

**MS943 Alfred James Hipkins papers c1860-1936**

Papers of Alfred James Hipkins, comprising notebooks and scrapbooks compiled with the help of his daughter Edith, proofs, manuscripts, publications and some letters dealing with Hipkins's interest in musical matters particularly pitch and the history of instruments [1862-1901].

5 boxes

Open for research. 24 hours necessary for research use.

**MS943/1 Research Notebooks c1874-1921**

**MS943/1/1 9 Research Notebooks 1882-1894**

A sequence of nine research notebooks. The content of each notebook varies but for the most part the notes are on musical instruments and their construction. The content of each notebook are summarised on the front cover. Each notebook is also dated on the front cover. They are:

- 1) 1882
- 2) 1883
- 3) 1884
- 4) 1884
- 5) 1885 : 1895
- 6) 1885
- 7) 1890
- 8) 1891
- 9) 1894

**MS943/1/2 Sequence of 6 Research Notebooks c1862-1901**

A sequence of research notebooks numbered 1-6. The books contain notes on a variety of subjects connected with music and musical instruments. The content of each notebook is summarized on the front cover.

- MS943/1/3 Notebook entitled 'A J Hipkins FSA - Notes on Music'** **c1874-1879**  
 Much of this book is devoted to descriptions of the history, construction and sound of various musical instruments. There is no contents listing but the notebook is divided into approximate sections, each section being devoted to particular instrument, with the instrument named at the start of the section.
- MS943/1/4 Notebook entitled 'A J Hipkins F.S.A. Antiq. Notebook No16'** **1877-1880**  
 Notes on musical instruments. Many of these appear to be extracts from other sources, which Hipkins has transcribed onto notepaper. Hipkins's original notes are bound into this volume, which also includes duplicate copies of some of his notes with addenda by Edith Hipkins. A summary of the notes is found at the front of the volume.
- MS943/1/5 Notebook entitled 'A J Hipkins F.S. Aniq. Notebook No 15'** **c1894-1889**  
 A collection of research notes on a variety of subjects. Some of the notes are quotations that Hipkins' has transcribed from other works and others are references to other published material. The notes has been bound together in this volume which also contains a Contents listing and a duplicate of some of the notes with addenda by Edith Hipkins.
- MS943/1/6 Duplicate copy of Hipkins' original notes on Burkat Shudi** **c1921**  
 A duplicate copy of notebooks made by Alfred Hipkins. Hipkins' filled two small notebooks with research on Burkat Shudi, a harpsichord maker and founder of the workshop that would become John Broadwood & Sons. Edith Hipkins made this

duplicate copy of these notes along which also contains her own additional notes.

**MS943/1/7 Volume entitled 'Last Notes - A J Hipkins' c1899-1903**  
Notes on music, musical instruments and the theory of music. A contents listing for the notebook has been prepared (possibly by Edith Hipkins) and appears the front of the book.

**MS943/1/8 Volume entitled 'A J Hipkins FSA Lectures and Notes' c1902-1903**  
Despite the title of this volume it does not appear to contain any lecture notes or lecture texts. It appears to contain essays Hipkins wrote for reference works including Grove's Dictionary and the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

**MS943/2 Lecture Notebooks c1882-1891**

**MS943/2/1 Notebook containing lecture texts c1882-1890**  
Lecture texts and notes on lectures, most probably prepared by Hipkins before the lectures were given. A contents list has been prepared, probably by Edith Hipkins and appears at the start of the volume. According to this list the lectures in this volume are:

- 1) 'On the Old Clavier or, Keyboard Instruments' - delivered at the Musical Association 7 June 1886.
- 2) A lecture on the same subject - given at Oxford 25 November 1890
- 3) A fragment of a lecture 'Lessons & Graces for Harpsichord or Spinet'

A report on the lecture on the Clavier from the Manchester Guardian is pasted into the volume. Programs of other musical performances and

lectures have also been pasted into the volume.

**MS943/2/2 Volume entitled 'Lectures 1-4, A J Hipkins F.S.A. 1885-1891**

**Antiq.'**

Most of this volume appears to consist of lecture texts and preparatory notes, although some pieces included may be essays and not lectures. A Contents listing has been prepared, probably by Edith Hipkins, and appears at the front of the volume. As well as lecture material, the volume also contains a photograph of Hipkins, an obituary for Hipkins and various programs of musical recitals and lectures which feature either performances by Hipkins or lectures written by him. The contents listing lists the following items:

- 1) 'The Violin Family' delivered at the Society of Arts 26 January 1891
- 2) Old Clavier Instruments delivered 10 November 1890
- 3) 'Wind Instruments' delivered 20 December 1891
- 4) 'Keyboards' delivered 29 December 1891
- 6) Essays on 'The Music of the Angles' in the National Gallery in London
- 7) Lecture on 'Spinets, Harpsichords and Clavichords' given at the Royal College of Music 14 October 1885 and on the 21st and 23rd October 1885 at the 'Inventions and Music Exhibition in the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington.
- 8) Contention of a Bird and a Musician.
- 9) 'La vielle a alcher' acquired by the Museum at Brussels

