PARTHENIA

or

THE MAYDENHEAD

of the first musicke that

ever was printed for the VIRGINALLS!

COMPOSED

By three famous Masters: William Byrd, Dr. John Bull, & Orlando Gibbons,

Gentlemen of his Matie most Illustrious Chappell.

Ingrauen

by William Hole.

Lond: print: for M^ris Dor: Euans. Cum priuilegio. Are to be sould by G: Lowe print^r in Lou[illegible]

TO THE HIGH O MIGHTY

and magnificent Princess Frederick Cecil Palatine of the Reine: and his betrothed Lady, Elizabeth the only daughter of my Lord the King.

The virgin PARTHENIA whilst yet I may I offer up to your virgin Highnesses. To you Gracious Lady even from the byrth she was entended: and now I trust shalbe more welcome having learnd to tune and twine together these next neighbour letters E and F. the vowell that makes so sweet a Consonant. Her notes so linkt and wedded together seeme liuely Hieroglyphicks of the harmony of mariage. the high and holy State wherinto you shortly must be incorporat. This smale worke yet first in this kind, was only ment for this lesser world: howbeit under your shadowes in yo sunneshine I should say rather; y is, yo sweete and glorious Consorte it may sound & rellish in the eares of the greater. For Musick like that miraculous tongue of th Apostles having but one and y same Caracter is alike knowne to all the sundry nations of y world. And what wonder sine Harmony is the Soule thereof multiplicionsly varied of fowre bare notes as y Body is of the fowre Elements. These lessons were composed by three famous Masters in the faculties. whereof one had y honor to be yo teacher most Illustrious lady: and had he not had it before thereby deserued the stile of a Doctor. If to theire great grace, yo Grace will vouchsafe to lend yo white hands they will arriue wth more pleasure at y princely eares of yo GREATE FREDERIKE. Our lord Jesus who hath honored mariage wth his deere presence and first miracle, extraordinarily done at y instance of his mayden mother, eternally blesse yo maydes and maryed.

Yo Highnesses most humbly [illegible]

Mr. Hugh Holland

On his worthy frend Will:
& his Triumuiri of Musicke.

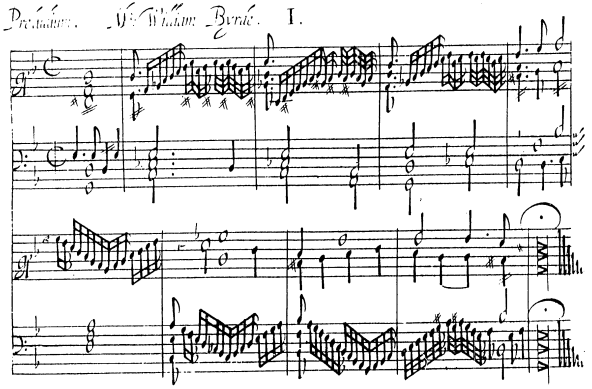
List to that sweete Recorder;
How daintily this BYRD his notes doth warr,
As if he were the Nightingalls owne brother!
Loe, where doth pace in order
A brauer BULL, then did Europa carry:
Nay let all Europe showe me such an other.
Orlando though was counted Musicks father;
Yet this ORLANDO parallels di Lasso:
Whose trifle praise would tire a very Lasso,
The heere in one these three men heare rather
And praise thaire songes: & sing his praise who
Those notes so well wth they so sweete ly varied.

Mr. Geo: Chapman

In worthye loue of this new worck,
and the most Autenticall Auethors.

By theis choice lessons of theise Musique Masters
Ancient, and heightn'd wth ye Arts full Bowles,
Let all ou moderne, mere Phantastique Tasters,
Whose Art but forreigne Noueltie extolls,
Rule and confine theyr fancies; and prefer
The constat right, & depthe Art should pauce,
To all lite flashes, by whose light they err:
This wittie Age, hath wisedome least in vse;
The World, ould growing, Ould, wth it, grew Men;
Theyr skylls decaying, like theyr bodies strengths;
Yonge Men, to ould are now but Children:
First Rules of Art, encrease still wth theyr lengths.
Which see in this new worck, yet neuer seene:
Art, ye more ould, growes eur ye more greene.

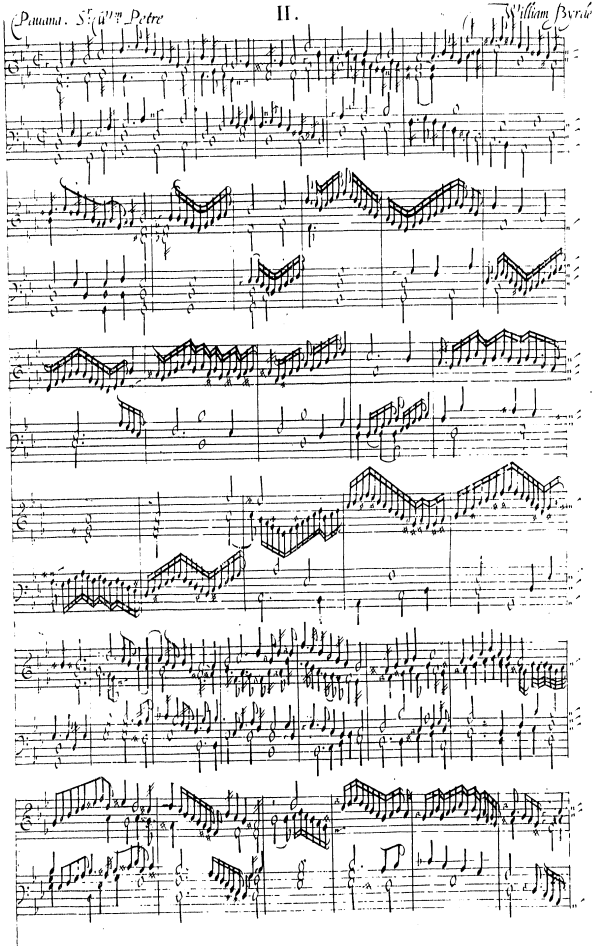
Preludium. Mr. William Byrde. I.



Pauana. S.r Cav.m Petre

II.

