/


DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE.

## THE EAR-RING:

## AN OPERA IN ONE ACT.

THE MUSIC BY
F. SCHIRA.

PRICE FIVE SHILLINGS.

LONDON:
C. JEFFERYS, 57, BERNERS STREET, W.

The Harmonium Accompaniment may be had separately, price 2s.; when this is nsed the parts marked "Harmonium Solo" in the Pianoforte Score must be omitted.

## Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2013

## TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE.

## the ear-ring

## AN OPERA IN ONE ACT.

THE MUSIC BY
F. SCHIRA.

PRICE FIVE SHILLINGS.

## LONDON:

C. JEFFERYS, 57, BERNERS STREET, W.

The Harmonium Accompaniment may be had separately, price 2s.;

# THE EAR•RING. 

## Gu Opera in ane Grt.

## Music by F. SCHIRA.

| Alfred ... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | Tenor. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Countess Belleville | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | Soprano. |  |
| Lucy, her Maid | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | Contralto. |
| Jean, Groom | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | Bass. |

[Scene lies in Paris, in the Countess's house. Drawingroom. Principal door in c. opening to ante-room. Door R. and L. door. L. opens into small room, with window into street. L., bureau and table. R., chimney and fire; clock, \&c., and an agate cup, holding jewels, canseuse, \&c. L., a piano (rather forward). Portrait of gent. Room tastefully furnished.

## SCENE I.

LUCY discovered, with drawing materials in her hand.
Lucy. Ah!ah!ah!ah! what a scrape-I cannot draw.

Though I can't make a sketch, yet I On painters all do dote
On singers too, yet though I try, I cannot sing a note.
I love him who from marble cold
A life-like form can raise ;
To me so dear no crown of gold As coronet of bays.
An artist's life is dear to me, An artist's wife I fain would be!
A painter I could love, but though Another came before,
To put the question, "Yes or No?" A sculptor I'd adore.
A true Bohemian I'd wed, But as my fancies wing,
By music all my thoughts are ledA singer is the thing !
An artist's life is dear to me,
An artist's wife I fain would be

## Enter Countess.

Countess. Oh Lucy! on your favourite hobbyhorse again?
LuCy. Yes, so please your ladyship.
Countess. Lucy, how long have I been a widow?
Lucy. Just fifteen months, my lady.
Countess. And what do you think of my guardian, Monsieur de Brissac?
Lucy. What? your ladyship's intended? Why, I think he has too much shirt-collar and not enough whisker. Oh ! he is not at all like an artist.

COUNTESS. Lucy, you are always raving about artists. (Sits.)

Lucy. Yes, my lady, I adore artists. When I lived with Mde. de Coigny, there used to come sculptors and painters and musicians, and I was happy as the day was long.

Countess. I know you have made up your mind that I shall never marry M. de Brissac. At what hour was he to call, and take me to the concert?

Lucy. At nine o'clock, my lady. But do you know you would like the society of artists very much, if you only knew them ; and-excuse me for saying it-the proof is, that your ladyship is always thinking of the time you spent in Brittany before your marriage, five years ago. You remember, my lady, there were no fine gentlemen there, but plenty of artists, and you say it was the happiest time in your life.

Countess (rising). It is true : I do regret Brittany, and something besides, Lucy; I regret my preserver, the young shepherd, who lived in the mountains of Cornouailles, and who used to sing so sweetly.

Lucy. Lor'! I never heard of him before!

## DUET.

Countess. In Brittany long years ago,
With wayward thoughts my heart was laden, I to a village fête did go,
In costume of a village maiden.
When homewards o'er the mountain vale,
My steps at eventide were drafted,
The path I missed, till on the air
The sounds of a sweet voice were wafted!
Oh! ne'er shall I forget'
The sounds of the sweet voice
Of that poor shepherd lad,
Which made my heart rejoice!
Lucy. Can you, my lady, those sweet sounds recall? Oh! happy shepherd thine heart to enthrall!
Countess.
"The livelong day by mountain side,
I tend my bleating, wand'ring flocks, And homewards lead at eventide,

From herbage sweet among the rocks ; And when they rest in soft repose,

I lie 'mong flow'rs and fragrant thyme,
Inhaling scents of sweet wild rose
And creeping plants that near me climb.
Oh yes! a shepherd's life for me,
The breeze that's wafted through the dell
Is not more buoyant or more free,
A life it is, none can excel!"
Lucy.
That song is pretty, many a one a worse is!
Countess. Yes ! and there were no less than twenty verses.
I followed the sound,
At length I found
Myself at a poor dwelling,

