

232
SIR HERBERT TREE'S SEASON

AT THE

ILLINOIS THEATRE

65 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago

Owned and Operated by

AMUSEMENT COMPANY OF ILLINOIS

HARRY J. POWERS . . . Resident Director and Manager

ROLLO TIMPONI . . . Business Manager and Treasurer

20 November 1916

Mr. H. P. Judson,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Judson:-

It is now almost twenty years since I last appeared in Chicago and it gives me great pleasure to announce that arrangements have been made with the management of the Illinois Theatre for my production here of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" for a limited number of performances beginning Monday, November 27. On the first night only we will also give a Falstaff scene from "Henry IV."

During my occupancy of His Majesty's Theatre, London, it has been my custom to give a Shakespearean festival each year. Last spring, owing to conditions at home, we celebrated our festival in New York City.

In reviving "Henry VIII" I have endeavored to re-create as far as possible the life and atmosphere of Henry's time. This production was first seen at His Majesty's Theatre in London, where it enjoyed a longer run than any Shakespeare play in any country, and is to be given here exactly as in England. I have the pleasure to announce that Miss Edith Wynne Matthison will again appear as Queen Katharine and Mr. Lyn Harding as King Henry, while I shall be seen as Cardinal Wolsey.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Herbert Beerlihm Tree

SIR HERBERT TRENT'S SEASON

AT THE

ILLINOIS THEATRE

55 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago

Grand and General

AMUSEMENT COMPANY OF ILLINOIS

HARRY J. POTTER, Resident Director and Manager
ROLLO TIMONI, Business Manager and Treasurer

20 November 1916

Mr. H. J. Johnson,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Johnson:-

I am very pleased to hear that you are interested in the production of the Illinois Theatre for my production here of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" for a limited number of performances beginning Monday, November 27. On the first night only we will also give a Matinee scene from "Henry IV."

During my appearance at the Majesty's Theatre, London, it has been my custom to give a Shakespearean festival each year. Last spring, owing to conditions at home, we celebrated our festival in New York City.

In reviving "Henry VIII" I have endeavored to re-create as far as possible the life and atmosphere of Henry's time. This production was first seen at the Majesty's Theatre in London, where it enjoyed a longer run than any Shakespeare play in any country, and it is being given here exactly as in England. I have the pleasure to announce that Miss Edith Evans, who will again appear as Queen Katherine and Mr. Ian Hunter as King Henry, while I shall be seen as Cardinal Wolsey.

Yours sincerely,

Herbert Trent

Resident Director and Manager

Chicago, November 25, 1916

Mr. E. P. Judson, Your favor of the 25th inst. is received.
Chicago, Ill.

I am glad indeed to know that you are to give Chicago the
privilege of witnessing your presentation of Shakespearean
plays, and shall be especially gratified to have the pleasure
of attending myself as much as my engagements will allow.
Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" Very truly yours,
performances beginning Monday, November 27. On the first night
only we will also give a Falstaff scene from "Henry IV."

H.P.J. - L. During my occupancy of His Majesty's Theatre, London, it has been my custom to give a Shakespearean festival each year. Last spring, owing to conditions at home, we celebrated our festival in New York City.

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
Illinois Theatre, Chicago

Chicago, November 28, 1916

My dear Sir Herbert:

Your favor of the 28th inst. is received.

I am glad indeed to know that you are to give Chicago the privilege of witnessing your presentation of Shakespearean plays, and shall be especially gratified to have the pleasure of attending myself as much as my engagements will allow.

Very truly yours,

H.P.S. - L.

