

# ISIS

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My dear colleague and honored friend:

Your good letter of February 22 reached me only on July 3, and the book and two reprints mailed on Feb. 4 arrived a few days later. Correspondence was much more rapid in the time of Christopher Columbus! I have not yet read the splendid volume but do not want to postpone longer my writing to you. I am at present working very hard trying to complete the bulk of my vol. III (Science and learning in the fourteenth century) by September. Even if the printing of it is begun this winter, it will take more than a year to print it, compile the indices, etc. and the book can hardly appear before 1945. Needless to say, one of the first copies will go to your address. Let us hope that by that time travel will be easier and quicker.

Thanks for the note on Thorndike's article. It will be published in the next no. of Isis together with a reply by Thorndike, a copy of which is enclosed.

My teaching of the history of science has been re-organized as a cycle of five courses dealing with Antiquity, Middle Ages, etc., a total of some 174 lectures, plus some 125 auxiliary lectures given at irregular intervals. I have just completed a cycle with a course on modern science attended by 75 students, much more than I ever had before. The popularity of my teaching in hard times is very puzzling; it may be due to the greater earnestness of the students, and to a deeper sense of responsibility and of the essentials of life.

May I ask you to offer my respect to your wife? I was glad to hear that you both and the children are well. God bless you all.

Sincerely yours,

*Geo Sarton*

George Sarton

GS/FS

P.S. Since writing this letter I have examined your book. It is splendid. I'll write an elaborate review of it in the autumn number of Isis.