

A Survey of the Music Catalogues of Whistling and Hofmeister

It has been found somewhat difficult for those interested in the fundamentals of German music bibliography to refer to the different catalogues compiled by Whistling, Hofmeister and others, owing to the different and complicated forms in which their work appeared. These appeared under a variety of different titles — *Handbuch*, *Monatsbericht* and *Verzeichnis* — and at varying periods, monthly, yearly and in cumulative volumes at irregular times. During the last thirty years or so a far wider interest in music bibliography has arisen than ever before, and we — German and English bibliographers — feel that it is high time the confusion existing about these hand books was clarified in view of the few literary sources that are available at the moment.

Carl Friedrich Whistling, born at Kelbra in 1788 according to *F. S. Gassner's Universal-Lexikon der Tonkunst*, Stuttgart 1849, was a bookseller in Leipzig and was quick to see the need to compile a catalogue of all printed music available at the time for the German music trade. In the preface to this first *Handbuch der musikalischen Litteratur*, dedicated to Annisius (the last manager of the Berlin music-selling firm of Hummel), Whistling stated that it was intended merely for private use, but he hoped that its appearance would soon find a wider public. The title-page and contents of this work are as follows:

Handbuch der musikalischen Litteratur oder allgemeines systematisch geordnetes Verzeichnis der bis zum Ende des Jahres 1815 gedruckten Musikalien, auch musikalischen Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise. Leipzig, in Commission bey Anton Meysel 1817. (Compiler: Carl Friedrich Whistling. Format and pages: Octavo. Title, verso blank [I–II]. Dedication, verso blank [III–IV.] Preface, dated March 1817 [V]–VIII. Contents [IX]–X. Abbreviations [XI]–XII. Text, pp. [1]–593. Contents: Music and a selection of books about music and portraits of musicians published especially in the German-speaking and adjoining countries from about 1780 to the end of 1815 and at that time available. Note: Anton Meysel, music dealer at Leipzig from before 1806 to about 1830).

The success of this first handbook was such as to justify Whistling's continuation of the project, and in 1818 he embarked on a supplement which again was published on commission by Meysel. During this year Friedrich Hofmeister (1782–1864) showed an interest in the publication and offered his own publishing house (founded in 1807) as a means of its continuation. As a result of this, in the following year Hofmeister published a second supplement and continued yearly until the issue of the eighth in 1825. Public interest began to wane, and Hofmeister decided to back out of the venture and handed it back to the compiler, Whistling, with the result that the latter was compelled to publish the ninth and tenth supplements of 1826 and 1827. The following is a list of the ten supplements to the first edition of 1817:

Nachtrag (supplement) No. 1–10, compiled by C. F. Whistling

No.	Contents	Publisher	Year	Pages
1	End 1815 — Easter 1818	Meysel	1818	IV+72
2	Easter 1818 — Easter 1819	Hofmeister	1819	VI+78
3	Easter 1819 — Easter 1820	Hofmeister	1820	VI+57
4	Easter 1820 — Easter 1821	Hofmeister	1821	VI+88
5	Easter 1821 — Easter 1822	Hofmeister	1822	IV+68

6	Easter 1822 — Easter 1823	Hofmeister	1823	VI+84
7	Easter 1823 — Easter 1824	Hofmeister	1824	VI+86
8	Easter 1824 — Easter 1825	Hofmeister	1825	VI+66
9	Easter 1825 — Easter 1826	Whistling	1826	IV+64
10	Easter 1826 — Easter 1827	Whistling	1827	IV+68

Supplement No. 1 contains on page IV some corrections to the *Handbuch* from 1817! — In 1828 Whistling decided to gather together the information given in the original volume of 1817 together with the ten supplements of 1818–1827 and published them as a second, revised and enlarged edition, which appeared in that year:

Handbuch der musikalischen Literatur oder allgemeines systematisch geordnetes Verzeichnis gedruckter Musikalien, auch musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise, herausgegeben von C. F. Whistling / Zweite, ganz umgearbeitete, vermehrte und verbesserte Auflage, mit alphabetischem Namensregister der Autoren und Musikalienverleger. Leipzig, bei C. F. Whistling, 1828. (Compiler: C. F. Whistling. Format and pages: Octavo. Title, verso blank [I–II]. Dedication to Friedrich Leopold von Anhalt-Dessau, verso blank [III–IV]. Preface, dated Leipzig, December 1828 [V]–VIII. Contents [IX]–XII. Text, pp. [1]–1158).

