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

Brief von Alan Henderson Gardiner an Adolf Erman

Gardiner, Alan Henderson

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Beauvois 13/10



le 30 Sept. 1905

GRAND HOTEL

HOTEL D'EUROPE

TURIN




Dear Professor Eiman,

The magic texts will be sent off to you this evening, and I hope you will find something of interest in them. I must apologise for the untidiness of my notebooks: neatness is a virtue I could never acquire!

You may find the index at the beginning of the notebook of use in tracing the facsimiles of the first document, which is published by P & R in three different parts of their work. In obscure passages it may be well to consult the publication, for my facsimiles (though perhaps more correct in some respects) are incomparably worse, as a rule, than those of the Turin draughtsman. Please also bear in mind that though I have collated my transcriptions with some care,

none of them are finally revised: I await your suggestions before proceeding to that.

I am now in the midst of the business documents, and interesting indeed they are! But the verso's are, as a rule, very hard to see: vegetable paper and shining varnish everywhere! I shall have to take a rest for a couple of days, I think: my eyes show some signs of resenting the strain put upon them.

I fancy I have found a new difference between two signs in hieratic: **N** and **β**: the former is, I think, always to be read mnw "herdsman" (hieroglyphic  or ): the latter always s3w. I wonder whether s3w "herdsman" exists at all, or whether "herdsman", when written  in hieroglyphs, is not to be read mnw. Certainly both in the Pyramids and Coptic MOONE is always the word for "weiden" unless I am mistaken. However

this is a theory that I have no means
of testing here—

Today I have found ~~two~~ examples
of a word $\overline{\alpha} \overline{\beta}$ which I have
never seen before.

To return to the magical papyri!
I should be much obliged if
you would write your remarks on
separate paper, as my note-book is
already too crowded. And perhaps
the simplest way to refer to the
passages will be to give the
page of the note-book, and the line
of the text contained thereon. E.g.
 $\overline{\alpha} \overline{\beta} \overline{\gamma}$ is the first word of N.B. p. 2,
line 9. This is merely a suggestion!

I am delighted to hear the good
news about the Wb., and also to
know that you have had a good
holiday.

With kindest regards to all
Very sincerely yours
Alan H. Gardiner

P. S. I had always supposed that the
evilly disposed ~~Bez~~, who returned to
haunt the living as a disease or
madness or what not, was a tombless
being. However the second text (N.B. p.
94 l. 12) seems to show that any dead
person, even though decently entombed,
might take it into his head to
go a-spooking, if he got tired of
sitting in the garden drinking beer
and gorging himself with the ~~o~~ ~~o~~ ~~o~~ !

2.
in!



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GRAND HOTEL
HOTEL D'EUROPE
TURIN

Among the civil - lay - texts, I find all sorts of interesting things: ~~XX~~
 ☉ □ is consistently divided into two parts, "right" and "left": Epiphi 4040^{sia} □ is celebrated on the 1st. of Mesore, a crux for the chronologers: for a week or more ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ in the 3rd. year of Rameres ~~XX~~ (acc. to Petrie) - a phrase which I can only understand as referring to a razzia of Beduins (cf. ☉ ~~XX~~ ~~XX~~ etc.): an unpublished document containing confessions of thieves; an unpublished letter of great interest. There are just a few of the points that occur to me at the minute.

I hope to stop here until the end of November, including perhaps a short visit to Bologna. My wife

will probably join me at the end of
October. I spend my evenings
learning Italian, which gives me
good relaxation: I find hieroglyphs
late at night keep me from sleeping!

I sincerely hope your holiday
refreshed you, and that you will be
able to end your year of office
without too much fatigue. Please
remember me to Breasteds when they
visit Berlin: and now please convey
my kindest regards to Frau
Professor and the rest of your
family.

Believe me very sincerely yours

Alan H Gardner

at the end of
October I spent my evening
in the library which gives me
a good relaxation. I find myself
late at night from sleeping?
I remember how
repeated your name in my
after in your place of office
and how much fatigue I
to the table when
last night and
my kind regards to
and the night of
I hope
I hope

