

MRS. E. B. CURTIS, Skowhegan, Me.  
Allow me to congratulate you on the success already achieved by your *National School for the Piano-Forte*. I have derived much pleasure and profit from a careful study of its pages and I do not hesitate to pronounce it the most complete work of its kind (as it also is by far the largest), I have ever seen. Every point is so clearly made the student need not fail to grasp it at once. Your method of harmony is peculiar to itself, while the art of embellishment is so greatly needed by most authors. It is in your work exceedingly interesting and instructive, and to my mind adds largely to its value. Your Dictionary of Musical Terms contained the only one which could be desired, and finally the large number of musical compositions included, will fully repay anyone for the cost of the work.

H. L. YERRINGTON, Norwich, Conn.  
After a careful examination of your *National School*, as a whole, and particularly each and every progressive course of instruction I have ever seen in one volume. It is truly a *National School*. I take pleasure in recommending it to teachers and students and think it will supply a want long felt.

CHAS. W. BENNETT, Calais, Me.  
I am highly pleased in your *National School*, as a whole, and particularly so with the pronouncing dictionary, many explanations being much more satisfactory to me than I have found them to be in some of the large musical dictionaries. The subject of embellishments is thoroughly explained and exhaustively illustrated. Very few scholars have had the subject so clearly presented to them.

### What the Middle States say:

I. P. MELMOTH, Jersey City Heights, N. J.  
Your examples and notes on the use of the pedals (that is, the sustaining one) are invaluable. Harmony, Musical Form, Embellishments, Accompanying, etc., make the book one to be much desired.

Wilmington (Del.) Morning News  
A well made book of instruction containing features not common in works of this character.

Rochester (N. Y.) Morning Herald  
*National School* teaches the first principles of music by means of musical writing lessons to be filled out by the pupil. The exercises are carefully graded, the art of fingering, touch, accent, etc. is more fully treated than in average works. It contains full and complete instruction in harmony—scarcely hinted at in similar books.

Albany (N. Y.) Morning Express  
Destined to have a large sale.

GERMAN SWEET, PERRY, N. Y.  
*National School* has come to hand. From a hurried perusal I take it very much. New piano and good ones appear to it.

ROBERT F. ROBERTS, Riverhead, N. Y.  
I have examined your *National School* and think it a good book of instruction for the Piano-Forte. Mr. Wess-Shell and myself will do our best to make it a standard in this country.

F. F. YRISO, Potterville, Pa.  
It is undoubtedly a very valuable work and will have a large sale. The rudimentary parts are treated extensively and lucidly. The same may be said of the Scales, Arpeggios, Embellishments, Scales in Third, Sixth and in Octaves. The pieces are well graded. The introduction of the Continental fingering of the Harmonium in the Dictionary, are also new and excellent features.

G. D. MADDIX, Oswego, N. Y.  
I am happy to say after a careful survey of your work that of all instruction books I ever used I never saw one which was so complete in all that is required for a thorough musical education. Your class and all studies is very wise, as well as easy and progressive. I wish I could have had your *National Instruction* thirty years ago. It would have saved me a great deal of trouble that I have been subjected to by other works. I am pleased to recommend it as a valuable book to all my younger brother professors of music, as it is in my estimation the best that I know of.

MORGAN & HANFORD, Middletown, N. Y.  
Our teachers are well pleased with *National School*.

JAMES H. THOMAS, Catskill, N. Y.  
Your Piano Instruction is a gem to hand as it was termed by my piano teacher, who pronounced it superior to anything in the market. I give the book an excellent review in our May number of Journal.

PHILIP (Pa.) Chronicle Herald  
An admirable and exhaustive work.

Harrisburg (Pa.) Independent  
Contains more than double the amount of material of information, and is a far better book of the kind.

MR. P. ZIEGLER, Lancaster, Pa.  
I have been examining your *National School* and can heartily recommend it. The following articles: 1) Writing Lessons, 2) Harmony, 3) Complete Encyclopedia, 4) Notation Accompanying, etc. are treated in a masterly manner. I think it will have and certainly deserves great success.

