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THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN 17, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE, NEVINS 8-5000

CABLE ADDRESS, BROOKMUSE

October 21, 1946

Dear Uncle George:

Your letter of October 18th came in this morning to remind me that I have not answered that of the 13th. I should have had a letter waiting for you at your new address to bid you welcome, but the days passed so quickly that I realize only now that this is moving day for you. However, this will come before you are entirely settled to wish all three of you the greatest happiness in your new house.

First of all for the question concerning Bes. We have a little book which we bought from you, by Franz Ballod, a doctor's dissertation, Zur Geschichte der zwerghaften Götter in Ägypten. He quotes, among Bes figures other than those on the wands, a mirror handle very doubtfully attributed to the 6th Dynasty, a blue faience statuette which also rather doubtfully is attributed to the 11th Dynasty, a wooden statuette of the 12th Dynasty found by Petrie in Kahun (Kahun, Gurob and Hawara, pl. VIII). He also quotes a possible Bes figure on a wooden casket found by Petrie in Rifeh in a grave of the 13th Dynasty (Gizeh and Rifeh, p.20-21, pl. XXIV). Here the head is missing and only the bowlegs and rather thick torso indicate that the figure might be Bes. Aside from this, he offers no examples of the Middle Kingdom. If you would like me to send you the Ballod book, just let me know. p. 39 ff.

Second, I have ordered today the Pratt, Modern Egypt, and as soon as it comes I will send it, together with our two publications, to Dr. Keimer. Do I read his address properly as 17 Sharia Youssef el Guindi?

Jimmy Breasted was in last week and went over his manuscript with Federn. He left here on Saturday and should soon be home again. He and Mrs. Breasted had lunch with me here at the Museum.

I will send you the photographs of the granite head as soon as I possibly can get them.

I am very pleased about the grant from the Bollingen Foundation, but not surprised. I have felt sure for some time that it was going through from what Dr. Bull has told me about it.

Marian went to Princeton on her brother's invitation to the football game last Saturday. She surprised me greatly by showing up at midnight Saturday with a present for me--her little brother. He stayed until six o'clock yesterday and then went back to his studies. He seems well and is most enthusiastic about his work as well as about his pleasures at college. It was nice to see him.

(Over)

THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

100 NASSAU PARADE, BROOKLYN 1, NEW YORK

With all good wishes to all three of you, and much love,

Eliezer Riefstahl

Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "I am very pleased", "I am surprised", and "I still read you" are faintly visible.