William Byrde



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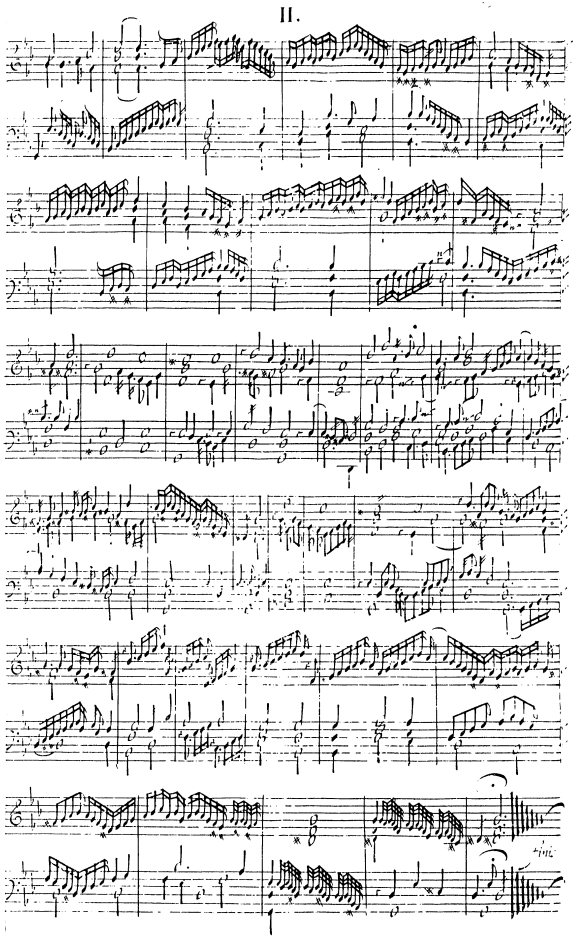
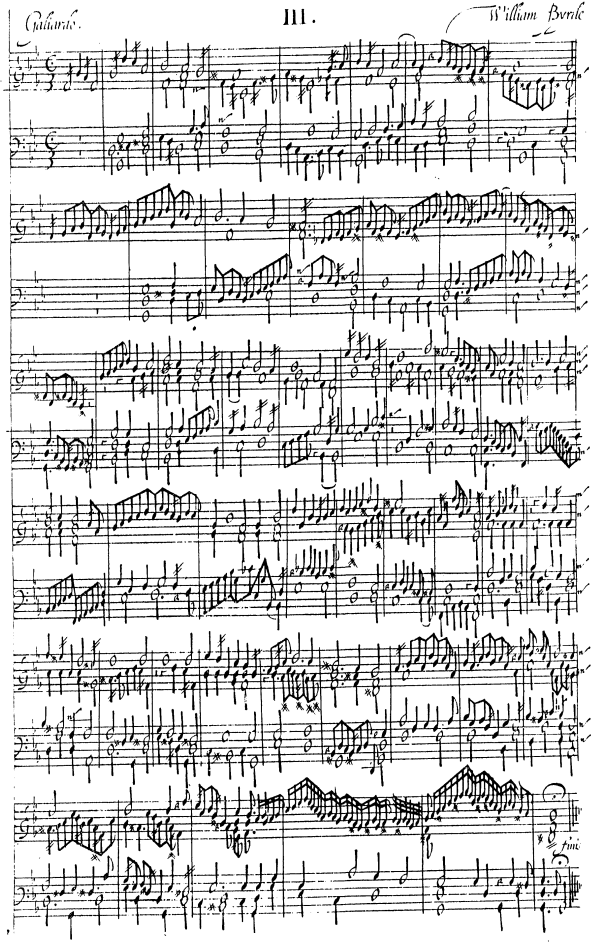
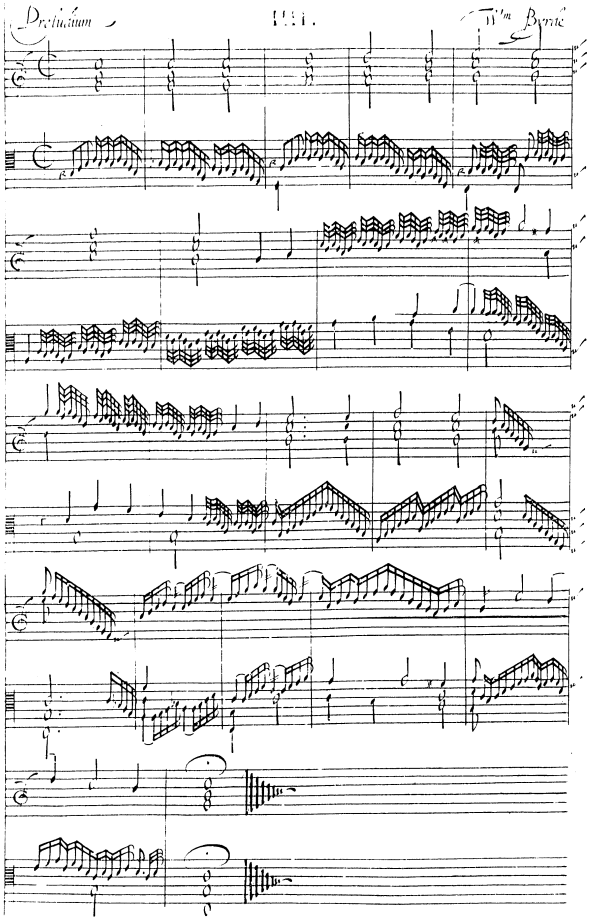


Galiardo. III. William Byrde



Preludium III. Wm Byrde



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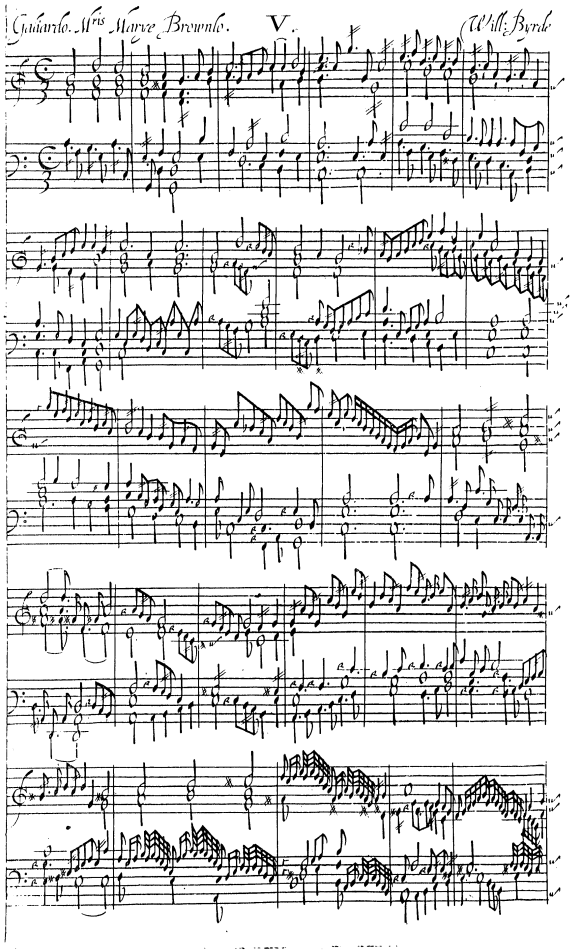

