

TEL:
WESTERN 8395.

Jan. 7th '42.

17. PALACE GATE,
W. 8.

Will you send me
 a line if you
 get this letter
 E. 10/13
 29

My dear Albert

The day I got your letter
 I wrote to trace up the address
 of Peter Davies, now in the army
 who is co-liternary trustee with
 dad, Cynthia Asplund for Peter's
 works. But dad, Cynthia has
 the sole rights on the play.
 as soon as I got Peter Davies'
 address I wrote to him &
 asked him, if he agreed to your
 request, to put it in the most
 favourable light to dad, Cynthia
 & today I have received her
 reply which I enclose & which
 is all you could wish - I am
 so glad that you will now
 be able to go ahead with
 the orchestration & I wish
 were within reach to hear
 it! In order that you should
 get the permission & address

of the agent I am going to
send you another copy
in a few days - do if the
original should get lost
as many letters I do in these
dreadful days there will be
a chance of the copy getting
to you. I have been more or
less of an invalid ever since
you saw me, from the after
effects of the shingles on my head
& in my eye - do last summer
I decided to consult Mr. Norman
& Dott a world famous head &
spine surgeon, in Edinburgh &
he operated very successfully as
regards the original pain. The
operation took five or a half hour
he took away the 5th nerve - (the big
one that runs down one side
of the face) & several branches on
the top of my head. He said he
could not make a complete
cure as some of the nerves affected
were too near the brain but
he has done wonders of the pain
that is left is only in spasms
& not perpetual as it was.

2.

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My face is nearly straight again but I am told it will take about another six months before I quite get over the operation. I was in London, most of the time of the bad air raids & we were surrounded with bombs & land mines beside 2 bombers being brought down in this district but this house escaped with nothing but broken windows. It is nice & quiet in London now I only hope it lasts. Nothing but inferior orchestral playing & conducting - do there is no temptation to go to concerts. I live very quietly but have a few friends left in London & my dog "Wald" who is getting old. He didn't mind the air raids at all. I hope for

will not get raids in Los Angeles.
It would be most distracting
to orchestration! Your garden
looks most attractive & I am
glad you have it & the sunshine
after your illnesses -
I did go yesterday to the lunch
time concert at the Nat. Gallery &
hear my friend Marina Semina play
Kodaly's Sonata for Violin cello op. 8
unaccompanied. Do you know it?
I should think it was the most
difficult sonata or even concerto ever
written for the cello - It was beyond
my grasp at a first hearing but
it fascinated me all the same &
I believe one could like it on
further acquaintance -
Your description of the scene in
the "Boz David" - You made one
both hear & see it - as Barrie
said of you the day you met
him at tea - "He has a great
~~scene~~ ^{scene} of the theatre." Please
forgive a stupid letter but I
don't want to grin a day in
sending you Lady Cynthia's card.
(She was Barrie's secretary) & it is
very cold & foggy which makes
me feel very stupid - My love
& best wishes for "42" & above all for
the "Boz's" success - Yours affly
Esther M Blackburn.