

The New Era Illustrated Magazine

No. 38 PARK ROW

NEW YORK May 2nd 1905.

My dear friend:

You will, no doubt, have formed a very unfavorable opinion of me by ~~this~~ time for neglecting to acknowledge your most interesting letter of the 18th of January. Let me assure you that the oversight was not intentional. I have been so very much occupied ever since your departure from America that, although my mother has repeatedly requested me to convey to you her cordial regards, and to insist, unconditionally, upon your becoming our guest on your visit to America next Fall, I have not had sufficient leisure to do her bidding.

I have repeatedly spoken to Professor Schechter about your plans and he, too, has begged me to offer his apologies for leaving your letters unanswered so long. A few days ago, he assured me that all arrangements regarding your lecture-course at the Seminary have been made, and it gives me great pleasure to know that I was instrumental in promoting the plan. I again insist that the only acknowledgement I desire for the suggestion is that you be my guest during your entire stay in America.

The abbreviation in the Geniza letter which you mentioned cannot be deciphered. I have consulted all bibliographical sources, and neither Professor

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Schechter nor Friedlander can make anything out of it. I hope you will soon publish the document in full.

With regard to your lectures, let me say that Dr. Schechter has agreed that they be delivered in the German language. He is most anxious not to impose too much labor upon you and seems to have considered it most ungenerous on the part of the authorities of the Hebrew Union College, with whom the Seminary desired to effect a joint arrangement, that they should require them delivered in English. I suppose that Dr. Schechter has written you full particulars concerning their number and their range.

Now I desire a ^{favor} ~~favor~~ of you: Since a month I have become interested in a popular Jewish illustrated periodical, called the New Era Illustrated Magazine, of which I will send you, in a few days, the May number, edited by me. I hope you will find the contents interesting, all the more as no less than two scholars of your city are represented therein. ^{*} Will you not send me, at the earliest possible convenience, a popular article, dealing with any subject which is likely to interest Jewish readers? I should prefer, of course, something in your own line, that is to say, some article treating of the mutual relations between Israel and Islam. Perhaps the subject of Mohammed's indebted-

* Kayserling and Krauss

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ness to Jewish teachings could once more be treated fully and popularly.

I am sure that the subject hasnot been exhausted and that, if you undertake to write upon it, it will bear the stamp of learning and authority. Could you, at the same time, undertake to indicate sources for illustration? As you see, we endeavor to obtain pictures to go with each article, so as to make the reading less laborious, and to interest all classes of readers.

I may add that it would be quite appropriate for you to send us something for one of our next issues, so as to revive an interest in your re-appearance in America. The length of the article need not be limited by me. From about five to six thousand words, I should think, would be the length for a readable paper on any subject.

I have been trying to obtain copies of the papers containing accounts of the Seminary banquet and the interesting interview, but have not succeeded. I am sorry that those I sent you have gone astray. Perhaps by the time you come back you will find them in my home. At any rate, I hold that out as an additional bait.

Kindly remember me to all your dear ones, particularly to your son whom, I trust, you will not neglect to bring along with you. My mother

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insists that you bring your wife also, else she will never forgive you.

With hearty greetings and assurances of my cordial regard, I am

Yours always faithfully,

George Alexander Kohut

P. S. I spoke to Dr. Schechter about your coming yesterday, after this letter had been written, and he asks me to tell you that he has the number of lectures to be delivered, the style and subject, entirely to you. The honorarium will be \$800⁰⁰ for the course, and your lectures will be published at the expense of the Seminary. Is this satisfactory to you?