Sir Herbert Beerbaum Tree
Illinois Theatre, Chicago

True
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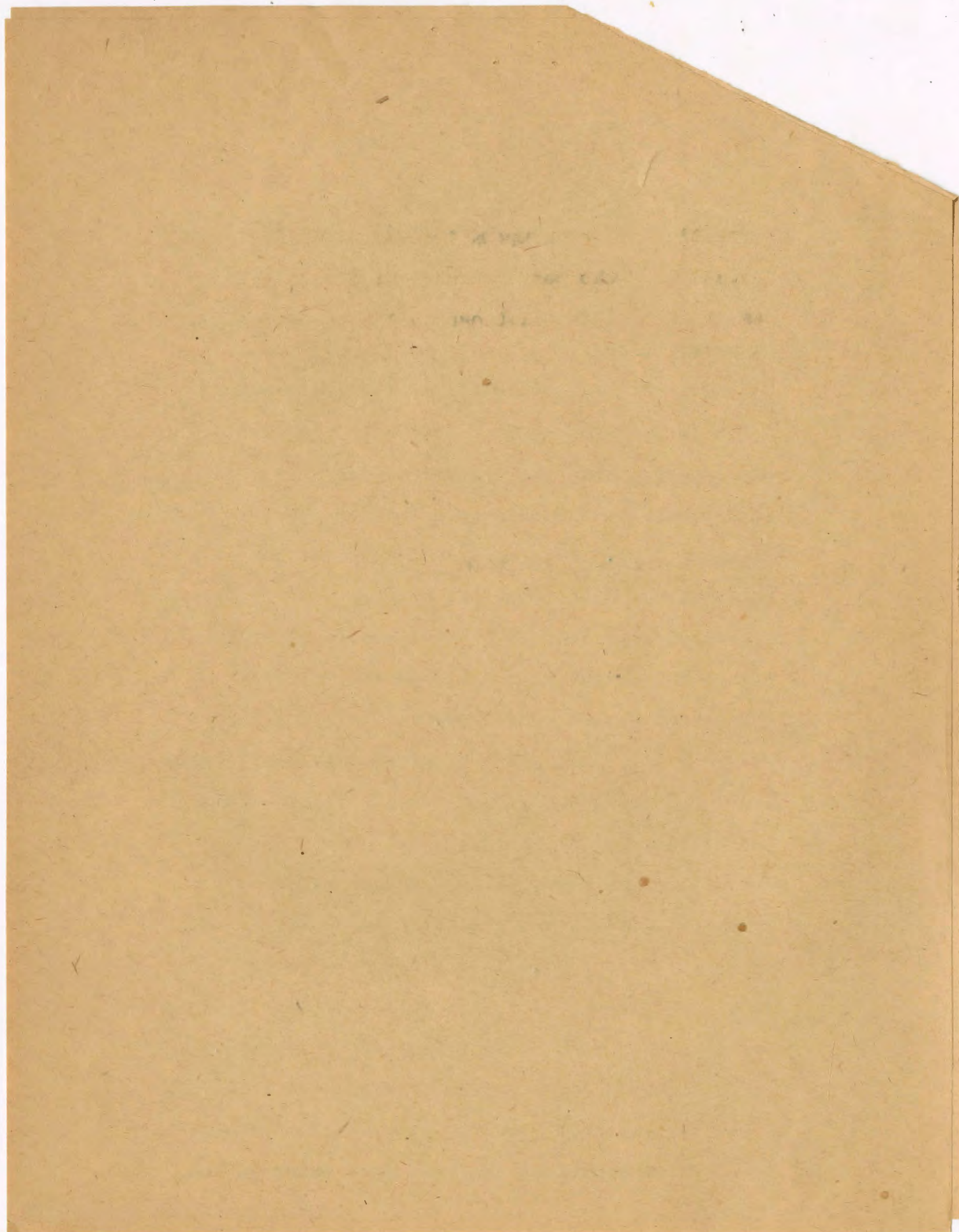
Chicago, December 2, 1916

True

Dear Sir Herbert:-

On behalf of the University I write to express our appreciation of your courtesy in addressing the members of the University of Chicago Tuesday afternoon in Leon Mandel Assembly Hall. This word of thanks for your interestingly epigrammatic, humorous and high-minded address is perhaps unnecessary in that the enthusiasm of your audience was the best expression of our gratitude.

It was a great pleasure Mrs. Robertson and I had Wednesday night when we witnessed the production. I was gratified by the way in which you made the play hang together. A chronological history has the loose technique of the moving-picture play. I dare say some people in seeing "Henry VIII" make the mistake of looking for something as closely organised as Othello. While prepared for a rather disconnected story, I was surprised to find how your careful arrangement of the play tied together some parts of the



