

Neal

From Miss Mary Neal to A.H.F.S.

31.12.33

Thank you so much for sending me the book. It was good of you. Frankly I only expected to be interested in my part! But having read those two chapters I went back to the beginning and read it with keen interest from cover to cover almost at a sitting. So that shows what a vivid pen you have. Really, it seems to me a wonderful biography, and I wish I had never seen the other side of "our Punch".

I am sure you have documentary evidence of Mr. Lee Mathews' attitude or you would not have stated that he took sides against my going to Stratford. But it surprised me because he asked me to dinner and left me quite sure he was on my side. But I am told that the more he was against me, the more he would appear not to be! However, I don't know. When I was a child, he so frightened me by making faces at me when I went to school that I had to be taken and fetched for quite a while! We both come from Birmingham.

Also, I resigned from Hon. Sec. at Stratford because Mr. Flower promised a Conference before anything was settled, but within a week he appointed Mr. Sharp and did not have the Conference for about two years. So you have not got that quite right. But it does not matter now.

Given your collaborator, I do not think you could have given me a fairer show, only naturally she would take an entirely different view ~~of~~ from mine as I do from hers.

The book has brought me the pleasure of your acquaintance for which I am grateful, so you must forgive me for what you don't like in my attitude.