FRANK P. ANDERSON, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
We will probably sell a great many of the *National School*, as a number of our teachers who have seen the book are very much pleased with it.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Union-Argus  
A book of instruction and reference for those who wish to become accomplished amateurs, as well as for those who desire to become professional players.

GEO. F. BISHOP, Philadelphia, Pa.  
I find *National School* an excellent work. As a book for teachers of the piano-forte I can strongly recommend it.

D. ROE KAPPELLE, New York City.  
*National School* is far in advance of former works of the same kind, and I sincerely hope it may be crowned with success.

THOS. SPENCER LOYD, Albany, N. Y.  
*National School* is more than an instruction book, because it contains about everything that a piano-forte student should know. In order to become an intelligent musician it contains not only all that has been accepted as good by the best authorities, but much more. In fact, it is rightfully called a history of the piano-forte, including the best known methods for playing accomplished players. It is the best and most complete work of the kind ever published in America, and you are to be congratulated upon it. I hope it will have the reward it so richly deserves.

WM. K. GRABER, Bethlehem, Pa.  
A work of such excellent material, covering the whole field of piano instruction and arranged in so masterly a style, deserves to, and will, take its place among the very best of instructors.

Albany (N. Y.) Argus.  
A most elaborate work in scope and detail. CLARENCE D. ROSE, Albion, N. Y.  
*National School* is sure to be the most popular instruction book published, as the studies are finely arranged and full of melody. This will instruct the pupil and create a true love for classic music.

HENRY RUTIMAN, Easton, Pa.  
I have been very partial to Richardson's justly popular method, but hoped some time to see a more complete one in some respects and with clearer explanations to scholars of many puzzling details. I find that *National School* has all the merits of Richardson's, with the following additional ones, viz: Entertaining and instructive duets; remarks upon the proper use of the pedals; clear explanation of the various embellishments; latest studies of modern masters, Heller, Kuller, Liszt, and others; the exercises upon accent and remarks upon vocal accompaniment; the excellent musical and biographical dictionary and by no means the least important, the fine treatise on Harmony with its numerous examples.

Buffalo (N. Y.) Express.  
One of the most voluminous and comprehensive works of instruction now in the market, and has many new and distinctive features.

CHAR. W. PETTE, Trenton, N. J.  
I have examined your *National School*, and find it first class in every respect. The selections of instructive pieces and of technical exercises are very good. It should have a large sale.

CHAS. F. FACHER, JR., Philadelphia  
Your *National School* is splendidly compiled apart from its practical qualities, it is replete with general musical information interesting to all students and breaks away from the conventional piano schools of the day. I wish you success in your worthy enterprise.

JAS. N. BECK, Philadelphia, Pa.  
The *National School* has been examined at length. It gives me pleasure to endorse its completeness and the clearness wherewith all the rudimentary points have therein set forth, as well as the judgment displayed in the retention of the various studies, etc. I have no objection but praise, furthermore, for the writing lessons, the several dictionaries, and the short but satisfying treatise on harmony.

A. H. ETTINGER, Allentown, Pa.  
*National School* is a very thorough and minute work. It certainly contains everything that can be desired by teacher or pupil.

EMILY W. TILLINGHAST, Pottsville, Pa.  
I have been a teacher of music for twenty years, and have used nearly every popular instructor and I feel no hesitation in pronouncing *National School* the most complete book of the kind I have ever seen. The prominent place you give Harmony should entitle you to the thanks of all teachers. I anticipate much pleasure in using your work, and shall recommend it to others.

S. A. WARD, Newark, N. J.  
I have had a perusal of it and I consider the compilation thorough and complete work, in all parts. The above opinion is also the expression of all who have examined *National School*. A *National School* is the best book of its kind yet published.

A. A. GERRICK, Philadelphia, Pa.  
I have seen your *National School* the best work for the kind of instrument—the piano—that has ever been brought to my notice, and I feel that I can say confidently, and without presumption that it is a thorough instruction, but also an encyclopedia, which I can recommend most heartily to the profession.

W. B. JOHN, Wilkes Barre, Pa.  
I consider *National School* decidedly more complete and comprehensive than any I have ever met with. It will give me great pleasure to recommend it, and I wish it the success it deserves.

