

I.

Stringed Instruments.

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b. Viols, Violins, &c.

VIOLS.

LIRA DA BRACCIO, Italian. By Joan Maria. *VENICE.* [1540.]  
*Messrs. W. E. Hill & Sons.*

Joan Maria, of Brescia, worked at Venice and made this unique specimen in that city. In its original state. Strung with seven strings: the two bass strings not in contact with the fingerboard.

The Lira da Braccio, one of the earliest instruments of the violin family, is referred to by Prætorius and by Zanconnis, but not by other early writers on music. This instrument, and the important part it played in the development of the violin, is the subject of an instructive monograph by Major Hajdecki, published at Mostar in 1892.

VIOL, Italian. By Gasparo da Salò (Gasparo Bertolotti).  
*BRESCIA.* [1565.]  
*Mr. F. Pingrié.*

A unique example, showing the development towards the violin form. The outline is to some extent of guitar pattern, with only two upper corners. Unfortunately the original head is missing, so that it is not wholly possible to determine how the instrument was strung, probably with six strings.

VIOL, Treble, English, six strings. *LONDON.* 1609.  
*The Earl of Wemyss.*  
The maker's name on the label in the instrument is undecipherable.

VIOL, Treble, English, six strings. By Henrie Jay, Southwarke.  
*LONDON.* 1632.  
*Rev. F. W. Galpin.*