



CHAPTER XII

THE NERVES AND VIOLIN PLAYING

Having touched on the numerous other qualifications—both psychological and physiological—which go to make up the apparatus perfectly adapted for learning to play the violin properly and well, I must not fail to speak of the important part played by the nerves and the nervous condition of young students—and even of great violinists on the concert-stage—as affecting their activities in their chosen field. The importance of the violinist's nervous condition may be gathered from the fact that when it is unsatisfactory, it oftentimes opposes an insurmountable barrier to his success as a virtuoso.

My own opinion is that there exists no remedy, either hypnotic or medical, which is capable of curing or even temporarily paralyzing the effect of that form of nervousness known as "stage-fright" in those who are subject to it.