



Staats- und  
Universitätsbibliothek  
Bremen



## **Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Bremen**

**DFG-Projekt "Digitalisierung und Erschließung des Nachlasses des  
Ägyptologen Adolf Erman (1854-1937)"**

### **Brief von James Henry Breasted an Adolf Erman**

**Breasted, James Henry**

**Cairo, 29.03.1926**

---

Nachweis dieses Dokuments im [Kalliope-Verbund](#)

[urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-65489](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-65489)

The University of Chicago

The Oriental Institute

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

CAIRO. March 29th, 1926.

Prof. Adolf Ehrman,  
Peter Lenne Strasse, 36,  
Berlin - Dahlem,  
GERMANY.

Dear friend,

It was a great pleasure to have your letter of the 12th March which I find awaiting me here on my return from Palestine.

I am glad to say that all our affairs here are in much better condition than when you first heard of them. I have little doubt now that the Cairo Museum project will be successfully arranged in a short time.

You would be interested to see our work at Megiddo where we have built an extensive house, and the excavation is just about to begin. In Schumacher's old dump we found the upper corner of a large stela of SHESHONK I, which suggests that the remainder of the monument or its fragments may still be found in the future excavations. This discovery has given me great hopes of our finding important Egyptian records at Megiddo.

Now, with regard to the financial statement of the Dictionary project, I think there will be no difficulty whatever in obtaining the additional funds needed.

I am not sure whether I am correct in concluding from your statement that the deficit of 8672 Gold Marks will cover the entire remaining cost for the completion of the Dictionary (not including the supplements). I would like to be able to state to Mr. Rockefeller that the sum now needed (8672 Gold Marks) is the entire balance necessary for the completion of the Dictionary.

I am expecting to sail for America on April 8th; it will be better therefore if you will send me a reply to the above question and mail it to Chicago. I will then, at once, take the necessary steps for securing the money.

The death of Bénédite has been a very sad experience for us all. He called on me twice before he went

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
LIBRARY

up to Luxor and expressed the most cordial approval of our Cairo plan, and I looked forward to co-operating with him in its execution. He spoke to me with much warmth of his regard for you and you will be interested to know that he was engaged in writing a review of the Dictionary in which he was expecting to say that he regarded its publication as one of the most important events in the entire history of our science, and he added "it is not easy for me, in my position, to make such a statement and I shall be severely criticised on account of it, but I shall make the statement because I think it is true". It gives me very great pleasure to have heard these words from him just at the close of his life and to be in a position to communicate them to you and I only regret that his high-minded purpose will, as a result of his untimely death, remain for ever unfulfilled.

I wish it might be possible for ~~me and Charles and me~~ to return via Germany, but I fear this is now out of the question. The burden of my affairs has grown so heavy that I must return to America as fast as can be. I am glad to say, however, that in spite of the many interruptions of the past winter, I have now completed the translation and commentary of the Edwin Smith Papyrus. The manuscript will require some editing this summer, but I expect to hand it to the printers in a few months.

With warmest greetings to you all in which Charles joins,

I am,

Always very faithfully yours,

*John H. Breasted*

P.S. May I inquire whether Erichsen's entire time is taken up by his autographing for the Dictionary? Do you think he would have any time (perhaps in the evening) to autograph the 22 plates of the Edwin Smith Papyrus in hieroglyphic transcription for my coming publication? Natürlich nicht wenn es dem Wb. irgendwie schädlich wäre.  
J.H.B.

