J. S. BACH

SIX SONATAS FOR UNACCOMPANIED VIOLIN

SIX SUITES FOR UNACCOMPANIED 'CELLO

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(BWV Nos. 1001–1006, 1007–1012)

FROM THE *BACH-GESELLSCHAFT* EDITION

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NOTES

Bach's six solo sonatas for the violin are as uncommonly difficult to play as their mastery is rewarding. Their polyphonic style would seem almost contradictory to the nature of the instrument for which they are written. As *C. H. H. Parry* remarks in his excellent biography of Bach, "The extraordinary difficulties which his solo music presents impelled violinists ultimately to develop a special phase of technique to conquer them, because the music is in itself so supremely great and noble that highminded performers could not rest satisfied till they found the way to master it. And hence it has come about ultimately that these solo works are regarded as among the most convincing proofs of the powers of interpretation of the foremost violinists of later times."

The *Partitas* are sequences of dance forms; the *Sonatas*, sequences of "abstract" forms.—The famous *Chaconne* is the last movement of Partita No. II.

The six *Suites for Violoncello*, in form akin to the Violin Partitas and fully as remarkable as to musical content and demands on technical skill, have in recent times enjoyed increasing popularity due in no small measure to their superb performances and recordings by Pablo Casals.

The present edition is a photographic reduction, from Vol. 27 of the famous "*Bach-Gesellschaft*" edition of Bach's complete works.

Sechs Sonaten

für

Violine.

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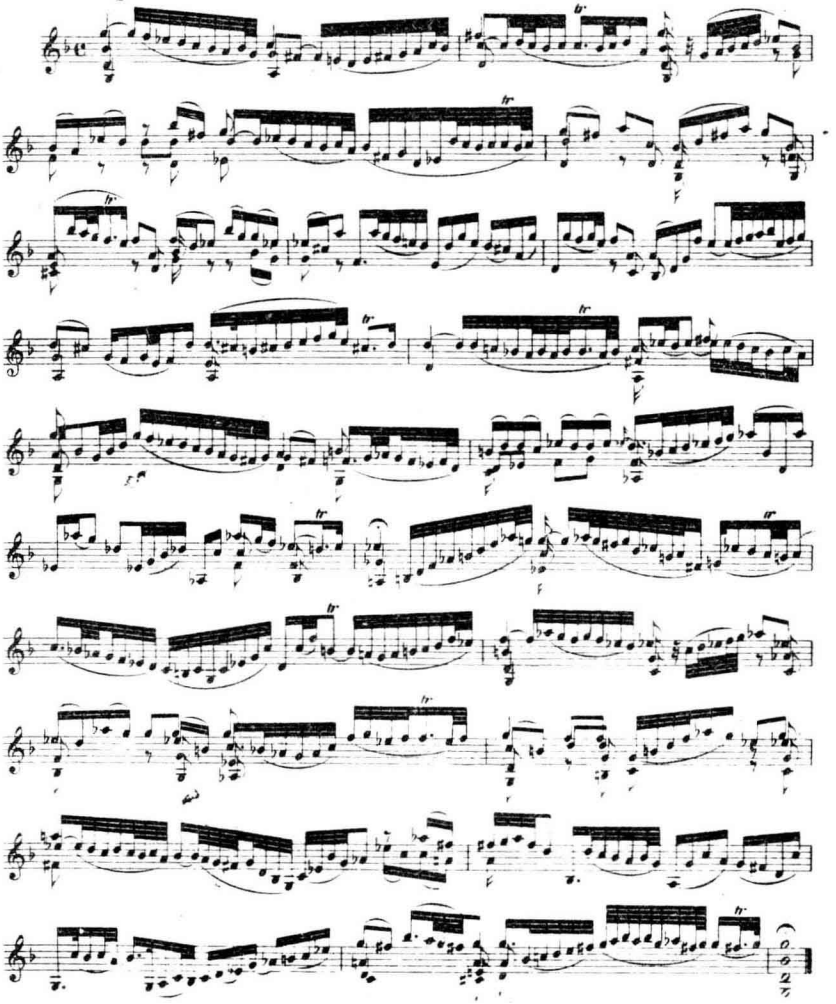
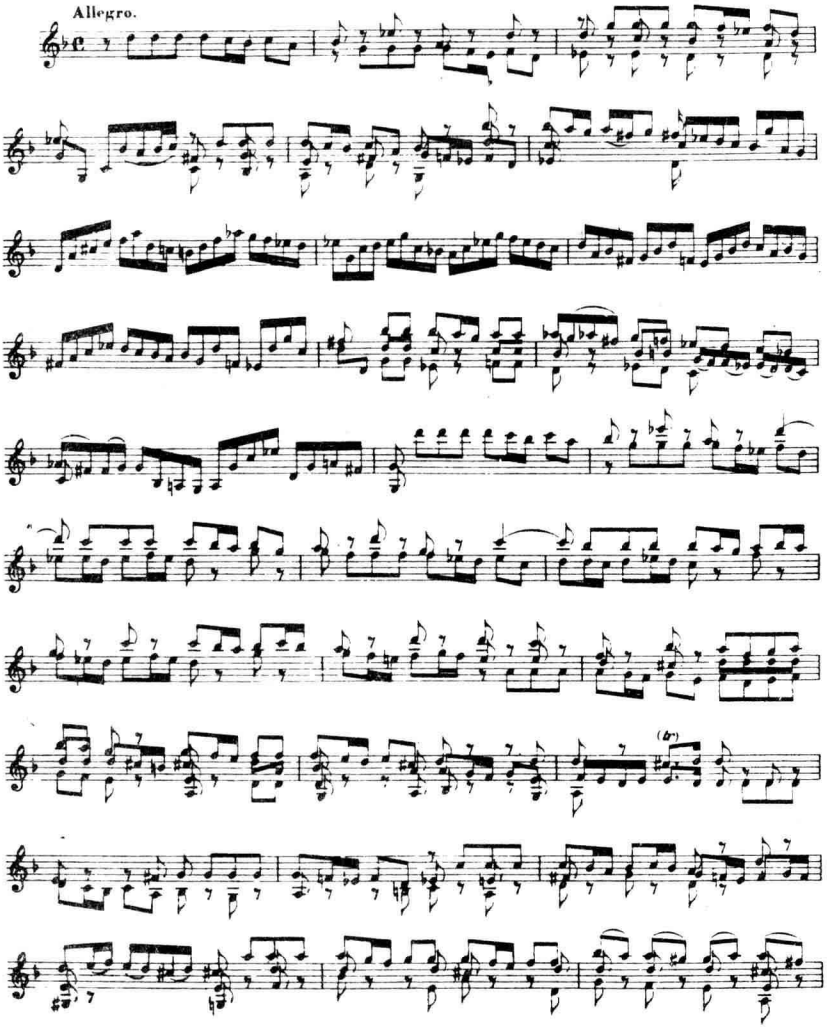
SONATA I.

