

Paris 7 Nov /83

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I met with a nice Anglo Indian a Mr. Dodson in the carriage from Cannon St, & he knew nothing of the way, not having been to Paris at all before; so as we got conversable he joined on to me, & I brought him over to the hotel here in the cab. He is gone on direct to day to (Wednesday) to Brindisi for the boat before mine. He is a very pleasant, quiet, gentle ^{about 36 or 40} man, & felt at sea in coming here; he said that his sister had recommended Hotel de Londres to him; but he evidently preferred to find some one who would actually take him in hand.

He went with him to the Louvre this morning & set him going on the pictures, which he wished to see. Then I went to Maspero, & had a long talk of an hour & a half; he was very agreeable, and we settled everything satisfactorily. In the afternoon I went through the Egyptian galleries at the Louvre as a

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"refresher". Wrote to Poole, with copies of 2
 Index, & notes of conversation, signed by Maspero.
 It is getting dark & there is no candle up here in
 my room, so I close this for post.

Card received, many thanks; let me have the
 American notice ~~also~~ in Egypt, as well as any
 others, please.

The enclosed is to be forwarded as addressed, on
 the day directed.

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I. N. 8.
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Turin 11 Nov /83

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(4)
 hour to my surprise, but I heard afterwards that it
 was 7 not 4 kilom. I inquired of friend Naville's house;
 it is a nice country house standing in about 20 or
 30 acres of lawns, woods, & gardens, ~~with~~ reaching
 almost to the lake, & with a magnificent view
 of the alps from the windows. He received me
 very kindly, & we were soon discussing objects &
 means of work in Egypt. ~~At~~ I got there about 1,
 & after a stroll in the garden at 5, dined at 6, &
 left at 8 ½, he walking to the station with me. He
 does not at all intend now to go to Egypt this
 winter, being kept by his literary work. I saw M^{me}
 Naville, a very pleasant & refined person, and four
 of the children from about 8 or 9 downwards. M. &
 M^{me} both speak good English, but she has not had
 much practise, having been but little in England.
 To my great surprise they know Bromley,
 having stayed with the Kinnairds whom they
 know well, & whom they were interested to find that
 we knew. Who would have expected to hear of the "Iron
 Room" at Geneva! I got back to Geneva by 9 ¼ &
 then decided to leave next-day, as Naville said
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by 6 ½ p.m. I went to the hotel the Stapletons recommended. (5)
 Next day, Sunday, was a very fine cloudless day, & I took a short stroll before church. There is an English chapel here, of the C.C.C.S., just behind a fine large Valdense church. The service was simple & reasonable, but I think that the chaplain's talent does not lie in the direction of sermon writing. He looks to be a very pleasant sweet old man in private life, but not to be distracted with too many ideas.

I tried to send a card from Modane, but there was no post box in the station.

I much wish Spurrell could see the district from Culoz to Geneva. The gorges worn by the rivers, with caves along their sides, the old river terraces high & dry, & the old high level shore of the lake of Geneva.

I must post this now at once so have not time for more. I leave here Wednesday morn for Vienna.

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N. 13-

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For M^{rs} Petrie, Bromley, Kent.
Not private, but of no business importance.

For Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.
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Turin 13 Nov /83

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(6)

After posting my last letter I went off for a run up one of the steep hills around the city: the view from the winding road was fine, the broad plain of the Po, as flat as a sheet of water, stretches for about four or five miles; from this, hills of about a thousand feet high rise abruptly, covered with autumn-browned woods; & over these are seen the snow topped Alps. The situation is one of the best that I have seen for any city: Cairo with the Mokattam hills behind it is the nearest approach to such a position; but the colouring, the heights of the mountains, & the greater compactness of Turin gives it the advantage as a city. Internally Turin is one of the most convenient places to a stranger, though not to be called picturesque, by reason of the regularity of the streets & their freshness & cleanness. It is impossible to lose ones way here if the general direction is kept in mind.

The weather has been charming; bright cloudless skies, & but little wind. The inhabitants seem to think it cold to judge by their well-cloakedness; but it is just sharp enough to keep up ones activity.