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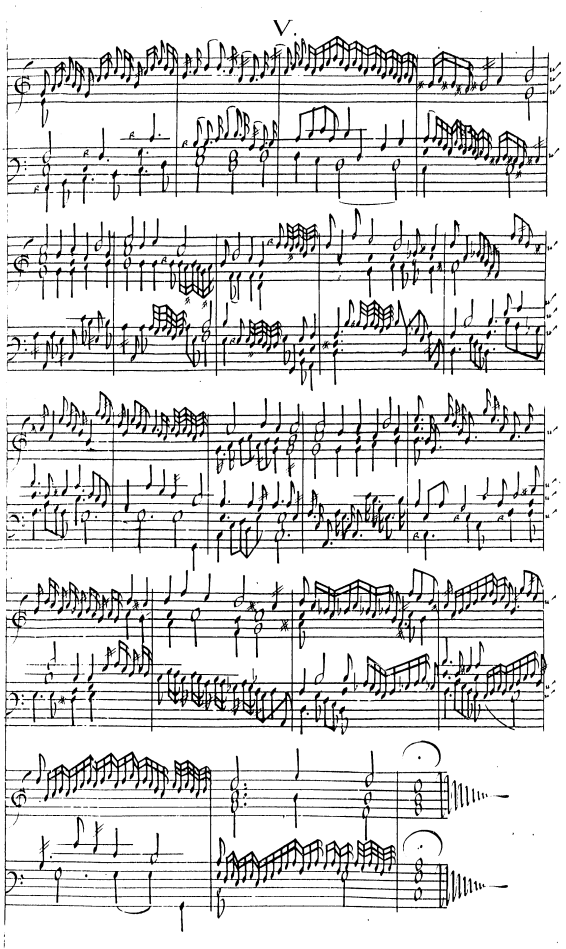
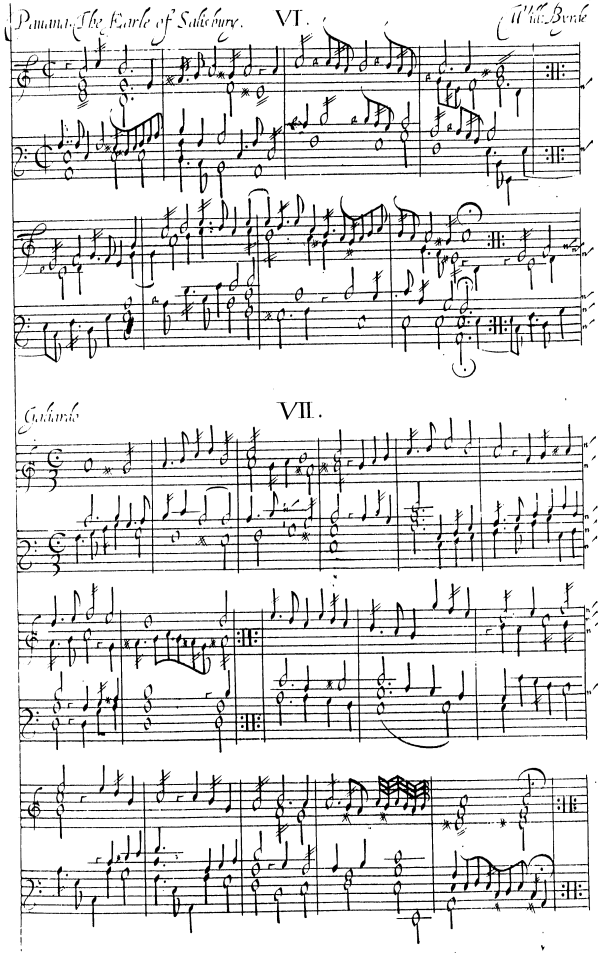
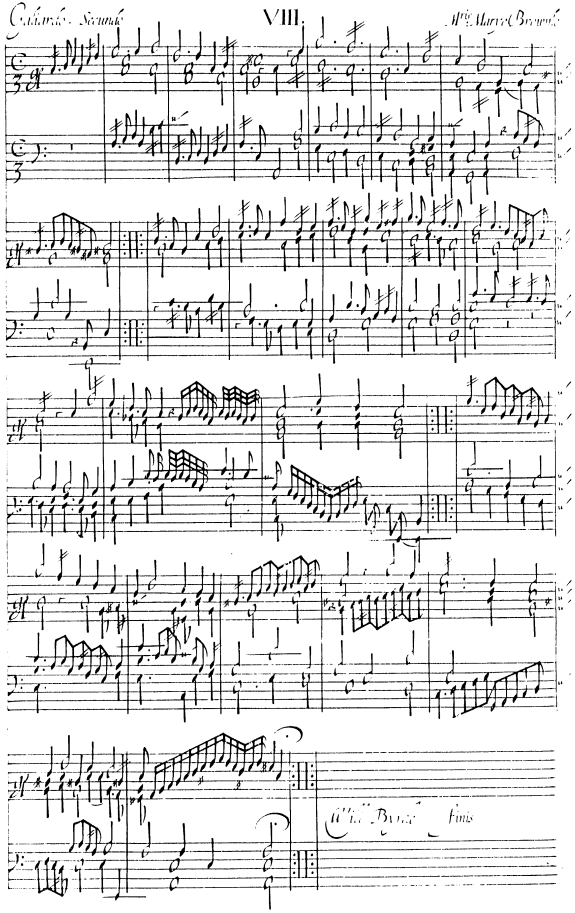