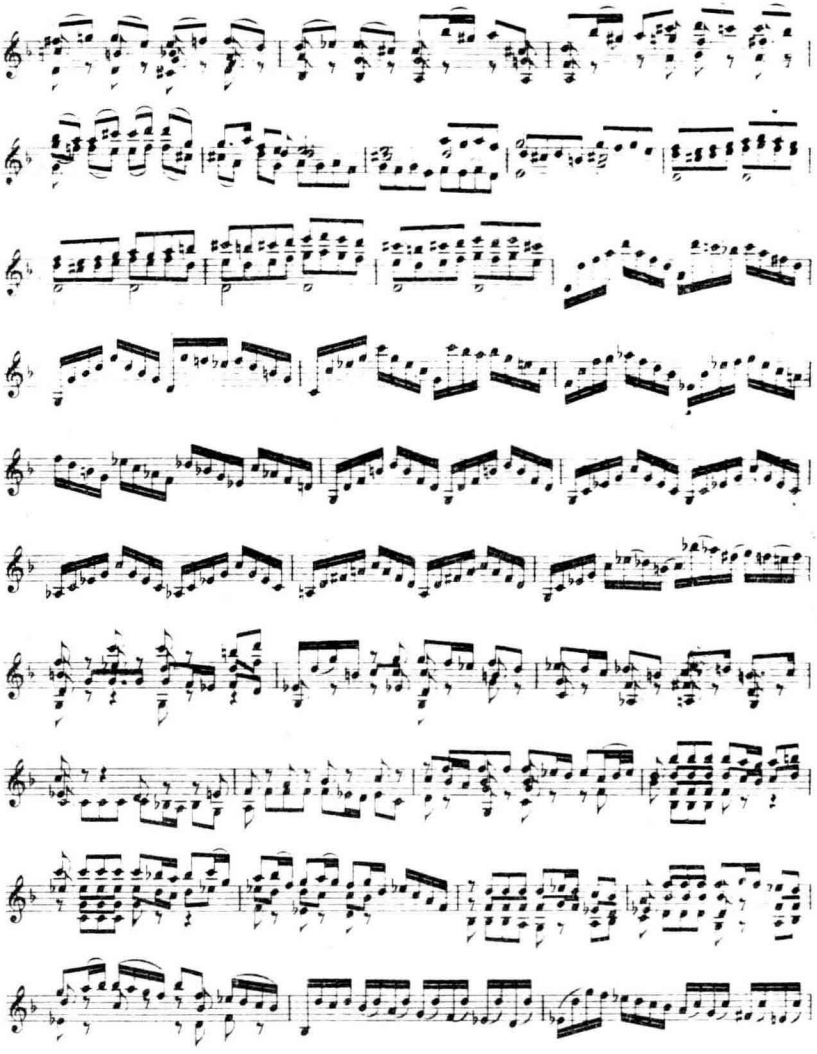
Adagio.

