Authenticity problems in Herman Bönicke's Violoncell – Schule

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Abstract: In 2010 - amongst other old scores - a cello tutorial entitled, Violoncell-Schule, signed by H. Bönicke, was discovered in the archive of the Black Church in Brasov by the actual cantor of this, Steffen Schlandt. While the document might have provided valuable evidence of musical pedagogy in nineteenth-century Transylvania, unfortunately the work is not an original, but a copy after The Violoncello Method by Friedrich Dotzauer, a freat cellist and pedagogue, founder of the Dresden Cello School. However, its discovery proves that Transylvanian cellists of this era were well informed of Western cello technique.

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