

## Acknowledgements

I wish to thank the staffs of the following libraries and repositories: the British Museum and the Public Record Office, London; the University Library, the Central Public Library (and especially the Henry Watson Music Library) and the library of Chetham's School, Manchester; and the Bodleian Library, Oxford. I wish especially to thank the staff of the John Rylands Library, Manchester, and Mr Arthur D. Walker, librarian of the Department of Music, Manchester University.

I wish also to acknowledge the help of the following correspondents, who kindly answered queries and sent references: Dr Richard Axton, Mr John H. Harvey, Mr Lyndesay G. Langwill, Mr R.E. Latham, of the Public Record Office, Dr E.D. Mackerness, Mr Arthur Oswald, Mr David Roseveare, Mr Denis Stevens, and Mrs Joan Varley, Lincolnshire County Archivist. My thanks are due to the Town Clerk of Warwick (Mr H.B. Dolphin), the County Archivist at Warwick (Mr Anthony Wood), and the Librarian of the University Library, Manchester (Dr F.W. Ratcliffe), for making available to me a microfilm of the Beauchamp Household Book.

I am greatly indebted to Dr John Stevens for his illuminating criticisms of my work; also to Dr John Bergsagel for a number of references and suggestions.

Mr Ian Bent and Dr Brian Trowell had both collected a large [xv] quantity of relevant material in the course of their own researches, and this they very generously handed over to me for my own use: I am also indebted to them for passing on many other references at various times, and for drawing my attention to much material that I might otherwise have missed. The subject of this thesis was originally the suggestion of Mr and Mrs Bent, and I am grateful for the many ways in which they have continued their interest in it.

In the preparation and checking of my final typescript I have been greatly assisted by Mrs Irene McEwan: for the final copies, some of my debt to my typist, Mrs Patricia Simpson – but by no means all of it – will be apparent to those who read this thesis. My debt to both of them is willingly acknowledged.

Finally, my special thanks are due to my supervisors, Professor H.F. Redlich and Dr Gerald Hendrie. They have been content to let me shape this work as I thought best, yet their criticisms and suggestions have always been available and have always proved stimulating. The task of laying out one's first large work is a daunting one, and I am grateful for their sympathetic guidance. If there are good things in this thesis, it is often due to them: the faults are mine.