> And seated there, Him, to the air Whose sorrows had been telling.
> His mossy couch to me he gave,
> Then gravely he departed,
> Nor saw I his fair form again,
> Since from his hut I started.
> Ensemble. Oh! tender songs of heartfelt love,
> $\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { My } \\ \text { Her }\end{array}\right\}$ heart was prison'd in their chain,
> How bitter did the sequel prove-
> To love, and not to meet again.

LUCY. Oh! then your ladyship really loved him?
Countess (laughing). Well, perhaps I did. Yes, his wild nature and indifference pleased me. He appeared unconscious of my presence. I asked him to sing, and he sung-that was all. Once I met him far from his mountains, and he did not even remember me. I could not help feeling annoyed, but it was not his fault, for how could he recognize me in my fine clothes (sighing)? Ah! I really believe there was a moment when I wished I was a poor girl of Cornouailles; but I soon blushed at my folly.

Lucy. And you lost no time in becoming the Countess de Belleville.
Countess. Was I wrong, think you, in that?
Lucy. Oh dear no! Your ladyship was fortunate enough to become a widow in a very short time. But suppose you were to return to Brittany, my lady ?

Countess. You silly child (looks at clock)! How very extraordinary! How is it that M. de Brissac does not come? He told me he was going to the races at Auteuil, and I think he said he was to ride one race himself. But he promised to return at nine o'clock.

Lucy. Then, no doubt, my lady, he is riding now ; or-I mean-oh! if he could break his neck!

Countess. Lucy! leave the room!

## Lucy. Oh! forgive me, my lady!

Countess. No more!-go! And when you see M. de Brissac's carriage arrive, let my aunt know, as she has promised to accompany us to the concert tonight. Go!

Lucy. Yes, my lady. (Aside, going.) All the same he may have broken his neck. (Exit.)

Countess. The silly girl has quite frightened me (humming). How foolish I am! That stupid song always makes me feel inclined to cry; I will think of something else-something cheerful-M. de Brissac, for instance (looks at portrait). He should have been painted on horseback; his horse is so very handsome (yazens). I am bored to death : what shall I do while I am waiting for him ? Shall I work ? No (looks at piano) ; I will sing (sits at piano). Now then, black spirits and white! will you talk to me of Lizst or Thalberg, Weber or Mozart (turning over music)? What's this ? - oh! "Studies of the Heart," by "Alfred." That's the composer I was reading about yesterday! What a strange history it was!-and so sad! They say he is only twenty-five years old, and he has already had so many misfortunes-so young -so talented! I should like to know him (plays): all his music is simple!

## SONG.

I.

Say why, my heart, so wildly beating,
Dost thou such emotion prove?
Canst thou, when thy lover meeting,
Fear his truth, or doubt his love?
No, fondly, no!
My bosom sighs!
No, gently, no!
My heart replies!
Then, fond heart, be silent ever, Be thy wild emotion o'er ;
For with doubt and fearing never
Shall it throb! no, never more.

## II.

Light of life, and life's best blessing,
Is the love that meets return,
Can I, that rich boon possessing,
E'er the matchless blessing spurn.
No, fondly, no! \&c.

## Enter Lucy, running.

Lucy (laughing). My lady! my lady!
Countess. Well! what is it?
Lucy. Oh, I have had such a turn! As I was pulling down the blinds in the ante-room just now, I spied a man's hat under the window; I looked again, and saw a head under the hat; I looked a third time, and saw a man under the head, which was swearing frightfully, and making all kinds of grimaces. He was beating time with his cane, and every now and then said, "Dolce," "Espressivo," "Sacrebleu!"

## Countess. What?

Lucy. I burst out laughing, but he did not stir, and he said, " Not the least sentiment or feeling !not a particle of ear !-no soul for music !"

Countess. Oh! he said that, did he ?
Lucy. Yes, and a great deal more. He said, " Who can the idiot be ?"

