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ABBAY OF GETHSEMANI
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

Dec. 7, 1960

Dear Victor:

Your good letter just arrived. I think the chests are a good idea. I shall certainly need two. But as the problem of chairs is solving itself, I think we do not need the chests to go exactly with the table. Hence we can make them less long, and deeper. I like your design very much. But I think we need chests about three quarters the length shown, at most, and wider and deeper. Two such chests. I am thinking of places where they could be against the wall. ~~xx~~ Redwood, of course. I definitely want these and hope David Rowland will be able and willing to go ahead with them when he has finished the table and he could bring them all over together, that would be fine. We can check on measurements meanwhile. I will take whatever suggestions you offer in the matter of measurements and will look at the house and see how they fit the places I have in mind, then send any modifications.

Does David want to try his hand or not at some of the things I suggested in the Pine Furniture book? There he will find the stools that seem to me to be ideal, I really want several like the stool I mentioned in the letter. And the little Shaker desk would be simple and nice.

One thing I will also need is a cupboard. I forget if I picked one out of the book. But that will not be urgent.

Chairs: I have already managed to get one or two nice simple chairs which obviously come from some farms back in the hills. And there is a novice at Loretto who is quite good at revamping pieces of furniture and she has promised to fix up eight more chairs for me. So I think I need not worry any longer about chairs. One of those I picked up is a rocking chair so that my grandfatherly days of retirement can begin at once. I do not feel there should be any further delay.

Could I ask you to send just one more ~~xxx~~ broadside to Frank dell Isola? His new address is 440 East 20th st. New York 9. I think I ought really to send him this because I am going to have to write him a letter explaining why I cannot and do not send him the Sol. Life. The broadside ought to ~~xxxx~~ help satisfy him to some extent though really there is no reason why I should be satisfying his needs either. Though he has been a very careful bibliographer, but that does not mean that I am obligated to furnish him forever with an inexhaustible supply of rare books.

May I put down two or three more titles which I would be very happy to have from the library? They are on a separate sheet which you can give to Carolyn. That will be more convenient.

Let us soon think of a time when we can get together in January. Planning for that month means skirting around the annual retreat (18th to 25th) and a possible visit of the Abbot General who, however, may not come until February.

With every best wish and blessing to you both,

Cordially in Christ

for Louis