

# THE GOLDEN BOOK MAGAZINE\*

for January, 1931

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The Letter Writer, by Charles Cain;  
courtesy Harlow, McDonald & Co.

*Woo not the world too rashly, for behold,  
Beneath the painted silk and broidering,  
It is a faithless and inconstant thing,  
(Listen to me, Mu'tamid, growing old.)*

*And we—that dreamed youth's blade would never  
rust,  
Hoped wells from the mirage, roses from the sand—  
The riddle of the world shall understand  
And put on wisdom with the robe of dust.*

—From the Arabic of Mu'tamid (1040-1095).  
Translated by D. L. Smith