Countess. What insolence ! so I sing out of tune, do I ? and I have no ear? Am I not in my own house ? and have I not a right to sing out of tune, if I like ? and I will prove to this insolent intruder-
[Sits at piano, and plays.
Lucy. You are quite right, my lady.
[Goes to window of autt-room.
COUNTESS (to LUCY, who has opened the window in the ante-roonn). Well! what is he about now?

Lucy. He is rampaging about like a hungry lion -now he has broken his stick!
Countess (laughing immoderately, and playing wrong). Ah!ah!ah! this is capital! (Sings.) Now he will hear something out of tune.

## DUET.

Countess. Who talks of music's dulcet joys? All I care for is a noise, Neither time, nor tune, nor measure, Give to me the smallest pleasure!

Come and sing with me, Lucy.

| A duo. | I like sounds so quick and loud, <br> When we in a ball room crowd, <br> When <br> Trumpets, flutes, fiddles scraping, (Imitating the <br> And dancers flying, jostling, leaping. instruments.) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Lucy.Or in the tent at village fair, <br> When our sweetheart meets one there, <br> Whe dance to music, shrill and clear, <br> The sounds to country maiden dear. |  |

[Something falls into the room.
Countess. Good gracious! can it be possible? he is throwing stones at us.

Lucy (who has picked up paper and opened it ). No, my lady, it is two pennies.

Countess. Two pennies?
Alfred (without, from the street). Aye! and it is more than you deserve.

COUNTESS (furious). Was there ever such impertinence ?-but I have no idea of being dictated to by a stranger passing under my window.

## [Bell heard.

Lucy. Oh, my lady! that's the door-bell-someone is ringing.

Countess. I am glad he is come at last. If he had been a little more punctual, this would not have happened. It's all his fault! Of course it is M. de Brissac, so go, Lucy, and tell my aunt I shall be ready to accompany her to the concert in ten minutes. (Exit LuCY.) There's what a poor widow is exposed to ; I cannot even play or sing in my own room, without being insulted by some maniac who passes by my window ; but I won't stand it! No! I am determined. I'll marry, and leave this house.
[Sits before fire, and takes up a book.
Enter Alfred, preceded by Lucy. He runs forward, looks round, and then rushes to piano.

## TRIO.

| ED | A piano!-yes, I must be right, This is the place whence came that strain. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Countess. | What brings this stranger to my sight? Your business sir! come state it plain! |
| Lucy. | He looks just like an artist, quite, And really he is far from plain! |
| Alfred. | Your pardon, Madame! Was it you Whose singing pained my ear? |
| Countess. | Your pardon sir!-and was it you Did at my singing jeer? |
| Alfred. | You played, "The Studies of the Heart?" |
| Countess. | I did ! |
| Alfred. | The melody in B ? |
| Countess. | Just |

Alfred. Then why did you depart
From these directions? here you see-
[Takes music off piano.
Countess. Your pardon, sir! I think you dropped your money ere the music stopped.
[Gives him pennies.
AlfRED.
Excuse me, but I Could not stand by,
Hear an Adagio played like a jig ;
I could not bear
To hear that air Sung with a jerk, like the squeak of a pig!

| LUCY. | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Oh! with fire my heart is raging, } \\ \text { Which will ne'er know aught assuaging, }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Alfred. | $\begin{array}{l}\text { And my bosom's fire is guaging }\end{array}$ |
| COUNTESS. |  |
| The fierce contest which I'm waging. |  |

Countess (to Lucy). Give this good gentleman a light, and show him to the door. (Curtseys, and exit.)

LuCy (aside). I daresay this is Monsieur "Sacrebleu."

Alfred. Ah (takes his hat)! It seems I have tumbled on a Duchess. By Jove, so much the worse, for those great ladies fancy they are privileged to do anything-even to sing out of tune. What airs she gave herself (imitating Countess)! "Lucy, give this gentleman a light, and then show him to the door."

LUCY (who is waiting at door with a lighted candle), That's what I am waiting for, sir.

Alfred. Go! you bore me! Perhaps I ought to have told her she sang like an angel. To turn me out-me-in such an unceremonious way, too. It's true I did not tell her my name-however, if she were to return, I could. No, I am too angry-let's seeah! not a bad idea. (Aside.) I don't hear her; I suppose I must give it up. Good-bye, my good girl !

Lucy. I never saw such a man-he must be an artist.

Alfred (sees a miniature of Countess). Ah, a miniature !