The following year Whistling published a supplement to the collective volume of 1828; this was issued in 1829 with an index of names to the entire work to-date, a list of music publishers— as promised upon the title of the volume of 1828 — and pagination continuous to the second edition:

Ergänzungsband zum Handbuch der musikalischen Literatur die während des Druckes erschienenen Werke bis zum Ende des Jahres 1828, und die Namensregister über das ganze Werk enthaltend, herausgegeben von C. F. Whistling. Leipzig, bei C. F. Whistling 1829 (Compiler: C. F. Whistling. Format and pages: Octavo. Main title [as 2nd edition, but with the year 1829], verso blank. Title [as above], verso blank. Contents [I]–IV. Text, pp. [1159]–1298. Contents: Editions published during 1828. — List of music publishers, pp. 1238–1242. Index of names, pp. 1243–1298).

It was at this stage that complications began to set in. Already in his foreword to the second edition Whistling had announced that in future he would publish at the end of each month (or bi-monthly) a report of all new publications in the same manner as his hand-book. These *Monatsberichte*, as he called them, were first published in January 1829 and continued under his own imprint until June 1830. At this point Hofmeister made his reappearance on the scene, and the monthly series then commenced with his imprint and so continued from 1831 right up to the modern time of 1942, in which year the title was changed to *Deutsche Musikbibliographie*.

Musikalisch-literarischer Monatsbericht neuer Musikalien, musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen für das Jahr 1829. Leipzig, bei C. F. Whistling. — pp. 98+ [2]

Ditto 1830. C. F. Whistling (January–June), Friedrich Hofmeister (July–December), pp. 96

Ditto 1831. Friedrich Hofmeister, pp. 104

Ditto 1832. Friedrich Hofmeister, pp. 98

Ditto 1833. Friedrich Hofmeister, pp. 100

After the first five years of the *Monatsberichte*, the sons of Friedrich Hofmeister and Carl Friedrich Whistling, Adolph Moritz Hofmeister and Fritz Whistling, compiled a second supplementary volume to the second edition of 1828 and published it in 1834. This was repeated in 1839 to cover the previous five years of the *Monatsberichte*, which were called “*Neue Folge*”, This “*Neue Folge*” was in fact a second series, the first having been the volume of 1829–1833. In neither case was the number stated on the title-page.

Handbuch der musikalischen Literatur oder allgemeines systematisch geordnetes Verzeichnis gedruckter Musikalien, auch musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise. / Zweiter Ergänzungsband, die von Januar 1829 bis zum Ende des Jahres 1833 neu erschienenen und neu aufgelegten musikalischen Werke enthaltend. Angefertigt von Ad. Hofmeister. Leipzig, bei Fr. Hofmeister. 1834 (Compiler: Adolph Hofmeister and Fritz Whistling. Format & pages: Octavo. Title, verso blank. Preface, [I]–II. List of the members of the "Verein deutscher Musikalienhändler"; list of those firms which went away or which were taken over by other firms, III–IV. Contents, V–VIII. Text, pp. [1]–336).

Musikalisch-literarischer Monatsbericht neuer Musikalien, musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen. Als Fortsetzung des Handbuches der musikalischen Literatur. Neue Folge. Erster Jahrgang 1834. Angefertigt von Ad. Hofmeister. Leipzig, bei F. Hofmeister. — Title, verso blank, [I–II], Text, pp. 108

Ditto. New Series, vol. 2, 1835, pp. [2] + 126

Ditto. New Series, vol. 3, 1836, pp. [2] + 114

Ditto. New Series, vol. 4, 1837, pp. 144

Ditto. New Series, vol. 5, 1838, pp. 96

Handbuch der musikalischen Literatur oder allgemeines systematisch geordnetes Verzeichnis gedruckter Musikalien, auch musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise. Dritter Ergänzungsband, die von Januar 1834 bis zum Ende des Jahres 1838 neu erschienenen und neu aufgelegten musikalischen Werke enthaltend. Angefertigt von Ad. Hofmeister. Leipzig, bei Fr. Hofmeister. 1839 (Compiler: Adolph Hofmeister & Fritz Whistling. Format & pages: Octavo. Title, verso blank [I–II]. List of those firms which went away or which were taken over by other firms; list of those music publishers who had died [III]–IV. Contents [V]–VIII. Text, pp. [1]–407. Advertisement [408]).

