

16 Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham  
31 October 1887 England

Dear Sir: I am writing in the name of the  
Committee or Managers of the Birmingham  
Musical Festival to ask you to compose an  
Orchestral work (probably a Symphony)  
to be performed for the first time at their  
celebration at the end of August 1888,  
and to come over to conduct it yourself  
this will enable you to see that everything  
is done to ensure a fine performance of  
your work. From the Programme of the  
Birmingham Festival which I sent you  
in 1885 and my letters <sup>in August 1884</sup> at that time  
you will have realized how celebrated  
a Festival that at Birmingham is; held  
once in three years and attended by  
about 12,000 people, many of them of  
the first musical talent in Great Britain,  
and this it is which has caused so many  
leading composers to desire to produce  
their works here; amongst them I may  
mention Mendelssohn, Ferdinand Hiller

Sir de Costa, Sir Julius Benedict, Sir A  
Sullivan, Sir W. Stendale Bennett,  
Niels Gade - many & much to many others.

The Committee will be pleased to  
pay your travelling expenses and  
the costs you may incur in connection  
with copying the 3 and parts.

Pressing the favour of a reply at  
your convenience

Believe me Dear Sir.

Yours obed<sup>t</sup>

Charles Harding

Henr Edward Grieg

Bergen.