Panana. The Earle of Salisbury.
VI.
Will. Byrde
Galiardo
VII.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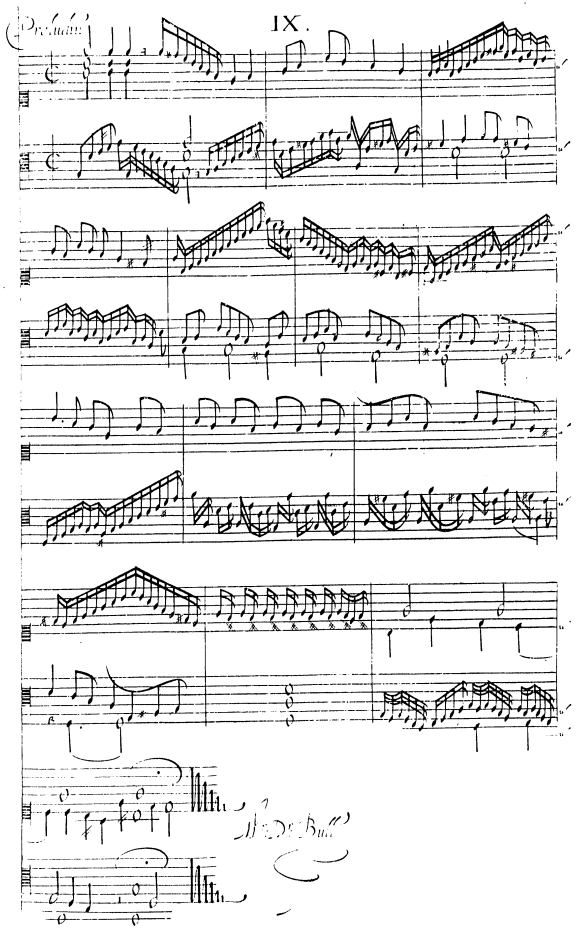
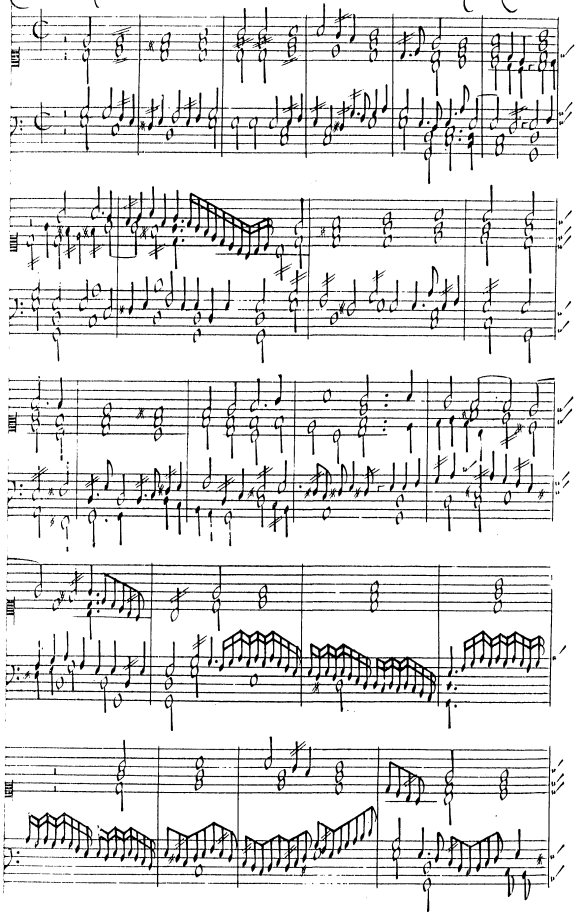

IX.

Panana. St. Thomas Wake

X.

Dr. Bull



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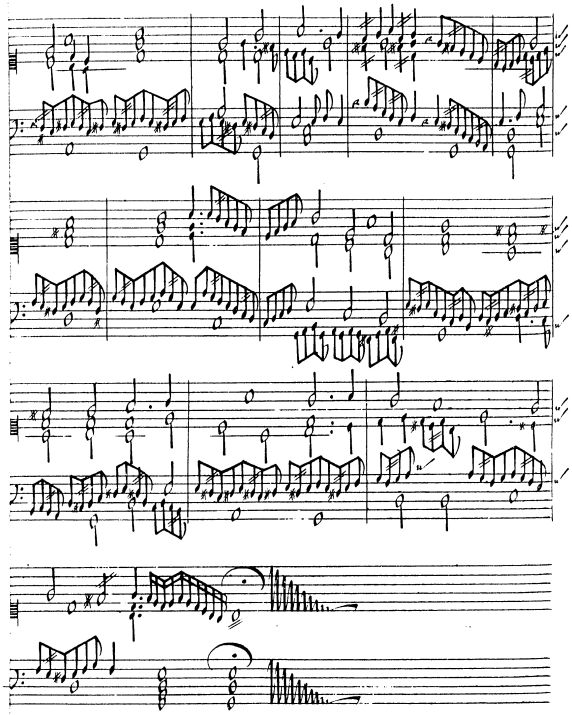

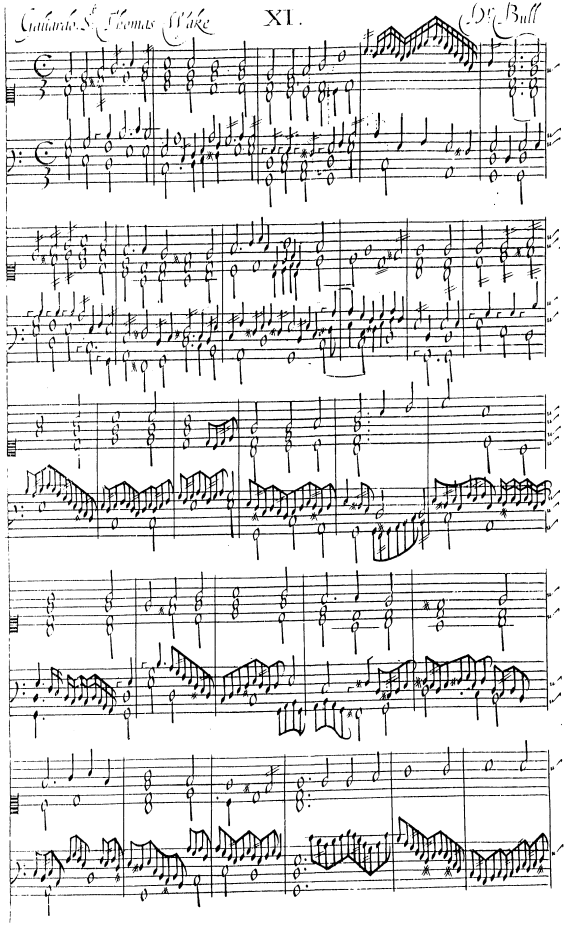
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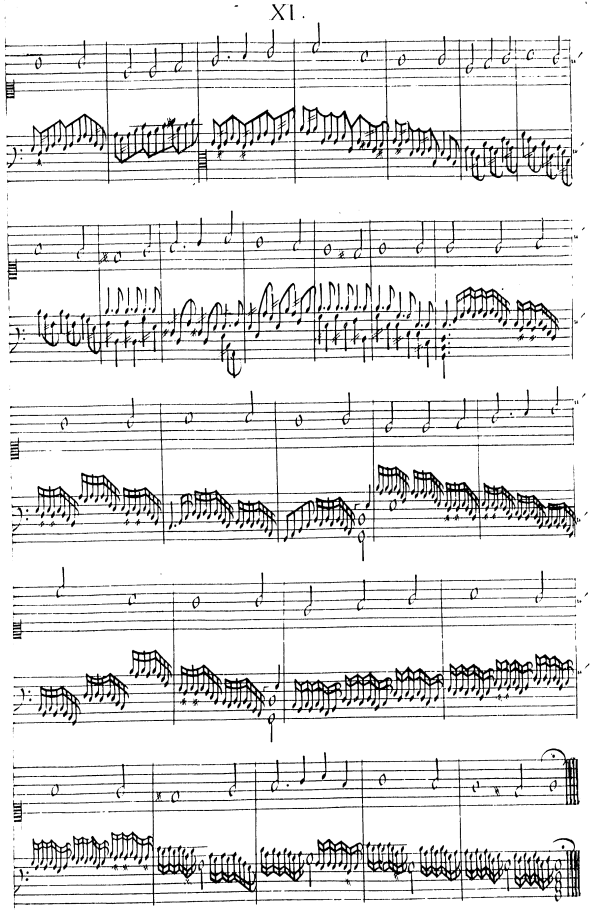
XI.
Dr. Bull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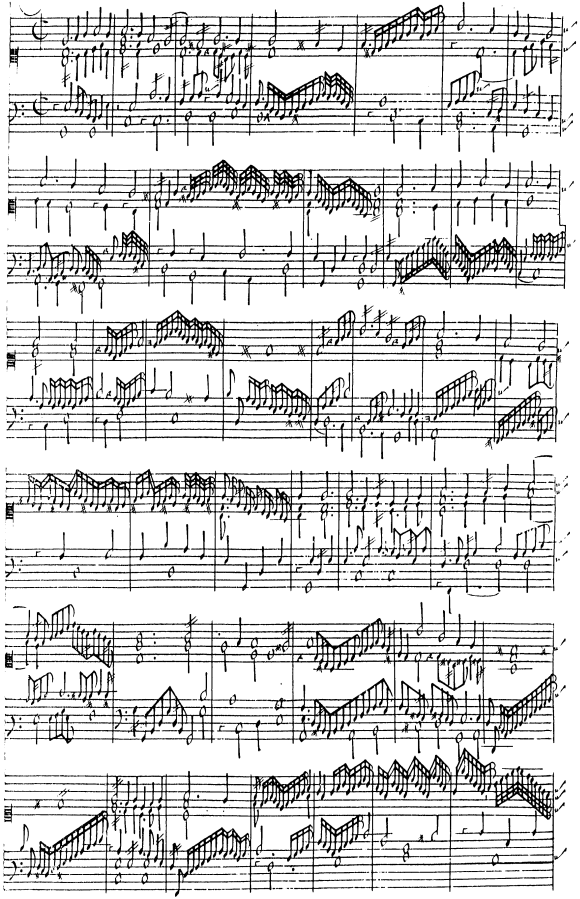