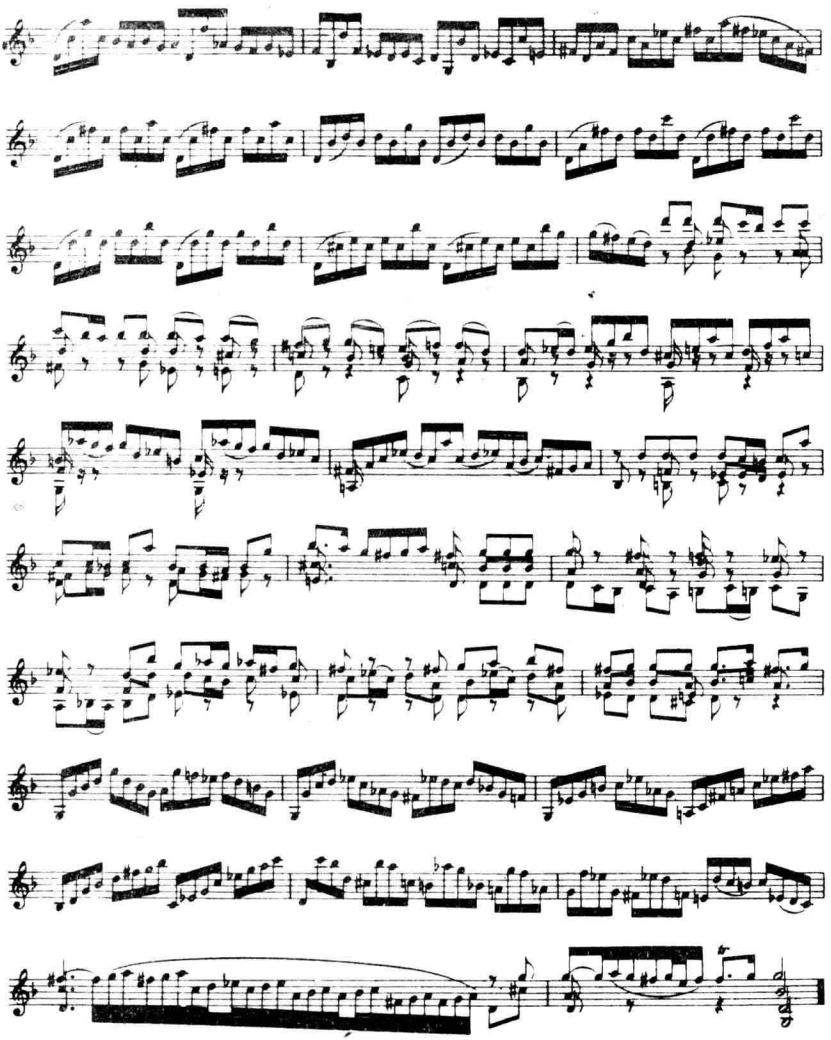


Fuga.

