

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
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SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

Dear Traveler,

Thanks for your postal cards. The admiration for the art of Guido Reni you share with Goethe—probably the only feature you have in common with him. I returned five days ago after most interesting weeks in Madrid and a healthy month in Greece. Five days in Rome (where we may have been at the same time—Aug.31 to Sept.5—since you are talking about the heat wave), five days Munich, three days Paris rounded out the trip nicely which ended in Le Havre when I boarded the Ile de France. The material result was a gain of weight of 15 pounds, and I am working now to get them down.

Your name turned up twice during that time. First in London when I visited Miss [Gertrud] Bing at the Warburg who started the conversation by discussing your book. They had taken it very seriously into consideration, but after working on it they found it too long and too repetitious and an editorializing too laborious for them to do. The second time was in the same connection when I received the enclosed letter from Miss [Miriam] Brokaw of Princeton Press with a carbon of their letter to you. I must admit that I have not read the last draft, and that I was also too involved to have an objective view of your work though I was rather frightened by its length, by the three thick volumes. I had given the length of the book as ca. 250 pages in print, but it seems it was far more than that. I know that those two rejections will have been very painful to you; but we shall have to bow to the facts. And I may assure you that in the case of the Warburg Institute the decision was made after a very thorough scrutiny and that the reading was benevolent in every respect; nor would I doubt the "benevolence" of Miss Brokaw and their readers, or question it.

The question arises what to do. I would suggest that you reduce it along the lines suggested by the P.U.Press reader. That embalming business should have gone out long ago and much of the archaeological stuff as well. Apart from that there is certainly a possibility of cutting out many digressions and repetitions. It will cost you a good deal of blood, sweat, and tears, but it should be done. Another possibility, of course, would be to send it to the University of California Press. They are more or less bound to accept it, but probably they would demand the same kind of changes. I do not know who the Department members are that form the Committee for the History Series. Perhaps you should get in touch with George Guttridge first, who was chairman of the Dept and is certainly still on the Committee, and ask him how to proceed.

All that will imply a depressing start of the new academic year for you, nor is it a pleasure to ruminate the same old stuff when one tries to deal with new subjects. But it cannot be helped and it has to be done. The idea of parcelling it out in form of articles I would discard, I believe. On the other hand, there are few students who were not asked to shorten their dissertations for publication; so this is neither a humiliation nor a catastrophe, but something that happens very naturally to a young scholar. Regarding new subjects: you should look at a short paper by Jacques Pujol, "Jean Ferrault on the King's Privileges," *Studies in the Renaissance*, V (1958), 15-26, who mentions also Terre Rouge. Probably you have the volume, since you are, I assume, a member of the Renaissance Society of America.

There were most depressing news for me too during my vacation. Mrs. Edelstein died from cancer within a few weeks, and Mommsen's suicide which was carefully prepared for many

weeks is something which, as you may imagine, occupies my mind incessantly.

After having cleared my desks from the accumulated mail I shall be working up various odds and ends—a review, a Festschrift paper, a liturgical scrap, and similar niceties I do not care for very much.

Recover from Europe and from the threat of the beginning semester and have a good summer's end.

All my best to Nora and to you.

Love

EKa. [Signed]