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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

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o.O. [Luxor], 08.10.1909

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P.S. I had made out the sentence from the Ptolemaic ostraca, as well as a few more. The original has a good many orthographical mistakes. I have bought a few good ostraca here.

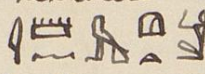
There is a nice biographical stele in the tomb of an ~~Amunhotep~~ ^{Amunhotep} here, mentioning the fact that he reached the age of 76(?). Is this known? Of course I don't mean the well-known tomb of the Amenemhat "scribe of the accounts of corn" and "steward of the Vizier Hoser", nor get the tomb of a more obscure ~~Amunhotep~~ ^{Amunhotep} A.
8th. Oct. 1909

Dear Professor Eрман

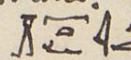

Before I thank you for your letters and communications let me first congratulate Doris on her engagement. I am most glad to hear of it, and I am sure both my wife and myself wish her all happiness in the new life on which I suppose she will soon be embarking. When we get back to Berlin I hope Doris will bring her Bräutigam to dine with us!

Thanks very much for the copies of the Bubastite inscriptions and the Zettel from the tomb of the Neferhoteps. I am now camping out at Gurna, in the very heart of the tombs, and

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am learning so much and enjoying my work
so much that I rather doubt whether I
shall be able to finish the *Osenkon*
inscriptions after all. Here in Gurna
I find plenty to keep me busy, and
indeed I have not had a moment to
spare. I have been occupying myself
again with the Rekhmere - Vizier inscriptions.
In the tomb of , his successor
in the Viziate, I have copied the whole
of the parallel text of the "Duties" and
think that I shall get a good deal out
of it. But the greatest surprise to me
has been the badness of Newberry's copy
of the long text published on plates VII -
VIII of his book; I have a great
many new readings, and the text is
more fascinating than I ever imagined.
Sethe had got the main drift of it,
though, in his *Urkunden*.

Now my main difficulty here is this: - I do not know what to copy and what not; it is useless to repeat anything Sethe has done, and yet I feel convinced he cannot have seen all the tombs that are now open, so many have been dug out during the last three years. Since the letters are too ponderous to send I should be very greatly obliged if you could get Grapow or some other of your pupils to make me a list of the tombs from which you have texts; I should require to know 1) name 2) principal title 3) approximate date. If I received this list about the 20th October or soon after I could still copy a good deal for the Dictionary; as it is I have a good deal to add to it already.

Two specific questions: - There is a fine tomb here belonging to an , the paintings of which are described by Baedeker as "very archaic". I think this is usually put down to the 17th. dynasty. But the man is a , and if my recollection serves me there is a mastaba belonging to a Puzier of this name in front of the Northern wall.

Pyramid at Licht, of which the inscriptions are published by Gautier-Léguier, Fouilles de Licht. There is the fragment of a cartouche in the Theban tomb, of which I read the final U with certainty and a preceding G with some probability. I am almost certain that the King is Senwosret I, but should feel doubly certain if my recollection about the Licht mastaba proved correct. It would be pleasant to know that we have a well-preserved XVIIIth-dynasty tomb at Thebes!

2) In the tomb of ~~18~~ A, until recently lived in by a native there are inscriptions which I think Sethe has published. Is it not from there that his "Neue Expedition nach dem Libanon" was taken? But in the same tomb, inner part, there is a long incomplete inscription of a biographical character, narrating among other things his promotion to the office to priest of Suchos and Anubis. I do not recollect having seen any copy of this. Did Sethe copy it?

I find to my horror that I have been writing on paper I had previously used for some notes. So my letter is a palimpsest, and I must apologize for this. Moreover, everything is sandy here, and this note-paper has lain under a layer of sand for some days!

Best greetings to Frau Professor and the others
Very sincerely, yours
Alan Gardiner