



Staats- und
Universitätsbibliothek
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, 21.06.1900

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

[urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-69177](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-69177)

33. Manchester St.

London.

21. 6. 00.

My dear Roman.

I have 2 things for which I must, first of all, thank you. First, your "Lexicon on ag. Verbois" which I have read with the greatest interest — ca. a surprise — but I fear, with comparatively little understanding. It is shameful to forget things as I do! How long wd. it take

me now to re-learn Egyptian!
I am determined, some day, to
attack Demotic. But I must
confess that, what little I
have seen of it, with Griffith's
help, seems to me surprisingly
unlike Coptic. For example
the Brit. Mus. altkopt. text
(Goodwin), through which Griffith
has lately worked and which
I have also read; there every-
thing appears to be put just
as the Copts would not put
it. And yet there must be
Coptic MSS. all but as old
as that! At some definite,

single point, in the 4th or 5th
cent., some scholar must have
"reformed" ^{and fixed} the popular language.

Or rather; it must have been
earlier than that, and the

"Altkopt." texts must be ~~either~~
either survivals or archaisms.

Don't you think that probable?

~~How~~ What you say about
the race & language must be
true; indeed what every one
could have thought; though
till now there was not material
sufficient to prove it.

I have also to thank you much for

MANCHESTER 20085 M
17 BRIDGE STREET

the excellent photograph of the
ostracons. Herr Döhl says that
I can have the negative (Plate).
But I think I will ask him to
send it to you; since, if any
photographs of ostraca were given
in the U.B.M., they must be
done in Berlin.

No. P. 9447 shows, I think, the
name of the patriarch
& [DOWN], which would
date it in the 2^d half of the
7th century, or later. This is
rather upsetting

MANCHESTER SQUARE, W.

26 ADAM STREET

for me, as
I had thought such a hand
belonged to the first half or

to the end of the 6th cent. (2)

I have made full indices of your ostraca and arranged them, but I shall not be able to begin autographing till after my "Exploration Fund" lots are published, which will be, I hope, in the autumn.

Petrie's exhibition begins next week & his publication will be out also very soon. He has some astonishing things.

My love to all your family.

Yours ever
W. G. L.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]