HENRY MAYER, New York City.  
I can only congratulate you on the production of such a work as *National School*. I can appreciate it all the more as I have myself a manuscript method buried somewhere among my old music and remember well the difficulties I met when I had to put my ideas in a logical shape. I am very much pleased with what you say about thorough bass, and your explanation of the *tout pedale*. Henceforth I shall make use of your term, *mus taining pedale*.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Evening Bulletin.  
"The *National School for the Piano-Forte*," by W. F. Sudds, is a large quarto volume of between three and four hundred pages, which is worthy of the attention of teachers and students of the piano-forte. Besides giving an intelligible short treatise on the science of music, it teaches how to play, gives a series of well-chosen progressive exercises, instructs in harmony and thorough-bass, and concludes with a copious and excellent dictionary of musical terms and short biographies of musicians, composers, singers, extending down to the present time, many living Americans being included in the list. For reference, as well as for instruction, the work is valuable.

A. H. ROEWIG, Philadelphia, Pa.  
I have thoroughly examined the *National School*, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it one of the best and most thorough instructors I have seen. Mr. Sudds embodies many new and original ideas in his work, which cannot fail to prove of great value.

J. JOSEF STEINER, ALFRED D. FONS, WILLIAM HERBERT, JOHN ZATT, HARRY DUNNELL, OSCAR R. BUCH, Professors, Stuehler's Musical Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
We have examined *National School* and it gives us great pleasure to testify to its thoroughness and also to pronounce it the most exhaustive work of its kind we have ever seen.

F. O. JONES, Canaseraga, N. Y.  
I am, to say the least, much pleased with *National School*. The arrangement of the scales, studies and recreations is logically progressive, and withal everything seems unusually clear and plain. But I am particularly pleased with the thoroughness and harmony feature. After the student has made sufficient progress, he is introduced into the inner sanctuary of music, and henceforth heads and hands go together, as they properly should. The result is something more than a *play*. When once known, it can hardly fail of having a large sale and doing much good.

GEO. H. HOHMAN & BRO., Johnstown, Pa.  
We deem *National School* one of the most comprehensive works we have ever seen. We are sure that it will command the attention and be appreciated by all pupils and teachers who may have the good fortune to see it.

MRS. GEORGIA OVERHOLT, Johnstown, Pa.  
I consider *National School* the most comprehensive work for teaching purposes that I have ever used.

FIELDING A. MURROW, Newburgh, N. Y.  
The opinion of the best teachers in this section to whom we have shown *National School*, is that it is the best in every respect.

JNO. R. SWENNY, Chester, Pa.  
I think *National School* a grand success in every way.

JNO. P. DONOHUEY, Chester, Pa.  
*National School* is certainly the best piano instructor ever published in this country.

TRUB MARRON, Rath, N. Y.  
I like *National School* very much. I am now using it with a beginner and with decided success. I can recommend it as a superior instructor for the piano-forte.

CHAS. W. LANDON, Penn Yan, N. Y.  
*National School* is the best instruction book I have seen. It needs a long felt want in our teaching. Our best teachers are using it with unusual success.

G. W. SHEPHERD, Akron, N. Y.  
I consider *National School* worth double that of any piano school I have ever seen.

HORACE HILLS, JR., Williamsport, Pa.  
I have examined *National School* and like it very much. It is thorough complete, and well adapted for a teacher's use. I am particularly pleased with the various selections for study and recreation. They are mostly new—all are good and well arranged.

PHIL. F. KEIL, McKeesport, Pa.  
I find *National School* up to the times in all its different grades, while none of the good lessons of the old masters are found wanting. The pronouncing of all organs and the dictionary of musical terms add greatly to its value. I think it complete in every respect and heartily recommend it. I hope but few years may elapse to place it the *National School* for the piano-forte indeed.

C. A. WIXOMY, Ashland, Pa.  
I take great pleasure in stating that *National School* is the best study I have yet seen. The very careful and minute explanations of every subject treated, insure it the favor of all.