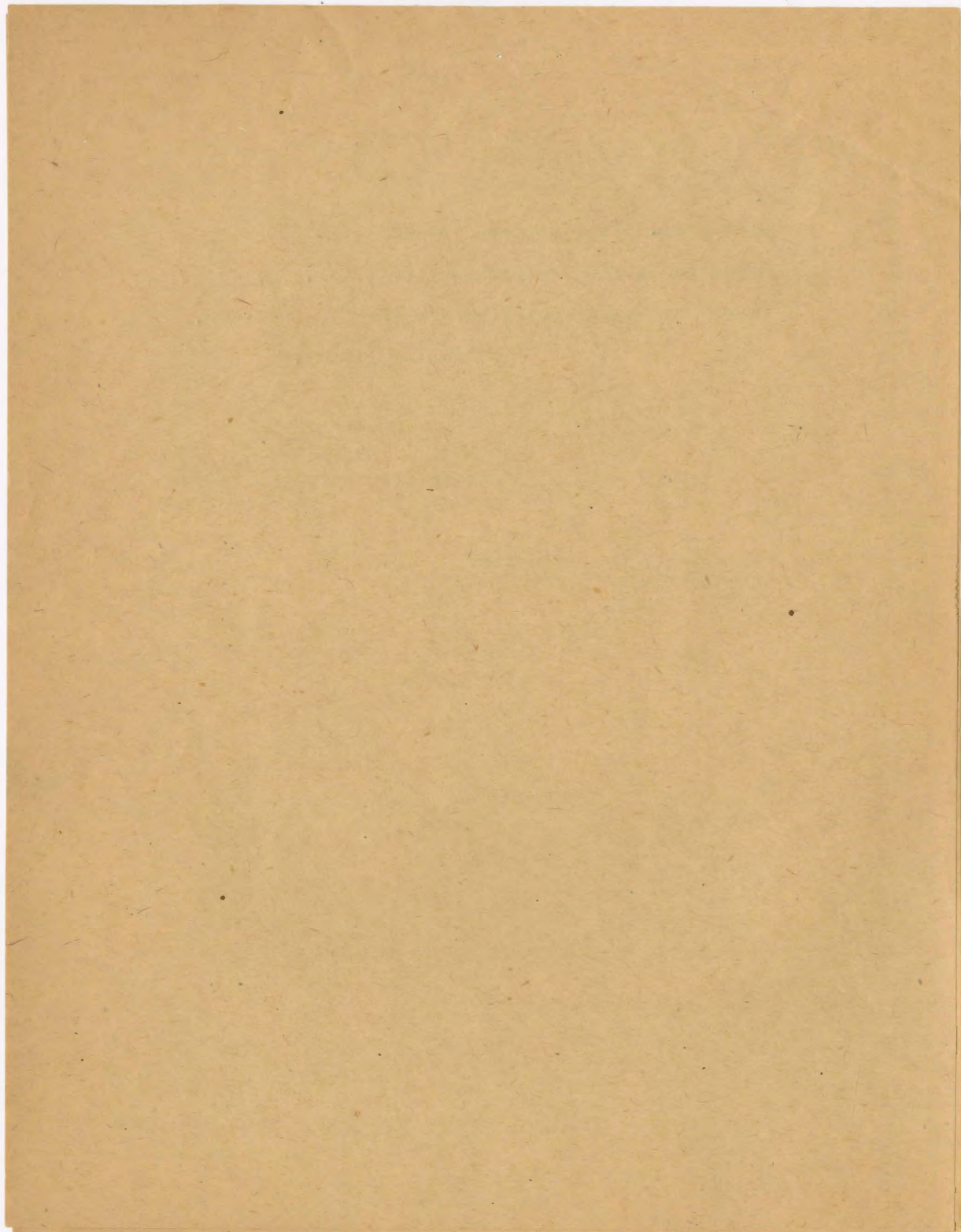
narrative. Your company is admirable and your
mounting of the performance beautiful. Please
accept our congratulations on the presentation.

Yours very truly,

D.A.R.-V.

Associate Professor of English

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
The Blackstone Hotel
Chicago



SIR HERBERT TREE

IN
SHAKESPEARE'S
"HENRY VIII"

IN AMERICA 1916-1917

Illinois Theatre,
Chicago, Ill.

18 November 1916

Harry Pratt Judson, Esq.,
President,
University of Chicago,
City.

Dear Sir:

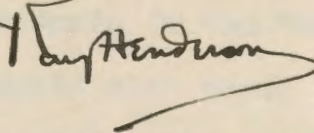
As you may know, Sir Herbert Beerbalm Tree, England's foremost actor-manager, is to make his first appearance in Chicago in twenty years at the Illinois Theatre beginning Monday, November 27th, in his production of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII."

As Sir Herbert's revival of this seldom-acted play has much interest for your students and teachers both from a literary and historical standpoint, we are very anxious to bring his Chicago engagement before the attention of the University.

Would it be possible for me to see you or your representative personally this week to see what we can do in this matter? An interview would be greatly appreciated and needless to say, would meet your convenience. Because of Tuesday afternoon being press day, should prefer it not to fall that afternoon.

A phone message or letter addressed to the Illinois Theatre will reach me. Thanking you in advance for your kind consideration,

Yours sincerely,



At the present time a Shakespeare class in which there are fifty-four students. I almost feel like making attendance on the play a requisite in the course!

