

6 — 3 . 30

WARREN 1842.

80, WARWICK GARDENS,

KENSINGTON, W. 14.

Dear Mrs. Lays

I feel I must thank you for your sympathetic enquiries as to how things were with me. I must confess that for one who relies entirely on his brush for a living, the times are serious enough! Last year was a pretty good one for me but this year, there seems to be nothing happening at all! Picture Sales have slumped & at best portrait commissions rarely come my way. I attribute this state of affairs to a marked hostility in the London Press & a lack of recognition by the art authorities; for instance, the R.A. for some years now regularly accepts my work, but never places it! Perhaps this may be due to the fact that I was away from England for some years, because prior to my departure I was very well hung here. The newer generation do not know me & to

them I have the added disadvantage  
of a foreign name! Three years ago  
I had a one man show in the Fine  
art Soc Galleries in Bond St. It  
was entirely frozen out by the Press!  
& I barely got a notice, the critics  
killed it stone dead! Messrs Kennedy  
& Wilenski have got a personal grudge  
against me for reasons I know of  
& when they have referred to my work,  
it is in the most insulting terms  
possible. I am not very depressed  
at these gentlemen's attitude to me  
as I know enough of their character  
& mentality to appraise them at  
their true value. — Capt Bruce  
Ingram purchased a picture from  
the exhibition but even that had  
an unfortunate sequel, as the  
management refused to allow him  
to reproduce a not of my pictures  
in colour, in his journals, for the  
terms he offered & I think that  
annoyed him: I send you a catalogue  
of the show, the forwarded may

3/.

WESTERN 1642.

80, WARWICK GARDENS,

KENSINGTON, W. 14.

interest you It is by my old friend  
M<sup>r</sup> Spielmann He has been a  
wonderful friend to me having  
noticed my work when I was a  
student (he was then Editor  
of the now defunct Magazine  
of Art) he was instrumental in  
getting me many fine commissions  
but he is now aged & has retired  
to the country away from public  
life. The present state of the art  
world & my responsibilities & a  
very uncertain income to meet  
them with does not give me  
much peace of mind but I  
am very keen & I feel I shall  
pull through! You must  
pardon me writing at such

lengths but if you could put  
anything my way I should  
appreciate it very much  
indeed.

With kindest regards

believe me

yours very sincerely

J. Amshewitz.