

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY  
Oct. 20, 1962

Dear Hotmanologist,

Thanks for your letter. It is perfectly correct that I said to Michael [Cherniavsky] as I mentioned to you that “things being as they are” (*rebus sic stantibus* might be a correct expression too) your application would be received and considered benevolently. But I am sure I did not mention a specific year, because I knew that this coming [year] we would be overcrowded with Mediaeval-Renaissance applicants. Things turned out even worse (or better, depending upon the angle) than I assumed because we shall have 7 or 8 applicants in that field. We had already a preliminary School Meeting at which my hair stood on end when I realized how many there were I had to sponsor, and now Woodward even sent one other man. Since we have about 24 memberships in our school, each of us seven would be entitled to nominate 3 persons, leaving a tiny margin for general School appointments (say: musicologist or others). Hence, I could not possibly sponsor a 9<sup>th</sup> candidate. Why don't you wait for your half-pay Sabbatical, or apply for 64-64? Whether or not Michael comes makes no difference to you—you would be united with your bride to be, Bombie.<sup>1</sup> Finances, without other support, are bad. Your stipend would be maximum \$5,000, probably less because you have no children or wife; and according to a new decision everything beyond \$300 a month would be taxable, a decision made known to the Director just a few months ago. So you would be very badly off. Please reconsider your intention. It would be very happy to have you around—but 63-64 is just not feasible. And do apply early next year, say in June or so.

Little to tell you about me that you would not know anyhow. My seminar with five very nice and well educated P.U. students takes its course, but it gives me much more to do than I assumed it would. The legal places and other things are not as present to the mind as they were seven years ago when I, at the same time, was scribbling my Dante chapter. Not only that I have to look up every place, but I have to hunt for it, because I have forgotten all the interesting cross-relations. But I have again that wonderful feeling of my early youth and my middle-ages: that of relief when I am through with a seminar for a whole week; and by December I shall have the full feeling of vacation-freedom when I hop into my plane to the Virgin Islands. My date is not yet settled. I tried to get a reservation for December 21, but am running into difficulties. So I do not know as yet when the Travel Agency will be able to book me. At any rate, do let me know when you are coming.

Good luck for your Semester. In the meantime as always all my love.

EKa [Signed]

Do you know a book by a Miss Bell, on the political ethics of the French kings in the Middle Ages, publ. In Geneva, i.e., Mme. Droz? I suggested you as a reviewer.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Cherniavskys' infant daughter.

<sup>2</sup> I reviewed the book, Dora M. Bell, *L'Idéal éthique de la royauté en France au moyen âge* (Geneva: Droz, 1962), in *Revue d'Histoire du Droit*, 32 (1964), pp. 283-84.