

3, Hermitage Gardens,
Edinburgh,
Scotland.

23rd July, 1935.

Dear Professor Barth,

I know that you will not have taken it ill that I have not written you for such a long time. I thought that the delay would probably be in accord with your own wishes. But I feel I must write you now to express my great pleasure at your appointment in Basel and to wish you much happiness and satisfaction in your work there. You have been very much in my thoughts during this past year; my silence has not meant lack of interest.

I should like to thank you

most warmly and appreciatively
for your various communi-
cations - for a very excellent
photograph, for various numbers
of "Herl. & Heul" and in
particular for the most welcome
volume of your Utrecht lectures.
I do value your kindness in
remembering me in this way
and thus continuing the stimulus
which I have found so helpful.
I hope during the next year to be
able to give you proof of the
way in which you have guided
my thoughts in my own sphere of
study.

It was with feelings of
great delight that I read lately
that you have been appointed
Gifford lecturer in Aberdeen and
I shall look forward to meeting
you in Scotland ^{when you come} ~~there~~. I hope
you will be able on that
occasion to accept our
hospitality in Edinburgh for

whatever time you can spare.
You will be more than wel-
come at any time.

You will notice that my
address has changed. The duties
of my new chair begin on
October 1. I think I told you
last year that I have been
appointed to succeed Professor
Welch in Edinburgh. The
opportunities here will be much
wider than in St. Andrews —
more students and a chance
of specialising along the line of
Old Testament Theology. We had
a great deal of worry last year
owing to the impending changes
in the Faculty and I feel a
sense of release now that I have
the immediate prospect of getting
into a new and more satisfactory
sphere of work.

At the beginning of September
(4th to 10th) I expect to be
attending a big gathering of Old

Testament scholars in Göttingen.
If you are to be in Bonn about
that time I should endeavour
to pay you a flying visit as I
did last year but I can scarcely
hope to find you in Germany
then. But if by any chance
you are to be, I should be
grateful if you would let me
know.

You will be interested to
know that I had Professor
Bultmann as my guest
here a few weeks ago when
he was over to receive a D.D.
from St. Andrews. We found
him a delightful man. Of
course, you would know that
he had been here as we sent
you a joint post-card of greeting.
I have not seen McCannachie
for a good while and so have
no news to give you of him.
Duncan is very well and has

just left with a party of people
to visit the battlefields in
France. Last year he brought
out a very good Commentary
on Galatians. Baxter is in
Constantinople engaged on
archaeological work. You will
remember perhaps the two
brothers Baillie whom you met
in St. Andrews. The elder one is
now Professor of Divinity in Edinburgh
while the younger is Professor of
Systematic Theology in St. Andrews.
Curtis has been appointed Principal
of New College.

I do hope that your wife
and family are all well and
that you will all be very happy
together in Switzerland. Things
have gone very well indeed with
us I am glad to say. Our two
children are flourishing and Dan,
the elder of the two, will be
going to school in October. Life
here goes very pleasantly for the

most part but I have not felt
inclined to echo the words of
Lucretius :-

"Suave, mari magno turbantibus
aequora ventis

Et terra magnum alterius spectare
laborem".

You can rest assured that I
have not been looking on in-
differently.

With warmest greetings,
always yours very sincerely,
Norman W. Porteous.
