

NOVELLO'S ORGAN MUSIC CLUB No. I2

TWO PIECES HENRY COLEMAN

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HENRY COLEMAN

TWO PIECES

VARIATIONS ON A BASS TOCCATA IN THE FRENCH STYLE

FOR ORGAN



AND COMPANY LIMITED 160 WARDOUR STREET LONDON W.1

COMPOSER'S NOTE

Variation Form, with its many repetitions of the subject tends to produce an effect of monotony, even in such a work as the great Passacaglia of Bach. The surest way of maintaining the interest of the listener is by keeping the *tempo* alive always, and ensuring that after any *rallentando* the pace is at once restored.

In these variations, the subject is merely a descending Melodic minor scale. The form of the work is perhaps unusual; instead of being continuous, it is divided into three sections, of which the middle one constitutes a contrasting 'slow movement'. By this means, variety can be obtained even on a small two-manual organ with but a few stops upon which to ring the changes.

If desired, either the first or third sections may be played alone, the subject being announced first of course in each case.

In Variations 5, 6, 7, 13 and 14, the subject appears ornamented; in 9, 10 and 11, it is treated chromatically; and in the Coda (Var. 16), it is played by the left hand against a tonic Pedal.

Note that in the first and third sections (Var. 1-7 and 12-end) the interest is cumulative, while the middle section may be taken more slowly. The original *tempo* must be restored for the third section.

The direction at the beginning, *Con moto*, means that even the statement of the theme must suggest movement, and normally each variation should pass smoothly into the next.

The tempo of the Toccata should be noted (Allegretto, two-in-abar) and conceived as if the piece were being played on the piano. The religioso alla harmonium style should be avoided.

Eastbourne, February 1958

H.C.

To Patrick Williams

TWO PIECES

HENRY COLEMAN

I VARIATIONS ON A BASS







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II TOCCATA IN THE FRENCH STYLE







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