LUCY. It's the portrait of my mistress.
Alfred. Really! she is very pretty. I did not remark her before-what is her name?

Lucy. Bertha.
Alfred. "Bertha ?" it's a very pretty name. (Looks at Lucy, then glares.) By Jove! Do you know you are a very fine woman?
LuCy. Do you think so, sir?
Alfred. Yes, I do (looking her over); yes, and very artistically put together.

Lucy (aside). He's quite mad! (Aloud.) Shall I light you down, sir?
Alfred. What country do you come from ?
Lucy. From Spain, sir.
Alfred. Oh, really! From Spain, are you? (Aside.) I must gain time. (Alouid.) Oh! then as you are from Spain, you must sing me a song.

Lucy. With great pleasure.

## SONG.

Lucy. I once knew an artist,
As fair as Apollo,
The art of a painter, He vowed he would follow.
Ah! I remember him only too well, For at love-making he was known to excel.

Alfred. But it is a very pretty song (looking L.) ; sing louder.

LUCY. He painted my portrait,
I sat and admired him,
He made me believe
I with true love had fired him,
I gave him my heart,
But now he is gone,
And I am left mourning so sadly alone.

Alfred. It's very pretty, indeed. (Aside.) Decidedly she won't come, so I must give it up. (Aloud.) Lucy, she's horribly proud, that mistress of yours, that Madame-Madame -?

Lucy. Countess de Belleville.
Alfred. Oh! she's a Countess, is she ?-then I am not surprised (sees M. de Brissac's picture); and I suppose that's the Count de Belleville ?

Lucy. Oh, no! the Count de Belleville is dead.
Alfred (goes near the picture). Oh! the Count is dead, is he? Well, I must say that gentleman looks as if he were dead, too.

Lucy. Far from it: he is going to marry the Countess. It's M. de Brissac.

Alfred (starts involuntarily). Ah! he's going tobut what is it to me? Let her marry him, if she likes. M. de Brissac (struck by an idea)-yet stay !-M. de Brissac-that name!-surely I heard it mentioned just now?-ah! I remember; he was at the club this afternoon.

Lucy. No doubt; my lady is waiting for him to take her to the concert.

Alfred. Then she will have to wait some time. I heard M. de Brissac make a bet that he would ride backwards all the way to Auteuil in half-an-hour.

Lucy. That is a good joke, when my lady is waiting for him.

Alfred. He may get there by to-morrow morning. Good-bye. (Going.)

LuCy. I hope you are in earnest this time.
Alfred. Eh? you hope? well, no: (returning) I am not going. I cannot go without having her forgiveness. (Aside.) I must see her-speak to her. One more attempt to bring her from her room.
[Goes to piano, and sings.

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
\text { SONG. } \\
\text { ALFRED. } & \text { Oh! my life is weary, weary, } \\
\text { All alone the live-long day, } \\
\text { It's confounded dreary, dreary, } \\
\text { Slow the hours pass away. }
\end{array}
$$

Alfred. She won't come-oh, this is obstinacy, but I'll be obstinate, too!
[Plays and sings very loudly.

> Oh for woman's smiles to bless me,
> Oh for woman's voice to cheer,
> Woman's hand, too, to caress me, When no other soul is near.

During the symphony, the COUNTESS opens the door, and comes down smiling; a purse in her hand, between piano and table.

Alfred (aside). I have succeeded.
Countess (to Alfred, giving purse). Will you accept?

## Alfred (rising). A purse (laughs)!

Countess. It contains twenty-five louis-the sum I usually give artists who sing for me.

Alfred. Madame, this is ungenerous!
Countess. Name your own price, then.
Alfred. Your forgiveness !
Countess. That is too much to ask.
[She puts purse on piano, and passes to R .
Alfred (aside). Again! ah! (Aloud.) I accept, Madame (writes on paper from bureau), for the poor. I am to sing to-night for their benefit. Here is my receipt. (Puts paper on table.)

