

Dec. 13 1899.

My dear Mr Grieg -

Your kind letter came safely and I cannot thank you enough for your good words which have the ~~same~~ same sincere ring as your music - You of course must realize what it means to me to receive encouragement from you, and how your friendly interest will inspire me to do better things - I hoped to have the Sonata already, to send you - but owing to some delay at the engravers I have not yet even had the proofs - Perhaps I should apologize for wishing to dedicate you a "sonata" - as well as for being a "College professor" - I really do assure you I do not feel quite so old and fossilized as that would seem to indicate - still, in this connection I would like to ask of you a favor - and that is - will you, when you receive the music, tell

me squarely what you disagree with the most in it. I mean only in very general terms of course, as I do not wish to bother you nor to take your time - Although I am president of the Society of American Musicians and Composers - I must confess that there is but little intercourse between musicians here - and while there is much music made, our writers are not great enough to be generous and simple - Small jealousies and selfishness seem to stunt our ~~art~~ art growth - Is it any wonder then my dear Sir, when I receive your modest, simple letter, that I instinctively turn to you - longing for your friendship - and possibly sympathy - Matters are gradually changing here, however, and I hope much from the younger generation - Our musical public is a different matter I know of no better nor more sympathetic and discriminating audiences anywhere - The name of Grieg is adored from one end of this country to the other - I wish you could come.

Sincerely yours
Edward Marschall.

Pray do not bother to answer this until the music arrives - I am at home in both French and German - but do not trouble to write at length if you are busy.