

**THE ART OF DANCING, HISTORICALLY  
ILLUSTRATED: TO WHICH IS ADDED A  
FEW HINTS ON ETIQUETTE; ALSO, THE  
FIGURES, MUSIC, AND NECESSARY  
INSTRUCTION FOR THE PERFORMANCE**

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The Art of Dancing, Historically Illustrated: To Which Is Added a Few Hints on Etiquette; Also, the Figures, Music, and Necessary Instruction for the Performance by Edward Ferrero

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**EDWARD FERRERO**

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THE FIGURES, MUSIC, AND NECESSARY INSTRUCTION  
FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MOST MODERN AND APPROVED DANCES, AS REHEATED  
AT THE PRIVATE ACADEMIES OF THE AUTHOR.

BY EDWARD FERRERO.

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## P R E F A C E .

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It was not with any aspiration for literary distinction, nor yet entirely with the hope of pecuniary reward, that the author of this work was induced to prepare it for publication; but rather, because he believed that it would, to a certain extent, supply a natural *want*, and prove of value to those who are interested in an art which is almost as old as the world, which has found favor in every nation, at every period and among all classes, from the philosopher and the sage, to the untutored savage, and the fool with his "cap and bells."

All history must necessarily be but a compilation. As in the formation of a *bouquet*, the horticulturist culls those flowers which are best adapted to his purpose, and binds them together that they may form a perfect whole, so the modern writer of any history, whether of the arts or of nations, can only select such facts as he can command and join them by the thread of a continuous narrative. All that either can claim, is the merit of having exercised judgment in the selection of materials, and taste in their arrangement. As the History of Dancing has never been written, the author has been compelled to collect such fragments of information as he could discover in a variety of works, and has not hesitated to



make use of any reliable statement of facts, nor, when they suited his purpose better than those which he himself could supply, to appropriate the ideas and sometimes the language of others.

The *Hints to Dancers* were added in the belief that they might be of service to many young persons into whose hands the book will naturally fall, they being the most interested in the descriptions and music of modern dancing. The author has intentionally avoided the introduction of those ridiculous rules, so prevalent in works on etiquette, in which it is assumed that the reader is devoid of intelligence, ordinary breeding, and common politeness, preferring to offer a few general *Hints*, the propriety of which must be left to the judgment of the reader.

The figures and the music are those adopted at the private assemblies of the author, and as such will be valuable to a large number of readers.

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