Do you think it will be possible to have Sir Herbert come to the University to address the students on some topic connected with the theater?

Illinois Theatre,
Chicago, Ill.

16 November 1912

HERBERT TARR
IN
HARRY VILLI
IN AMERICA 1912-1913

Harry Tarr, Treasurer,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

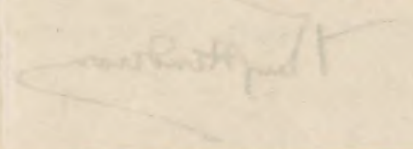
As you may know, Sir Herbert Tarr, England's
foremost actor-manager, is to make his first appearance in Chicago
in twenty years at the Illinois Theatre beginning Monday, November
27th, in his production of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII."

As Sir Herbert's review of this celebrated play has
been interest for your audience and teachers both from a literary
and a topical standpoint, we are very anxious to bring his Chicago
engagement before the attention of the University.

Would it be possible for me to see you or your representative
personally this week to see what we can do in this matter? An
interview would be greatly appreciated and desired by me, your
your convenience. I leave on Tuesday afternoon being here, though
perhaps it is not so late that afternoon.

A phone message or letter addressed to the Illinois Theatre
will reach me. Thanking you in advance for your kind consideration,

Yours sincerely,



Chicago, November 21, 1916

Dear Mr. Henderson:-

President Judson has delegated me to confer with you concerning the matter of your letter of November 18. Of course many of the University of Chicago people will be greatly interested in Sir Herbert's presentation of "Henry VIII". All of us have been waiting for some time for the opportunity to see it.

If I can be of any assistance in bringing it to the attention of students in the University, I shall be glad to co-operate with you. I have at the present time a Shakespeare class in which there are fifty-four students. I almost feel like making attendance on the play a requisite in the course!

Do you think it will be possible to have Sir Herbert come to the University to address the students on some topic connected with the theater?



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We have had the pleasure in times past of listening to Coquelin, Irving, and others. The usual hour for a lecture is 4:30, the best days Tuesday and Thursday. I shall be very happy to arrange it if you think it possible.

It will give me great personal pleasure to see the play for its own sake. It will give me great pleasure also because I admired the work of Sir Herbert Tree at His Majesty's Theater and I think with delight of the last time I saw him there, the spring of 1914, in "Pygmalion".

Yours very truly.

D.A.R.-V.

Secretary to the President

Mr. Ray Henderson
Illinois Theater
Chicago



Chicago, December 15, 1916

My dear Mr. Henderson:-

Mrs. Judson was extremely enthusiastic about "Henry VIII". She and her party Tuesday night had an unusually delightful evening. Her pleasure increased very markedly her disappointment that President Judson, who had expected to be present, was delayed by the program at a banquet at which he was a speaker. Mrs. Judson is so enthusiastic and so eager to have the President see the performance that she wishes to see it with him Saturday afternoon. She of course will gladly pay for the tickets if they are to be had. - I am however sending word to you

that you may know of her appreciation of
the play and may aid in securing tickets
if they are to be had.

Very sincerely yours,

D.A.R.-V. Secretary to the President

Mr. Ray Henderson
The Illinois Theater
Chicago

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SIR HERBERT TREE

IN
SHAKESPEARE'S
"HENRY VIII"

IN AMERICA 1916-1917

Illinois Theatre
Chicago, Ill.

29 November 1916

Tree
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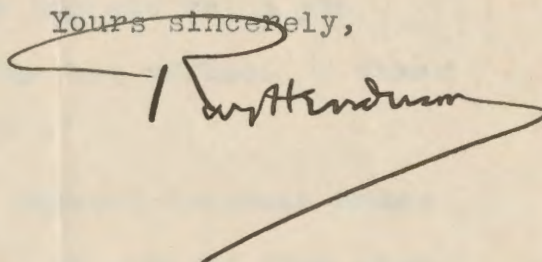
Mr. David A. Robertson,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Robertson:

As it is sometimes difficult to get you by 'phone, am dropping you this line, to remind you that we want you to get in to see "Henry VIII.," and if you will kindly advise me when this will be convenient for you, shall be very pleased to have seats left for you at the box office of the theatre. If convenient to you, may I suggest that you make this early in the week, as the better seats are generally sold out for the latter part of the week?

Thanking you for your kind interest,

Yours sincerely,



duction. The discussion has been so stimulating that I believe that everyone will attend before another week is ended.

