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DIARMUID RUSSELL HENRY VOLKENING

MURRAY HILL 2-5340

May 5, 1971

Dear Eliot:

I had a very satisfactory word with Jack yesterday—and we both agreed that

it is best for all to have some sort of plan laid down, will help all.

- (I) Peter has turned in a first draft but both he and Jack think it can be bettered so Peter is revising and rewriting and Jack seems to think he can get the book out this Fall, probably November, but at the latest Jan or Feb of 1972.
- (2) He would like to do the bird book Fall 1972, but to do this would have to have pictures and text all in and ready for the printer April I,1972—and I hope you can manage this.
- (3) He would like to do the Greek book Fall 1973. I gave him the book I showed you so that he can have other ideas as to who might do the text and I'm hoping he will find someone both of you can approve.
- (4) The elephant book he is rather laying off to the future—he's wary about the book that is coming out and I think he feels the three works above are the most important. I think, if pressed, he might let this go if another publisher wishes to do it and you'll have to let me know if I should pursue this and if so at what time. Mary is engaged on a book for Scribners now which will take her some time. I don't know if she wishes to interrupt this—she always needs a little money, which means a contract and that I don't think Jack would wish to give at the moment.

I hope that the first three items can be worked out this way and as for (4) you'll have to think over what you'd like done and let me know

vours

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