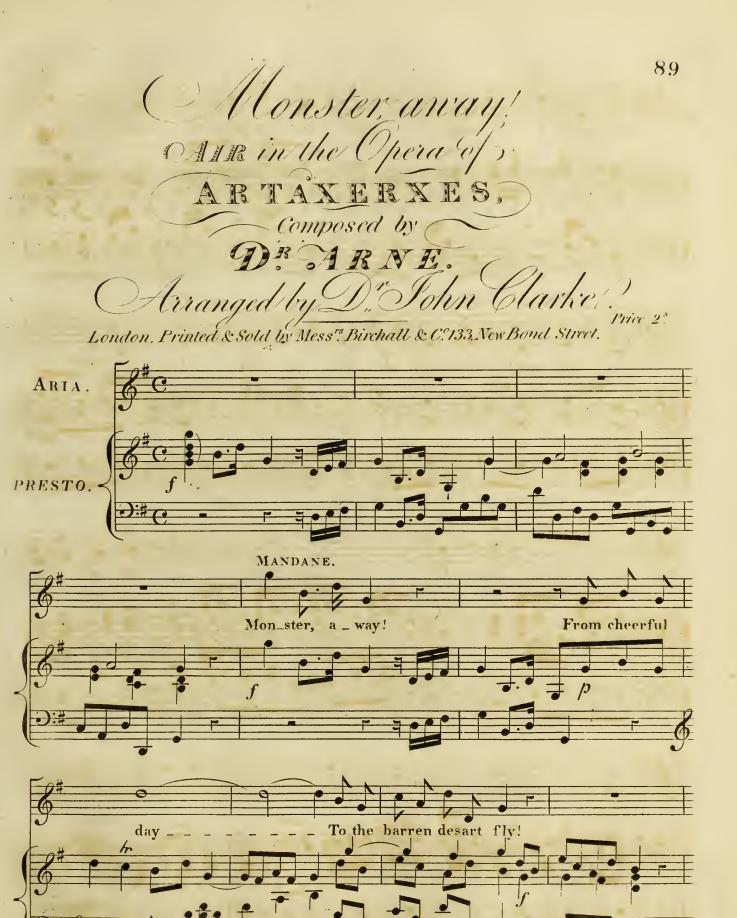


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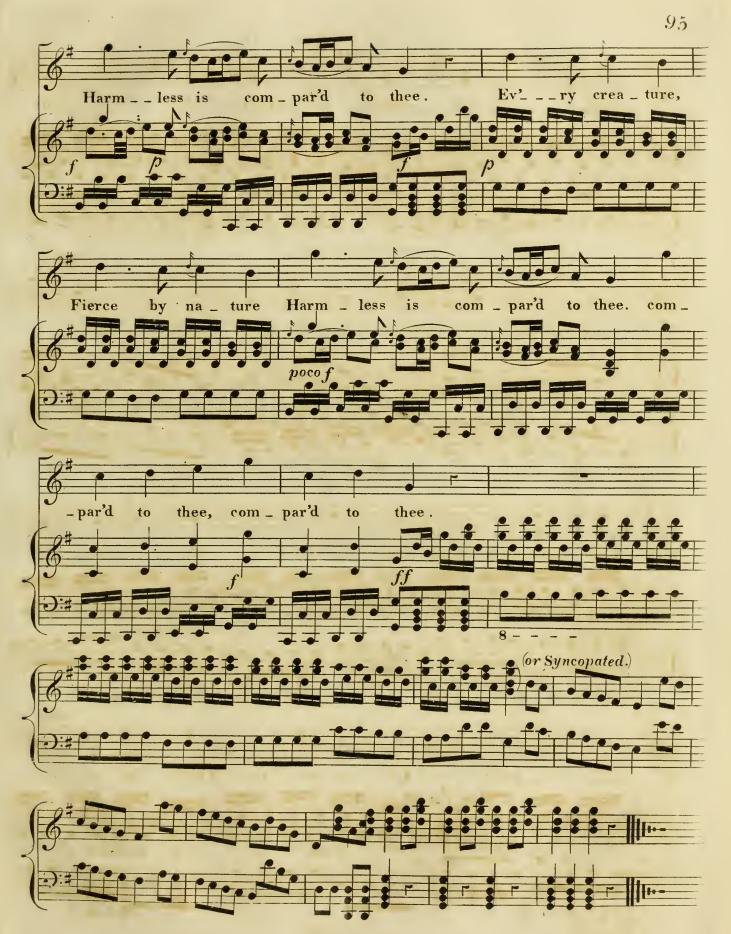


