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February 21, 1967

Dear Boris,

This a belated acknowledgment to your letter of January 24, from Minusio. You should not apologize for writing as you did--we think you paid us a great compliment by being so frank. We know that no words can describe your loss, and we think of you constantly. We talked briefly to Bo this morning. We asked if you might be coming to the U.S. any time soon, and he replied that he did not think so. But when you do decide to come, we hope you will come to stay with us for a while.

Bill says that "when he gets better, he will write to you more at length and directly as himself" and not through me.

I must tell you that we have been busy for from three to four hours a day for some months now, on going over The Friedman Collection, checking the card index and expanding the annotated bibliography on the thousands of items gathered together before 1956, and cataloguing and indexing and creating the annotations for the bibliography of the few hundreds of items gathered together since 1956. Bill is able to work only about one and a half to two hours in the morning, then after luncheon and a long, long rest, another same time period in the late afternoon. We still have a long way to go, I'm sorry to say. But it must be done, since he and only he knows the specific value of each item and why it is in The Collection.

Bill had a check-up last Wednesday. The M.D. changed some of his medicines and changed the dosage on others, and we are both having a hard time getting adjusted to the schedule, with the result that I am making out a list of which-day-which-hour to take this or that. Our weather this winter has been nothing to wave flags over, three snow-and-ice storms, two of long duration. The winds are terrible--even in the days when he felt better than he does now, he was forbidden to go out in high winds, and of course, going out when there is snow and/or ice is absolutely forbidden.

Our friend, the former Ambassador J. Rives Childs, who lives in Nice since his retirement, and who lost his wife just about a year ago, is in this country, spending three months on arranging for the installation of his library ~~at~~ Randolph-Macon ~~Virginia~~ College, (Virginia) his Alma Mater. He will be in this country for three months, and plans to spend a week-end with us sooner or later. Our two Brookline (Massachusetts) grandchildren will be spending the coming week-end with us, on their way back to school in Brookline from a Florida vacation.

We both send our best wishes for a surcease of the pain and sorrow. It will never leave you entirely, we realize, but time does bring some lightening of the burden.

Most Affectionately,

*Clara and Bill*