We have just seen that the last volumes of the *Monatsberichte* did not bear any series number, but with the publication in January 1839 Hofmeister started to number them as "Dritte Folge" right up to the end of 1843.

Musikalisch-literarischer Monatsbericht neuer Musikalien, musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen. Als Fortsetzung des Handbuches der musikalischen Literatur. Dritte Folge. Erster Jahrgang 1839. Angefertigt von Ad. Hofmeister. Leipzig, bei Friedrich Hofmeister. — Title, verso blank [I–II], Text, pp. 160

Ditto. 3rd Series, vol. 2, 1840, pp. 176

Ditto. 3rd Series, vol. 3, 1841, pp. 200

Ditto. 3rd Series, vol. 4, 1842, pp. 200

Ditto. 3rd Series, vol. 5, 1843, pp. 196

Because the *Monatsberichte* were being published in so many small parts there arose the necessity of issuing a new edition of the *Handbuch* since the last to appear had been in 1839. Accordingly in 1844–1845 Hofmeister brought out his third edition, divided into three parts with separate paginations, the first two in 1844 and the third in 1845; the last was published with the main-title for all three parts. Hitherto all the publications had been in octavo but now a change in size was made to quarto, a practice that has been followed for the *Handbuch* right up to the present day. This volume was compiled by Adolph Hofmeister in collaboration with Carl Röthing and August Whistling and called for the first time *C. F. Whistling's Handbuch* in honour of the founder of the work.

Main-Title:

C. F. Whistling's Handbuch der musikalischen Literatur oder allgemeines systematisch-geordnetes Verzeichnis der in Deutschland und in den angrenzenden Ländern gedruckten Musikalien auch musikalischen Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise. Dritte, bis zum Anfang des Jahres 1844 ergänzte Auflage. Bearbeitet und herausgegeben von Adolph Hofmeister. Leipzig,

1845, bei Friedrich Hofmeister. (Title, verso blank, [I–II]. Preface of the editor, dated Leipzig, March 1st, 1845, [III]. Index of music publishers and list of those music publishers who had died and of those firms which were taken over by other firms, IV–V. Contents to part 1–3, VI.).

Titles of the three parts as the main-title with the imprints:

1. *Theil: Musik für Streich- und Blas-Instrumente*. Leipzig 1844.
(Title, verso Contents, [I–II]. Text, pp. [1]–142).
2. *Theil: Musik für das Pianoforte, Orgel, Harfe und Harmonika*. Leipzig 1844.
(Title, verso Contents, [I–II]. Text, pp. [1]–336).
3. *Theil: Vocal-Musik. Nebst Anhang: Auswahl theoretischer Werke, Zeitschriften, Sammlungen vorzüglicher Werke, Textbücher und Portraits*. Leipzig 1845.
(Title, verso Contents, [I–II]. Text, pp. [1]–240).

From the foundation of the *Monatsberichte* in 1829, Whistling and Hofmeister, it will have been seen, had been issuing concurrently the *Handbuch*, but in 1852 Hofmeister inaugurated a third series which he called *Kurzes Verzeichnis* for the first two years, omitting the *Kurzes* afterwards. This was again published in octavo size. The material contained in it followed that which appeared in the monthly parts, but arranged in a more convenient form so that, instead of the reader having to search through a number of parts for each year, he could immediately discover what he was looking for.

Kurzes Verzeichniss sämmtlicher im Jahre 1852 in Deutschland und den angrenzenden Ländern gedruckter Musikalien auch musikalischer Schriften und Abbildungen mit Anzeige der Verleger und Preise. In alphabetischer Ordnung. Leipzig, Friedrich Hofmeister.

(Title, verso blank, [I–II]. Text, pp. [1]–109).

