

The Previously Unexplored Correspondence
of
Robin Milford (1903-1959)
 1935

No. 1; Date: February, 27th, 1935; Addressee: Kirstie; Sent From: Ludgrove.

Pertinent Musical/Social/Personal Aspects	Reflections
It is nice that E. Cundell writes to see one of my works, though I doubt if anything will come of it. I've suggested the "Pastoral Phantasy" – violin and orchestra. I want to write some more music, but even when I have time I don't seem to have any ideas now-a-days, which is a nuisance.	Edric Cundell CBE, (29 January 1893 – 19 March 1961) was a British music teacher, composer and conductor.

No. 2; Date: June, 19th, 1935; Addressee: Kirstie; Sent From: Ludgrove.

Pertinent Musical/Social/Personal Aspects	Reflections
I have just had H.R.H. for a lesson; he seems very keen <u>at present!</u> I am looking forward to the holidays so much; I have some pleasant jobs to do then too – make a score of my Piano pieces, do my Jubilee Suite & score it, & I thought I might write a story; also there are the Viola & Piano pieces to learn!	One wonders if the 'H.R.H' should read 'HNH', Herbert Norman Howells? It is interesting that Milford is keen to write a 'story'. He was interested in so many aspects, apart from music – golf, hockey, literature, art – and yet this is his first (and only) reference to writing stories.

No. 3; Date: June, 26th, 1935; Addressee: Kirstie; Sent From: Ludgrove.

Pertinent Musical/Social/Personal Aspects	Reflections
I heard the <u>most delightful</u> performance of any of my works that I have ever heard, last night. Warner very kindly let me listen on his set, which is very good, & was quite free from atmospherics, despite the previous thunderstorm ... I was most grateful of his offer to hear my Suite, &, as I say, it was really first-rate & I realised once more what a difference performance make to one's works. I had rather wondered what that early Suite of mine would sound like – written, as far as (remember, while I was still a pupil of RVW at the College; & I must ? confess I found the music quite delightful! I <u>do</u> wish you could all have heard it – I found everything about the performance just exactly as right – indeed I don't expect to hear any performance of my stuff, which satisfies me well or better carries out my intentions.	This is obviously a reference to a BBC broadcast. The 'Suite' in question is, most likely, the <i>Suite in D Minor for Oboe and Strings</i>. It is heartening that Milford was so pleased with this performance. This comment is typical of Milford's humility.