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

Brief von Walter E. Crum an Adolf Erman

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Beauh
31/12

33 Manchester St. W.

London.

25-X. 02.

My Dear Erman.

There really must be something in "telepathy," the very day when your letter arrived here, I had been thinking that mine to you, at Hamburg, had probably never reached you, as you had not written since, — an unjustifiable reflection, seeing how busy you always are. I am sorry Simaika did not turn up at the Congress & make your

acquaintance. He is a remarkable man, of great ability and a real enthusiasm for his "nation".

Legge, of whom you speak, is, as you suppose, a dilettante — ein echter — who interests himself in many things, but does nothing seriously; except perhaps, journalism. He writes a great number of "reviews" of archaeological books for the newspapers, & is therefore somewhat of a power, I regret to see. He is well "in with" Budge & will write half a dozen reviews of any of B.'s books for the press — a valuable thing for B., as they counterbalance such terrible criticisms as that which Griffith lately wrote of his new "Book of the Dead."

I, for my sins, have to review B.'s 8 volume "History of Egypt." Fancy

reading 8 volumes (about 2800 pages) of
Budge! For a popular history however,
it appears to me not so bad & he gives a
number of new photographs of things in the
British Mus. Of course he is not "an
expert" in questions of transcription,
grammar &c.; but that one can't
expect. Ad propos, there is little
need to reply to Legge's questionnaire,
I should think. Those people who have
not yet ~~decided~~ accepted the new
system are not worth much trouble.
It is Legge's desire for self-advertisement
which prompts him to take up such
a matter.

Do you ever find time for French
novel-reading? I suppose not; &
if you do, I dare say you know
Anatole France already? I read
several of his while in Scotland
& think him one of the greatest

of living writers, for brilliancy of
thought & of style. In the former
he stands beside Voltaire, in the
latter beside Renan. I am sure
you would appreciate him. If
you would read it, I would
send you one of his books at
Christmas.

I am glad you are to have Gardiner
& his wife at Berlin in the
spring; they are a very nice couple.

Do you want to see a "sad and
mad and bad" book (to quote
Browning's words)? If so read
Gayets "Art copte."

My love to your family &
congratulations to Peter
on his high place in
school. Yrs. W.B. Crane

This is written in
the train.