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Ägyptologen Adolf Erman (1854-1937)"**

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

Breasted, James Henry

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THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

JAMES HENRY BREASTED
Director

September 12
1933

My dear Friend:

I regret that absence on vacation has so long delayed this reply to your interesting letter of August 6. It was of course very welcome news, as all your letters are, and would have been answered before if it had reached me at home.

Frances and I have been spending some weeks in our Southwestern Desert among the Indians - an experience which I found most instructive and one filled with analogies to the things with which we are familiar in Old Egyptian civilizations. Beneath the varnish of Roman Catholic Christianity the old nature religion still flourishes and is still unmistakable. In one of the pueblo churches, far removed from any modern civilization in the Southwest Desert, I found a picture of the Virgin and rising before her two symbols - one of the Indian sun-god and the other of the corn-god, that is, Re and Osiris! Smiling down at us without embarrassment in the benign presence of the Virgin herself!

Just as we were turning homeward we visited the Mesa Verde, a magnificent lofty plateau with pueblo houses built in the shoulder of canon walls two thousand years ago, and now of course no longer inhabited. Here I had the ill luck to catch cold owing to the considerable elevation, and was sent to bed by the doctors with what they called "pneumonia" -inflammation of the lungs. I really was not very sick, but they have kept me away from work for a time. I expect to be at my desk again in a few days.

I have been exceedingly distressed to learn of the unhappy conditions of which you have written me. As far as young Jacobsohn is concerned, the only thing that might possibly become available for him is a Fellowship; and, after having forwarded the usual formulary we have received it back from him duly filled out. I will see if it is possible to do anything for him in this direction at the next assignment of Fellowships, which unfortunately does not come around again until the spring, for knowledge of Jacobsohn's case reached us just after the annual assigning of our Fellowships.

I ought to add that while I am still Director of the Oriental Institute, I retired from my Professorship in the University of Chicago in July and consequently I now have nothing to do with the assigning of University Fellowships. I will, of course, speak to my colleagues with regard to the matter and do all I can for Jacobsohn.

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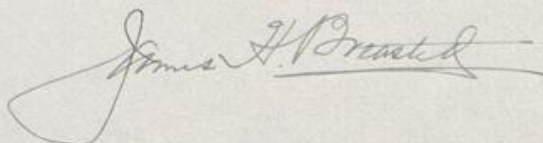
I am exceedingly sorry to hear of the predicament of poor Wreszinski. I sincerely hope that this misfortune may not in any way interfere with his editorship of O. L. Z., which is an extremely useful journal for the support of which I have twice made very urgent appeals in New York, which I believe were successful.

Our staff at Sakkara, where Wreszinski would like to participate in the work, is now full and there are no more funds in their budget which could be used for enlarging the size of the staff. There is therefore no immediate prospect that we could do anything at Sakkara toward finding a post there for Wreszinski.

Nevertheless, I wish you would assure him of my sincere sympathy with him in his present unhappy situation. If any opportunity in our personnel should arise I will be very glad to do anything in my power to assist him. It is a real misfortune that Egyptology should be deprived of his services and I earnestly hope that some remedy may be found.

Frances joins me in warmest greetings to you all. We have the very pleasantest recollections of our last visit and we hope very much that we may soon be re-united again.

Ever yours,



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