

Jackie Responds Warmly To Manchester Donation

Jackie Kennedy patched up her feud with William Manchester today, warmly praising the author of the book she once tried to have legally banned, "The Death of a President."

Publicly thanking Manchester for his "generosity," Mrs. Kennedy said it was a "noble gesture" for him to have donated some of the royalties from his best-seller to the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library at Harvard.

Manchester, a little perplexed because he had pledged the donation to the library even before the book was published, called Mrs. Kennedy's statement "very moving" and said he had never felt any animosity toward her. He said the \$750,000 donation made jointly by him and his publisher, Harper & Row, was merely the first instalment in what ultimately would be a contribution to the library "in

the vicinity of \$5,000,000." He didn't say how much of the \$750,000 was his and how much was Harper's.

The donation was made late last month, only a few days before the murder of Sen. Robert Kennedy—who was president of the library being built to honor his brother, and had been told of Manchester's payment.

"I think it is so beautiful what Mr. Manchester did," said Mrs. Kennedy. "I am glad that Sen. Kennedy knew about it before he died. All the pain of the book and now this noble gesture, of such generosity, makes the circle come around and close with healing."

She said she would regard

Manchester's gift as a memorial to Sen. Kennedy as well as to President Kennedy, because Manchester "believed in Robert Kennedy, too. His gift is in the spirit of Robert Kennedy, 'to make gentle the life of the world.' I thank Mr. Manchester for them both with all my heart."

The quote, from Edith Hamilton, was a favorite of Sen. Kennedy's.

Manchester was sued by Mrs. Kennedy in 1966 to prevent Look magazine's serialization of the book she said she had "hired" him to write. Sen. Kennedy accused him of breach of faith in using "personal" material, some of which was deleted



WILLIAM MANCHESTER

after an out-of-court settlement and much bitterness.

But Manchester endorsed Kennedy's Presidential bid last April and served as chairman of a Citizens for Kennedy committee in Connecticut. He was invited to the Senators funeral June 8 but said he was too ill to attend.

"The Death of a President" has sold nearly 1,250,000 hard-cover copies and had a first paperback printing of 800,000 last month. Millions of copies have been sold in other countries. Manchester estimates he will net about \$300,000 or \$400,000 from the book after donating \$2,000,000 in royalties to the Kennedy library.

"I am a little embarrassed that there should be so much attention given to this," he said.