

that is simply contrary to fact -- that I find it hard to stop writing. Perhaps I may find time to mention more details of this nature and if I do I shall leave the letter with the Lins, in case I am not here when you pass through.

I only hope that Van Loon has a little more knowledge of the true facts about some of the other subjects he discusses than he shows in his absurd slander of Martin Luther. However, I doubt this when I note the end of the quotation "ever since music has been so much of a German specialty, that German has been the lingua franca of the musical world." I can't imagine what he could mean by such a statement. It is true that most of the great books of a scholarly nature in any field are written in German. Yet if one speaks of a lingua franca, it would seem to me that he could not but notice that practically all our musical scores carry their notations in Italian, not in German!

I hope these scattered remarks will be of some help to you. Perhaps it would be good if someone would warn the Christian people against accepting any statement of Van Loon without checking it very thoroughly.