

Letter from Edward Dent to Lawrence Haward, in which he refers to Rupert Brooke as 'Prince Rupert'

*King's College, Cambridge. The Papers of Edward Joseph Dent. EJD/4/111/10/5*

‘(181)

4, BELVEDERE TERRACE,  
PANTON STREET,  
CAMBRIDGE.

4 June 1908

My dear Lawrence

This may reach you by a late post, but I had no opportunity of writing before- In the afternoon I went to Mrs Jenkinson's 'Handel Festival'- one of her little afternoon recitals of old clavier music- Handel this time, assisted by the inevitable Mrs Fletcher who sang rather indifferently . Also Miss Luard's sister sang- + got dreadfully sharp and mispronounced her

Italian. Almost as soon as we began the storm began, and there were fearful flashes of lightning close to the house; poor Mrs Jenkinson was in a great fright, but struggled through quite courageously for her. I went on to Newnham to hear Sabrina + the other nymph sing and recite. The lady who is to sing 'sweet Echo' is Miss (Edward) Arnold, so I had to keep the right side of her. She is a musician , but has not much voice and is terribly nervous: however I hope she will do. I got rather wet coming home; Davis came to dinner which was a delight + Mrs Fletcher + the 2 Miss Luards to coffee. At 8.30 CUMS: Vaughan Williams came and conducted the ... region. He is a dear creature but made us work and as the tenors were not quite strong enough made the basses sing

their long sustained top F with them. I was about dead at the end of it and then had to go and see Lyle. Cosmo was there and was quite amusing. I hear that I am viewed with suspicion by Prince Rupert (1) for having had Brierly to dinner (2) for having had Prince Rupert himself to dinner + scoffed at his conception of Comus. The fact is, we are all of us scoffing at poor Rupert, except Lyle, + possibly some others whom I don't know .

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Their laugh at me is that the discarded Brierly is going about Cambridge singing the praises of my hospitality- coupled with that of Mr Barwell, with whom he has been staying in London- I am afraid he is not old enough to see through that person.

Allegro pizz

Still I certainly did not play Mephistopheles in that case.

Please thank your father for sending me another bulletin- I am glad to hear that you are 'decidedly better'.

Arkwright has asked me to go to them for the Boxford festival on July 31. That is the occasion on which the brothers

Toze produce their pastoral plays : and Arkwright's place is about 8 miles off. I have left it rather open whether I go or not. I am never very keen about going to stay with people unless I know them very well. I find that the Comus actors are not

going to stay up rehearsing continuously from now till July 10 : as was at one time suggested : and they will not begin again till July 1 w[hi]ch I consider rather hurried. I might go to London for a short time, or possibly come to Ribston- but I think really I would rather stay here. However I will try + come + see you when you are well enough to receive visitors.

Yours  
EJ Dent