Since 1853 in a systematic arrangement

Since 1854 called *Verzeichnis*

1855–1856 with the imprint *Redigirt von Adolph Hofmeister*

1857–1869 with the imprint *Herausgegeben von Adolph Hofmeister*

1870 with the imprint *Bearbeitet von Franz Jost*

Since 1871 in alphabetic and systematic arrangements

1871–1873 without name of compiler

Since 1874 with the imprint *Herausgegeben und verlegt von Friedrich Hofmeister*

The following list will indicate to the reader the three concurrent lines of publications of the Whistling and Hofmeister catalogues:

<i>Handbuch</i>	<i>Verzeichnis</i>	<i>Monatsbericht</i>					
1817 [1st edition]							
1818–1827, Suppl. No. 1–10							
1828, 2nd. edition							
1829, 2nd. edition, suppl.							
1834	←—————	1829–1833 [1st series]					
1839	←—————	1834–1838 New Series					
1844–1845, 3rd. edition, 3 parts [vol. 1–3]	←—————	1839–1843, 3rd. Series					
1852 [vol. 4]	←—————	1844–1851, 4th. Series					
1860 [vol. 5]	{	1852	←—————	1852	}	5th. Series	
		1853	←—————				1853
		1854	←—————				1854
		1855	←—————				1855
		1856	←—————				1856
		1857	←—————				1857
		1858	←—————				1858
1859	←—————	1859					

1868 [vol. 6]	←——	1860–1867	←——	1860–1867, 6th. Series
1876 [vol. 7]	←——	1868–1873	←——	1868–1873, 7th. Series
1881 [vol. 8]	←——	1874–1880	←——	1874–1880, 8th. Series
1887 [vol. 9]	←——	1881–1885	←——	1881–1885, now without series number
1893 [vol. 10]	←——	1886–1891	←——	1886–1891

A more detailed survey of these columns is given at the end of this article. It will be of some interest to the reader to know that the earlier volumes of the *Handbuch* do not contain by any means *all* music published in the German-speaking countries with additions from some foreign countries, but only that available at the time. It is necessary therefore for the reader to consult the prefaces in the earlier volumes. It must also be noted that the *Monatsberichte* do not contain anything like all the music that had just been published and many an item that does not appear in them may be found in the *Handbuch* or the *Verzeichniss* — or vice versa.

If one is dating editions from information given in the *Monatsberichte* it should be remembered that the work in question may have been issued more than one month before.

Concerning the *Monatsberichte* only, we should draw the reader's attention to the fact that sometimes Hofmeister was in the habit of substituting his title-imprint for that of other book and music sellers. For instance we are aware of copies of the 1844–1849 volumes with the imprint of T. Trautwein, Berlin in the Berlin State Library, 1852–1856 volumes with the imprint of C. F. Leede, Leipzig in the British Museum, and some time ago copies were seen with the imprint of Stettinsche Buchhandlung, Ulm.

Finally, it might be of interest to know that copies of the cumulative volumes of the *Handbuch* were available for purchase up to the beginning of the Second World War.

Throughout this article it will have been observed that no mention has been made of the location in libraries of any copies. No complete set is known to exist but in many a library there are runs for a certain number of years and odd volumes here und there. Information on this score would therefore be greatly appreciated by the authors.

Appendix A: *Handbuch*

1. Aufl.	1817.	8°	
	1818 bis 1827.	Nachtrag 1 bis 10.	
2. Aufl.	1828.		
	1829.	Ergänzungsband 1	
	1834.	Ergänzungsband 2	
	1839.	Ergänzungsband 3	
3. Aufl.	1844.	Teil 1 und 2. (<i>Whistling's Handbuch</i> Bd. 1 und 2)	
	1845.	Teil 3 (– Bd. 3)	
	1852.	Ergänzungsband 1 (– Bd. 4)	
	1860.	Ergänzungsband 2 (– Bd. 5)	
	1868.	Ergänzungsband 3 (– Bd. 6)	
	1876.	Ergänzungsband 4 (– Bd. 7)	Hrsg. von Fr. Hofmeister
	1881.	Ergänzungsband 5 (– Bd. 8)	
	1887.	Ergänzungsband 6 (– Bd. 9)	
	1893.	Ergänzungsband 7 (– Bd. 10)	

1900. Ergänzungsband 8 (– Bd. 11)
 1906. Ergänzungsband 9 (– Bd. 12)
 [1910.] Ergänzungsband 10 (– Bd. 13)
 [1915.] Ergänzungsband 11 (– Bd. 14)
 [1920-21] Ergänzungsband 12 (– Bd. 15)
 [1924-25] Ergänzungsband 13 (– Bd. 16)
 1929. *Hofmeisters Handbuch der Musikliteratur*, Bd. 17
 1934-35. Bd. 18
 1943. Bd. 19, nicht vollendet, nur der alphabetische Teil bis „Lincke“ ist erschienen.

