

AL/2412

San José de Parícutera, Feb. 12, 1888.

My Dear Mr. Smith,

Best thanks for your kind assurance that the book shall be printed from the corrected proof I sent you. Trusting in this I enclose the voucher you desired. That I could not have done, had it been to be printed as some ^{of mine} have ^{in America} been full of the imperfections of a new paper issue.

I could have my new three-volume book ready in a couple of months, but I can say nothing yet of when it could appear, as I know of no arrangements yet as to bringing it out in England. I shall tell Mr. Watt of your kind offer. He does his

best for me, and will be glad,
and I shall be glad and
grateful if you can do anything
to help his endeavours.

I fancy you were right in
intermitting your stamp-
scheme. I cannot help thinking
it a good one - my only diffi-
culty being about forgery -
for pirates would forge.

I expect to be in England a
little before the end of May,
having made or nearly made
an engagement to lecture at
Clifton. We shall probably
meet, at least I hope so, at
Broadlands in July. The Mount
Temples are at Cimiez near Nice,
and are coming to spend a few days

with us soon.

Your son is brave. I have myself
considerable objection to depend-
ence on literature - judged a priori.
For myself I was driven to it -
long other avenue closed up.
Surely you are right in relaxing
labour. I do not because I
cannot. But I am not weary
yet. He will look after me. I am
not anxious.

I would gladly reap a second
harvest in America, even were
it no greater than the first, for
I have not saved one penny,
except what little may be
~~almost~~ petrified in this house.
But the difficulty is that there
is no lecturing possible except
in the winter, and that I could
not stand. If you think fancy

way of avoiding or accommodating
his difficulty, I should be glad
to be instructed by you, and
thankful too.

I leave it to you to fill up
the blanks in my authoriza-
tion.

Do I understand that you
are going to be naturalized
as English?

If the dreaded war break
out, we may find ourselves
here in an uncomfortable
position. But neither Czar
nor emperor nor King nor
republic is the Lord of Hosts.

Kindest regards to you all.

Yours most truly,
George Mac Donald.