Savile Clarke Alice Productions Articles

A preliminary listing of the different editions and printings of Walter Slaughter's Piano and Vocal Score.

All known editions/printings are Quarto, soft cover (sometimes missing), with title page, contents page and 99 numbered pages of printed music.

First Edition December 1906

Cover: drawn by "PH." Black and white on a sepia background. Depicts Alice holding the pig baby in the centre, with other characters on either side of her.

Price: 3/-.

Date: Copyright MCMVI by Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew Ltd.

Evidence

Of the eight copies identified so far, six (and no other versions) can be assigned dates 1906-1909.

Copyright Libraries have acquisition dates as follows:

British Library (Shelfmark F.158.k.(3)): 24 December 1906.

Cambridge University Library (B108.1907): 22 March 1907.

Weston Library (part of the Bodleian Library, Oxford) (Mus. 24.d.493): 28 March 1907.

Library of Congress, Washington (M1995 S627): 24 December 1906.

(The National Library of Scotland copy, of which the contents were held by the Advocates Library prior to 1925, is stamped "Advocates Library" but is otherwise undated.)

Note that at the time the piano score was first published, it was usual practice to stamp each copy of a score to show that it had been counted for payment of royalties due (the composer or other copyright holder receiving a set payment from the publisher 'per stamp'). Thus, copies deposited in copyright libraries lack a stamp (in addition to others which have been overlooked.)

Other holdings can be dated as follows:

Boston Public Library (BROWN M.417.30): acquisition by the library was reported in the *Boston Evening Transcript* May 1909.

Jon A. Lindseth Collection, Christ Church, Oxford (rebound but identified by the price of 3/- on the title page): includes an inlaid photograph inscribed by "Little Ivy Sawyer" who played Alice. Although she played Alice five times between 1909 and 1915 and the photograph is not dated, she appears to be the same age (12 years) as other photographs published in association with the December 1909 revival. (By 1911 she is 14 and clearly looks more mature than the inlaid photograph.) It is also notable that 1909 was the only production when she was billed as "Little Ivy Sawyer". From 1910, she was "Miss Ivy Sawyer".

Second Edition believed to be December 1910

Cover: drawn by "W. George" in full colour. Depicts Alice peeping from behind a tree at a group of other characters.

Price: 2/6.

Date: Copyright MCMVI by Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew Ltd.

Evidence

A series of advertisements appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* newspaper in December 1910 for a "dainty new edition" priced 2/6.

This advertisement, together with the new cover and the change in price, suggests that this version was published later than the 3/- version, rather than simultaneously.

(No copies marked with an acquisition date have so far been identified.)

This edition was on sale long enough for copies to be marked up to 3/6.

Third Edition (Likely post-WW1)

Cover: drawn by "W. George" in full colour. Depicts Alice peeping from behind a tree at a group of other characters.

Price: 6/-.

Date: Copyright MCMVI by Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew Ltd.

Evidence

A copy in New York Public Library has an acquisition date-stamp of 1928, although it may have been purchased earlier.

The substantial price increase suggests that it is post-war.

Fourth Edition 1934

Cover: drawn by "W. George" in full colour. Depicts Alice peeping from behind a tree at a group of other characters.

Price: 6/-.

Date: Copyright MCMVI by Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew Ltd. Copyright renewed 1934 by Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew Ltd.

Evidence

The printed copyright dates.

This edition was on sale long enough for copies to be marked up to 8/-.

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