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Dear Uncle George:

Billy has shown me your letter to him and the letter which Wieck sent you after I finally gave your letter to him. I was terribly sorry that I could not give him your letter sooner. I had called repeatedly on the telephone, but always was informed that he was not in his office. When I finally did see him, more than a month had elapsed since you wrote your letter.

I told Wieck then that I had discussed the question of publishing a small Coptic grammar with Edgerton and that we both agreed that it ought to be done and that we both recommended that the University of Chicago Press should ask you to submit the manuscript. I told him that it was in Germany but that you were hoping to have Augustin bring it back to America with him. I also told him that it was in German, that it could be published either in German or English, that I believe it would not be difficult to arrange to have it translated into English. I explained that the reading exercises would also serve to supplement the large Grammar, but that the smaller work would be especially suitable for beginning students.

He wanted my opinion on the possible demand for such a book and on how large an edition the Press might venture to print. That was a subject on which it was naturally very difficult to make an estimate, and I emphasized merely that the sales could not be expected to be huge, but that they ought to continue over a considerable period of years.

Wieck asked whether I thought the book might be better published in Germany, possibly by some sort of joint arrangement with the University of Chicago Press. This would enable the University Press to share the risk with the German publisher and to bring to America a smaller number of copies of the edition, with smaller financial responsibility. I replied that I thought that such an arrangement would be very satisfactory if possible, and mentioned the fact that Augustin was not only a printing firm but also a publishing house, that inquiries might be made regarding his ability to share in such a publishing venture. Wieck was much gratified at the low cost of printing the Lehrbuch der Koptischen Grammatik in Germany (only a fraction of the cost of doing it here) and for that reason felt that the smaller grammar could be most economically published there also. And that is about the essence of our conversation.

Wieck was eager to have you return the contract, so that he could proceed with the actual work on the publication, and I told him that you had consulted Ludlow Bull about it. By this time I suspect that everything is in order.

I hope that Augustin has brought the MS of the small grammar, and that Wieck will be disposed to seek the best way of publishing it. It is certainly not necessary to translate it into English, but I think that Wieck would prefer to have it in English, feeling that the sale would be greater than for a German book. I have no notion whether he is right on that point, but possibly some thought ought to be given to the subject before making any decision. *If published in German, there would be no duty on copies sent to the U.S.*

In our last letters we had occasion to refer to Schott and his alleged Nazi cooperation. As I wrote, Scharff had criticized Schott in a letter to me and warned me against publishing Schott's work. However, I felt uneasy about Scharff's letter, as he wrote only somewhat general remarks about Schott. I quote: "Politisch muss ich leider sagen: er war ein richtiger ~~Nazi~~ und begeisterter Nazi, ja sogar "Ortsgruppenleiter" von Luxor. Viele von uns haben es früher nie recht begriffen, dass PS. Schott so viele Jahre in Luxor von den Amerikanern gehalten wurde, in einem Kreise, der dort auch Jüdinnen beherbergte! Und das ist bei uns allbekannt, dass fast alle Nazis heute so tun, als wäre nichts gewesen und sich sogar als Unschuldslämmer hinstellen. Nein, ich muss Sie wirklich warnen, Sch. (entspr. auch z. B. Dr. Hermann oder Grapow) in JNES schreiben zu lassen. Milde bin ich immer bei Kees, der kein Nazi im eigtl. Sinne war. Aber von Schott habe ich aus Berlin Äusserungen in Erinnerung, die wirklich nicht schön sind. Er kommt daher auch durchaus mit Recht vorläufig bei uns nicht wieder in eine Professur. Fragen Sie nur 'Uncle George'; Schott beurteilt er ziemlich richtig."

Of course, I know about Schott's activities in Luxor, and we always felt about him that he was politically naive. But for Scharff to put him in the same class with Hermann and Grapow, without more specific reasons than I have quoted, is really most serious. What does Scharff mean by "PS, Schott"? However, Scharff's estimate of Kees is just the same as yours. And he is right that the former Nazis now represent themselves often enough as "Unschuldslämmer." If as you suggest, Schott did make an attempt to obtain Scharff's position in Munich, it would explain Scharff's attitude, but it would also justify him in that attitude.

Now, before I close this letter, I must answer one query in yours. Yes, my promotion brought with it an increase in salary, but only a small one, for "economy" is being practised in the University this year. However, I shall not complain, especially as I had a *stille* larger increase last year. The two together were what I might have hoped for as an increase along with the professorship. But I really have nothing to complain about now, and I will not complain about holding one of the three professorships--no, four, since Parker has gone to Brown--of Egyptology in America! More in my next!

With love to all,

Ever your devoted

Kees

(Keith Seele)
RLH