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Title:

Letter from
Gaster, Moses
to
Simonsen, David

Sender:

(London, United Kingdom)

Recipient: Simonsen, David

(København, Denmark)

Resource type: text

Extent: 2 pp.

Languages: en

1915-11-30

Id: dsa_gad-gol_0203.tif

Related:

Office of the Chief Rabbi
of the
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TELEPHONE:
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London, Nov. 30th 56 76 125

Dear Dr. Simonsen,

I am sending to-day the promised copy of my book which after perusal you will no doubt place at the disposal of my friends Miss Freyham and Mrs. Badt, who will probably be equally interested in the contents of this book of tales and legends.

You must not be disappointed at the delay of the photos from my MS 730. With the best of intentions I do not know exactly how to fulfil your request or that of Dr. Poznanski. Your reference to Zunz Z. Geschichte Page 100a is - if I may say so - misleading. If you have looked up the page you will find that Zunz mentions a number of authors who are referred to in the above mentioned MS among them also Abraham Ibn Hiya, but he does not give the page where this author is quoted. The MS contains, as you know, close upon 400 pages. They are written in faded ink and very small characters, and it is exceedingly difficult to go through the whole MS and to find out the authors, more often mentioned by one name written indistinguishably from the rest.

2h

I would not mind sending you a few pages, in fact I would do so with pleasure if I only knew exactly which of them contained those references. I am sure you do not wish to have the whole MS photographed. As it is photography is now becoming a very costly business, and 400 pages photographed would probably reach a far higher sum than any one would be inclined to pay for that luxury. I greatly regret that I do not know how to help Dr. Poznanski. There are not many Hebrew students here whom one could ask to sit down and spend a few days in going through the MS, in fact I do not know whether there is one who could read it at first sight. We must wait for better times when I would not mind sending the original to you or Dr. Poznanski to make his abstract, or until I find someone who would be able to do it and at the same time not ask too much.

I am glad to add that my son-in-law who had been invalided home and who is now lying here in a hospital is progressing favourably though slowly. My son who had also been invalided home from

France, and was for a short time also in a London hospital is now convalescent in my home. He also is progressing very satisfactorily. May only peace overtake us before any further sacrifice be demanded of us!

With kind regards to all, and in old friendship,

Sincerely yours,

M. Gaster

Prof. Dr. D. Simonsen,

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