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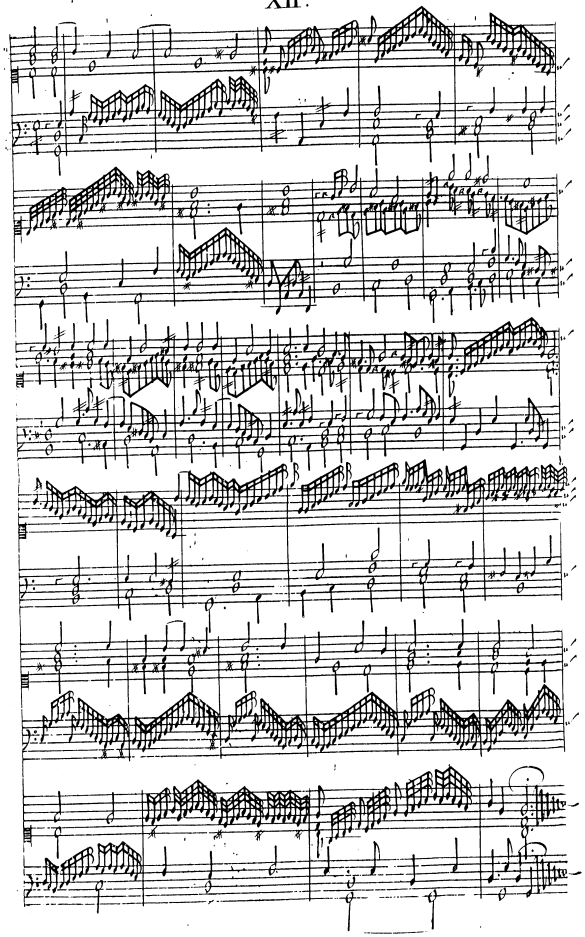

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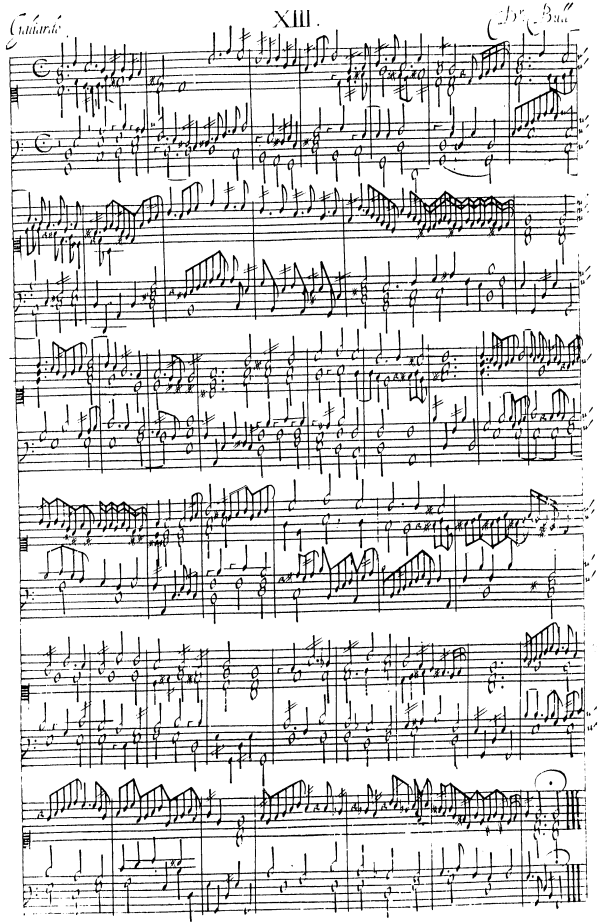
Dr. Bull



