

**CONFESSIONS OF A
VIOLINIST: REALITIES
AND ROMANCE**

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Confessions of a Violinist: Realities and Romance by Dr. T. Lamb Phipson

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DR. T. LAMB PHIPSON

**CONFESSIONS OF A
VIOLINIST: REALITIES
AND ROMANCE**

Confessions of a
Violinist

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

Confessions of a Violinist

Realities and Romance

By

Dr. T. Lamb Phipson

Formerly President and Violin Solo to the
Bohemian Orchestral Society

Author of "Voice and Viola," etc.

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1902

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IN FOND REMEMBRANCE OF
EMMA ELLEN ELIZABETH PHIPSON

*Only child of the late CAPTAIN SAMUEL LAMB, of the
Herefordshire Regiment, first Cousin of WILLIAM LAMB,
LORD MALBOURNE, for many years Prime Minister*

BORN 2nd June, 1813. DIED 13th March 1899

*"Addio carissima Madre mia! L'immagine tua, cara e
bella, è per sempre intagliata nel mio cuore."*

552539

PREFACE

THE present little work, as indicated in the title, consists of two parts, Realities and Romance. It contains biographical sketches, reminiscences, studies, and episodes, with some short romantic stories interspersed, which are all drawn from real life.

It may be considered as a continuation of my - "Voice and Violin," which has been so indulgently received by all classes of readers that I have been induced to give here a number of notes and sketches which have not yet appeared in any of my other books. I hope they will be found instructive and amusing, and so help to foster the love of music, from which most people derive so much pleasure and profit.

CASA MIA, PUTNEY, LONDON,
Sept. 1902.

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Confessions of a Violinist

I

LOOKING BACK

ON looking calmly over the events of the last century, I feel fortunate in having been born an Englishman, and having lived throughout the whole glorious reign of Queen Victoria, the contemporary of my dear mother. I came into this wonderful world at the dawn of the railway and the Reform Bill, and when music was exerting its most powerful influence upon society in the form of Italian opera and the violin of Paganini. My mother had left school in Kensington, and been married five years, when our late beloved Sovereign succeeded to the throne in 1837.

The Queen was the only child of the Duke of Kent; my mother was the only child of Captain Lamb, first cousin of Lord Melbourne, Home Secretary under William IV., and for many years Prime Minister under Victoria. He was the young Queen's favourite Minister; he gave