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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
SCHOOL OF LAW

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*James Monroe Professor of Law Emeritus*

May 12, 1995

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1986-1995

Dear Ron:

We are still set to arrive at the Marseille Airport on the morning of June 9, as I indicated in my previous letter. The time between the arrival of our flight from Washington and the departure from de Gaulle of the flight for Marseille is quite short. It is no more than an hour. In fact, I am rather surprised that they would book us on an international connection with no more time than that. The travel agent assures me, however, that this is within the authorized limit. It occurs to me that it is clearly within the realm of possibilities that our arrival there will be delayed and thus we will miss the flight to Marseille. The agent tells me there are at least two more flights later in the day to Marseille so that we are almost certain to be able to get there, even if delayed. I would not want you to make a useless trip to the Marseille Airport if in fact we are delayed. Thus, I would appreciate your providing me with a telephone number or some means by which I can communicate promptly with you from the Charles de Gaulle Airport if we find upon our arrival we have missed the scheduled flight.

Your letter about HFH is the most interesting, thoughtful, and helpful that I have received about the book. It reveals that the letter writer has not only read the book but has read it with great care and critical insight. You are right about the problem of dialogue. Dialogue is difficult in any situation, but particularly so when one is dealing with dialogue involving Americans and Germans (or any foreigners for that matter). I tried to pay special attention to capturing the way that Germans speak the English language. I have no doubt, however, that the dialogue leaves something to be desired.

There is one way in particular that I violated one of the fundamental rules about dialogue. At various points I used it at some length to convey

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information. It was the only way that I could devise to get across certain background material. As I was writing it, I was reminded of one of Lyn Mostyn's books (I believe it was Lawyer, Heal Thyself) in which he used dialogue at great length. When I read that book, I thought then that the dialogue was unduly lengthy, and I resolved to avoid falling into that pattern. However, I found myself doing so because I could think of no other way to get across what I considered essential information. I take some satisfaction from one of the reviews--by a not uncritical reviewer--that although I did violate this rule about dialogue I pulled off in fairly good style.

I admire your imagination in thinking that I planted the error at page 184 on Second Corinthians to catch the unwary reader. Would that it were so! What an embarrassment! I do not know how it happened. The very second I looked at the page I recognized the error. I take some consolation in that this is the only error out of the 384 pages that has thus far been brought to my attention. One reader did point out a typographical mistake, and that is the only one brought to my attention thus far. I am grateful to you for taking the time to put your thoughts about this book down on paper.

Thank you for the reference to Judge Edward Dumbauld's book on Jefferson in Europe. As you may know, Dumbauld was a federal district judge in Pittsburgh. I met him and talked with him at some length once when he visited here in pursuit of his Jeffersonian researches. He was an amateur Jefferson scholar who managed to write more than one work on that subject. The only books I read now are those that are produced on tape or record through either the Library of Congress service or Recording for the Blind. That is not a severe limitation, however, because the two together produced thousands of books. However, it is unlikely that they will have a book like Dumbauld's. So I may not be able to read it before my trip. I have just reread Dumas Malone's second volume (Jefferson and the Rights of Man) dealing with Jefferson's time in France. That may have to suffice before this trip. I look forward to learning a great deal more from the lecturer on the trip and from visiting the various sites. I have not set foot on French soil since 1971. Other than an overnight train trip from Paris to Nice and a bus trip from Nice to Monte Carlo, I have never been south of Paris and the Loire Valley. So this will be a new and exciting venture for me.

Thank you very much for the guides to Aix and Arles. I had no idea

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that you had ever written such publications. I greatly admire you, as one of my secret ambitions has been to do travel guides along this line. I have now read most of the guide on Aix. It is beautifully written and is a model, in my judgment, of what a guide should be. It is written in an easily readable style and conveys the kinds of information and insights that an American visitor is likely to want to know. I can imagine that much has happened since it was written concerning automobiles, population growth, crime, drugs, industrialization, and so on. I look forward to getting an oral update when I am there. You make a strong, unqualified claim: Aix is the most civilized city in the world. I will be interested to know whether you still hold to that view. Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the book to me is the low regard you manifested for food and restaurants. I would have thought the contrary to be true.

The University of Virginia Law School Foundation has now undertaken to publish the Hardy Dillard papers. For the last month I have been in the throes of getting the entire manuscript in final form for publication. We are in effect our own publishers. It is going to press within the next few days, and I would expect to have a published book in hand by late summer.

Your suggestion of lunch in Avignon is fine. The travel agent says that I will be getting precise information about the location and boarding time of the boat in Avignon within the next few days. My guess is that boarding will take place in early afternoon, after lunch. In any case, I will let you know the particulars as soon as I get them.

There is much more we can discuss, but I will leave it all until we see you on June 9. In the meantime, I would appreciate hearing from you as to a phone number or other means by which I can reach you in the event we are delayed in the Charles de Gaulle Airport.

Sincerely,



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