Appendix B: Verzeichnis – Jahresverzeichnis

Band

- [1] 1852. *Kurzes Verzeichniss*. 8°. Systematisch geordnet.
 [2] 1853.
 [3] 1854. *Verzeichnis(s)*
 [4] 1855. Redigirt von Ad. Hofmeister
 [5] 1856. Angefertigt von Ad. Hofmeister
 [6] 1857. Hrsg. von Ad. Hofmeister
 [7] 1858.
 [8] 1859.
 9 1860.
 10 bis 18 1861 bis 1869
 19 1870. Bearbeitet von Franz Jost
 20 bis 22 1871 bis 1873. Jetzt systematisch und alphabetisch geordnet, ohne Namen des Herausgebers
 23 bis 77 1874 bis 1928. Hrsg. und verlegt von Fr. Hofmeister. Ab Bd. 47 Formatwechsel: 4°
 78 bis 91 1929 bis 1942. Hofmeisters Jahresverzeichnis.
Jahresverzeichnis der deutschen Musikalien und Musikschriften.
Bearbeitet von der Deutschen Bücherei. Leipzig
 92 bis 93 1943 bis 1944
 94/97 1945/1948 in einem Band!
 98 ff. 1949 ff.

Appendix C: Monatsberichte

Band	Folge	Jahr			
[1]	[Erste Folge, Bd. 1]	1829	18	4. Folge, Bd. 3	1846
[2]	[Erste Folge, Bd. 2]	1830	19	4. Folge, Bd. 4	1847
[3]	[Erste Folge, Bd. 3]	1831	20	4. Folge, Bd. 5	1848
[4]	[Erste Folge, Bd. 4]	1832	21	4. Folge, Bd. 6	1849
[5]	[Erste Folge, Bd. 5]	1833	22	4. Folge, Bd. 7	1850
[6]	Neue Folge, Bd. 1	1834	23	4. Folge, Bd. 8	1851
[7]	Neue Folge, Bd. 2	1835	24	5. Folge, Bd. 1	1852
[8]	Neue Folge, Bd. 3	1836	25	5. Folge, Bd. 2	1853
[9]	Neue Folge, Bd. 4	1837	26	5. Folge, Bd. 3	1854
[10]	Neue Folge, Bd. 5	1838	27	5. Folge, Bd. 4	1855
[11]	3. Folge, Bd. 1	1839	28	5. Folge, Bd. 5	1856
[12]	3. Folge, Bd. 2	1840	29	5. Folge, Bd. 6	1857
[13]	3. Folge, Bd. 3	1841	30	5. Folge, Bd. 7	1858
[14]	3. Folge, Bd. 4	1842	31	5. Folge, Bd. 8	1859
[15]	3. Folge, Bd. 5	1843	32	6. Folge, Bd. 1	1860
[16]	4. Folge, Bd. 1	1844	33	6. Folge, Bd. 2	1861
17	4. Folge, Bd. 2	1845	34	6. Folge, Bd. 3	1862

35	6. Folge, Bd. 4	1863	45	7. Folge, Bd. 6	1873
36	6. Folge, Bd. 5	1864	46	8. Folge, Bd. 1	1874
37	6. Folge, Bd. 6	1865	47	8. Folge, Bd. 2	1875
38	6. Folge, Bd. 7	1866	48	8. Folge, Bd. 3	1876
39	6. Folge, Bd. 8	1867	49	8. Folge, Bd. 4	1877
40	7. Folge, Bd. 1	1868	50	8. Folge, Bd. 5	1878
41	7. Folge, Bd. 2	1869	51	8. Folge, Bd. 6	1879
42	7. Folge, Bd. 3	1870	52	8. Folge, Bd. 7	1880
43	7. Folge, Bd. 4	1871	53 bis 79		1881 bis 1907
44	7. Folge, Bd. 5	1872	80 bis 114		1908 bis 1942.
					Formatwechsel: 4°

Deutsche Musikbibliographie

Bearbeitet von der Deutschen Bücherei. Leipzig

115 bis 116

1943 bis 1944

[117 nicht erschienen]

118/119

Mai 1945/1947. Formatwechsel: 8°

120 ff.

1948 ff.