I have had long talks with Sig^o Lanzone, who is very agreeable, & favours my going on with the scarabs here, without at all considering apparently that I should be

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(7) treading any way on his toes. He does not intend doing more than edit those here in the Museum; and he welcomed the idea of having a general collection published. I also talked to him on having the measures of capacity accurately gauged, as there are several good ones here; and he urged me to take up the subject & bring together the data from different collections. His knowledge of excavating in Egypt, & particularly in the Delta, may prove of value to me: he has told me the details of his method of working with the people. I have now had two days at the Museum, & last evening I was with Lanzone, & expect to be so again tonight.

I must now close as dinner is ready, & I have to go out after that. I met Chester at the Museum; he has had wretched weather in Paris & across France, & was astonished at the difference on this side of the Alps. He is still poorly with cold, &c.

I expect to be at Venice by tomorrow night, & shall not probably have an opportunity of posting from there, nor until Brindisi; there I cannot answer what I may receive, as the steamer starts as soon as the ~~lett~~ mail comes on board.

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III-
N. 15-
Turin-

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The Bokhara
17 Nov 1883

The Bokhara (8)

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I had a straight run from Turin to Venice without any changes, & got in to Venice by about 8 in the evening. I took care to give the name of the ship, as I remembered the difficulty I had before; & I was taken there straight without any question.

~~I~~ I got some bread & cheese & turned in about 9.

Next morning, as I was told that they did not start till the afternoon, I walked ashore by 7, & began a ramble over the city. I was very sorry that I had not brought Baedeker, but when I ^{was here} before there was no chance of doing anything ashore, & so I did not care to carry it. The sunrise was fine, rich crimson clouds in a bright green sky; and in spite of some mistiness last night this was as fine a day as those that I spent at Turin. There they told me that they had had three months fine weather. As I had no plan, & only a vague general idea of the geography I wandered & blundered on through the labyrinth of streets & bridges, never knowing exactly where I was going, which was half the fun of it. I succeeded however in picking up some bread & coffee at a thoroughly native house

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where ⁹business men dropped in on the way to their
 offices: and then went through the Piazza San Marco
 & on along the shore to the public gardens, round
 & back again to the Doge's Palace. There I spent
 nearly two hours, going over all the graffiti on
 the balustrade round the inner square, & then going
 into the Palace which is now open to the public.
 It is a striking sight to see the council chamber,
 senate, council of ten, & all the other empty shells
 of vanished power. The place is so perfect, as if the
 life ought to be there; & yet it is stone, timber,
 canvas, - and nothing more. Like the dead body of a
 giant preserved incorruptible. The paintings are
 immense; Tintoretto, Paolo Veronese, & many others;
 but being all official pictures to order they are
 not so happy as lesser works; as furniture -
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 chamber are very interesting; they are about 6 feet
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 shews Central Africa all filled duly with the various
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being straight, by the shape of Moeris, ⁽¹²⁾ & by the great island in the Nile. Both globes are made of a mass of black letter ~~books~~ ^{sheets}, about $\frac{1}{6}$ inch thick, being perhaps 20 or 30 leaves placed together. This shews that about two dozen good sized volumes must have been used up. What were they? The globes are now worth more than the chance of a discovery in such a heap of print. I observed that the trireme galleys in the pictures which were contemporary with them, are all shewn as having three oars coming out of one hole side by side; the sea fights are the principal subjects of these pictures.

I went through the antiquities, which are all second rate classical work, none of the old Venetian relics of state. Three or four Egyptian things are there, of no particular interest. The riser of each step of the grand staircase, in the open air in the central court, is inlaid with patterns in lead, let into the marble; some of these are very beautiful.

I also went round by the Arsenal & saw the four lions; the smallest is from Attica, the next — an ultra-byzantine beast — is erected in the year of the liberation of Corcyra; the third is a creature ^{sic} {creature} couchant about 4 feet high; and the great one sits alone on one side of the gate, a noble beast about 8 feet

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high, with the long Runic inscription winding up & down his sides. If I remember right this is Harold Hardrada's inscription recording his capture of the Piræus. For nobility of original work, & for the strange added interest of the inscription this is the most impressive thing that I saw in Venice. I got two photographs of it at the first photographers I came upon. I also went round the mosaics in the ~~court~~ colonnades around St Mark's, but did not go over the cathedral for lack of time. The modern mosaics in the style of Tintoretto & his period look most unpleasant & inharmonious along side of the quaint & forcible byzantine work of the older periods. I got off to the ship by about 2, and we started at 3. I was astonished to see how much wash the steamer makes in the narrow channels; when the bank is within 30 feet a depression is formed in the water from ~~at~~ beside the middle of the ship along to the stern; this depression is about 3 feet deep, & into it the water off the submerged islets pours in a cataract. The wear of the bank & filling of the channel must be considerable. When the bank is at 60 feet not more than 6 or 8 inches depression is formed; but strangely in no place is there any elevation of the water to be seen.

