BORODINE.—String Quartet in D, Nocturne. (a) Lener String Quartet, (Col. L.1512) (b) Flonzaley String Quartet H.M.V. (removed from catalogue). An entrancing melody that anybody could enjoy.

BRAHMS.—String Quartet in C minor, Op. 51, No. 1. Allegro, Romance, (poco adagio), Allegretto molto moderato, Finale. (a) Catterall String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.971-4). The first completely recorded string quartet. (b) Flonzaley String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.253) Allegretto only. Certainly the best thing that the Catterall Quartet has done. A neophyte of chamber music is not advised to begin with this quartet, but those who know and appreciate Brahms will not find themselves let down by these records.


BRIDGE, FRANK.—Phantaisie Quartet. Allegro moderato and Finale. The English String Quartet, (Col. 946). This music does not appeal to me. I am incapable of appreciating its technique and so find it dull and devalised.

DEBUSSY.—String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10, (a) Spencer Dyke String Quartet, (N.G.S. 1924), (b) Abkov String Quartet, (World 409). Andante only.—(a) London String Quartet, (Col. D.1004), (b) Lener String Quartet, (Col. L.1530), (c) Catterall String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.651), (d) Dutch String Quartet, (Actuelle, 15171). The ‘Andante’ is one of the most popular of all snippets, but the rest of the quartet is not a whiff less attractive. The Spencer Dyke Quartet gives a very fine performance, and the recording is splendid.


String Quartet in G major. Andante. Elman String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.B.238). The Allegro is dull, but the ‘Andante’ is a good, rich tone, and I strongly recommend it to a beginner.

DVOŘÁK.—String Quartet in F, Op. 96 (Nigger Quartet). Abkov String Quartet, (World 415-6) Lento only. (a) Lener String Quartet, (Col. L.1465), (b) Flonzaley String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.B.658), (c) Grete Eweeler Quartet, (Parlo. E.10218). Lento and Scherzo. New York String Quartet (Brinklow 25015). I recommend the Parlophone snippet, which is complete. This is another rich tone, the third movement reminds me in parts of the ballad, ‘Twickenham Ferry’.

GLAZOUNOV.—Novellæ, Op. 15, No. 2. Orientale, No. 5. Alla ungherese. English String Quartet, (Col. 940). No. 3, Interludium, in modo antico. Fzonzaley String Quartet, (H.M.V. D.B.251), No. 4. Valse. Virtuoso String Quartet, (H.M.V. 868). Much the loveliest of these Novellæ is the Interludium, marvellously played by the Fzonzaley Quartet. The Valse is pleasant; it forms the last side of the complete Tchaikovsky quartet.


HAYDN.—String Quartet in B flat, Op. 64, No. 3. Vivace assai. Adagio, Menuetto, Allegretto con spirito (Finale). London String Quartet, (Voc. D.02920, 02939). Beautifully played and the beginner might do worse than invest in this as his first move or less complete quartet.