



Staats- und  
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Bremen



## **Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Bremen**

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

**Brief von James Henry Breasted von Oriental Institute  
(Chicago, Ill.) an Adolf Erman**

**Breasted, James Henry**

**24.01.1927**

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# The University of Chicago

The Oriental Institute

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Chicago House, Luxor,  
January 24, 1927.

My dear Friend:

It was a great pleasure to me to find awaiting me in Cairo a delightful photographic portrait of yourself seated with one hand on dictionary materials and the other on the grammar out of which all of your students have learned Egyptian. I have packed the portrait carefully away and I am looking forward with the greatest pleasure to having it well framed in America when I return home and hung in my study where your "scientific grandchildren" will all have a chance to see it.

I am enclosing herewith a little pamphlet intended for our interested friends in America who are supporting the work of the Oriental Institute. It will suggest to you the extent of the work we are trying to do.

It is a great pleasure to escape from Cairo and its atmosphere of politics and intrigue and to settle down at Medinet Habu in our new house. It has been very much enlarged since I saw it last March and we are anticipating the greatest usefulness from the new library building, which you will see on page seven of the pamphlet. There are always annoyances connected with the use of oriental mechanics and they left serious structural defects in the roof of our library reading room, and we have had to take down the dome which you see on page seven. We are reconstructing this whole building as a basilica with Byzantine arches and Hülscher, who is with us, is proving very valuable in superintending this work.

I suppose you know that Caroline Ransom Williams is with us, and we find her sharp eyes very valuable in proof-reading photographic drawings of the reliefs in the Medinet Habu temple. We are all experiencing the greatest surprise as we work through these materials for we find that the art of this temple is on a much higher level than we had supposed, and I think when you see the publication that you will agree with us.

This morning I am just despatching our Prehistoric Survey which is in the hands of two very fine young Englishmen. The results are very interesting. We are following our Egyptians much further back than the written evidences would ever have enabled us to do.

The University of Chicago

The Oriental Institute

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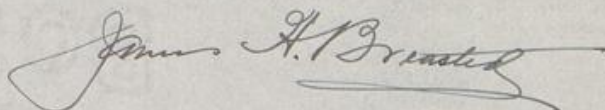
Professor Dr. Erman. Page 2.

Frances reminds me to tell you that on leaving America she sent another box of clothing, but in the haste of our departure she did not have time to send you a letter informing you of the shipment. I hope that the box may arrive safely.

You can reach us until April by addressing us at Chicago House, Luxor, Egypt.

Frances joins me in warmest good wishes for all your household.

Very faithfully yours,



Professor Dr. Adolph Erman,  
Peter-Lenestrasse, 36,  
Berlin-Dahlem,  
Germany.

Enclosure.

