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

Brief von Duncan Black Macdonald an Adolf Erman

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My dear Professor Erman,
There has just appeared in the
Literary Supplement of the Times a notice
of your Autobiography and I have just
written to my London booksellers to
send me a copy. But I cannot wait
for it to come before I express to you
the pleasure which I know I shall have
in reading it and re-living old days
in Berlin, days before all this unhappiness
came upon us. The University of Berlin
means two men for me — you and Sachau.
With Sachau I re-made connections years
ago; and now I rejoice in this opportunity
to read you again, if only by letter,
and to express how vivid still is
my gratitude for all your kindnesses as
guide and teacher in those old days.
Of me you may have only the faintest
remembrance — if you have any at all —
but of you my remembrance is very
clear. Egyptian, for me, has had to sink
into the background of my mind; but
the grounding you gave me in your
text and grammar of the Papyrus ^{Wörterb.}
is still a solid part of my philological
equipment. After nearly 40 years I have
still your books and I could re-construct
at any time what I once knew. Since
then I have wandered far away in Arabic,

as Graham will tell you, and I think
I may venture to say that I have
founded a school of Arabic in this
country as Breasted has one of Egyptian.
But from all my wanderings I now
return to offer you the gratitude and
thanks of the stray Scot who
appeared in your classroom in
1893.

Faithfully Yours,
Duncan B. Macdonald