

22 ALEXANDER STREET
PRINCETON, N.J.

July 4, 1957

Dear License-Collector and Bluebeard,

Three breathless index weeks have passed since I received your letter, followed by the handsome wedding announcement. I was not really surprised by your news, since my grapevine functions satisfactorily; I would have been surprised had it been otherwise.

The reaction was the same everywhere...not a "grimace" (as you suspected), but a grin. Mommsen kindly remarked that he was grateful to you for shouldering as a loyal scape-goat the burdens we failed to take upon ourselves, and therewith becoming our Atoner-in-Chief ("The Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world"). Otto Neugebauer stated: *Tres faciunt collegium*. I myself, less "metaphysically," came down to brass tacks rather and said I found it rather cheeky to embark on a potential third divorce while probably still being in the red for the second. In every other respect, of course, I take the stand of the psychoanalyst in the elevator: "His problem, not mine." May you solve yours and remain happy.

I have bad months: a sinus infection coming from an infected tooth, the terrific heat, and the Index on end. There will be another 2 Index weeks - most disagreeable and then three days of revision of REG's funeral MS. which you will have by the end of this month. I feel like Bert Friend *redivivus*, but I was not able to work on it, since I had to concentrate completely on the paraphernalia of the book. And around the corner looms "pre-coronational" Bobby [Benson]. Also» I had to read [Norman] Cantor's thesis as well as one of an art historian.

I am looking forward to a good rest in the Mountains-Lake Tahoe, though not at Globin's, but nearby. It will not be quite simple to combine that vacation this time with your summer school. I have rented the (much smaller) house until August 28 only, weekend before Labor Day, and am then going briefly to Carmel, where I myself am guest, and thence to the Huntington. Hence, where and how comes Mr. Giesey in? And of course, there are a number of things which should be discussed—publication of your work and others which have accumulated. I had expected you much earlier, middle of August or thereabouts.

I was not able to solve your legal (Terre Rouge) problems off-hand and had no time to go more thoroughly into that matter. The Terre Rouge problem as such, however, will need some discussion as well.

What do you think of Sev's call to Columbia? Since he wanted to get away, it is, I assume, all right. But Columbia's procedure was most un-gentlemanlike.

Do let me know exactly when you could roll in on Lake Tahoe at the earliest.

Love

EKa. [Signed]

As usual, it took *Speculum* 2 months to deliver the offprints. I am sending you FLETA¹ separately.

¹ "The Prologue to Fleta and the School of Petrus de Vineia," *Speculum*, XXXII (1957), 231-49.