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38 Tavistock St. Covent Garden

Wednesday

Dear Sir,

I am not sorry that a little misapprehension has given me the pleasure of a letter from you. You have not me to thank for the Chronicle notice on the 'Passing Cloud' but - I presume-my friend Francis, who does the Theatres at present. My dramatic writing in the paper being confined for some time to the Covent Garden opera. I shall still however - with your leave - appropriate the copy of the Passing Cloud you were kind

enough to send.

I can perfectly appreciate the annoyance & the absolute injustice done to an author by the production of a play under the circumstances you have detailed. It is one of the heavy curses of dramatic writing that an author is obliged eternally to keep in view - the paltry necessity of a theatre or the whims & caprices of a pack of illiterate hounds of actors. I have suffered in a small way from these stumbling blocks myself and can well assure you of my sympathy with the creator of a work of art - which is cut up & mangled to suit theatrical conveniences - just as a cobbler might want to cut his toes off when he blundered his boots.

Yours very truly

Angus B Reach