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o.O., 1963-05-28

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May 28, 1963

Dear Alfred, -

as you know, I am extremely busy editing the second volume of my father's "Selected Letters". Unfortunately there is very little addressed to yourself that I am able to include in the German edition. All these communications were dictated in German, translated into poor English by some secretary and are quite incapable of admission in a German volume.

Actually, there are but two things that I am anxious about:

First - and most important - T.M.'s introduction to your edition of "Royal Highness", - a preface in the form of a letter to you. I've just found your letter of acknowledgment of the German manuscript (dated September 8, 1939) in which you say a lot of charming and lovely things about the piece and about the gift of the Ms. It seems certain, then, that you are in possession of the German original which I should love to have for the volume. Would you be so kind as to have the Ms. photographed just as quickly as possible (charging the cost/s to Hellmut J. Freund, S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt). I am much in a hurry because I didn't wish to approach you before I was certain that the German original was ever received by you. Now that I am, I should be saddened, if I could not - at this late moment - get the piece into print.

Secondly - towards the end of February 1942 T.M. sent you his opinion on a manuscript called "Die Rückkehr zur Gemeinschaft" (Return to Community) advising you not to accept the Ms. and explaining at some length why he didn't think it suitable for publication. In this case I have the German original, while you, no doubt, received an English translation. All I should wish to know is whether you could still trace the exact date on which the letter was sent and if you remember the Ms. in question. Was it ever published and if so by whom and when. What was the name of the author?

Please forgive me for bothering you - but I'd be really grieved if I were to be barred from including any T.M.-letters to you in this, the "American" volume.

Many thanks in advance for your kindness and all the best to yourself and Blanche

from ever yours

