

JOSEPH HERGESHEIMER
THE DOWER HOUSE
WESTCHESTER PENNSYLVANIA

February 16, 1939

Dear Mr. Kohler:

I have you to thank for an extremely kind and reassuring letter about a New Orleans novel. This has been in my head, or heart, for a great many years without a word set down. It was, actually, to begin at Haiti and end in Louisiana. But other plans and necessities constantly take its place. I am probably beyond the age for romantic subjects; a great deal of my pleasure in the visible world has gone; and my mind at rare moments of freedom turns to obscure and wintry things. After all Valley Forge was behind Balisand and the limestone tree grew in a harsh region. I find myself so detached from shapes of romance and reality as to be deep in Harnack's History of Dogma. Thank you again for your great civility.

sincerely

Joseph Hergesheimer

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