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

Brief von William Leah an Adolf Erman

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Treverven, 21.01.1903

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Beantw.
31/3

Treoveren,
Teignmouth
South Devon.
England
Jan 21. 1903.

Dear Sir,

It has occurred to me that you may possibly think the following suggestion worthy of consideration.

In the passage in the 'Inscription of Una beginning at line 19, if $\text{ḫ}^{\text{r}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{m}}$ be taken as the strong negative treated of in your *Äg. Gram.* § 397, it seems to me that a more probable meaning will be arrived at and a stigma be removed from the character of an old Egyptian worthy. The passage would then run something like this:

"It was I who undertook their control,

" although my real office was that of $\text{ḫ}^{\text{r}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{m}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{r}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{m}}$,
" for the maintenance of discipline, so that never
" did one of them $\text{ḫ}^{\text{r}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{m}}$ despoil any of his comrades,
" so that never did one of them steal a loaf or a pair
" of sandals from a traveller on the road &c &c"

One of the difficulties appears to be the meaning

* n mtr n'ist
literally 'for
exactness of place'
(taking $\text{ḫ}^{\text{r}} \text{ḫ}^{\text{m}}$ = mtr)

+ dd m 'carry
off from (?)

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to be attached to 'dd m'. It appears to me ⁽²⁾ that the sense here must be identical with that in the parallel passage in line 35. If the latter be construed on the same lines it will run:

"I discharged for him the office of Governor of the South satisfactorily, in such a way that never did I despoil (or wrong) any ^{*}fellow = worker of mine of so much as a single labourer (○ ㄱ ㄴ) and I estimated every thing in this Southern country at double the estimate of the court, the general meaning being that without oppressing or wronging any man, he expended on the state works more than the court expected of him. Compare with this boast that of Amen = m. hêt, when governor of Inahetel "there was no overseer of a gang from whom I took his men for the work."

* i.e. any one engaged ^{like me} in carrying out the public works

I do not know whether my rendering of 'dd m' can be justified? Being in a part of the country remote from libraries, I have not been able to find other instances of its use. My only Vocabulary, *Pierret*, does not mention the word

I remain, Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Wm Leak

