

THE OXFORD ORIGINAL EDITION OF FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Edited from the original edition and the
manuscripts by EDOUARD GANCHE

President of the Société Frédéric Chopin of Paris

THIS edition is the fruit of several years of research spent in the acquisition of autograph manuscripts of Chopin's works. A complete set of the original French edition in seven volumes (unprocurable nowadays) was ultimately obtained, and the present Oxford edition, based thereon, is entirely free from the additions, alterations, and vulgar 'improvements' with which editors have since sought to mar Chopin's own magnificent writing. At the end of the seventh volume of this first French edition is a general index written in part by Chopin himself—ample evidence of his approval of it. Moreover, various corrections, annotations, and variants which appear in Chopin's writing are collated in the Oxford edition.

Preface and notes are in English, French, and German.

Chopin, perhaps because of the particularities of his writing and his essentially individual genius, has probably suffered more than any other great composer by subsequent modification and erroneous correction.

The Oxford edition, which is printed in exact conformity with Chopin's intentions, is thus of the greatest value and importance, both in its practical appeal to pianists and from the point of view of scholarship and accuracy. It is to be hoped, and indeed it is due to the composer, that this edition will be given precedence over the numerous inaccurate versions now in circulation and will come to be regarded as the sole standard collection of Chopin's works.

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& 36 SOHO SQUARE, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.1