**MS943/3 Annotated Books**

**c1862-1901**

**MS943/3/1 'Pauer's Performances'**

**1862**

The full title of this volume is 'Ernst Pauer's Six Performances of Piano-forte Music, In strictly Chronological Order. Programme for Saturday, February 1 1862, With Comment And Critical Remarks, Biographies etc.'. A handwritten note by Edith Hipkins appears at the beginning of the volume, relating how the essays which appear in this volume were written by Ernst Pauer and then rewritten by Alfred James Hipkins.

**MS943/3/2 Volume entitled 'Pauer's Performances 1863' 1863**

The full title of this volume is 'Ernst Pauer's Six Performances of Pianoforte Music, In Strictly Chronological Order. Programme for Monday, April 20th 1863, With Comments and Critical Remarks, Biographies etc. etc.' There only appears to be one piece of annotation. It appears below the last part of the title of the title page and reads 'Written by Ernst Pauer. Rewritten by A J Hipkins. The Robert Schumann by George Grove'.

**MS943/3/3 Annotated copy of 'Die Musik des Grieschen Alterthumes' 1883**

This volume (in English 'The Music of Ancient Greece') has been annotated on several pages, probably by Alfred James Hipkins. In addition to this, three pages from a notebook have been attached at the front of the volume. A slip of paper, listing where annotation appears has been prepared and is included with this volume.

**MS943/3/5 Copy of 'Plutarch Uber Die Musik' by Rudolph Westphal 1865**

This copy of 'Plutarch Uber Die Musik' may have been used by Alfred Hipkins for the purposes of writing an English translation of the book. A letter from C R Day to Alfred Hipkins has been attached at the front of this volume. Also throughout the volume notebook pages have been attached between pages and these appear to be translations of and notes on parts of the book.

**MS943/3/6 South Kensington Music Exhibitions 1872 & 1885 1872-1885**

This volume is in two parts. The first part is a catalogue of the special exhibition of ancient instruments, held in South Kensington Museum in 1872. The second part is a list of musical instruments in the International Inventions Exhibition held in the Royal Albert Hall in 1885. Both parts contain notes in the margins by A J Hipkins. A handwritten contents pages appears at the front of the volume.

**MS943/3/7 'Cantor Lectures on Musical Instruments' by Alfred James Hipkins 1891**

A photograph of Hipkins has been attached at the front of this volume. It has also been inscribed: 'To John Hipkins from his father the author of these lectures. 1891'

**MS943/3/8 Copy of 'Musical Ornamentation' by Edward Dannreuther 1893**

Two letters to A J Hipkins from Edward Dannreuther have been attached in the front of this book. The first is dated 2 March 1893, the second 28 April 1893. The title page of the book is inscribed 'To AJH from ED Jan '93'. There are some notes in margins, probably made by A J Hipkins, throughout the book.

**MS943/3/9 Press Proof of 'The History of the Pianoforte' by Alfred James Hipkins 1895**

This press proof contains a number of notes in the margins by Alfred Hipkins. These are notes of corrections which need to be made to the text before the book is published.

**MS943/3/10 'A Dictionary of Pianists and Composers for the Pianoforte' by Ernst Pauer 1895**

A letter from Ernst Pauer to Alfred Hipkins is attached at the front of this book. In the letter Pauer promised to send Hipkins a copy of the 'Dictionary of Pianists and Composers for the Pianoforte' and thanks him for his assistance in writing the 'Pianomaker' section of the book. The letter is dated 10 May 1895

**MS943/3/11 Final Press proof copy of 'A Description and History of the Pianoforte' by Alfred James Hipkins 1896**

Many pages of this press copy contain notes in the margin of corrections which need to be made to the text. The notes were probably made by Alfred Hipkins. The book is also inscribed 'To my dear Edith from her loving father, A J Hipkins Jan 1897'.

**MS943/3/12 'Dorian and Phrygian - Reconsidered from a non-harmonic point of view' by Alfred James Hipkins 1902**

Two letters have been attached at the front of this volume. The first is from Abbey Williams is dated 20 October and was probably written in 1902. The second is signed D[avid] [B]inning Monro and is dated 10 December 1902.

**MS943/3/13 'The Modes of Ancient Greek Music' by David Binning Monro 1899**

A letter to A J Hipkins from D B Monro has been attached at the front of this book. The letter is dated 15 May 1895. An article attributed as being from the Daily Graphic from October 12 1901 has been pasted into the volume before the title pages - it reports Monro's election as Vice Chancellor of Oriel

College, Oxford.  
Hipkins's notes on the text appear on various notebook pages which have been inserted between the pages throughout the book.

