



JOSEPH JOACHIM AT TWELVE YEARS OF AGE.  
From a pencil drawing by Frau Moritz Hauptmann.

## JOSEPH JOACHIM

BY

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**I**F we ask what musician has exercised the most important influence upon the development of musical delivery during the nineteenth century, the first name that springs to the lips is that of Joseph Joachim. Paganini, the famous sorcerer of violin-playing, was the most sensational of all virtuosi; Liszt, the cosmopolitan fire-spirit of the piano, the most universal; but the fame of being the deepest and most clarified of all artists belongs to Joachim. His artistic being is rooted in the principle that to render the master-works of our musical literature in the utmost possible perfection, is the best way to help others. This rather than a selfish virtuosity he made his aim. For more than half a century Joachim has pre-

served unbroken fidelity to his lofty ideal; by teaching and example he has not only supplied his contemporaries with a practical artistic conception of our masterpieces, before unknown; but he has been careful that coming generations shall feel the influence of his labors, so rich in blessing.

Born June 28, 1831, in Kittsee, in the neighborhood of Presburg, the old coronation city, Joachim came to Prague as a little child to enjoy the instruction of the concert-master Serwaczynski. His progress was so rapid that he made his début in a concert in the "Adels-kasino" on March 17, 1839.

This début led to a friendship with Count Franz von Brunswick, whose sister Therese played such a striking rôle in the life of

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