

The Johns Hopkins University

Baltimore, Maryland

London, Sept. 13th, 1938

Dear Nelson,

Your letters of the 29th and 31st of August ^{and 1st Sept. 1938} have been duly received, as was also the carbon copy of your letter of the 7th, the original of which had reached me in Baltimore.

Everyone was sorry to miss you at Brussels, Miss Eaton Thompson was particularly anxious to see you. Morgenstern was there for most of the Congress, and Glidden appeared for the last two days with his wife. I gave Winnetta's paper to Ryckmans after reading it; the Mincion paper I have with me. I shall see whether it can be made suitable for the Bulletin; it is a little thin for JAOB, but with a little rearrangement can perhaps fit the Bulletin.

I am very sorry to hear of Helen's continued illness, and earnestly hope that she has recovered since your letters of a fortnight ago.

It is hardly likely that the publication in the October Bulletin, which went to press Aug. 22nd, and must have been in 2nd page proof when I received your letter Sept. 9th, will be embarrassing. I was very careful about the text of your article, which can hardly contain anything which you will have to recall. It is I, not you, who will have to recall certain comments, especially on the Caricoid inscription. It is a very unusual case, where I would not have ventured out on the ice but for the seeming agreement of the enlarged photo with your hand copy, which also offered a clear het here. After the comparative tables by you and Harding (which I return herewith) your reading seems certain. However, I don't think that a date before the 7th century is well possible, on account of ajin (open at the top) and uim, to say nothing of he and ka. The form of the jay on which ^{one} the impression was found, agrees well with a seventh-century date. I suggest that the jaylets of late type belong to the same time (you say that there are a number which are practically duplicated by fig. 14, p. 85 of TBM I), since most of the TBM specimens belong to ± 600 B.C., and that # 445 belongs to an early phase of strom III.

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The signs, min, he and ka as well as form of jay on which impression was found agree with a 7th cent. date.

(8th century), these graffiti are evidently very important for dating purposes. No. 536 escapes me entirely; I have no idea about it. — At present, then, a date in the 7th-7th century for III and the 7th century for IV looks reasonable. But don't try to put the Divin's seal back into the 7th century, since it simply won't work!

I suggest for the December Bulletin the article on the history and topography of Khalefah which you have promised, and a good handwriting of the Divin's inscription, as well as of the graffiti, to replace the tentative one which appears in this issue. Burnouf will present a paper on the discoveries at the Theater of many meetings of the Philological Society, in which everything available up to then will be utilized. I shall sound at Constantin et al. before the new application is made, so that we shall not make a mistake there.

I am completely at a loss as to the symbol above the shoulder of the goddess of Divin; can't determine what it is, who is there who can? If I run across some one who really knows around here I shall visit him. There was no one at the Divin's house.

The Congress, by the way, was a whole of a success from my point of view, in spite of the fact that I spent the first day and a half in bed with bronchitis. There were some 500 persons present. The Mar discoveries and the new Arch-temple were enough to fill me with enthusiasm. The Pro-Phoen debate fell altogether as a debate by as a result of the absence of Bressan and Viel-leand. The English text of my paper, with little change, appears in the October Bulletin, so you can see for yourself. But the Negative theory is philologically dead things it will wriggle and even jump about for a few years more. De Vaux's paper was very well received; he is a charming man as well as a brilliant scholar. I also saw a good deal of Hage and of

I shall be back in Baltimore by Oct. 2nd. News from Ruth is good. She is taking her maturing very seriously and is making steady progress under different teachers. — All is married (to a woman Ph.D. who was employed in the office of Heinrich). Lucky woman!

Very cordially yours,
William