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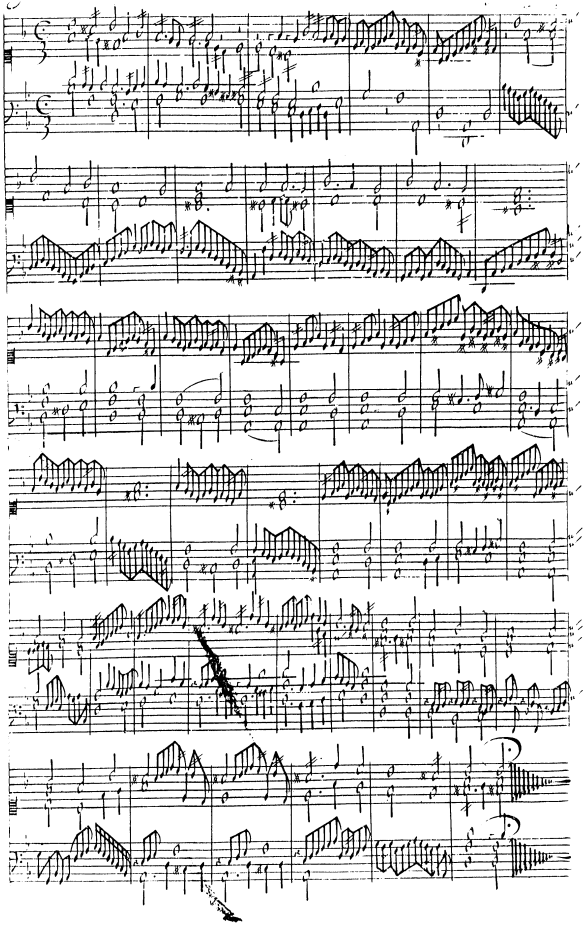

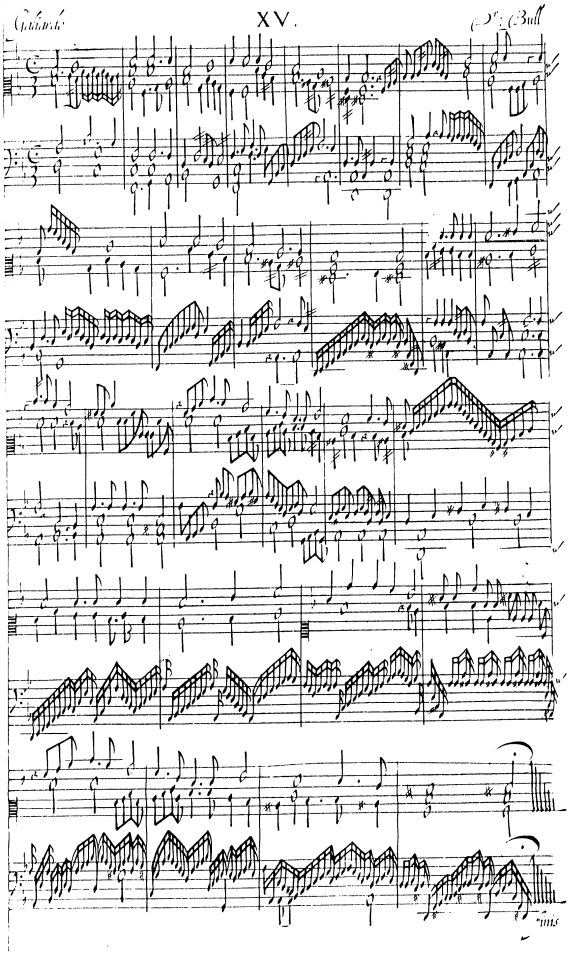
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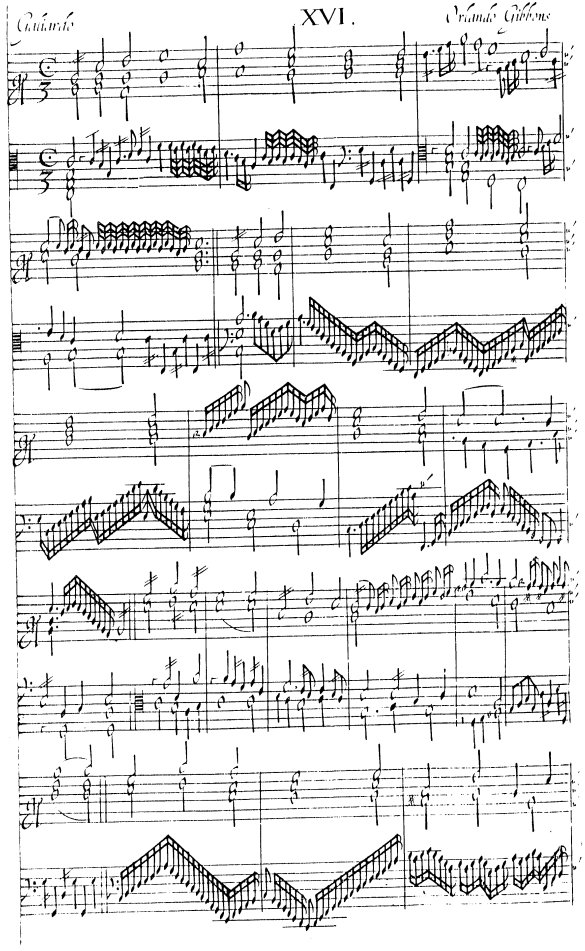
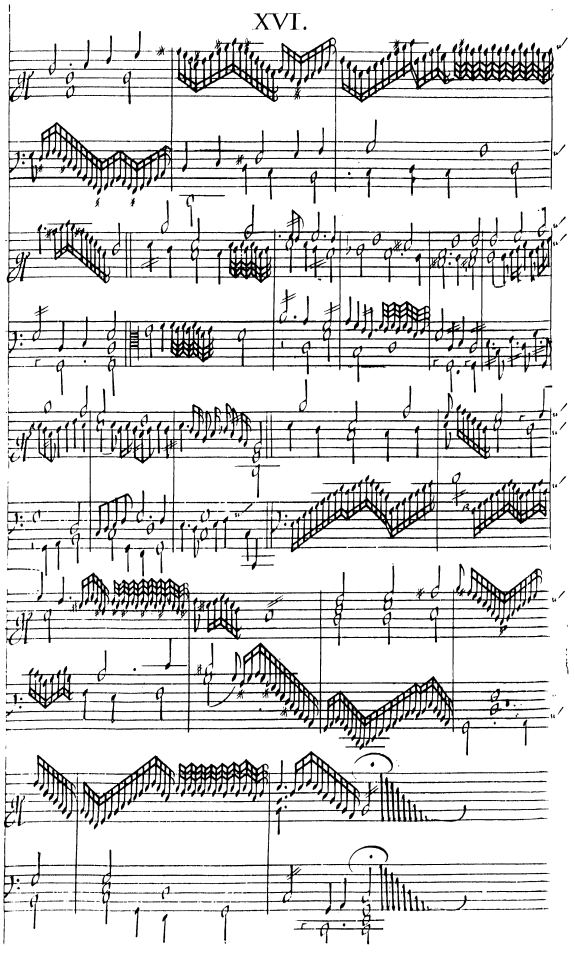