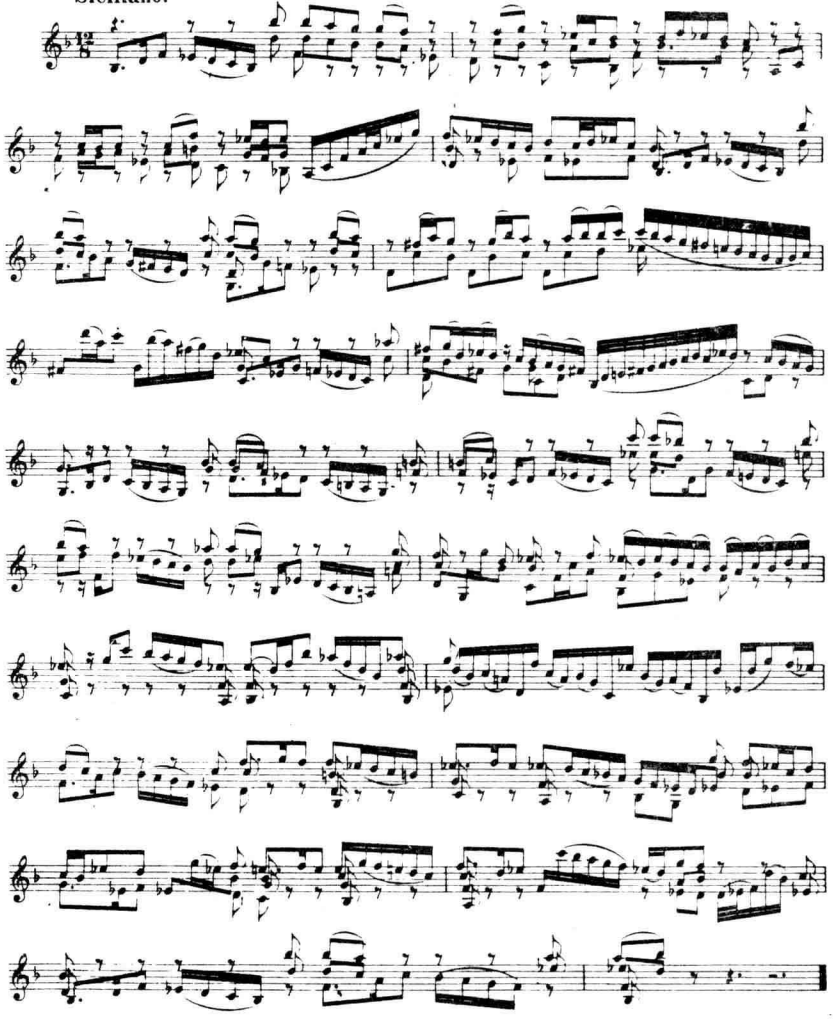
Allegro.







Siciliano.



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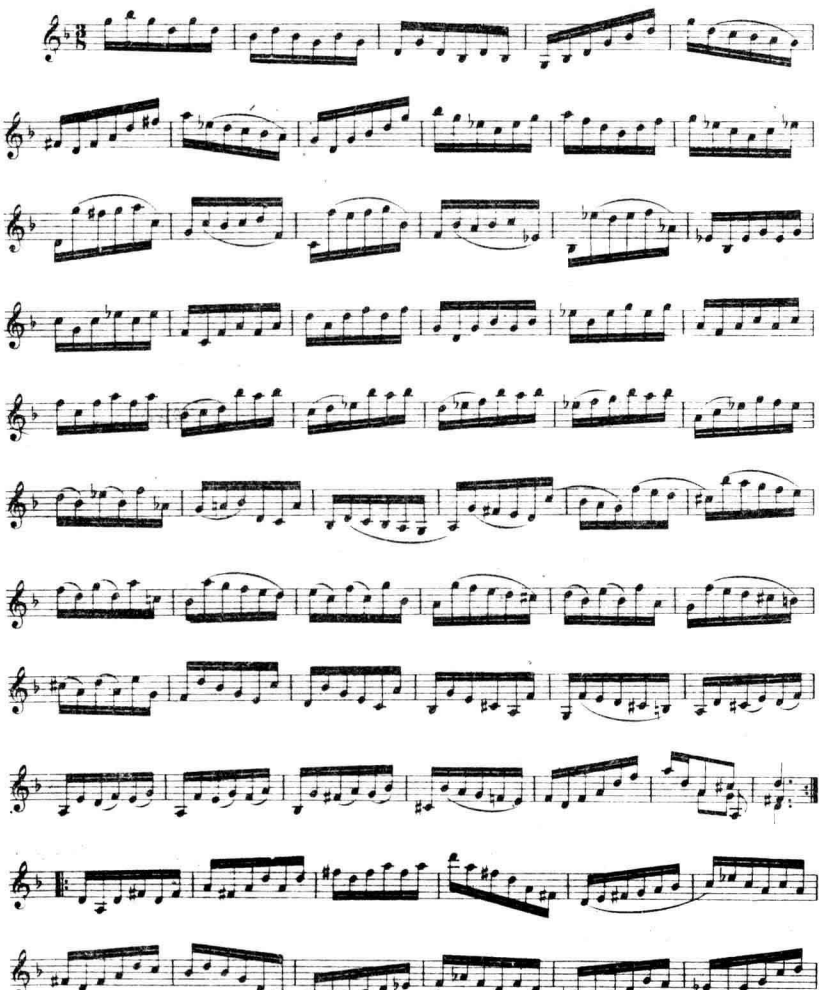