W. ADRIAN SMITH, New York City.  
I have done so to thoroughly examine your *National School* has delighted my criticism. My opinion is in as few words as possible, is that it combines the excellence of many methods in one. I am especially pleased with those portions that treat of the scales, accent, embellishments and thorough-bass. The Dictionary of Music is exceptionally valuable and interesting. Taking the work in its entirety it is my ideal of what a perfect guide for the piano-forte should be.

GERMAN SWEET, PERRY, N. Y.  
I have submitted *National School* to four teachers in this section, all of whom speak highly of it, and praise it enthusiastically for its new features, viz. form, embellishments, touch, accent, harmony, phrasing, and fine selections for two and for four hands.

ERNEST HELD, Syracuse, N. Y.  
I am greatly pleased with the arrangement and completeness of *National School*. We are using your Anthem (Items, vol. 1) in our choir. Who will not vol. 2 be out? Would like it as soon as possible.

A. MATHAN, Cortland, N. Y.  
*National School* is very generally liked by our teachers.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Evening Telegraph.  
Mr. Sudds' book aims to teach the first principles of music, partly by the aid of musical writing lessons to be filled out by the pupil, by graded exercises, by instruction in the art of fingering, touch, and accent, by instructions in harmony and thorough-bass, and so forth. An important and valuable feature is a Dictionary of Music, with proper pronunciation of names and musical terms, and biographies of prominent musicians.

J. E. KERT, Erie, Pa.  
After carefully examining the *National School* I have come to the conclusion that through all my years of teaching, I have not met across an instructor that in the least can compare with it. I consider the writings in it the best method of imparting knowledge of all characters used in music. I have been using the same idea for years. *National School* is perfect in all the necessary parts, and at the same time so concise as to avoid tiring the pupil. I consider that the selection of standard music from the best authors the best compilation of the kind I have ever seen. They are arranged for advancement by degrees, from the first to the more difficult grades. I sign myself one of its most ardent admirers.

MRS. S. E. HILLIER, West Middlesex, Pa.  
I consider *National School* the most interesting, complete and comprehensive instructor ever brought to my notice. The dictionary and encyclopedia are admirable, and I hope your book may soon become a favorite with all teachers. I think it superior in many respects to all works of a similar character.

HENRY J. KEELY, Philadelphia, Pa.  
I find *National School* the most comprehensive work of the kind I have ever seen, containing within its pages everything necessary for developing the student in theory, practice and musical taste. I heartily recommend it.

MUSIC AND DRAMA, N. Y.  
The idea is a good one; his task has been executed with a fair amount of success.

B. FRANK WALTERS, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Having carefully examined from "preface" to "end" *National School*, I must say I find therein more excellent material than in any work I have ever used; and while a conscientious and able teacher can utilize almost any of the so-called instruction books extant, the use of this school will materially lighten his labors and anxieties in developing any real student. Every department seems to me to be thoroughly treated. The writing exercises, pronouncing dictionary hints and exercises in accentuation, are deserving of special mention. I shall cheerfully use and recommend the book.

W. W. GILCHRIST, Philadelphia, Pa.  
*National School* is a most excellent and progressive work for the piano student, and I am pleased to have the opportunity of expressing my approval of its many good points.

THOS. A. BRACKET, JR., Philadelphia, Pa.  
After a searching examination of the *National School*, I am happy to state that it is, in my opinion, one of the best books for the study of the piano I have ever seen during my twenty years' experience in teaching. The true and only plan, as pursued of teaching the mind as well as the fingers, and thus educating musicians, and not merely dextrous manipulators on the key-board. The pupil learns something of the story of his instrument, and of those who have brought it to its present high standard, and is also made acquainted with the style and character of the masters through the various selections from their works. The treatise on Harmony a subject necessary to the proper cultivation of the musician needs no commendation from me, its merits are too apparent, but a matter that gives me much pleasure is the many hints and allusions scattered throughout the work, which will prove of great assistance to the student, and, perhaps, to the instructor. If it is examined thoroughly by teachers, I think its superiority over most of the so-called "methods" now in use will be easily demonstrated. It is, moreover, modern, and meets the musical wants of to-day. I wish it every success.