

A DICTIONARY OF MUSICAL TERMS.

A—*ITALIAN* preposition, signifying to, by, at, in, with, etc.

Ad—At, to, etc.

Accelerando—Moving faster and faster.

Accent—Stress of voice on a particular tone. Accent is of two kinds: grammatical and descriptive, or the accent of feeling.

Accidentals—Flats, Sharps, or Naturals which occur during the progress of a piece, and not in the Signature.

Accompaniment—A separate instrumental part added to a melody, to support the voice, to complete the harmony, or to embellish the piece.

Adagio—Slow. Also, a slow movement in music.

Adagio Assai—Very slow.

Ad Libitum—At pleasure; or as one pleases.

Affettuoso—With feeling, tender.

Agilita—Quickness.

Agitato—With agitation; with passion and fire.

Al, Allo, Alla—Mean to, in, at, etc.

Alla—In the manner of.

Alla Breve— $\frac{2}{4}$ time.

Allegretto—A little quick; or not quite so fast as Allegro.

Allegro—Joyfully, quick.

allegro Assai—Very quick.

Allegro con Fuoco—Quick and animated.

Allegro Furioso—Rapid and vehement.

Allegro Vivace—Quick and lively.

Al Segno—Go back to the sign *S*.

Alta, or Sva—To be played an octave higher than written.

Alto—The part for the lowest female voice.

Amoroso—Tender, or tenderly, delicately.

Andante—Goes more, and rather slow.

Andantino—A little slower than *Andante*.

Anima—Soul, or spirit. **Con Anima**. With spirit, bold.

Animato—Animated.

A piacere—The same as *ad libitum*, i.e., at pleasure.

A poco piu lento—Somewhat slower.

A poco piu mosso—Somewhat quicker, and with some emotion.

Appoggiatura—A small note placed for ornament before another, which constitutes no essential part of the harmony.

Aria, Air, etc. A melody.

Armonioso—Harmoniously.

Arpeggio—The notes of a chord taken in succession, instead of being struck together.