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## **Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Bremen**

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

### **Brief von Francis LI. Griffith an Adolf Erman**

**Griffith, Francis LI.**

**o. O. [London], 15.06.1892**

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[urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-81981](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-81981)

Beantw  
20/6.

5 Doughty St.

15. June 1892.

Private

Dear Professor Erman,

I am much obliged to you for your very kind letter. Miss Edwards will leave the money for a Professorship under some rather peculiar conditions, and it is perhaps a little doubtful how University College will act in regard to it. Mr. Petrie though not named in the Will is distinctly pointed to by its terms: he has just come home from Egypt, and I hope will be induced to take the Professorship: he will undoubtedly wish

to have assistance in the philological part  
of the work. It will be a great change  
of occupation and manner of life for  
him, but various circumstances have  
prepared the way for it, and I have no  
doubt that he would succeed remarkably  
well.

For myself, I might perhaps undertake  
some of the philological work as assistant  
to Mr. Petrie: but the whole affair is  
for the moment in such an unsettled  
condition that I fear lest I may  
already have said too much.

Whatever happens, I shall remember your  
very kind thought for me, and shall  
avail myself of your offer when the time  
comes.

Miss Edwards' death and a variety of  
circumstances have delayed the Survey  
publication, and I have no more plates  
to send you, but I hope there will be some  
ready in the next fortnight.

There certainly seems to be very strong evidence  
for distinguishing  $\beta$  from  $\theta$  in the earliest times and  
you had already hinted at it I think in your  
grammar of the Westox. The difficulty in  
my mind about the Coptic equivalents of  $\beta$  -  
words is, that they are all so very short -  
 $\beta$  + weak consonant - and to an amateur

in Coptic derivations like myself are not  
convincing. When Steindorff's book appears  
I hope to be convinced. But then, further,  
is  $\text{ⲗ} = \text{ⲛ}$  exactly? is it not something  
between  $\text{ⲗ}$  +  $\text{ⲛ}$ ? I do not like transcribing  
it either  $\underline{d}$  or  $\underline{t}$ , and for the Survey volume  
am inclined to write  $\underline{z}$  conventionally.

I much enjoyed the articles on the pronouns  
 $\text{ⲛ}$ ,  $\text{ⲛ}$ ,  $\text{ⲛ}$  etc. They are very interesting for the  
history of the language. Crum lent me the  
Zeitschrift, but I usually can see it at the  
Soc. of Bibl. Arch. If you have copies of your  
articles really to spare I should very much  
like to have them: at present I cannot  
afford to buy the ÄZ. as I can generally  
get it at the S. B. A.

A rather long paper is <sup>being</sup> printed on the metrology

which I think will please you as making the systems a little clearer. It has been delayed or should have been out last Proceedings. You have probably seen through many of the fallacies that are in print on the subject, but my paper goes over the whole ground and brings in some new material.

Yours very truly

F. L. Griffiths.

Newberry I am glad to say is coming forward well and will be Secretary of the African Section of the Oriental congress. He is a valuable man with a good mixture of practical and scientific ideas.

Faint, illegible handwriting on the top half of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

Faint, illegible handwriting on the bottom half of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.