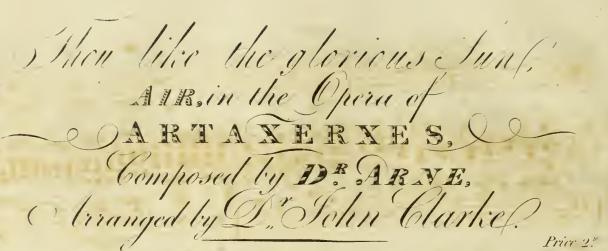












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-Why is death for ever lates? AIR, in the Opera of . ARTAXERXES,

ARIALENAES,

Composed by D. ARNE,

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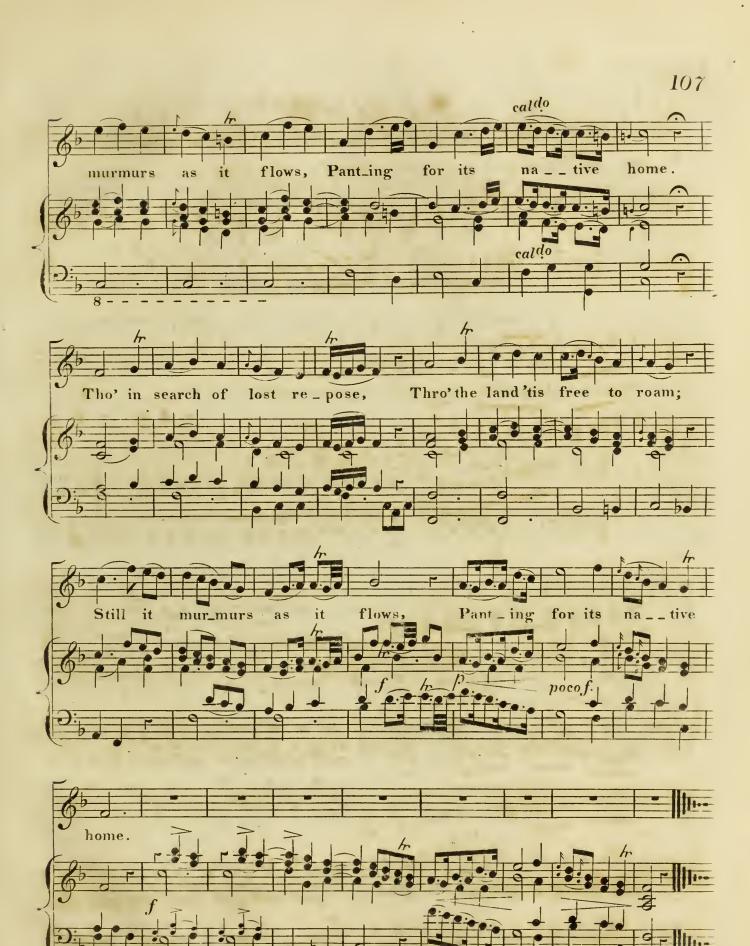
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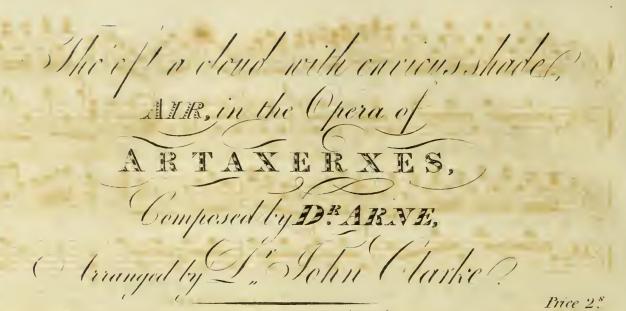
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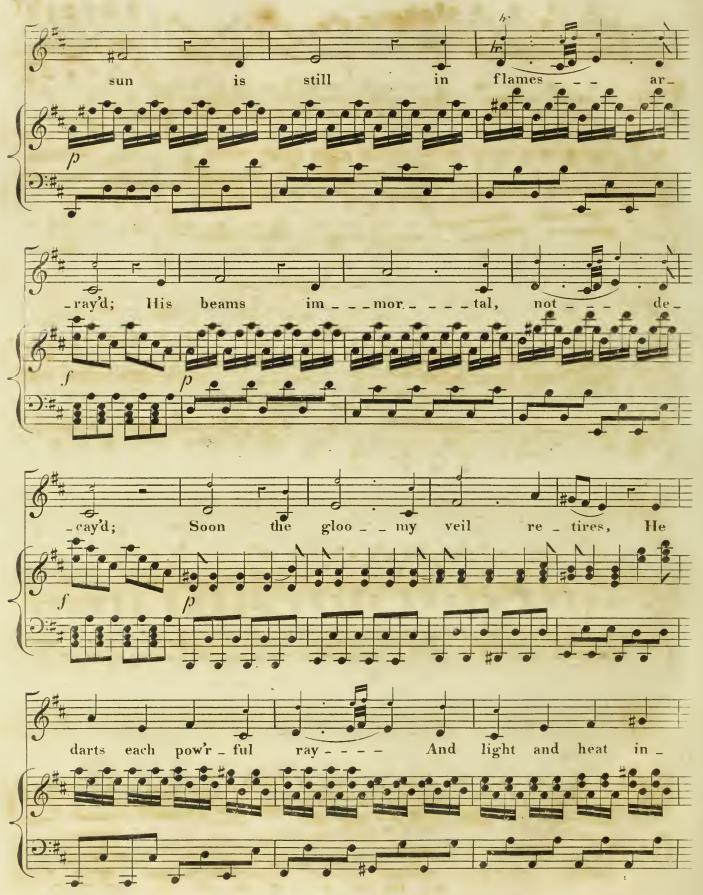