Countess (slightly embarrassed). Sir!
Alfred. You have had your revenge, Madame: you are right. (Countess coughs.) I deserve your anger, and also the reproach conveyed by that little cough (bows). (Countess curtseys.) Madame- (Aside.) How icy cold! I like her picture best (bows). (Aloud.) Believe me, Madame-that is-do not believe-I mean, be so kind as- (Aside.) Confound it! I do not know what I do mean. (Aloud.) Madame, adieu!
[Turns to exit, R.
Lucy. .Not that way, sir.
[Shows him out; exit brusquely.
Countess. I never saw such a man (laughls and sighs). He sings very well ; he has such a sympathetic voice, and so sweet! (Re-enter Lucy.) Lucy, what did that gentleman say to you?
Lucy. Oh, he told me I was a very fine woman. He said, too, that M. de Brissac started from the club about an hour ago to ride to Auteuil, backwards !

Countess. What do you mean ?
Lucy. It was a bet, my lady.
Countess. I like that, indeed, when he knows I am waiting for him (gets angry). Really, M. de Brissac seems to care very little. I should not have been surprised if that strange man had been guilty of such rudeness. But, talking of him, he is very goodlooking. I wonder what his name is (taking up paper on which Alfred had written)-but, now I think of it, this receipt-oh, what hieroglyphics! Good gracious!

## Lucy. What's the matter, my lady ?

Countess. (Reads.) "Jules Alfred, composer." I cannot help thinking that I have seen his face before. I fancy I have heard his voice, too: but I am sure he is not entirely unknown to me. Here, Lucy, help me to dress.
[Takes off shawl, jacket, and gloves.

Lucy. What hands! I think even M. Alfred would be satisfied with these.

Door L. opens suddenly; enter Alfred. Lucy and Countess scream. Ah!

Alfred. I entreat your pardon, Madame. It seems fated that I am not to leave this house. I don't complain, but-

Countess. But I do, sir!
Alfred. It is not my fault, Madame. I had every intention of flying from one who, alas! has treated me so cruelly, but-

Countess. I see-I must provide you with a guide.

Alfred (aside). "A light," I suppose she means (trying to make an excuse for stopping). Pardon me, Madame, but I put a few notes together that I should be so proud if I might sing to you. Let us try together.

## DUET.

When music's charms fall on my ears, Then sweet enchantment calms my fears, When tuneful voices sing a lay,
And drive sad spirits far away;
They with each strain of harmony,
Bring peace and joy to you and me.

Alfred. You smile-you have forgiven me?
Countess. Well, yes! Monsieur Alfred, I forgive the scatterbrained man for the sake of the clever artist. I don't say, "Adieu!" but "Au revoir!"

Alfred. Oh, Madame!
Countess. We part friends, but we must part.
Lucy. Oh, my lady, do you hear the rain ?
Alfred (aside). Bravo! (Aloud.) I can't possibly go out: I catch cold so easily.

Countess (aside). It's not my fault if he is obliged to remain a little longer. (Aloud.) Lucy, order the carriage for M. Alfred.

Lucy. Yes, my lady. (Aside.) M. de Brissac is going "backwards:" there is no doubt about that. (Exit.)

Servant brings tea on a tray, and sets it on table. COUNTESS makes tea. Servant retires.

Countess. Sit down, M. Alfred.
Alfred. A thousand thanks, Madame! (Aside.) Now then, courage, Alfred!
[Goes to chimncy.
Countess. You are going to sing at Herz's concert to-night, I believe?

Alfred (standing by fire). No ; I cannot sing tonight.

Countess. Why not?
Alfred. I should sing out of tune-I should be thinking of you.

Countess. Thank you.
Alfred. Oh, Madame! I did not mean that. I made a mistake. I meant- (Aside.) That's a bad beginning.

Countess. Will you have a cup of tea ? (He sits.)
Alfred. A thousand thanks! (Smiling.)
Countess (beginning to fecl slightly embarrassed). The rain is not so heavy, I think?

Alfred (absently). Yes, it rains harder than ever. Good gracious! they say every man once in his life has his destiny in his own hands, and-

Countess. Have you no friends ?
Alfred. None, Madame, I swear to you!
Countess. Will you accept my friendship ?
Alfred (with passion). Your friendship only ?
Countess (severely). M. Alfred!
Alfred. My dear Madame! you don't know what you are doing. You are not aware that if you marry M. de Brissac you will die of the "blue devils." He will spend his days in the stables, and his nights at the gambling-table:

Countess. Leave me, sir! I implore you!
Alfred. Madame de Belleville, I have offended you. Forgive me, I beseech-I know you will-forI love you!

Countess (rises, touched, and moves away). Monsieur Alfred!

