CHORAL HYMNS

8044.135

260

FROM THE

RIG VEDA

BY

GUSTAV T. HOLST.

FIRST GROUP.

- 1. Battle Hymn.
- 2. Hymn to the Unknown God.
- 3. Funeral Hymn.

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Also published in Tonic Sol-fa PRICE 89 NET. Price 1/4 net

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II. TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

4:45



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Note. The normal division of each bar is four crotchets followed by three. When the three beats come first 3-4 is written at the commencement of the bar.

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16 2. 70 0 70 6 60 The path on which no other God may tread, This mound we raise doth part us from the dead. . 40 50 D. f 100 The path on which no other God may tread, This mound we raise doth partus from the dead. cresc. 17 :0 50 1 20 doth part from dead. This mound we raise us the cresc. 20 3 doth from the dead. This mound we raise part us 20 ... £ 🛎 be ų, ₫. Molto maestoso. 0.173-4. Ð 70 Ď 6 our chant. May He ac-cept our sa - cri-fice Now may the great Or - dain - er hear and ff D . p Now may the great Or - dain chant, er hear our May He ac-cept our sa - cri-fice and Now may the great Or-dain - er chant, May He ac-cept our sa - cri-fice and hear our 6 N 1 hear May He ac-cept our sa - cri-fice Now may the great Or-dain - er our chant, and Molto maestoso. Lento. 3 - 4a 0 . That in due course each treads th' eter-nal way, As through the a - ges day doth fol - low grant _ . grant That in due course each treads th' eter-nal way, As through the - ges day doth fol - low a Đ . a - ges day doth fol - low That in due course each treads th' eter-nal way, As through the grant 72 Ø grant a - ges day doth fol - low That in due course each treads th' eter-nal way, As through the Lento. B 1 10 6 # (Cride) S.& B. Ltd. 1002























CHORAL HYMNS FROM THE RIG-VEDA

Words and Music by

GUSTAV T. HOLST

Op. 26

FIRST GROUP

Three Hymns for Full Chorus and Orchestra Vocal Score, 1/4 Tonic Sol-fa, 8d.

SECOND GROUP

Three Hymns for Female Voices, with Accompaniment for Orchestra or Piano with Violins ad lib.

Vocal Score, 1/4

THIRD GROUP

Four Hymns for Female Voices, with Accompaniment for Harp or Piano Vocal Score, 1/4

FOURTH GROUP

Four Hymns for Male Voices, with Accompaniment for Piano or String Orchestra with Brass ad lib.

Vocal Score, 1/4

"It is fortunate that the treasure mine of Sanskrit literature has remained untouched until a musician presented himself who was not only a talented composer, but endowed with adaptable sympathies and the patience to apply them to a new study. Such is Gustav. T. Holst.

"The hymns of the Rig-Veda consist for the most part of simple invocations of fire, water, heaven, the sun, and other forces of nature, incidental to the earlier, less sophisticated, form of religion.

"This is the material which attracted Mr. T. Holst. It was not long before he decided that to approach it through the medium of translations was hopeless. The more faithful the translation was, the more remote it seemed from reproducing the atmosphere of the original. Sometimes even it needed much ingenuity to decide what the translation meant. By this time, however, Mr. T. Holst was so fired by enthusiasm that difficulties only spurred him on, and he set to work to study Sanskrit.

"The texts he now uses are his own. They should, however, not be regarded as translations in the usual sense. His method has been first to study the original so closely as to be completely saturated with jt, then to throw it aside and reproduce its meaning in the clearest possible terms."

EDWIN EVANS in The Blackburn Times.

" If Mr. T. Holst had never written anything except this collection of hymns, they alone would suffice to stamp him as one of the most individual figures in contemporary musical life."

EDGAR BAINTON in Musical Opinion.

LONDON: STAINER & BELL, LTD., 58, BERNERS STREET, W.1.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS

FIRST GROUP.

The pattle Hymn is a vigorous piece of work in which the use of quasi-Oriental colouring is sufficiently consistent to give thoroughly sincere expression to the words. There is original beauty in the 'Hymn to the Unknown God,' especially in the Refrain, 'Who is He? How shall we name Him when we offer sacrifice?' The Funeral Hymn is more massive in style."-Times.

"Of his uncommon ability he has given us proof before now, and there can be no questioning the cleverness, power, and imagination revealed in the work."—Daily Telegraph.

"By far the best of the new works was Mr. Gustav T. Holst's group of Rig-Veda Hymns, especially the 'Hymn to the Unknown God.' The design of the piece was simple, from a pianissimo to a very striking climax, and down again ; while at intervals a quaint effect of little bell-like sounds was heard.

"No one has done Oriental music better than Mr. T. Holst--that is to say, he has freed himself from the customary devices, and seems to have been able to express himself quite naturally in a musical phraseology eminently suitable to the fine texts."-Pall Mall Gazette.

"The Funeral Hymn especially is beautiful, and rises to very impressive climaxes. In this and in the 'Hymn to the Unknown God' the orchestration is very imaginative. The effect of little bells and flowing phrases in the bass in the latter is weird, and suggests a superstitious mystery."-Star.

"Reveals a very vivid sense of colour and a command of convincing atmosphere."

Morning Post.

"The Funeral Hymn is a really noble piece of massive choral writing, far removed from hackneyed conventionality."-Birmingham Post.

"The music is warm with feeling, strong in character, and most effective in structure."

Manchester Guardian.

SECOND GROUP.

Mr. T. Holst's second group of choral hymns from the Rig-Veda, for female voices and orchestra, were among the most interesting things in the programme. All three are delicate and thoughtful pieces of work, and each has distinct characteristics of its own."--Times.

"Of the novelties, Mr. Gustav T. Holst's choral hymns proved by far the freshest and most spontaneous in thought and treatment."-Standard.

"Effective, restrained, and original; and although modern, the restrained simplicity of the choral treatment allowed the choir to get the maximum of effect with the minimum of means."

Observer.

"All three are very freshly felt and thoughtful, picturesque in their colour, and bold but effective in their vocal writing; but the deepest impression was made by the second 'To Agni,' a vigorous and vivid piece of impressionism."—Sunday Times.

"Their originality is, as usual with Mr. T. Holat's work, controlled by refinement and musicianshort"-Musical Times.

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