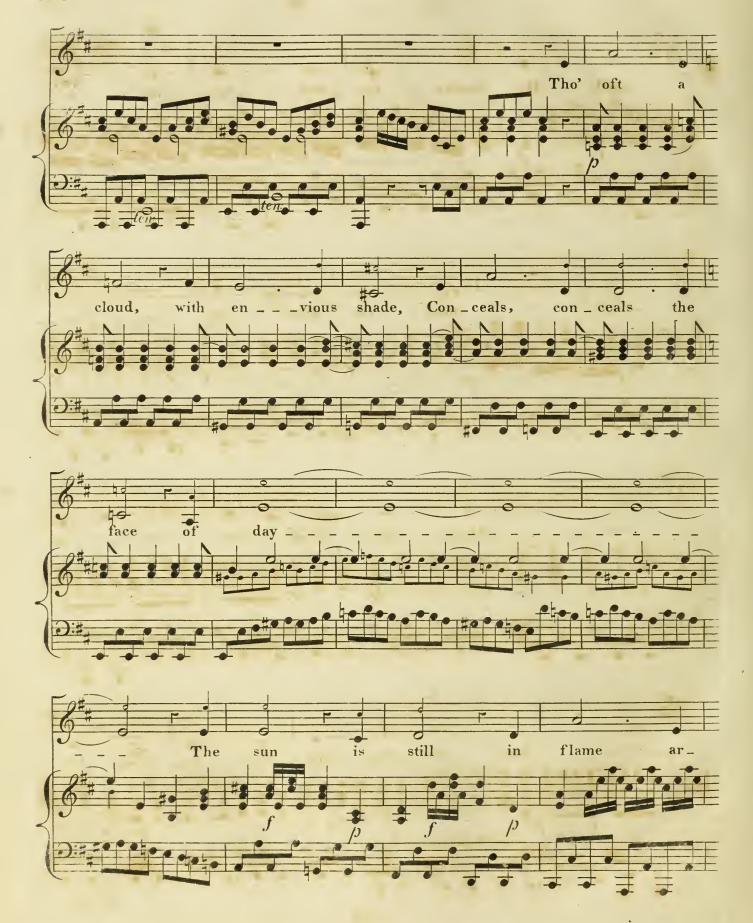
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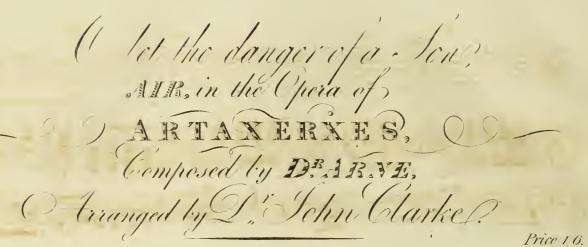