## Alfred. Bertha!

Countess. What presumption! Never dare to address me by that name again! do you hear? I am not my own mistress ; I am betrothed to-

Alfred. Do not utter his name. Oh, Bertha!
Countess. You must forget me-forget this even-ing-forget that we ever met.

Alfred. Forget you, Bertha! it is too late! Scenes long past are brought to my memory : it is her voice-her figure-it is herself,-and yet-it is you!

Countess. And where did this vision appear to you?

Alfred. In the mountains of La Cornouaille.
Countess (aside). Merciful powers !
Alfred. One night, I was watching the clouds, and singing, as was my custom, when my song attracted a young girl who had lost her way in the mountains. She asked me for shelter, and I persuaded her to accept what I could offer. It was happiness to see her under my humble roof, while I kept watch outside.

COUNTESS (agitated). And the girl you so kindly sheltered: what became of her ?

Alfred. When daylight came, she returned to the village, and I never beheld her more; but, thank goodness, I have something belonging to her-something which fell from her as she lay on my couch.

## Countess. What is it ?

Alfred. A jewel : this little ear-ring !
Countess (aside). Then it is indeed he!
Alfred (gaily pointing to the ear-ring). Poor little ear-ring! we have never parted, and yet I had to beg my bread on foot all the way to Paris. Providence gave me some little musical talent, and after cultivating it for five years, I became a fashionable composer (laughing). I must confess, however, that my publisher has always declined printing my favourite romance of the mountains of Cornouaille.

## SONG.

The livelong day by mountain side, I tend my bleating, wand'ring focks,
And homewards lead at eventide,
From herbage sweet among the rocks.
Oh yes! a shepherd's life for me, The breeze that's wafted through the dell
Is not more buoyant or more free,
A life it is, none can excel !
Alfred. And now, have it, Madame. Is it so very ugly? (Wipes away a tear, and tries to laugh.) Forgive me! what a fool I am (seeing that the CountESS has also tears in her eyes)! But you, Madame, you have also tears in your eyes!

Countess. Oh, it is nothing (with an effort)! Adieu! M. Alfred

Alfred. Madame!
Countess (much affected). Adieu!
[She moves tozuards her room, when LUCY enters.
Lucy. Oh, my lady! the Count's groom, Jean, has just come, and insists upon seeing you. He has brought a letter which he will deliver to no one but your ladyship.

Countess. Let him come in, Lucy (agitated). (Exit Lucy.) Merciful Heaven! if some accident should have befallen M. de Brissac!

Re-enter Lucy, showing in Jean.

## FINALE.

Countess. Ho! Jean! what brings you here ?
JEAN (whimpering). My master sends you greeting,
An accident he's met with,
His life may e'en be fleeting,
So to your ladyship
He sends this. billet doux,
To keep him in your mind.
Till he can come and sue!

Countess (reads). "My adored Angeline! I shall be with you this evening." 'Tis enough!

(To Jean.) | Go you, sir, unto your master, |
| :---: |
| Tell him now that he is free, |
| Free to seek another mistress, |
| But never more to come to me. |

(To Alfred.) | And since you so well have pleaded, |
| :---: |
| You shall sing to me again, |
| That song cherished in my memory- |
| The peasant's plaintive strain. |

Alf. (Impassioned.) You, then, know it! oh what rapture
Fills my heart at that sweet thought,
My bright vision of the mountain,
Back to me again is brought-
For mercy speak-are you, then, she?
Countess (going to casket).
l have the other ear-ring here you see!
Bertha. Bertha! dearest Bertha ! oh, my love!
[Falls upon his knees.

| Lucy. | Hurrah! what weight My wisdom carriesMy lady now An artist marries. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Jean (to Lucy). | Let's make a match, Of grooms I'm smartest. |
| Lucy. | A groom, tho' fine, Is not an artist. |
| Ensemble. | Oh ! the radiant moments winging, On their fight to happy hours, Brightest happiness are bringing, IVhile Fortune's favour showers. Heart, in heart, together twining, $\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { They'll } \\ \text { We'll }\end{array}\right\}$ to sorrow bid adieu, Never more to be repining, But with love, life to renew. |

Fine.

## THE EAR RING

AN OPERA IN ONE ACT
Music by

## F. SCHIRA.

## PRELUDIO.



The Ear-ring. F. Schira.

