

ISIS

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Señor José M. Millás
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My dear and honored colleague:

Your good letter of Nov. 17 reached me only on Jan. 4 and the books arrived only a few days ago. I did not answer your letter more promptly, because I wished to be able to acknowledge receipt of the books and thank you for them. The book of Don R. Miguel y Planes is marvelous indeed! and I look forward to making a deeper study of it. It so happens that the proofs of my vol. III are now arriving in quantities and leave me no time for anything else, except of course my lectures in Harvard University. Many thanks also for the book of Don Luis Faraudo de Saint-Germain (what a name!). Both books will be analyzed in Isis and the one devoted to the Grammatica of 1468 will be discussed in my article on incunabula. I cannot promise you a prompt publication of that article because I must write it first, and Isis is now exceedingly slow. The Harvard printing office, lacking labor, is treating us very badly.

I had devoted so much time to Arabic in recent years that my Greek had become rusty, and I am now obliged to read as much Greek as possible in order to renew my acquaintance with it.

I forgot to thank you for the valuable information on the Grammatica of 1468 contained in your letter. I begin to wonder whether it will be possible to issue my vol. III before the end of this year. At any rate, one of the first copies of it will be mailed to you. You will find in it an abundance of Arabic and of Catalan.

I beg to express my deep respect to Señora Millas. I hope you and your family are well.

With kindest regards,


George Sarton

GS/FS

General Statement of my present activities, prepared to simplify my correspondence
(December 1945)

1. My main task is seeing through the press vol. III of my Introduction, dealing with science and learning in the fourteenth century. That volume is so large that it will be divided into two (like vol. II). Proofreading and indexing will take another year.
2. When proofs of the Introduction stopped coming (the printers being employed for national purposes), I began the redaction of vol. I of my Harvard Lectures, Ancient Science down to Epicuros; one third is written (to Pythagoras).
3. These Harvard lectures would require two volumes for each of the four (or five) courses. The probability of my being able to complete the whole work is very small, but I hope to be able to finish at least the two volumes dealing with Ancient Science.
4. I am now giving course I, dealing with Ancient Science, to an audience of some 90 students. The wartime audiences were somewhat larger (up to 150), but naval men have now disappeared.
5. The latest numbers of Isis to be distributed to members of HSS are no. 84 completing vol. 31 (printed in Bruges 1940; distribution stopped by the second German invasion of Belgium) and no. 103 beginning vol. 36.
6. The continuation of Osiris, that is, the publication of vols. VIII to X partly edited, does not yet seem possible.

George Sarton

Bulletin no. 2 prepared to simplify my correspondence
(25 March 1946)

1. My main task is seeing through the press vol. III of my Introduction, dealing with science and learning in the fourteenth century. That volume is so large that it will be divided into two (like vol. II). Proofreading and indexing will take so long that that vol. III can hardly appear before 1947.
2. When proofs of the Introduction stopped coming (the printers being employed for national purposes), I began the redaction of vol. I of my Harvard Lectures, Ancient Science down to Epicurus; one third is written (to Pythagoras).
3. These Harvard lectures would require two volumes for each of the four (or five) courses. The probability of my being able to complete the whole work is very small, but I hope to be able to finish at least the two volumes dealing with Ancient Science.
4. I am now giving (February to April) course II, dealing with Mediaeval Science to an audience of 149 students.
5. The latest numbers of Isis to be distributed to members of HSS are no. 84 completing vol. 31 (printed in Bruges 1940; distribution stopped by the second German invasion of Belgium) and no. 104 (vol. 36, 2).
6. I am negotiating with the St. Catherine Press in Bruges for the publication of Isis, vol. 32 and Osiris, vol. 8.

George Sarton.