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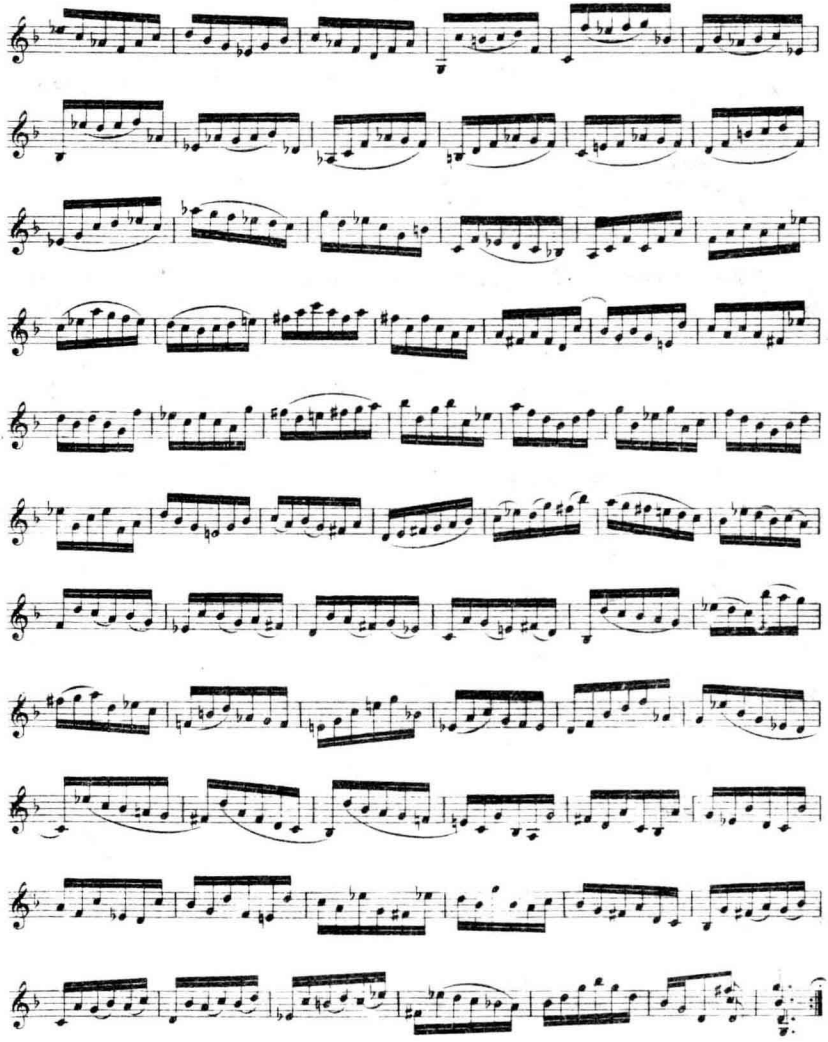
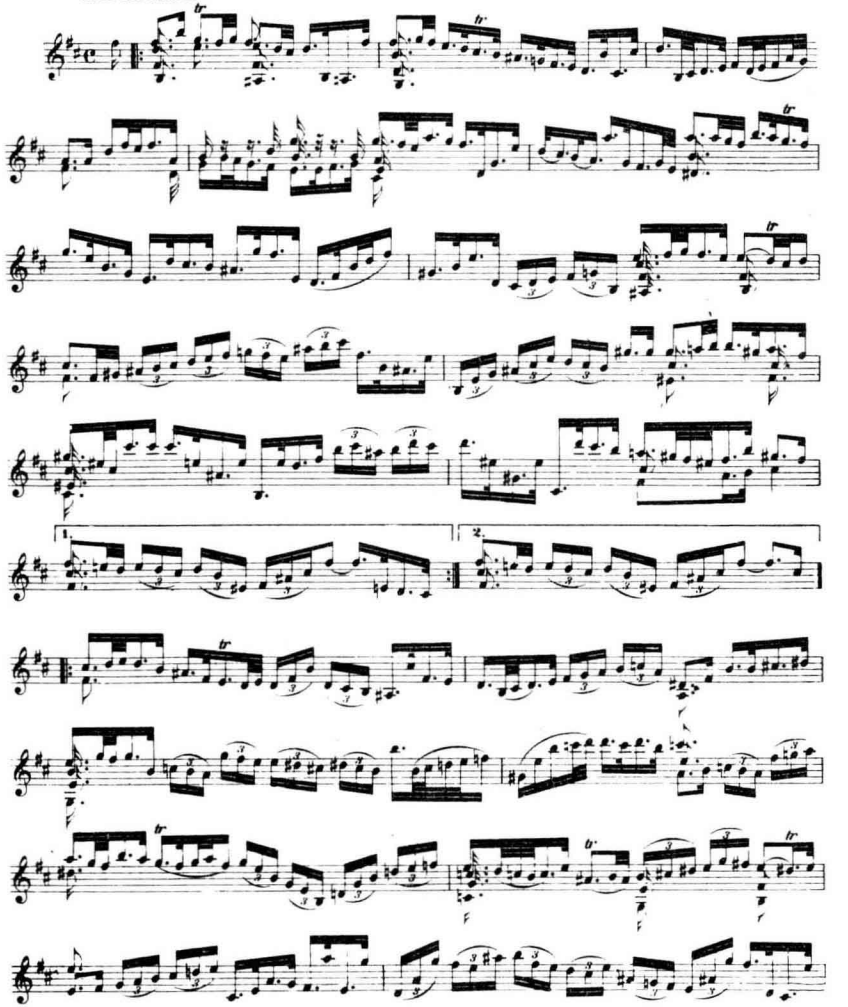
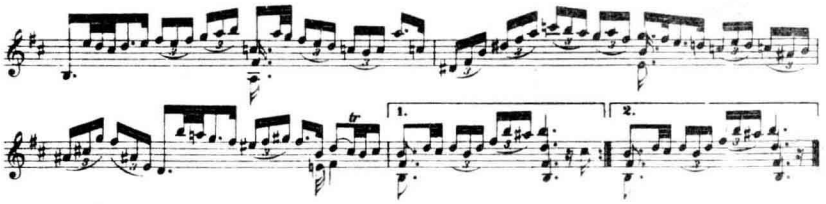


