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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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9, LANSDOWNE ROAD,

HOLLAND PARK, W. 11.

4 November 19

Dear Professor Eрман

I am ashamed to have let
some months run by since I
received your last letter. In the
meantime we received a very
long one from Frau Professor,
and the account of all you
both have suffered in these
dreadful years made us frankly
miserable. What despicable mortals
are we to torment and
harass one another in this
way! And look at Europe!
Had the millennium resulted from
it all perhaps — and even
that is a doubtful proposition —

the price, large as it was, might have been worth paying. But I never believed it, and now I am deeply ashamed and indignant at all the misery that has been caused and will still be caused. How wretched that we can do nothing — except extend a little sympathy and plead for hope!

The cold weather is approaching and we shall be anxious about you all. How many thousands of people there are among us who would make even the greatest sacrifices in order that you were

there might be saved another winter of
distress. But we are as powerless
as you are.

I have sent a few offprints
to Selke and they seem to have
arrived safely. Before very long
I shall send some to you. The
report that I have written
a grammar and a dictionary
are unhappily not true. I
am indeed trying to write
a M. E. grammar adapted to
the needs of English students,
but find the ^{task} task, as I
conceive it, exceedingly difficult.
Whether the book will ever appear
I do not know. Also I
have collected, together with Gunn,
materials for an Egyptian vocabulary

with a profusion of bibliographical references. I have always had a weakness for following up the opinions of earlier Egyptologists on the meaning of words, and it appears to me that a book giving references of the kind might prove useful even when the great German lexicon is finished. But even my small task is an exacting one, and may never be fulfilled.

With warmest greetings to you all, in which my wife joins me

Believe me yours very sincerely

Alan H Gardiner