



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 Walter E. Crum an Adolf Erman**

**Crum, Walter E.**

**London, 24.12.1899**

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Beamer

Station - Goswell,  
Telegrams - Stodangtoft.

33. Manchester St

London W.

Langham Hall,  
Bury St Edmunds.

24.12.99.

My Dear Erman,

This will reach you too late to wish you and all your family a happy Christmas & New Year; but the wishes are none the less hearty for arriving late.

It is for us in England, as you may imagine, not a very happy Christmas. Too many families have reason to be sad through this war. We ourselves have

two cousins in it, one of whom was wounded in the first battle & is now a prisoner. The crowds at the War-Office, whenever a new list of "killed & wounded" is published, are enormous.

This is not the time for us to be criticising our generals; that will come afterwards, no doubt. But one can not help seeing that no amount of successful wars with barbarians, — even if the enemy be ever so formidable in a barbarian fashion, — can make skillful generals for a "white man's war."

But to return to our muttons; what do you think of Budge's latest

"Book of the Dead"? The photographs  
are good, at any rate. And his  
"Egyptian Religion" and "Eg. Magic"?  
That is what we call here a "pot-  
-boiling."

I am at work on my ostraca, autographs  
-ing the texts (about 500 in all) and  
printing an explanatory commentary, with  
translations where possible. There are  
a good many problems connected  
with the Dér el-Bahari collection  
which are difficult to solve. Are  
they <sup>duplicate</sup> copies of papyrus-texts? Or  
are they preparatory "brouillons"?  
I think partly one, partly the other.  
There are a large number, from the  
same person <sup>but addressed to different people</sup> &  
all found together &  
that can only be explained by  
supposing them copies

of the (? papyrus) letters which were  
actually sent.

Is there any prospect of your ostraca  
being ready soon? I fear you are  
too busy with the Waterbuch.

I wish I had had time to go to  
Berlin and prepare them for the  
"Ägypt. Urkunden", as you suggested.

I have lately found, in 2 Middle-  
-Egyptian texts, the Coptic form of  
ⲛⲓ of "new". I do not think it  
has been observed before.

I sent Peter a book, the other day, for  
~~the~~ Christmas, but fear he may be  
too old now for mere picture-books.

With best wishes to Frau Erman &  
the children from us both,  
I am yrs. ever  
W. Brunn.