Neither of the other berths in my cabin are filled up, so I shall have it all to myself as far as Brindisi. The start is a smooth as could be, a cloudless sky & a waveless sea, with the full moon rising red.

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After leaving Venice we had a very fine ⁽¹²⁾ run to Brindisi, reaching it in 34 hours, at 2 o'clock this morning (Saturday). At daylight we came up to the coaling station, & had to be inspected by the doctor because we had come in from the high seas & might be supposed to have kindly exchanged a passenger for a cholera patient from some other ship. However it was recognised as a farce, & not very rigorously carried out. Then the coaling began & was continued on till about 6 in the evening. I had sundry walks in the neighbourhood, during the day, getting a quantity of grapes at 1½^d a lb! There is really nothing to see about here except two pillars, which I had seen before; and as we are to lie here all tomorrow as well, there is rather a lack of interest about the place for such a stay. They take two days here so as to have one for coaling & another for cleaning, before the passengers come on on Sunday night.

I received a telegram from Mr. Poole telling me to go on to Cairo direct & not to stop at Homatigh; so the boat meeting me has fallen through I fear. Also a letter from Mr. Tomkins on sites. I shall post this tomorrow morning, as there is no ~~chance~~ chance of the mail coming in in time for me to answer what I may receive. Please forward letter.

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**4. Brindisi-
Nov: 22-**

H. Blandisi -
Nov-22-

V-
Cairo-
D: 4-

Port Said
22 Nov 1883.

Port Said 13
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I omitted to say that I went with some Germans (who by the way spoke excellent English) to the convict prison in the old fort of Brindisi. I was struck with the good temper & easy going way of the convicts, employed in gardening, weaving, bootmaking, &c; although they were ironed & strictly guarded. Each man wore a chain fastened to one leg, & carried up to the waist; & often two or even three were chained together. The guards were most ~~helpful~~ polite, & one of them spent the greater part of an hour in going about with us. We offered him a few francs quite privately, but he would take nothing, not even some cigars. The convicts are allowed bare subsistence, & $\frac{1}{2}$ fr. a day if they work, which they can spend as they like in food. There was but little rest to be had when the mail train passengers came on board. From 11 to 4 that night was a constant row. There we left at daylight on Monday, after spending two days in the duller of ports (barring Suez & Port Said). Monday was wretched, rough & raining, and I was miserable all day; Tuesday was but little better, and I only felt improved in the evening when it became smoother. This is however the fairest passage that I have ever had. Wednesday was really fine, and the number of new faces that appeared on board was considerable.

