The Oxen Minuet



The note C#, when marked 5 should be fingered like low C#, but with octave key. The note E# in measure 11 is fingered like F. A# in measure 13 is best played with the left index and the right middle fingers.

") Trills in measures 30 and 32 should be played:
Part IV Method.

More about trills on page 30 of the First Division

The Oxen Minuet

The story goes that Haydn was asked by the local butcher to write a piece for the wedding of his daughter. The honorarium was to be an oxen. Haydn responded with this Minuet, bubbling over with gay humor. The big jumps (measures 2 & 4, etc.) are original, and are to be played with some importance. Still remember that the piece is a dance – play it lightly. The breath mark in measure 27 is in parenthesis; breath here only if absolutely necessary. It is much better to take, at the previous double bar, a breath big enough to last to the next doublebar!

From his native Austria, Haydn's fame spread throughout Europe. In 1791 he was invited to England, where he was given, by the University of Oxford, an Honorary Doctors degree. Beethoven studied with him in 1793. Besides other works, Haydn composed 82 string quartettes and 104 symphonies.



When playing "Da Capo al Fine" (from capo, Italian for head) no repeats are taken.