XVI.
Orlando Gibbons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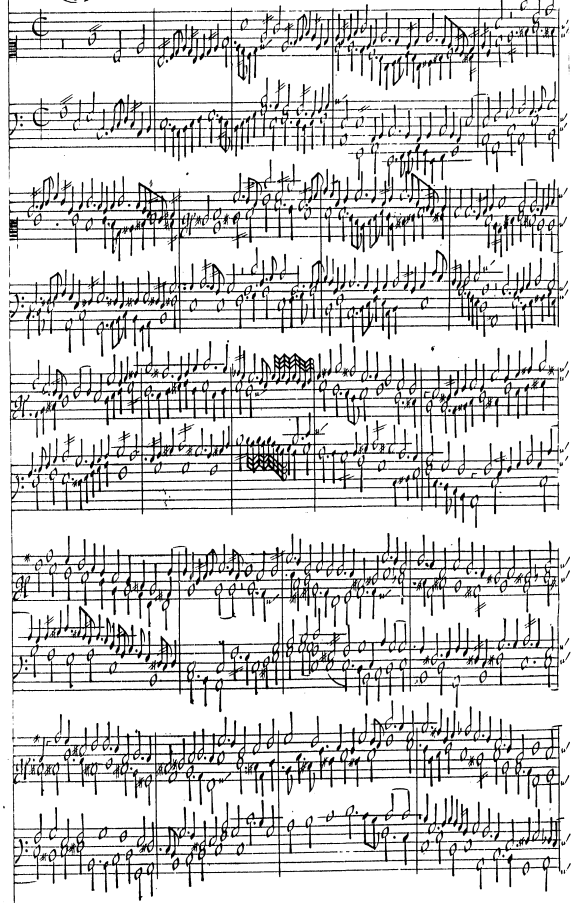

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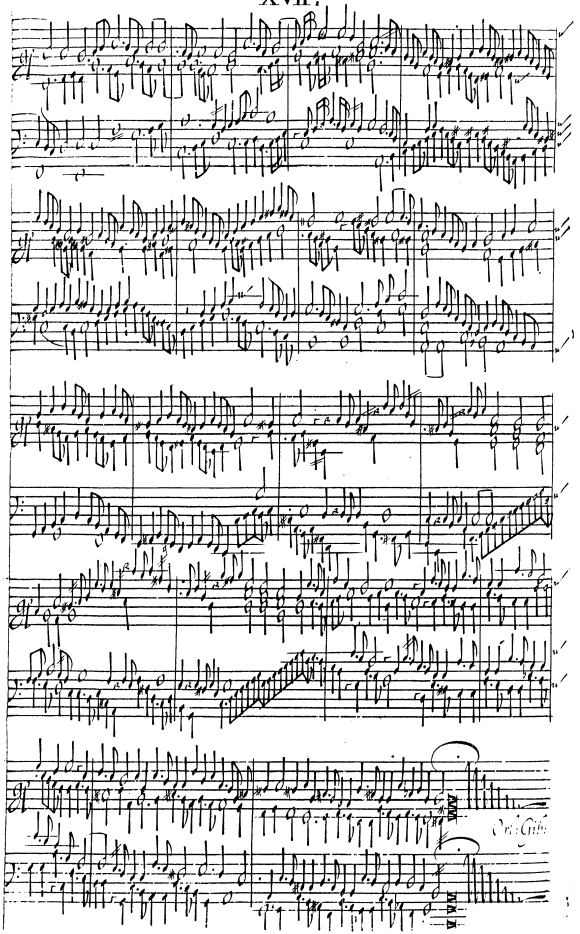

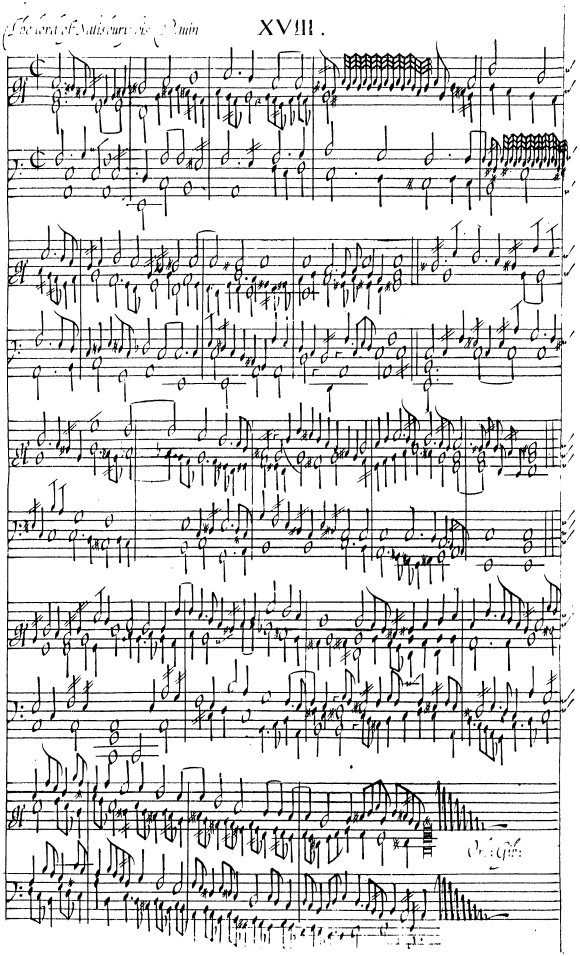
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Galiardo

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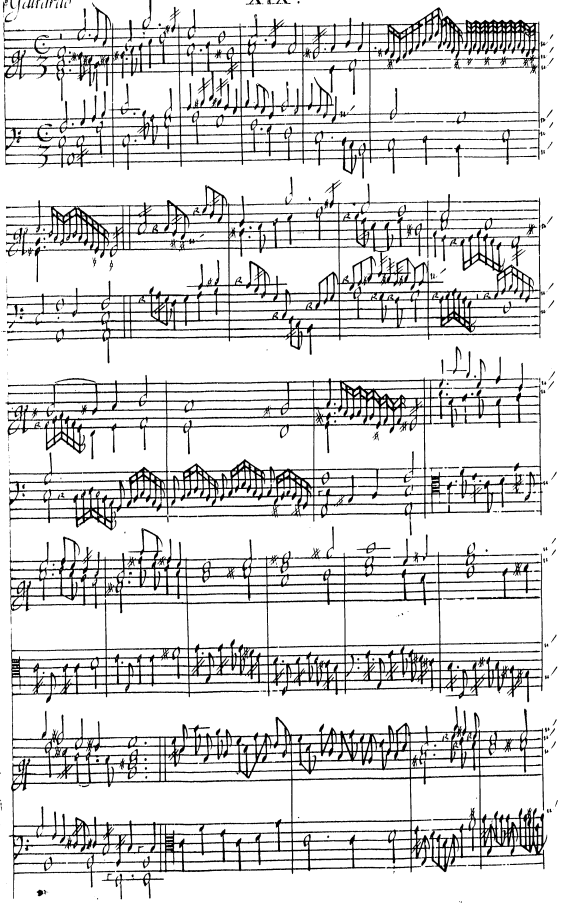