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I found ⁽¹⁴⁾ Gibson on board, whom I had only seen for
 ten minutes in Cairo two years ago; I came out
 with his brother there, & saw him by accident
 when calling on his brother. He recognised me by my voice,
 & we had a talk over people & affairs. He said that he
 thought there would be no difficulty in getting the
 railway stock, nor in getting the money sent
 down by government to the shekh. He was very
 agreeable, & asked me to call on him at Cairo.
 I also made acquaintance with Prescott, an officer,
 major I should think by his age. He is stationed at
 Cairo, ^{chief of the police} & knew several people there. One of the
 characters on board was an old Ceylonese planter,
 who had lived for over 20 years in Ceylon, & had then
 settled in England; he was going out to see his estates.
 His name was King, his address Junior Athenaeum Club.
 He sat next to me at table, & was talkative. His figure
 was queer, very squat & broad, with wild grizzly
 beard; & he dressed in very loose baggy garments.
 Two Germans were rather amusing, both intelligent men,
 going to India to enlarge their ideas, & intent on
 seeing Afghanistan as well. One had lived for 12 years in
 England; & the other was a medical student, with a
 face considerably slashed about, who wished to travel
 before he settled in practice. My co-cabiners were
 both nice men. One a sensible middle-aged
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I found Gibson on board, whom I had only seen for
 ten minutes in Cairo two years ago; I came out
 with his brother there, & saw him by accident
 when calling on his brother. He recognised me by my voice,
 & we had a talk over people & affairs. He said that he
 thought there would be no difficulty in getting old
 railway stock, nor in getting the money sent
 down by government to the shekh. He was very
 agreeable, & asked me to call on him at Cairo.
 I also made acquaintance with Prescott, an officer,
 major I should think by his age. He is stationed at
 Cairo, <chief of the police> & knew several people there. One of the
 characters on board was an old Ceylonese planter,
 who had lived for over 20 years in Ceylon, & had then
 settled in England; he was going out to see his estates.
 His name W^m King, his address Junior Athenaeum Club.
 He sat next to me at table, & was talkative. His figure
 was queer, very squat & broad, with wild grizzly
 beard; & he dressed in very loose baggy garments.
 Two Germans were rather amusing, both intelligent men,
 going to India to enlarge their ideas, & intent on
 seeing Afghanistan as well. One had lived for 12 years in
 England; & the other was a medical student, with a
 face considerably slashed about, who wished to travel
 before he settled in practice. My co-cabiners were
 both nice men. One a sensible middle-aged
 man, with a taste for reading Hindustani in bed in

the morning. The other, a young fellow who has some notion of geology; and is a quiet, reading, thinking being. Several of the other passengers were nice, General Dormer among others.

On Thursday afternoon we reached Port Said, & got ashore by about 4. I went first to the Customs & found Mr. Ebsworth there as chief. I met him & had a very slight talk with him ~~three years ago at Dr Grant's~~ ^{three years ago at Dr Grant's}; but he immediately recognised me, & took up my business warmly. I had to go hither & thither, but he sent one of his officials with me who knew English, & at last I got the boxes from the P&O barges, inspected, passed, paid, & by the Postal steamer on the quay ½ mile off, all done in two hours. It was a great shave to finish that night, and as the steamer starts for Ismailiyeh at midnight, any delay would have kept me a whole day. Mr. Ebsworth came round to the Postal Office & settled about my boxes, which there was some difficulty about their taking, as the Canal Co. will not let them carry merchandise. Then at 11 when I was to go on board, Ebsworth met me again, & saw to my getting ticket & all the details. He could not have done more for his own brother, & but for his kindness I should have stuck there for a day or two. He told me to write to him about anything that I might have to send through the customs there.

At the hotel where I went for dinner & rest I met one passenger who had come off; he & I had not spoken to one another on board, but he was delighted

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(16)
 to see anyone that he knew about, & addressed me. He said he despaired of making me understand, as he thought that I was a Spaniard, or possibly a Frenchman; & he talked on until it was time to go to the boat, & then walked down there with me. His name, Grant; nature, quiet & sensible; but not at all Scotch, a small dark man. When I reached the boat, I found Prescott there going as well, & he & I joined up sociably. There were not many passengers & we could all lie down on the seats for the night. The boat dithered & shook miserably from the screw, & I scarcely slept at all all night. Gibson, Mr^s Valentine Baker, & others had gone on in a special boat sent for them, & lay at Ismailiyh all night, some other passengers got off the ship at Ismailiyh, so altogether there were about 15 or 20 of the Bokharans to go up to Cairo. Prescott had telegraphed to Ism.^h to have the chief of police there to meet him, & there was a line of half a dozen men drawn up to receive him. I shared all the advantage of the eclat in getting my baggage pushed ahead, & having all the officials as smooth as butter. A middy going to join his ship at Alex^a also went with us. Prescott very wisely had all the weighing & formalities gone through at once at the station at 7.30, though the train did not go till 11.30, as we had all the place to ourselves then & avoided the crush of other passengers. I found my baggage weighed 980 lbs, I had no idea that it was so much, & I had to pay nearly £3 for getting it on. We lunched at Zagazig arriving ½ hr after the train we should have left there; but we were quite safe

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as Mrs Baker was at lunch, & so we ¹⁷ felt that we had a hostage so long as she was in sight. We got into Cairo by 6, & I waited till all the passengers & baggage were cleared out of the train in order to see my boxes safe; one of them had half the lid broken off in the ship, & I had them all stacked in the magazine with this half open box at the bottom, so that no one could get at it easily. Then I went off to the Hotel d'Angleterre which was well spoken of: a new place, started this year. After dinner I ran round to the Grants' by 9, & found Mrs G. Miss Mullock a new governess (English), & Dr Davis, a young man, the new partner. Had a talk on matters in general till near 10, & then returned & went to bed.

