

A Kalmus Classic Edition

Giacchino

ROSSINI

WILLIAM TELL

An Opera in Four Acts

for Soli, Chorus, and Orchestra

With English and French text

VOCAL SCORE

K06393



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GUILLAUME TELL.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

WILLIAM TELL	}	{	Baritone.
ARNOLD		(Swiss Patriots)			...		Tenor.
WALTER FÜRST					...		Bass.
MELCTHAL (Arnold's Father)		...	...		...		Bass.
GESLER (Governor of Schwitz and Uri)		...	...		...		Bass.
RUDOLPH (Captain of Gesler's bodyguard)		...	...		...		Tenor.
RUODI (a Fisherman)		...	...		...		Tenor.
LEUTHOLD (a Shepherd)		...	...		...		Bass.
MATILDA (a Princess of the house of Hapsburg)		...	...		...		Soprano.
HEDWIGA (Tell's wife)		...	...		...		Mezzo Soprano.
JEMMY (Tell's Son)		...	...		...		Soprano.

Chorus of Peasants of the three Cantons; Knights, Pages, and Ladies of the train of Matilda; Hunters, Soldiers and Guards of Gesler. Three Brides and their Bridegrooms.

THE liberation of the Swiss Cantons from the Austrian yoke, through the patriotism of William Tell, forms the basis of the Opera. Gesler, the stern and cruel Governor of the Provinces, has a sister, named Matilda, who is beloved by Arnold, the son of the patriarch of the country, Melcthal. An agent of Gesler having offered an insult to the daughter of Leuthold, a herdsman, is killed by her father, who, compelled to escape by crossing the lake, is ferried over by William Tell, a bold mountaineer, who has long cherished the design of freeing his countrymen from the tyranny of the Austrians. The disaffection of the people spreading, Melcthal, who is suspected of inciting them to insubordination, is executed, by the order of Gesler; and this act makes Arnold at once renounce his love for Matilda and join the band of patriots under William Tell. At a festival, Gesler orders the people to bow before his hat, which is elevated on a pole. Tell, refusing to do this, is arrested with his son Jemmy; but the tyrant agrees to spare the life of his son on condition that Tell, who is well known as a skilled archer, can shoot an apple placed on the boy's head. Although the distance is considerable, Tell accomplishes the feat; but dropping an arrow, confesses that he intended it for Gesler, had he failed. The Governor, on hearing this, orders Tell to be thrown into a dungeon, from which however he escapes, and again stirring up his countrymen to revolt, Gesler is killed by an arrow from Tell. The Opera concludes with the union of Matilda and Arnold.

Explanation of the Abbreviations.

<i>Vi.</i>	...	...	...	...	Violins.
<i>Tnr.</i>	...	...	...	...	Tenors.
<i>Cello.</i>	...	...	...	...	Violoncellos.
<i>D. Bass</i>	...	...	...	...	Double Basses.
<i>Str.</i>	...	...	...	...	Stringed Instruments.
<i>Picc.</i>	...	...	...	...	Piccolo.
<i>Fl.</i>	...	...	...	...	Flutes.
<i>Ob.</i>	...	...	...	...	Oboes.
<i>Cl.</i>	...	...	...	...	Clarionets.
<i>Cor. Ingl.</i>	...	...	...	...	Corno Inglese.
<i>Bsn.</i>	...	...	...	...	Bassoons.
<i>Hns.</i>	...	...	...	...	Horns.
<i>Tpts.</i>	...	...	...	...	Trumpets.
<i>Tromb.</i>	...	...	...	...	Trombones.
<i>K. Dr.</i>	...	...	...	...	Kettle Drums.
<i>Hp.</i>	...	...	...	...	Harp.