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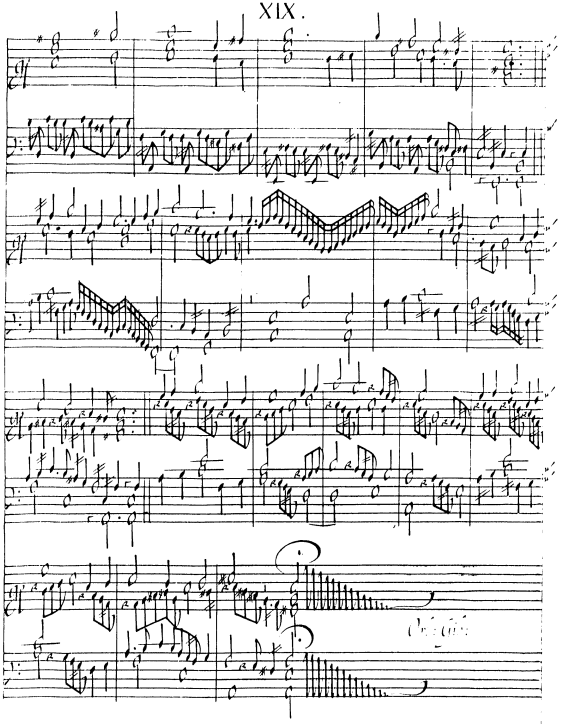

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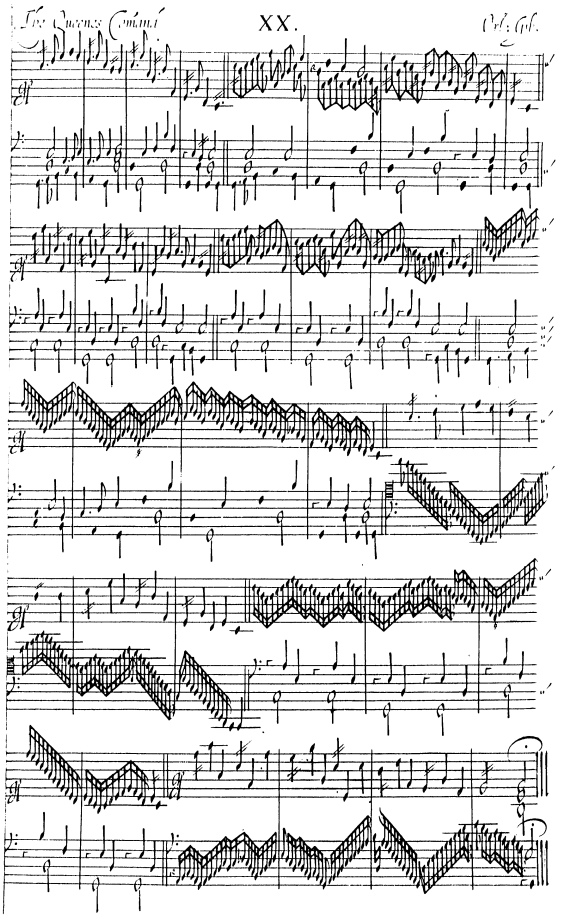

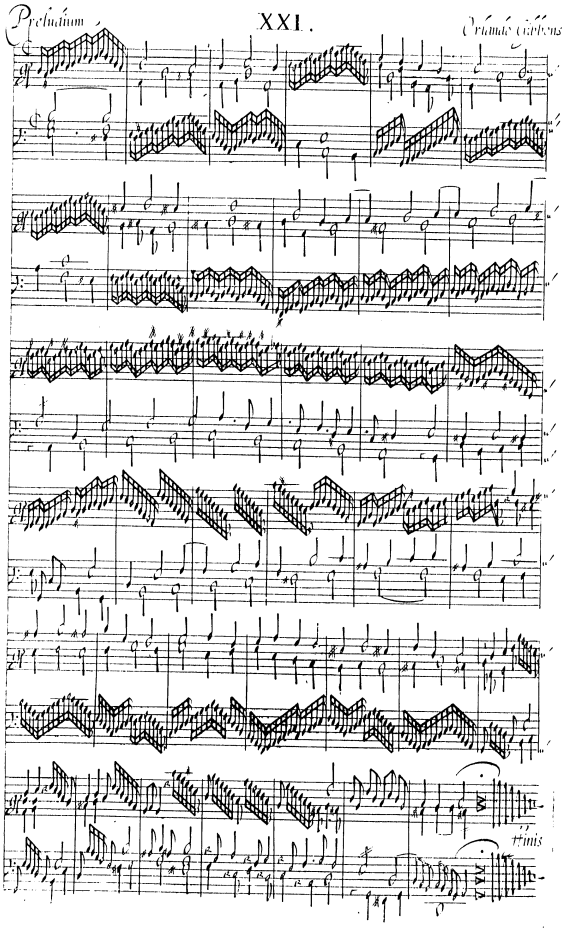
Preludium
XXI.
Orlando Gibbons
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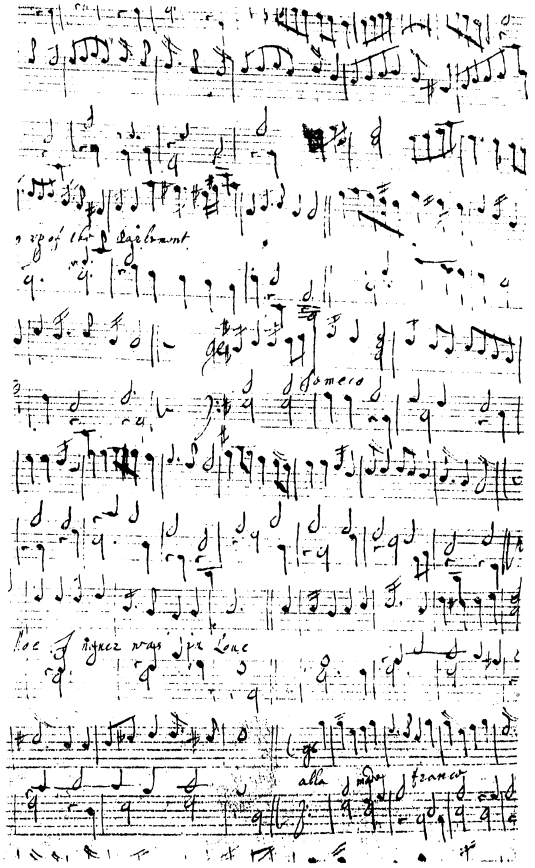

Verso of leaf pasted on back of dedicatory page of PARTHENIA (HN 14176)

The Gift of Mr. Wm. Plater
1769.

Parthenia

1613