PARTITA I.

Allemande.





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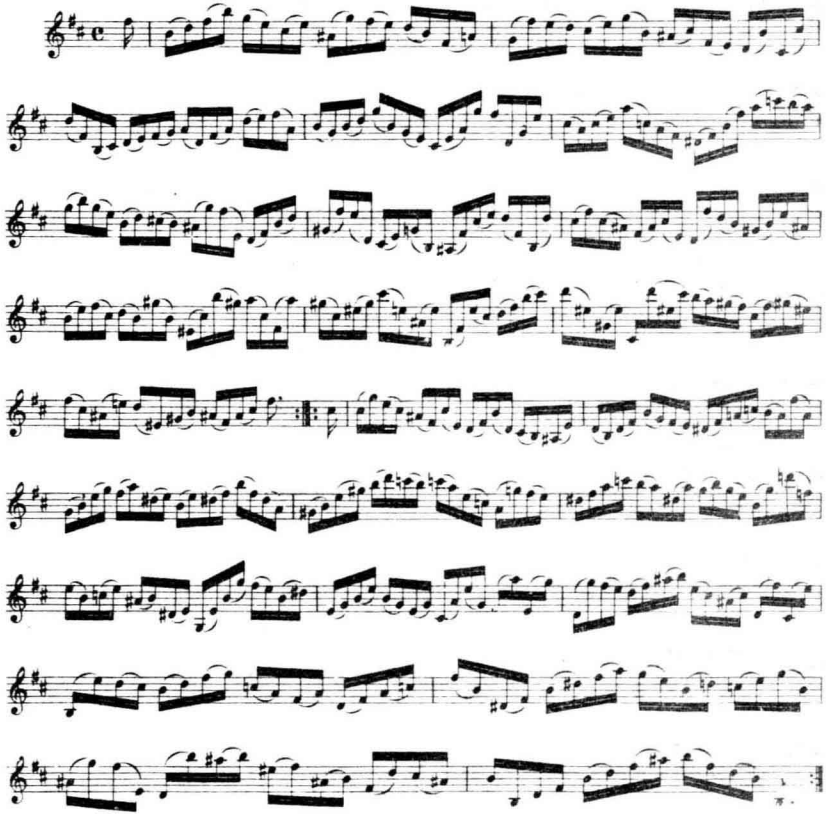
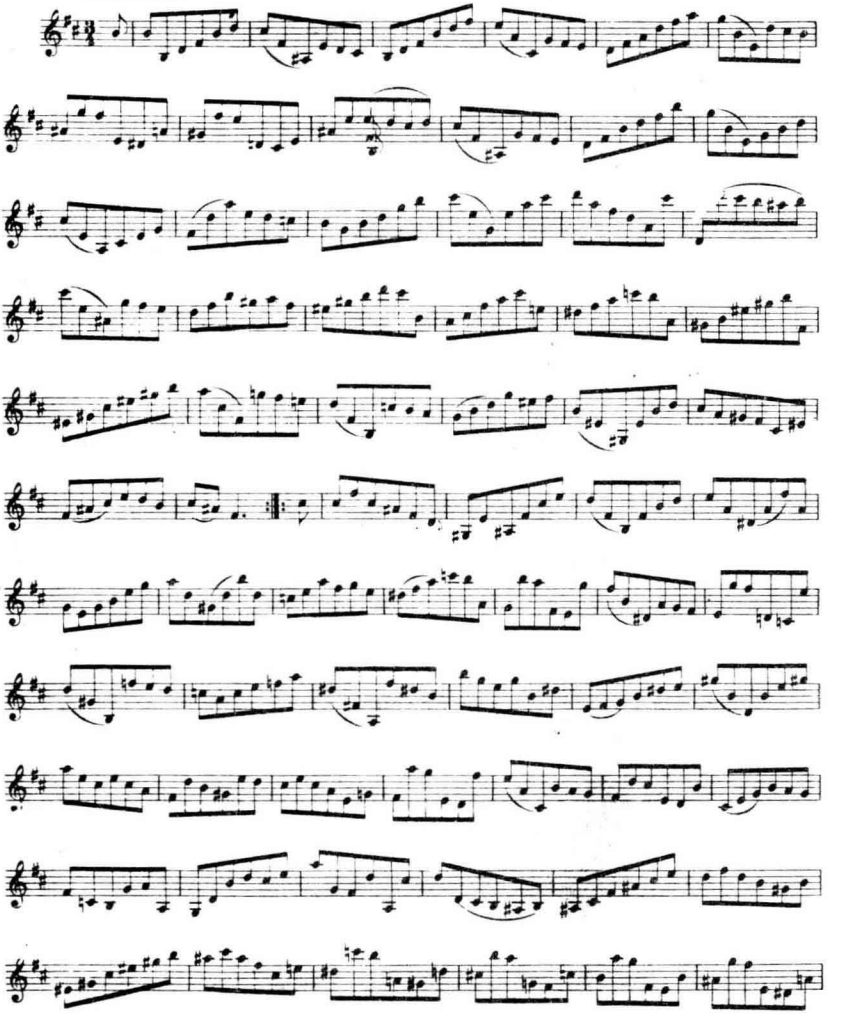
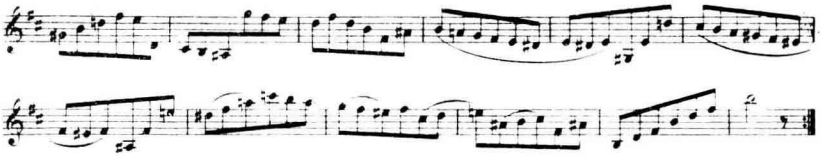


Courante.