I have been asked whether Sir Herbert will present other plays during the four weeks stay. The question, you will be interested to know, comes from those who have already seen

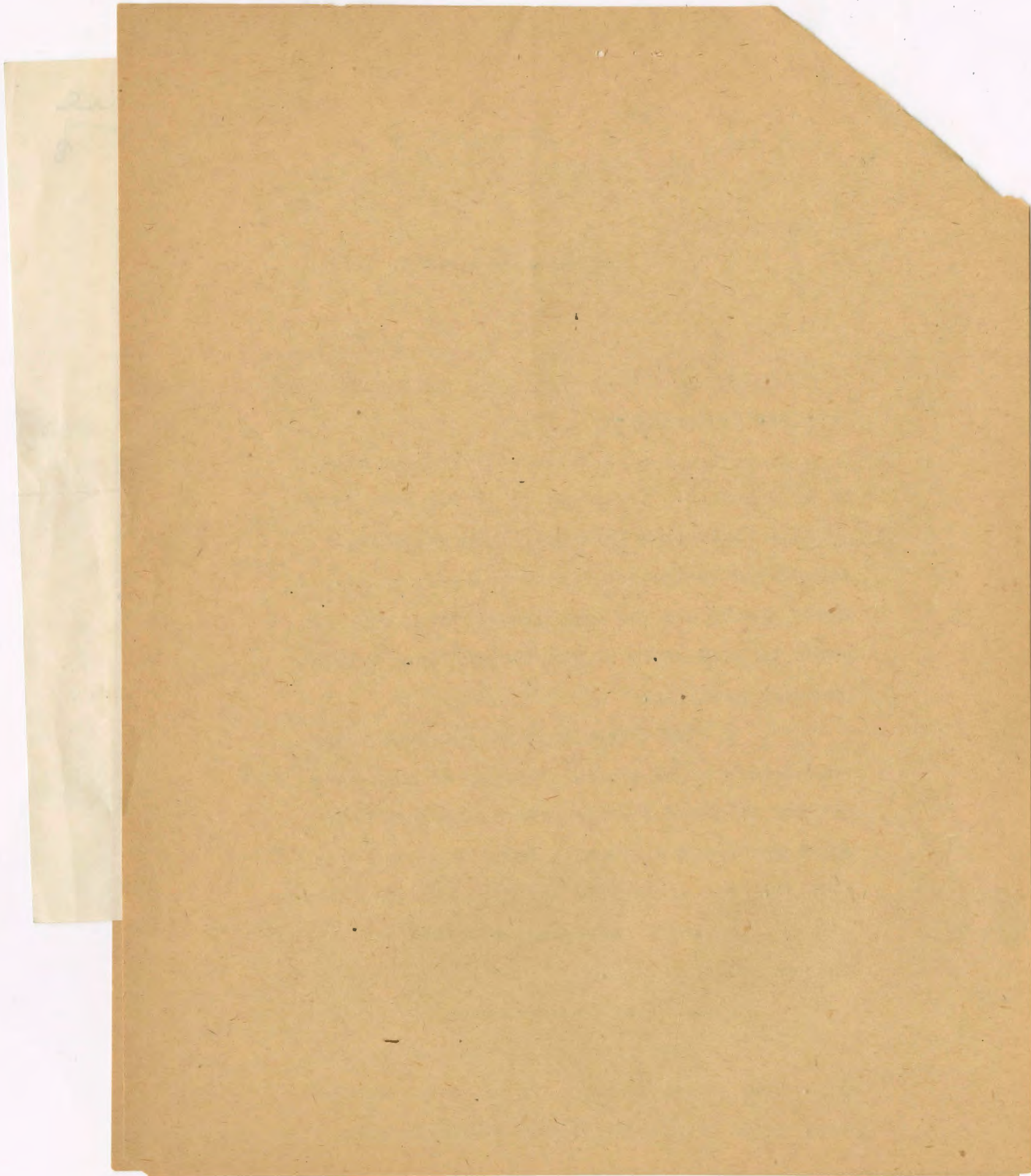
Chicago, December 2, 1916

Dear Mr. Henderson:-

I have received your letter of November 29. In answer to it and your very cordial invitation extended, I am writing to accept the invitation for next Monday night. I shall gladly use the two tickets which you offer to have ready at the box office. I thank you very heartily.

I find a very unusual interest among the members of my class. So many of them have already attended the performance that we have spent two hours discussing details of the production. The discussion has been so stimulating that I believe that everyone will attend before another week is ended.

I have been asked whether Sir Herbert will present other plays during the four weeks stay. The question, you will be interested to know, comes from those who have already seen



"Henry VIII".

Yours very truly,

D.A.R.-V.

Secretary to the President

Mr. Roy Henderson
Illinois Theater
Chicago