Next day ^{24 Nov} while I was writing a letter ~~for~~ for Borg to use officially, Dr Grant dropped in for a minute or two in his usual cheery way. Then I went to Cook's & enquired about boats; agreeing to go with the agent & select one this afternoon at 2 1/2. Then to Consulate, but Borg was in a law case. So went round strolling up the Muski, & to Hotel du Nil, without any definite ideas; just as I reached the door out rushed Corbett on his way to the Abidin Palace to the school. So I trotted there with him, having a talk on the way, then sat in the Esbekiyeh Garden writing this, & round to the Consulate again: went on writing till Borg was at liberty. He was very cordial & agreed to sending application for a canal pass this afternoon. I strolled then up to the Grants', & had a talk with the Dr over early dinner: they are all much as usual, only Jessie has a cold. Mrs Grant had hoped to be better than

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last winter, after her last operation, but she is ⁽¹⁸⁾
 at all events no worse. Fraulein Schultz has
 left them permanently; the anxiety of looking
 after Mrs Grant as well as doing the teaching was
 too much for her, & (perfectly amicably) they
 have therefore parted. I then went to Cook's
 & after waiting for sometime for a manager, &
 writing there to fill the time, at last the manager
 drove down in his trap to Bulak with me; there
 I saw a small dahabiyeh which was for hire, but
 could not find the owner to settle the price, we
 then drove back, & I strolled about till dark. After
 dinner I went to Shepherd's to see who was there;
 Maj. Kitchener now lives at Abbassiyeh, & Col.
 Fraser has a house in Cairo. Hunter Jones, ~~the~~
 a C.E. here, lit on me (I came out with him
 two years ago) & enquired what I was doing now,
 &c. I also came at Cook's upon one of the Germans
 whom I saw in the Faium. People turn up in
 a marvellous way here. Cook's manager called
~~me~~ to say that the dahabiyeh man wants too much
 for the boat, so we hold off for a day or two
 until I really want it at once, hoping to find
 something cheaper meanwhile. I fear that I missed
 letters at Brindisi, but if put in to evening
 mail on Thursday in London I should have had them;
 if sent at time of Indian Mail (6 a.m. Friday) I could
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VI.
Cairo,
D. 7.

Hotel du Nil Cairo 26 Nov 83.

On Saturday night there was a ball at a cafe just behind opposite my bedroom window; and the wretches kept up a roar of talking, broken only by a large brass band with cymbals & big drum, which thundered away every half hour or oftener; this went on until 6.30 in the morning. Of course sleeping was quite impossible, & I just got a couple of hours after the row was over. I accordingly left that afternoon & came up to the Nil, which is quieter than any other hotel in Cairo. At church in the morning I found Dr Davis (Dr G's partner), he is a very pleasant & intelligent young man. Dean Butcher was much as usual, & I hope that he may be useful here with the army. Sermon on "In quietness & confidence shall be your strength", anti-sensational & ritualistic. There were many officers there; & in the evening service (which used to be miserably attended) there were also many privates, who of course were at Church parade in morn. In the afternoon I walked out past the scene of my robbery, & over Jebel Ahmar, a mass of sandstone in the desert; all the quarrying there was modern that I saw, but in the limestone near as is much quarrying though the rock is very bad, perhaps it was for gypsum.

~~On Mon~~ This morning I went to Cook's to hear about boats, & to try & settle what terms should be offered to the owner of the dahabiyeh. No other boat can be got much cheaper. To Borg on one or two points. Then to Dr G's, & overhauled all my boxes there. Three of the boxes do not seem to have had anything taken out.