- MS943/3/14 'Sir Charles Santley' by John Mewburn Levien 1931**  
A letter to Edith Hipkins from J M Levien, dated 7 February 1931 has been pasted into this volume.
- MS943/3/15 Musical Instruments Historic, Rare and Unique 1888**  
Volume 'Musical Instruments historic, rare and unique' by A J Hipkins and William Gibb.  
  
1 volume  
This volume originated from an exhibition of music instruments, part of the Invention and Music Exhibition, at the Albert Hall in 1885. The Prince of Wales, to whom the volume was dedicated, urged that Hipkins be involved.
- MS943/4 Volumes holding material from several sources. c1862-1901**
- MS943/4/1 Volume entitled 'Lectures - Society of Arts etc' c1862-1901**  
This volume contains material on musical instruments gathered from a number of sources. It includes: pages from the Journal of the Society of Arts; pages from the Proceedings of the Royal Society; and pages from the Musical Times. Most of the material, however, is from the Journal of the Society of Arts.
- MS943/4/2 Scrapbook 1852-1898**

A number of items are included in this volume: it contains photographs of A J Hipkins and his study; clippings from various Musical Journals including articles and letters written by A J Hipkins; material published to support exhibitions of musical instruments; manuscript articles including one by A J Hipkins and one by Carl Engel. A handwritten index of the items included in the scrapbook has been prepared and appears at the front of the volume.

**MS943/4/3 Scrapbook**

**1888-1927**

This volume contains: a photograph of A J Hipkins, clippings from various music periodicals including some articles by A J Hipkins; pages from 'Handel - The Man and his Genius'; pages from 'The Pianoforte and its Precursors' by A J Hipkins; the preface and appendix to 'The Art of Pianoforte Playing' by Ernst Pauer; manuscript articles including one by A J Hipkins and one by Carl Engel. A handwritten index of the items included in the scrapbook has been prepared and appears at the front of the volume.

**MS943/4/4 Volume labelled 'Pitch and Pianoforte'**

**1899-1902**

Published articles by A J Hipkins have been gathered in this volume, along with articles in manuscript form and proofs of articles. Many of the articles appear to be taken from the Encyclopaedia Britannica or other reference works.

**MS943/4/5 'Fugitive Pages On Music' by Musicians**

**1888-1927**

This volume binds together various essays in which musicians write on music. Some are complete pamphlets while others are in pages cut from a larger volume. The volume includes articles by A J Hipkins. A handwritten contents listing has been prepared and is included at the start of the volume.

**MS943/4/6 The music that is old: in pictures and in notation c1875-1936**

Scrapbook of illustrations, letters concerning musical instruments. Also includes sheet music. Compiled after Hipkins's death (c1936) using pieces he collected but also material produced subsequently. Includes manuscript tribute by to Hipkins by his daughter Edith as an introduction.

1 volume

**MS943/5 Potsdam diary 1881**

**MS943/5/1 'Diary of a journey to Potsdam with appendices' 1881  
September  
18-26**

Diary kept by A J Hipkins whilst travelling through Germany in 1881, with his son John Hipkins to examine historic pianofortes in the royal palaces.

**MS943/6 Letters to Edith Hipkins 1929 April  
4-1925 April  
26**

Four letters to Edith Hipkins

**MS943/6/1 Letter to Edith Hipkins from J Fuller Maitland 1929 March  
19**

In this letter Maitland requests permission from Edith Hipkins to use a photograph of her portrait of Alfred Hipkins in the book of 'reminiscences' he is writing. The book is not named but is most likely 'A Door-Keeper of Music'

**MS943/6/2 Letter to Edith Hipkins from J A Fuller Maitland 1929 April 4**

Letter thanking Edith Hipkins for sending a photograph of her portrait of her father, Alfred Hipkins.

**MS943/6/3 Letter to Edith Hipkins from J A Fuller Maitland ?1929 April**

This letter was probably sent to Edith Hipkins along with a copy of Fuller Maitland's 'A Door-Keeper of Music'.

**MS943/6/4 Letter to Edith Hipkins from M[argaret] H[enrietta] Glyn 1935 April 26**

The letter seems to have been written by Margaret Glyn following a visit of her to Edith Hipkins. In the letter she mentions the weather on her journey home from Hipkins's house and mentions a letter Glyn wrote to the Telegraph.

**MS943/7 Book List c1903**

**MS943/7/1 Handwritten list of books owned by A J Hipkins. c1903**

A list of the books in A J Hipkins's possession. Many of the volumes included in MS943/3 appear on this list.

**MS943/8 Musical Score c1860**

**MS943/8/1 Annotated score of Preludes and Fugues by Johann Sebastian Bach c1860**

French edition of this Bach score. Extracts from J N Frokel's biography of Bach and Bach's own preface to the work have been transcribed at the start of the volume. Some parts of the score have been annotated.