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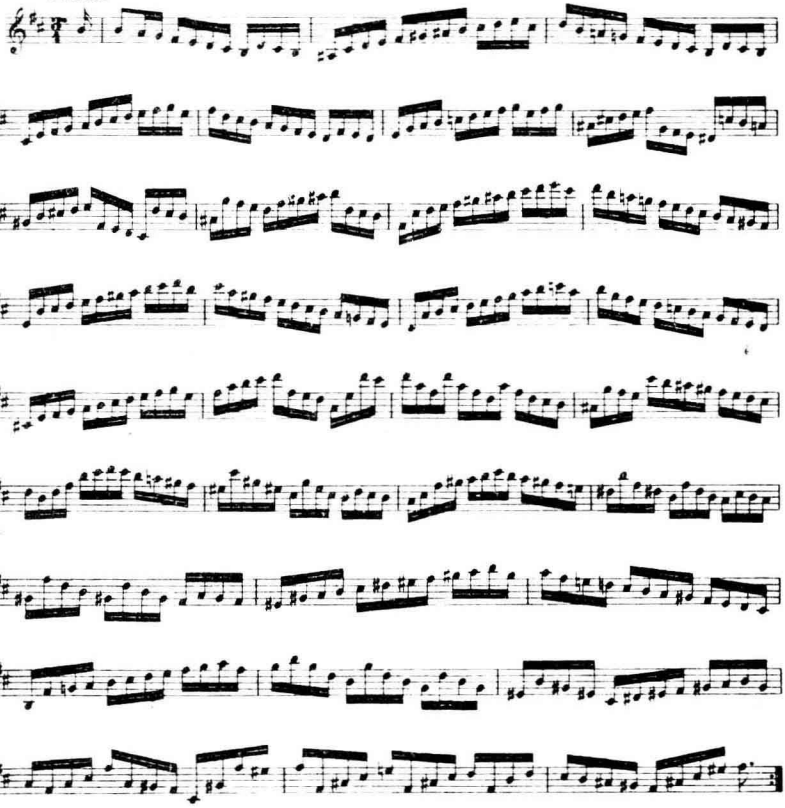

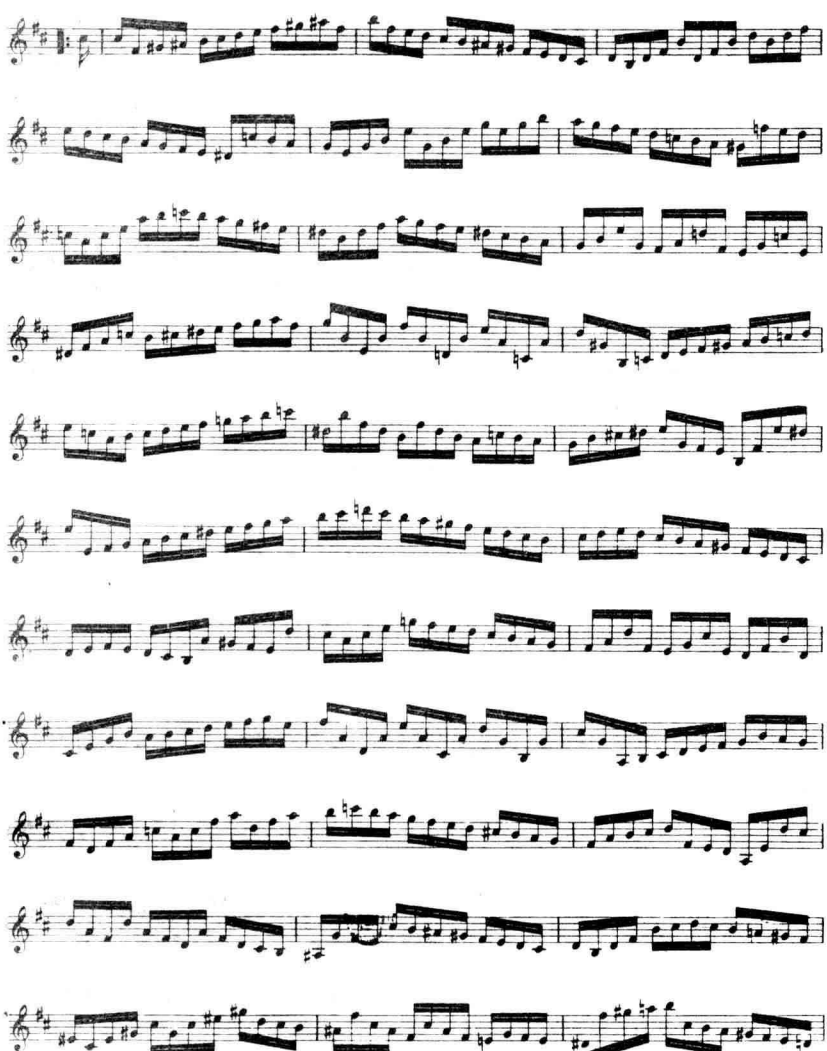

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