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

Brief von Norman de Garis Davies an Adolf Erman

Davies, Norman de Garis

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T. Boardman
18. 8

HEDDERLYS. BOAR^S HILL. OXFORD.

August 2/22

Dear Professor ,

Before the war (would that we could return thither and take the other road!) the Metropolitan Museum had ordered, or was about to order, a set of the Burchardt-Meyer photographs, and I also was to have a set of those dealing with the Theban tombs. ^Sir Arthur Evans is also anxious to obtain a set for an Oxford library. Could you tell me if they are to be had and at what price? It is sad to ~~think~~ think how the usefulness of that expedition has been curtailed by the unhappy events which so quickly succeeded it.

I suppose that the prospects of the dictionary too are not bright, to say the least of it. For among the other crimes which the countries of Europe seem still eager to commit against one another, that of trying to impede the traffic in books is included. German ^{Articles} will assuredly need English buyers, and yet the one country puts on Zuschlags and the other Reparation & dues. Truly we live in evil times. Of all nations - next to the Irish - the French are showing the worst spirit. Their politics are as bad as their Egyptology, and Poincare's own brother to Lacau and Foucart. We shall soon have to use some plain language to them.

You will be glad to learn that you are having a pleasant time and ~~a~~ have plenty of money! That seems to be the current conviction here, and all signs to the contrary are put down to the cleverness of your financiers. This spirit of absolute ^{distrust} is hard to break down, but there is nothing for it but for the men of good-will to work and wait. I hope you keep your health and spirit.

Yours very sincerely,

W. de Gans Davies

Dear Professor,
I have the great pleasure to inform you that the
manuscript of the dictionary has been forwarded
to the printer. I am sure that you will be
satisfied with the result. I have also
received your letter of the 15th and am glad
to hear that you are well. I hope to see
you soon.

I am, dear Professor, with the most
affectionate regards,
Yours very sincerely,
J. G. Müller

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Davies?

I fear your countrymen are having a great deal to endure, not only in body but in spirit, and yet I do not think, though distrust is unfortunately very deep, ^{so} that there is any wish in England but to clear up the difficult and complicated situation as quickly and fully as possible and to start what I hope will be a new era tending every year to better relations and the healing of the old wounds. If only two - or better one - wise man had the settling of things instead of ten well - meaning ones, worried by the threads of their political supporters! What I cannot readily forgive Germany is that she has thrown us into the alliance with the French - to say nothing of Italians and Russians - instead of working towards that German - English - American understanding that might have ignored the rest of the world almost. The outlook seems very dark for us all for ahead.