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In fact I do not miss anything what ever. ²⁰ The books, photo-plates, papers, &c are as I left them. The moths have flourished on the ship biscuits & in the various old clothes used for packing, but strangely have left my great coat almost untouched. Opening & sorting all the things & packing what I wanted for this winter, took all the morning from 11 to 1. After lunch looked over scarabs &c with the D^r. Then went to a friend of his who owns some dahabiyehs to enquire about rates; he says that £10 or £12 is quite fair at present for a small one. Then hunted up Col. Fraser, who is T. & not Donald Alex. as I had it. After various enquiries I found him at Stone Pasha's old house. I little expected to call on an English officer there, when I used to call there before. He was friendly, but is not a man of words, & was I think busy; but a Major Watson came in who was much interested in the Delta antiquities & had been looking at places himself; he had some talk on the subject. Then to Cook's again.

In evening to D^r Lansing, who has been to San twice; he speaks very well of the people there. He told me of a point of great importance, that two rows of circular bases of pillars (which I know in the map) are very large, 8 ft diam, of granite, & were cut up by Ramses II for his temple, as there is a piece at R's temple uncut, & a column in transit between the temples. This then is the temple of the XII^d dynasty, & probably the old statues come from here originally.

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On the Philitis, 2 Dec 1883.

At last I have got fairly off, with all on board, within 9 days of landing in Egypt; which is not a very bad start after all, though the delays were wearisome. I found that I could not get a smaller boat than this, which has 4 cabins beside 2 sitting rooms (all small), but this is said to be only half the size of Naville's boat last year. Quite unexpectedly I found that Prof. & Mrs Sheldon Amos were wanting to take a change, & his legal engagements left him free just at present; so I offered to take them on for a week or two, they returning whenever they wish by rail. It was an opportunity to make use of the extra accommodation of the boat which would otherwise be wasted, & to secure pleasant acquaintances for a short time at starting. The Prof. is invalidish rather, a quiet, thinking, rather satirical man; & Mrs Amos is an utterly unconventional, active, sensible woman with her own opinions & ideas on most subjects, a great manager, & accustomed to roughing it. She is strong on social & educational subjects, siding with Octavia Hill & Dr Barnardo.

Getting in the stock of bread delayed us a good deal, or rather was made the excuse for delays; after spending a day waiting for it, partly at Bulak, & partly down at Shubra 3 miles below, I thought they were shamming, so I as the old reis had gone "to look for the felucca with the bread" which was to follow us to Shubra, & as he did not

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I went over to Gizeh one day, & saw all my old friends²³ there Ali, Abu Saud, Muhammed, & dozens whose names I do not know. I find that only the blanket & a box of ginger biscuits seem to be missing. My great coat I found in the box at Dr Grants, as well as the rope ladders, all the books, the tripod stands, &c; & all the photo plates are safe. The moths had made havoc of all the ship biscuits, & the old clothes used for packing, but had scarcely touched my great coat. I got a prize at Gizeh, which I hope to see safe in the British Museum, the upper part of a finely wrought figure in alabaster which I take from the style to ~~belong to~~ represent a Carian mercenary about 600 BC; it is more Greek than anything else. It comes from near Kafr Dowar & I hope that I may recover the rest of it & parts of other figures found with it; it was about 8 inches high when perfect.

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MS. A.
- 21. A.

VII was a card- VIII. Shibin
D. 13-

For M^{rs} Petrie Bromley Kent.

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On the canal, Belbeis.
6 Dec 1883.

I know & confess that I have been shabby in the matter of writing lately: and my only excuse must be that I have hardly been able to find time for what I have done in that way. When, beside running about all day, one has two clever people living with one always ready to talk, it is not easy to find time for for more writing than is a matter of business. I am now all alone, as Prof. Amos was not well, & needed to return to Cairo for advice. Mrs Amos is however so longing to see Tell al Maskhuta & San that she says "If Sheldon is not well enough to come while you are there, I will try to bring down one of the children to come & see you". As she is old enough to be my mother, don't be shocked. We had delightful talks on board, for Prof. Amos works at a little at hieroglyphs; so after a meal, before washing up, out would come dictionaries, lists of kings, &c, & we would be thick in the discussion of a dynasty when conscience would whisper "That tapioca pan will be {be} hardening if you do not wash it soon": So four or five days passed in a fascinating jumble of history, antiquities, cooking, ancient towns, & subjects social & educational, all coming one over the other as if Herodotus ruled our life.