2


[^0]$\overline{\overline{2}}$ $\overline{\bar{a}}$.

## THOUCH I CANT MAKE A SKETCH.

理: 1.

> SONG.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear- ring. F. Schira.

be: yes, An art_ist's wife, yes I fain would be: An artist's wife I


The Ear. ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-fing'. F. Schira.

## IN BRITANNY LONG YEARS AGO.

門: 2.
Words by DUET.

Music by F. SCHIRA.

Countess.


The Earring. F. Schira.


The Ear ring. F. Schira.

tenuto.

flocks, And homeward lead at e_ _ ven_ tide, From herbage sweet a mong the

rocks, And when theyrest in soft re-pose
I lie'mong flow'rsand frag - rant

thyme, . . . In - hal_ ing scents of sweet wild rose, wild rose . . . . . . . .


Th, Earring E. sirhira



The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.

## Countess.

## leggieru.



The Ear. ring. F.Schira.
cres.


The Ear-ring.F.Srhira.


Lo stesso tempo.


Sotto voce.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.

## SAY WHY MY HEART SO WILDLY BEATING.

## 理? 3.



The Ear.ring. F. Schira.


Fear his truth or doubt his love . . . . no, no, no, no, no, no, no..


Andante. Conabbandono, quasi a piacere, e congrazia.

no, my bosom sighs
no, no,
No, no gently no,
no, no,




Andante. Con abbandono, quasi a piacere, e con grazia.


Poco più mosso.

no, no, my heart re_plies! no, no, no, no, myeart re_


The Earring. F.Schira.


[^1]
## WHO TALKS OF MUSIC'S DULCET JOYS.

販: 4.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.

carefor is a noine all I care for is a noise Neither time,nor tune, nor measure, Give to

con sgarbo.



affrettando.



imitando gl'istrumenti;


[^2] And dancers fly_ing, jost_ling, leap_ing yes yes eeh!

ееи


## Lucr.


 $\begin{cases}\text { there, We dance to mu_sic, shrill and elear, The soundsto country maid_ens dear. We dance to } \\ 0\end{cases}$




I like sounds so quick and loud, yes When we in a ball room crowd, I like LUCY.

...... I like sounds, soiquick and loud, yeswhen we in a ball room crowd, I


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.



## A PIANO YES, I MUST BE RIGHT!

Words by DESMOND L. RYAN
TRIO.
Music by F.SCHIRA.


Lucy.

Alfred

PIANO




The Earring, F Schira.


The Eur-ring. F. Schira.



The Ear-ring. F. Schira.




## I ONCE KNEW AN ARTIST.

2望: 6.
SONG.


The Ear-ring. F. Srhira.


The Ear ring. Fischire.


The Ear- ring. F. Schira.


He painted my portrait, I sat and ad-mir'd him, He made me be_


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


## OH MY LIFE IS WEARY.

親: 7.

## SONG.

F. SCHIRA.


Alfred.


The Ear. ring: F. Schira.


The Ear ring. F. Schira.

sempre


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


## WHEN MUSIC'S CHARMS FALL ON MY EARS.

1理! 8.
DUET.



The Ear-ring. F. Schira.



The Eat ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


## THE LIVE LONG DAY BY MOUNTAINS SIDE.



The Fiat ring. F. Schira.


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.



## HO! JEAN, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE.

12? 10.

## FINALE.

F. SCHIRA.

Words by DESMOND L. RYAN.
Countess.

Jean.

Allegro
Moderato


greeting, yes, sends you greeting; An ac'-ci_dent he's met with, His life may'een be

fleeting, $\quad S_{0}$ to your La_dy _ ship, He sends this bil_let_doux. To keep him in your

mind, Till he can come and sue!


fet _ -ter, I've been and gi ven her the wrong let _ -ter!


The Ear-ring. F. Schira.


[^3]



oh! what rapture Fills my heart, at that sweet thought! My bright

vis_ion of the mountain, Back to me a_ grain is brought! For mercy

speak. . . speak. . . are you then she?


The Earring. F Schira.



The Ear..ring. F. Schira.




The Ear-ring, F. Srhira.


-
c



[^0]:    三-
    The Ear- ring. F..Schira

[^1]:    The Ear-ring. F. Schira.

[^2]:    Tl: Ear ring. F. Schira

[^3]:    The Ear ring. F. Srhira.

