

50 Winsor Ave., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A.



March 26th, 1905.

My dear Mr. Goldspher,

It was with deep sorrow that Mr. Macdonald and I read your letter of the 10th and learned in how bad a state your health was. I saw very plainly when you were here that all was not right and feared that you had for long been much overworking yourself, but I did not know that it had gone so far. As it is, it seems to me beyond question that you must drop your administrative duties before it is too late. The world of scholarship cannot afford to have you swallowed up in that way. I realize, too, very acutely the res angustiae; I am facing them myself all the time. But — have you thought of this? — this Encyclopaedia work should pay you pretty well.

I don't believe I have yet got you
to realize the length of the articles
we want. Your principal Muham-
mad and Muhammadanism article,
that is Sections 1, 2, 3, 4a, should
be at least four times as long as the
article you contributed to Trübner's
Geistige Kultur. Education, Scholarly
Philosophy, Saints should all be
articles of the first class and as
full as you can make them. So,
too, Knowledge and Superstitions
if you take them. Also I do not
see why you should not write
them in English and so save the
translator's fee. I would correct
them and I don't believe they
would need much more correction
than many others. The English of
your last letter was rather
broken up, but when you are well
you write a thoroughly sound
English style. So if you can get
your hands free and put yourself

into this job thoroughly we will
make a grand piece of work of
it together. And more and more
I find how few there are on whom
I can depend. Asobits there are
a plenty; but men who know
the east, its philosophy, religion,
life, can be counted on one
hand. I take up the list of
members of the DMG and run
down it and there are hardly
any. We and three or four others
will have to make this book.

So there will be money in it.
A scholar, of course, does not
write for money but money
should not deter him from
writing.

And now, my dear friend,
your letter filled me with both
pain and pleasure. Pain that
you should be so tired and
pleasure that you could so write
to me from the heart. We know

each other pretty well, I think,
and your friendship is a
great comfort and help to me.
It is, in truth, a constant surprise
to me, the friends I have made
without seeing them. From Wöldeke
for example, I had a full post
card and a three-page letter on
my St Louis address. In Spain,
too, I have several who have
been most open and kind to
the "American" and heretic. But,
above all, there is you. Years
and years ago in Berlin I remember
Sachau telling a fellow student
in my presence that the only
books to read on these matters
— Sunna, Hadith, etc. — were
yours. That was my beginning
with you, and more than once
Sachau sent me after that
to your books. And as I read
I felt that I could know you
and did know you. Be sure,

then, that in the thirty years
of which you speak there have
been many who loved you in
the same way but whom you
have never known, who would
rise up now to do you reverence
and bless you. Only it was
my good fortune to come into
direct touch with you, first
by letter and then — still more
wonderfully — face to face. My wife
often speaks of how well we —
you, she, I — came to know one
another in these few days.

As to my St Louis paper, I
don't think I added a word.
The editor of the beard broke
it up into paragraphs for me, and
that improved it much.

Beard has had my Wöldeke
paper now for some time. It
will considerably over-run the
16 pp. but I will gladly pay
the difference. I want it to be

able to read كليات العربية و الجزء
entire. After it appears I shall
write a separate article on grammar,
lexicology, text and story for
some magazine.

Thank you very much for
Stumme's book on the Maltese
dialect. I have the most of his
books but not that. I don't
suppose there is anything he could
do for our Dictionary? I have
to thank you too, for your review
of Heart. What a collection of
bees it is! Howlers we
would call them in English.

And now again, please do
not think of dropping our
Dictionary. You can have
time, I make no question. In
fact, you will need time
to write the articles we want.
Take your holiday and go
at it afresh. On these articles

you can construct your
magnum opus to come.

Mrs Macdonald sends you
her sincere sympathy and
her best regards to yourself
and Mr Goldyether.

And I am always,

Yours most faithfully,



Duncan B. Macdonald

A post. card just in from Bagdad that
he has my complete MS for the
U. book.