The tongue and fingers are the principal means by which the sustained tone is broken up into metrical and rhythmic patterns. Each should have special attention. In the following scale studies the tongue is first given the task, then the fingers, and then the two are combined. A metronome should be used, starting with a slow setting and gradually increasing the speed. After the study can be played with ease the metronome should be dispensed with. A great deal of benefit will be derived from studying the patterns away from the instrument. The student should master the technique of the unequal foot beat. Practice 5/8 meter first in the 3 plus 2 organization, clapping equal eighth notes, and beating the foot for a group of 3 eighths and a group of 2 eighths alternately. Then practice the 2 plus 3 pattern in the same way. Then go on to 7/8 in the various patterns: 3 plus 2 plus 2; 2 plus 3 plus 2; and 2 plus 2 plus 3. Practice other rhythms in a similar manner. Play all studies an octave higher as required.

