



27 May 1893

My Dear Goldziher

The Council of the Senate is willing to lend you the كتاب المعتبرين as soon as they know that Strong, who copied part of it last summer, is done with it or has abandoned the work. I suggested an Edition to him some time ago as a subject for his fellowship exercise at Johns & he produced a specimen which led me to advise him to read more Arabic before he went on with the work. Since then he has

been at Leiden, where he
read with De Goeje & for
aught I know he will now
wish to continue his task. The
authorities at any rate think that
they cannot lend the book till
he makes up his mind

We have only two or three rare
& valuable imprints here & natu-
rally we feel that our own
students & graduates have the
first claim on them; but of course
you understand this & would
not make such use of the
book as to deprive Strong
or any other Cambridge man

of the chance of giving an edition
We will try to find out as soon as
possible whether Strong will
want the book; but unluckily
no grace for lending it can be
procured before October unless
Strong makes up his mind very
soon. I cannot write to him because
I have not got his present address
However he is likely to be in
Cambridge before the end of
the term

I am making some progress, at
least in strength; though the fact that
I cannot throw off my sciatica makes
me doubtful whether the operation
has effected a radical cure
I am still able for little real work

I have made a few notes on Kay's
'Omārah' wh. I send herewith. Dr
Goeje has since sent some corrections
on places where he disagrees with
me & I hope he will allow these
to appear in the next Journal
I greatly prefer his emendations to my
own.

Brown & Bevan are both well;
the latter has been appointed Lord
Almoner's professor in succession to
Bensly. The place is only worth £50
per annum but it gives him status
& he does not need money

Ever yours truly

W Robertson Smith