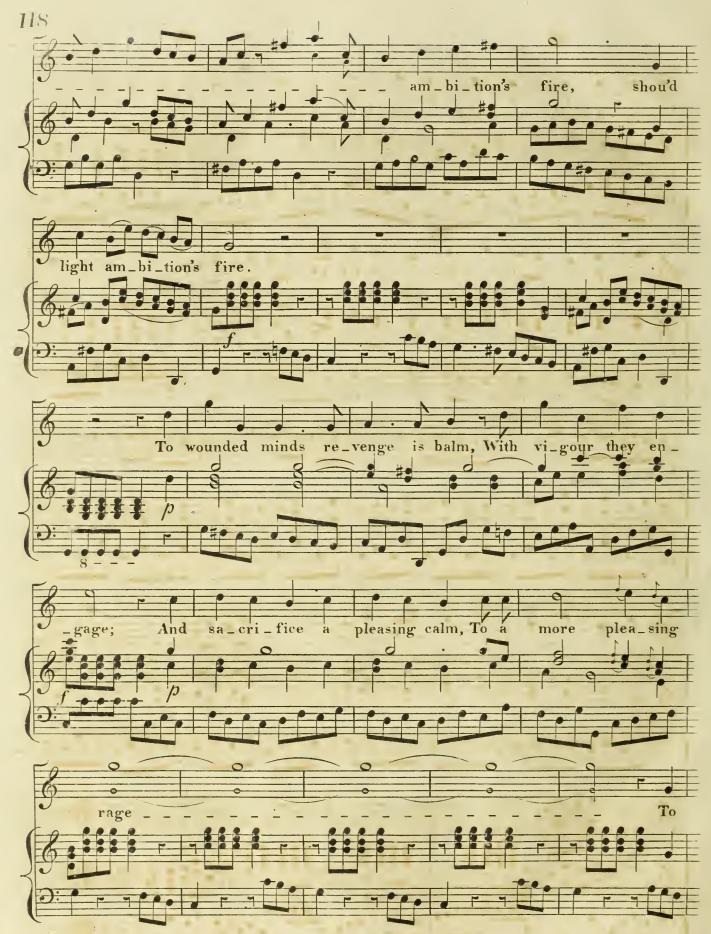


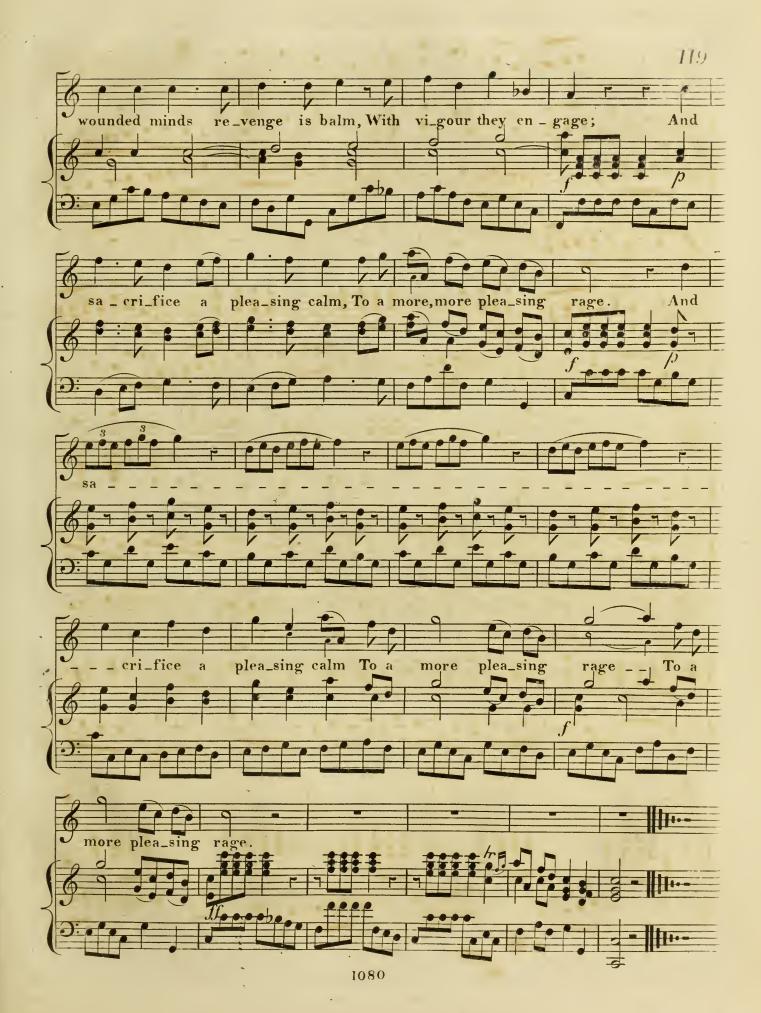
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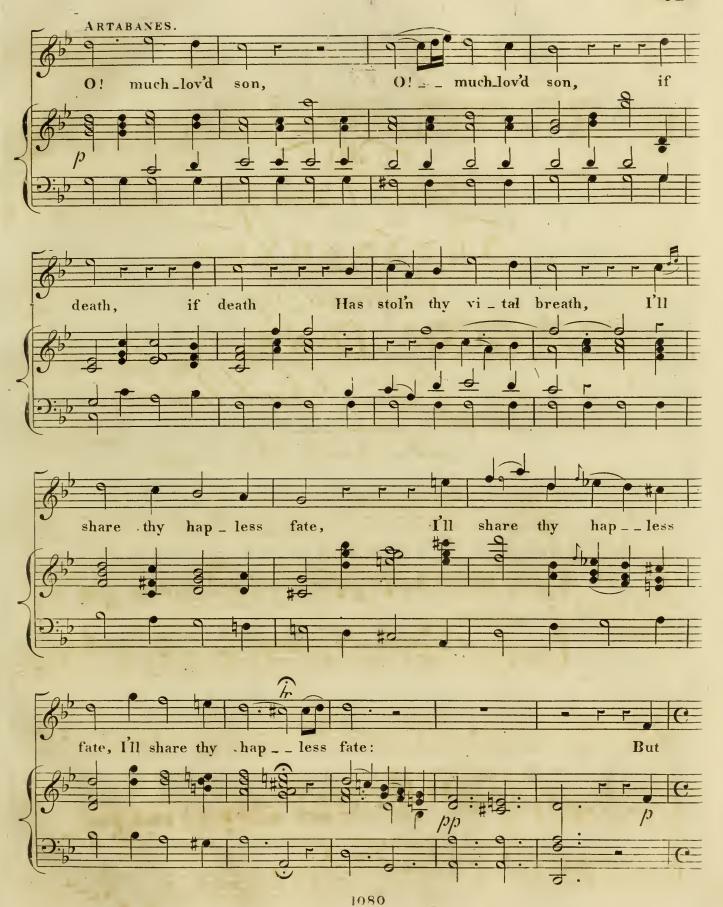






