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33

4

(Mme Laffon.—Smythe.)

All' non troppo $\text{d} = 108$

PIANO.

Leggiero.

Xa-pō - to 'xεīv' tō στό - μα σο̄, Xa-pō - to 'xεīv' tō στό - μα
Quel lab - bro bel vorrei ba - ciar, quel lab - bro bel vorrei ba -

Cresc.

σο̄,
- ciar,

tō μοσ - χο - μν - ρω - δά -
che si di mus.chio o-do -

Cresc.

- to, tō μοσ - χο - μν - ρω - δά - - to.
- ra, che si di mus.chio o-do - - ra.

Dimin.

Translation:

I wish I could hang from your lips, which are scented with musk, and which have caused me, without regret, to lose my reason!

Regardless of the scales [*gammes*] whose starting point and composition of intervals varied in each of the seven modes, the Ancients had a notion of fixed scales to which they gave the name of *system*. Among these various systems, we should note the *greater perfect system* (also known as *disjoint*) and the *lesser perfect system* (also known as *conjoint*)

The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is labeled "SYSTÈME DISJOINT." and "Ton disjonctif." It consists of two separate tetrachords: one from C to G (fa) and another from G to D (sol). The bottom staff is labeled "SYSTÈME CONJOINT." and "Ton disjonctif." It shows a single continuous scale from C to D, where the second tetrachord (G to D) begins on the fifth note of the first (C to G).

We can see how these two systems differed. In the *conjoined system*, the upper tetrachord [1] onto the *la*, the last note of the preceding tetrachord. In the *disjoint system*, the two tetracords placed in the centre of the scale were separated (disjoined) [2] by an interval of a tone: *la* to *si*.

The scale which united at the same time the two characteristic tetrachords of the joint system and of the disjoint system was called the *immutable* [or *unmodulating*] system.

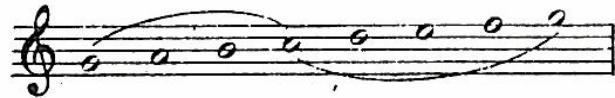
The image shows a musical staff labeled "SYSTÈME IMMUBLE." It features a continuous scale from C to D. The scale is divided into two tetrachords: "Tétracorde conjoint." (from C to G) and "Tétracorde disjoint." (from G to D). The note G is labeled "Ton disjonctif." indicating it is a disjoined note.

The coexistence of these two tetrachords on the same instrument made it possible to use alternately in the same tune the *si natural* and the *si flat*. We find an example of this in Song No. 4.

The first phrase of this melody presents an application of the *conjoint system*; in this phrase *fa* is the tonic of a *hypolydian* scale whose fourth degree *si* is flattened.



In the second phrase we have the *disjoint system* with *si* natural. The melody changes both *mode* and *tone*. The note *F* which previously played the role of tonic becomes the seventh degree of a scale based on the dominant *sol* and having for tonic *ut*. It is the *major scale reversed*. or, if you like, the *Lydian scale with si flat*, transposed to the upper fifth.



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1. See Mr Gevaert's book *histoire et théorie de la musique de l'antiquité*
 2. In ancient times, the term tetrachord was given to the fourth of the first species, having a flattened half tone.

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