

6. Cork Street,
Burlington Gardens,
London, W.

September 30th. 02.

Dear Doctor Grieg,

You will, I have no doubt, be very surprised at the long delay of my replying to your letter, but at the same time, I think you will be sorry to hear that a very serious illness has been the cause of my silence.

I have been away for the last six weeks, and unable to attend to business matters of any kind, but now I am glad to say, I am almost myself again, and take the earliest opportunity of writing to you.

I have no influence that I can use to bring about the co-operation of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society as I suggested to you, and I fear so far as they are concerned, the idea must be abandoned.

In the case of Mr. Riseky, arrangements could, I have no doubt, be made for him to bring his Bristol Choir to London, with the assistance of a good London Orchestra, but the expenses attending this, would be more than the possible financial success of the Concert would justify incurring.

I am afraid, therefore, with this difficulty in view, I must give up the idea of a Choral and Orchestral

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Concert. There would also be great difficulty about Rehearsals, as the Choir could not arrive here until the day of the Concert, on account of the members being all ^{they} business people residing and engaged in Bristol, and could only run up to London for the afternoon as they did in the case of Madame Albani's Concert. This, therefore, would preclude the possibility of their assisting at more than one Rehearsal, which would have to be on the day of the Concert, and also in regard to the Orchestra, it is usual for them to have only one Rehearsal, any extra ones beyond that number have to be paid for, which comes to a very heavy item and would, I think, in the present case, be impossible for me to meet.

I think it only right to point out these difficulties to you, and as you see, I fear they are all insurmountable.

In place of a Concert on the scale mentioned, would you be satisfied to give a Quartet Concert at St. James Hall, with the co-operation of Mr. Wolff and three other instrumentalists to be proposed to you, and who I think would meet with

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your approval. In this case, I should be pleased to close the engagement with you on the terms I have named in my previous letter for six appearances, to take place between the dates already named.

This would make, one Quartet Concert at St. James Hall, One Pianoforte with a Vocalist for a second occasion at St. James Hall, and the other four appearances to be devoted to a Recital with Vocal assistance at each of the following towns, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Brighton.

With regard to Manchester, I have spoken to Mr. Wolff, and he says that he would be very pleased indeed for you to have the assistance of Mr. Drodsky at the proposed Manchester Concert and leave the remaining five Concerts for himself (Mr. Wolff) to co-operate with you.

I am sorry to have seen by the papers a few days ago, that the state of your health precludes the possibility

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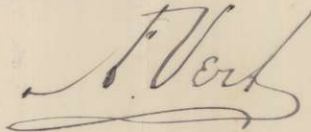
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of your carrying out your engagement at the approaching
Bristol Festival. It will be a great disappointment to
them I fear, and all I can wish you is a speedy and
permanent return to health. Will you kindly think over
the proposal I am making you in this letter, and let me know
at your earliest convenience, if you can see your way to
entertain the same.

With best compliments, to Madame Grieg and
yourself,

Yours very sincerely,



Doctor Grieg.

Norway.