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Zürich, 1963-07-01

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Erika Mann
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July 1, 1963

Dear (I am rather inclined to say dearest) Bill, -

please do forgive my tardiness in thanking you for all your help. It's just that meanwhile my good leg has turned bad, that I am back in hospital and that nobody quite knows for how long and what's to be done. This together with my work on the letters which simply has to go on has ruined my correspondence.

How glad I was, though, that you were able to unearth the author of "Rückkehr zur Gemeinschaft". Now I am at least enabled to put that letter the German original of which I have into the book. For the rest I should have been delighted to use the handwritten note you sent me; except for letters to my mother and, occasionally to his brothers my father never signed "T." and he never never wrote "with love". However short, that note would have been a peach. I immediately called Frankfurt but alas the book is in print and ~~the~~ the annual set of 1940 was already finished. Very sad. In my epilogue - is that the word I want - I have to explain just how the entire American correspondence has been dealt with. I am making it a special point to say: "In ihrer Gesamtheit entfielen die meist ausführlichen und wichtigen englischen Briefe an Alfred A. Knopf, T. M.'s amerikanischen Verleger, dem er sich bis zum Ende in dankbarer Freundschaft verbunden fühlte."

In the third volume (1948-55) I shall definitely include a number of English letters to Alfred.

You may guess that it was quite impossible for me to try and find the German original of the Royal Highness-letter by approaching Mrs. Lowe's heirs. It was far too late to do any such thing.

Warmest thank again for all the trouble you took and many kind regards to be split between you and Alfred from

ever yours cordially,

