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## William C. Binkley to Jim, 7 December 1962

William C. (William Campbell) Binkley (1889-1970)

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The Mississippi Valley Historical Review

GRADUATE SCHOOL  
TULANE UNIVERSITY  
NEW ORLEANS 18, LOUISIANA

WILLIAM C. BINKLEY  
MANAGING EDITOR

December 7, 1962

PHILIP F. DETWEILER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Professor James W. Silver  
Department of History  
University of Mississippi  
University, Mississippi

Dear Jim:

I appreciate your wanting me to serve on the nominating committee for the SHA, and under normal circumstances I would be happy to accept such an appointment. As you know, in my case circumstances will not be normal next year. We have not yet had time to make any definite plans with regard to our activities after I retire in June. It is quite possible that I shall be too far away to get to the Asheville meeting, and I believe that the final decisions of the nominating committee are made at the time of the meeting. Thus it is important that the members of the committee be there. I suspect therefore that it would be advisable for you to turn to someone who is sure to be available to participate in the committee's deliberations.

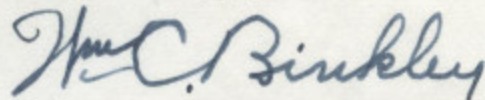
In view of the above, I want you to know that if I do not succeed in getting to the meeting it will be one of the great disappointments of my career. I have long looked forward to the time when you would be serving as president of the Association, and I want to be present to share in doing honor to you.

Thanks very much for sending me the copy of the item from the Manchester Guardian. This is an excellent piece of writing which combines literary criticism and local culture. It shows far too much intimate knowledge of both Faulkner and Oxford to have been written by a visiting English reporter, and I have a strong suspicion that the author has concealed his identity under a fictitious name. Please accept my congratulations.

If we were going to be in New Orleans during the holidays we would love to have you and Dutch with us for the Sugar Bowl game. I am assuming, of course, that you will not wish to miss any away-from-home demonstrations that your team and student body--to say nothing of loyal Ole Miss supporters--may elect to put on. Our present plans will take us to both Oklahoma City and Bloomington, and between the two I will make the Chicago meeting. I note in the AHA program that you are to preside over a session in Chicago, and I shall look forward to seeing you there.

With love and best wishes from both of us to both of you,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wm C. Binkley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "W".

William C. Binkley

WCB/bbm