

H.J.N. 19347.

3 Drury Street

Portland Place

London. W.

Jan 2nd 1888.

Dear Sir

It is long since I wrote
to you. For the last six
weeks I have been trying
to arrange for the production
of your comedy: but I am
sorry to say I have not been
at all successful. I have
been to three managers; they
all like the piece very much
but think it is not strong

enough

to be successful in England.

Of late years most pieces
of the kind have failed, and
the successful pieces have
been for the most part
more farcical and "bustling."

In England it is the
custom to produce pieces
with such large ^{a play} "mile in
scene" that ~~the~~ ^{it} has to do
more than merely succeed.
It has to be strong enough
to draw good houses for at
least 3 months in order to
recoup the management.

In consequence of this man-
ager will not produce a
play unless they feel morally
certain of its success.



I have also read your
comedy to several of my
friends — actors — whose
opinions I value. They all
pronounce it a most charming
piece and one that ought
to succeed but they say they
think it is too thin to please
our audiences. I have only
found one person — an actress —
who thinks as highly of it as I do.

There is only one course to be
taken: and this is to
produce the piece myself
at a theatre in London.

This is of course an expen-
sive undertaking - it would
cost me about £100.

But I have sufficient belief
in your courtesy to do this.
If the piece fails that's an
end of it, but if it succeeds
I get my money back over
and over again. For it
stands to reason that a piece
which has been produced and

⁷¹H. J. N. 19347.

has succeeded fetches a
much better price than
an untried piece, the suc-
cess of which ~~is~~ is problema-
tical. In fact many good
authors prefer to produce
their pieces in this way ~~with~~
and every work one or more
plays are produced at
maturity. I have already
engaged Mr. Henry Deville
— one of our very best actors —
to superintend the production
for me. I hope to make all
my arrangements in a week
or ten days and produce

He pierce about the 1st of
next month - February

There is no English equivalent
lent for "Bildungsreise". I
cannot hit upon a good title.
What do you think of "His Romance"
"The Roman"?

Hoping to hear from
you that the course I
propose taking meets with
your approval

I am, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely
Mayrick Miller.