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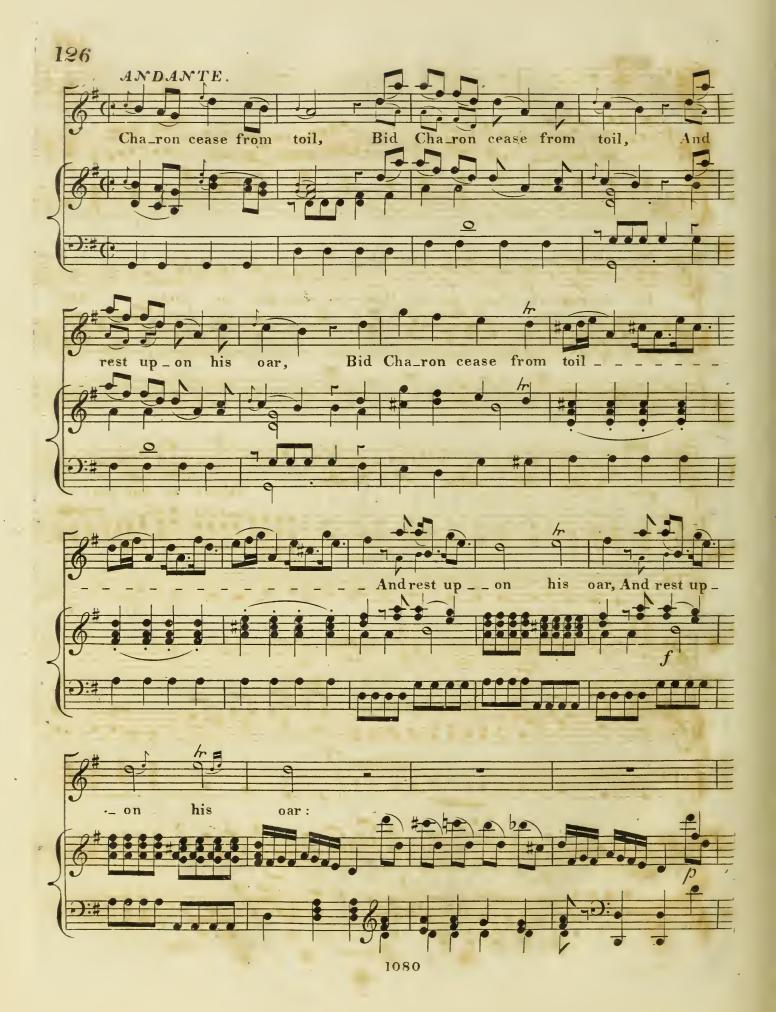




