

10 January 1955

Dr. Theodore C. Petersen
St. Paul's College
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Father Petersen:

I was greatly flattered and pleased to receive the reprint of your recent paper "Early Islamic bookbindings and their Coptic relations," published in Vol. I of Ars Orientalis, Smithsonian Publication No. 4187.

You may be sure that I shall read and study it with a good deal of interest, for I have decided to learn to do some bookbinding myself and have been acquiring some knowledge and a few tools therefor. Just as soon as more pressing interests abate a bit I shall start in actively as a learner in the art.

You may be interested to know that we finally completed and sent off to the Cambridge University Press, a prospective publisher, our manuscript dealing with the Shakespeare authorship question. We are also entering it in the Folger Shakespeare Library competition which closes on 1 February 1955.

Some day soon we hope you will find time to come to tea with us. Not only would it be nice to see you again but also we want to talk a bit about libraries in Italy and imagine that you have a large fund of information which would be of interest. Mrs. Friedman will telephone you to see when you can come.

If you have copies to spare of the reprint you sent me, I am sure a grateful recipient of one would be my friend Commander R. W. Mindte, USN, whose address is 5000 Park Place, Chevy Chase, Maryland. He has recently gone in for bookbinding as a hobby, after having taken some lessons from Dr. Zack, of The Catholic University.

With cordial greetings and best wishes for the New Year, as well as reiterated thanks, I am,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN