Letter with attachment: Alma M.S. Reed to Ida M. Tarbell, December 31, 1926

Reed, Alma M.S.

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Athens, Dec. 31, 1926.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing an article on the "Origins of Theology" which I have translated for Dr. Vittorio Macchiare of the National Museum and the Royal University of Naples. I am enclosing also a brief outline of Dr. Macchiare's career and a partial list of his works. This article will represent the first American publication of Dr. Macchiare's writings, although he has written extensively for European reviews.

Dr. Macchiare, --a philologist, archaeologist and authority on the history of religions, --is perhaps the foremost authority on Orphism and is also regarded as one of the greatest living scholars of the New Testament.

Should you be interested in the publication of this article, I should appreciate your communicating with me, c/o Thos. Cook & Son, Athens. I am of course, submitting the manuscript to you with the full authority and at the request of Dr. Macchiare.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Address:

Alma M.S. Reed,
c/o Thos. Cook & Son,
Athens, Greece.
Dr. Vittorio Macchioro was born in Trieste in 1880. Received doctor's degree from University of Bologna in 1904. Two years later he became Director of the Museum of Pavia and in 109 was made inspector of the National Museum of Naples and of the Campanian excavations. In 1915 he volunteered for war service and in 1917 was retired for disabilities received during service. He was made director of the Gallery of Modena in 1920 but in 1921 returned to his former post at Naples. In 1924, the direction of the office of art exportation was added to his other duties in Naples.

He is professor of History of Religions in the University of Naples, a member of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, and of the German Archaeological Institute of Rome.

Dr. Macchioro's scientific and philosophical development may be briefly outlined as follows: During the years of his university training, he specialized in ancient history, Roman law, economics, anthropology. Immediately afterwards, he devoted himself to archaeology, history of ancient art and literature. During these studies and more especially in his research into the origins and elements of Greek and Roman culture, he felt a great interest in religious problems. This interest gradually increased and culminated in his well-known research on Orphism, in 1919 and 1920. Orphic research led him to the problems of history and Christianity with special reference to the origin of Paulinism and its relation to the mystery religions. At this period he also studied Zoroastrianism, Hebraism, Protestantism. Eventually, he devoted himself to the philosophy of religion and educational activities. Outside of his University teaching, he has been active in the Young Men's Christian Association and in the Student Christian Federation of Rome.