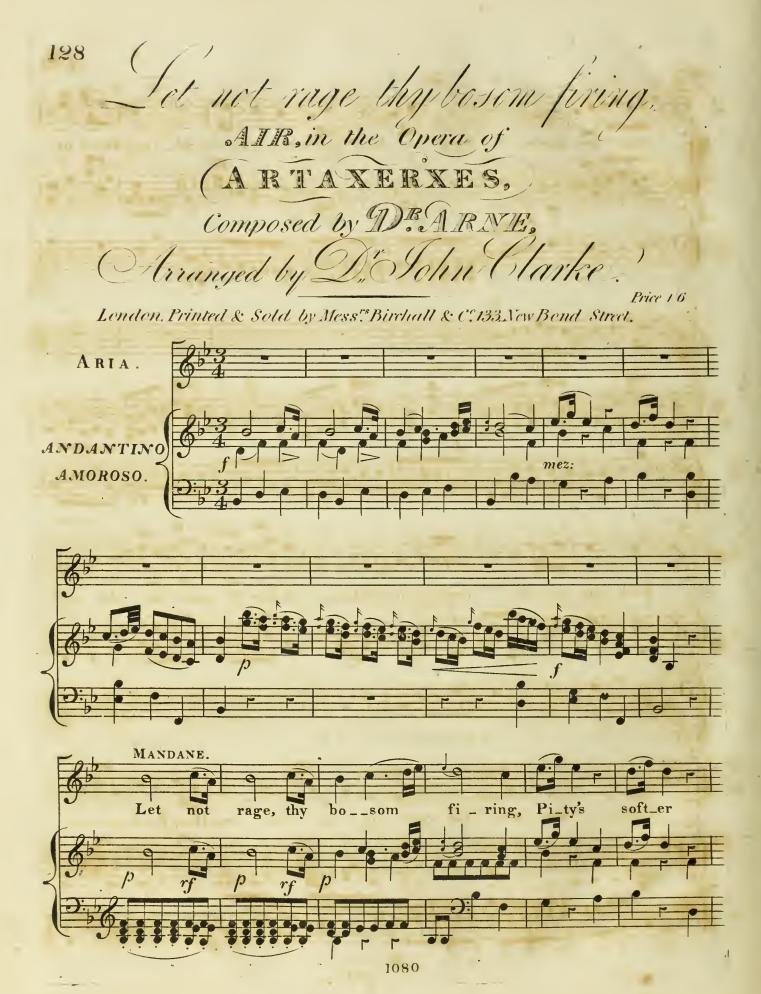














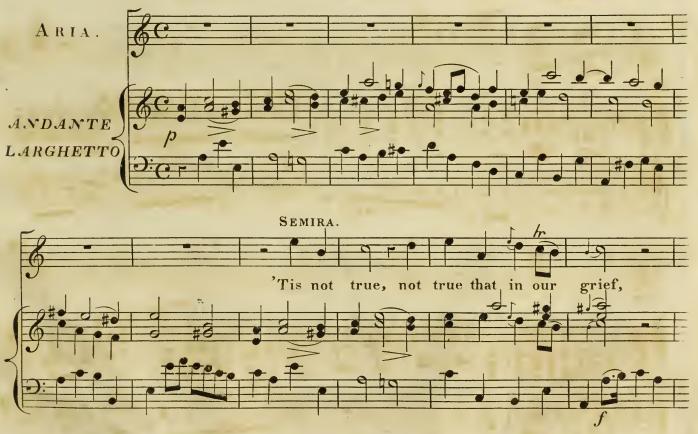








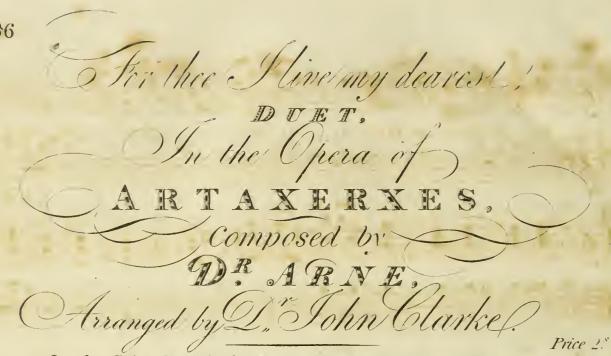
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