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**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

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THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

JAMES HENRY BREASTED
Director

May 4
1934

My dear Friend:

It has been with the greatest pleasure that I have received your interesting letter of March 25 and I respond with the greatest sympathy to the sentiments which it expresses.

A few days ago I had a letter from our mutual friend "Caroline" in which she heartily agrees that the world of thirty or forty years ago was a vastly pleasanter place to live in than this of today. I remember how much trouble it caused you all when the government seemed unable to stop the decline of the mark. In our present situation our government is deliberately and intentionally depreciating the dollar so that the support of our foreign expeditions is costing almost twice as much as it formerly did. To me the group of men who are pushing this kind of revolution seem fit candidates for an insane asylum rather than for the rational government of a great nation.

I feel with you that the deaths of Griffith and Peet have been very severe blows to our Oriental group. As far as the Demotic is concerned, Edgerton is hard at work on the material for the dictionary; for I believe you know that the Spiegelberg family, in accordance with Spiegelberg's wishes, have handed Edgerton all of Spiegelberg's Demotic dictionary materials. I see you have very much the same feeling about the whole situation as I have: that it doesn't much matter what we do or what we lose! I am beginning to receive letters from school boys and college girls about Atlantis and the Land of Mu, which is I believe another designation for the lost Atlantis. Isn't it fine that all these problems can be so easily solved?

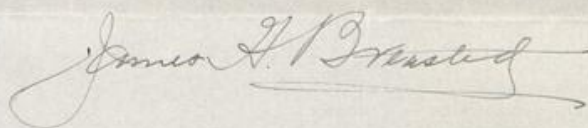
With reference to our family situation, I am sorry to say that I cannot send you very cheering news. Frances has now been ill since last September and most of the time since then confined to her bed. At present she is in the hands of two nurses, working night and day. The difficulty is a peculiar heart trouble, known as "bacterial-endocarditis," which the medical men are really not able to handle with any hope of success. Frances manages to keep fairly cheerful in spite of the tedium of this long confinement and discouragement of experiencing no improvement. I hope I may be able to send you better news in my next.

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I was greatly distressed to hear about the disappearance of poor Wreszinski. I should be glad to hear more about him. I felt very sorry that it was not in our power to do anything for him.

With warmest greetings to you and all the household,

Ever your old friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James H. Brewster". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed address.

Professor Dr. Adolf Erman
Peter-Lenestrasse 36
Berlin-Dahlem
G e r m a n y

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