



248 So. 23rd Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
December 4, 1919.

Prof. Dr. Ignaz Goldziher,
Buda Pest, Hungary.

My dear Dr. Goldziher:

Through Dr. Charles Hugh Clark, I received a message from you, and also learn, much to my regret, that you have been ill. I hope that you are feeling better and are able to resume your work. I would have written to you long ago except, as you know, we were cut off from communication for several years on account of the war. Now that this is over, I want to report to you that the English translation of your lectures on Islam appeared in the spring of 1916, but a few months after their appearance the Yale University Press withdrew the book from circulation because of unfavorable criticism that had reached them in regard to the character of the English translation. It was claimed that the translation was so defective that the book could not be circulated. Unfortunately, I was in California while the proofs were being read and, therefore, did not see them. I had gone over the translation very carefully with the translator and I thought that she embodied all the corrections suggested by me. It appeared, however, that this is not the case. I, therefore, volunteered to go over the printed sheets again and spent several weeks revising the translation - as I thought, carefully. Upon submitting my revision, the committee to whom the Yale University Press referred the matter, reported that even my revision was not



satisfactory. Here the matter rests. I told the authorities of the University Press that I would be willing to again undertake the revision and try to discover wherein I failed. I have heard nothing since then. The Yale University Press naturally feel very badly, because they have spent a lot of money in printing the book, which they feel is entirely lost. I thought that I understood German well enough to be able to make out what you write, but either I misunderstood the German or was not sufficiently careful. I cannot imagine that the mistakes which ~~are~~^{were} left standing could have been very numerous, but evidently the Committee of the Yale University Press thinks otherwise.

I am sorry for this muddle, and also disappointed that your book, after all the work and time spent on it, should fail to appear in the English translation. We certainly need such a book. I have given you a full account of the situation and shall be glad to learn from you whether you have any further suggestions to make. Meanwhile, asking you to accept my kind regards and begging to be remembered to your wife, believe me to be,

Very sincerely yours,

Max Leckowicz