Now I must give some notion of the sort of surroundings that I am in. The boat is far too roomy for one alone

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25
 and it seems a shame to be going about in this way, when there are so many people who would delight in such a trip. First after the sailors deck comes the door of the long poop, covering more than half the vessel. On either hand inside is a small cabin, one for the donkey-boy, the other used for cooking; then comes a saloon, 11 ft wide by 8½ long; then a passage, with my cabin on one side & a cabin I use for photographing, stores, &c on the other; then a disused tiny bath room (the foot of the bath goes under my bed place); & then a stern cabin 11 ft by 11 in extreme, which the Amos's had. Ibrahim, the donkey boy, suggested that I should feel very lonely at having all this space to myself; & when I was telling him of my tomb at the Pyramids, he asked if I was not afraid there. The whole crew here is nine in number; the old reis, Ismayn Hassanēn, has been very proper since I fetched him away so abruptly from the delights of Bulak: he is a small thin old fellow with a short white beard. Ibrahim, the donkey boy, is I suppose nearer thirty than twenty, & seems a good fellow; he is very active when he does move, & trudges away at over 4 miles an hour with me, of his own choice, making any other Arabs with us run to keep up; this physical activity of his makes him willing to go about & do things. His English is not grand, & anything outside the regular track of business, taxes my Arabic & his intelligence to a great amount. Of the crew, there are blacks; Ahmed Ise a broad faced jolly fellow with some intelligence, Mahmud, whose

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natural ugliness is heightened by smallpox; & Hassan, ⁽²⁶⁾ whom I
 called the baboon at first sight; I took him out with
 others antika hunting, & the poor baboon only found
 about a quarter of what the others did, & looked very
 monkey-like while hunting & when being laughed at
 afterwards. Then there is Hassanēn, who is half black, &
 has but one eye. Then a young Arab Abd el Halim who
 is fairly intelligent; a boy of about 15, called Khallil,
 who is also a useful fellow, observant & careful; &
 lastly the best of the lot, the little cook-boy Abd el
 Halim the lesser, only about 10 or 11; this little sprig
 is always all alive, ready to trot with me for miles
 carrying baggage, & found more than any one
 else when out grubbing at Tell el Yahudiyeh. He
 is not more courageous than the Arabs in general,
 for yesterday I having trotted Ibrahim & Mahmud about
 10 miles to Shibin & then to the boat at El Menair,
 I left them on board & took out little Abd el Halim
 up into the desert to prospect; though there were
 only two lots of people in view for miles, & neither
 coming our way, yet the urchin was incessantly
 looking round in every way & said most innocently
 (in Arabic) "I'm very much afraid". This continual fear
 of the Arabs is really ludicrous. When we were out at
 Heliopolis, I left Mr & Mrs Amos when about two
 miles from the boat, in order to get in sooner & put
 the kettle on, as it was just dark. We had Ibrahim & two
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it was the old reis with the ship's lantern & four men come out to look for us. He spoke to me as if I had murdered all the party, & when I assured him that they were coming on behind he went on in a grief-full manner, but sent one man back with me to the boat. I heard the other day of an Englishman & lady out driving being stopped up by a party of five men; the Englishman groped in his bag, found a boot-hook, & presented it at them, and — they all fled. I found the men here on board were much satisfied on hearing & seeing that I had a revolver with me when I went any distance; they enquire for it as a consoler of their feelings.

I have taken now to evening baths, as the water is of course warmer than in the morning; so just before I go to bed I step out over the sleeping crew on the deck, get into the felucca, & thence over into the water with various ropes on the ship's side to hang on by. In the canal I touch the bottom easily. The first night I tried going in from the bank, but as the black mud came over my knees, I had to haul myself out by a mooring rope, & get one of the crew to bring a bucket of water to wash down with.

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(27)

Since writing the foregoing I have had a walk in the wady Tumilat, & a walk that I do not long to repeat. At first we got on pretty well, though the ground was rather soft & moist. When at Tell Nuir we were told that the water was out, & we must go round. But, while looking about for the road, up came a very respectable man with a donkey which he offered me to get across with to Tell el Kebir. I gladly mounted, and found it a capital beast; it knew the road well, & all the little dodges for getting over each bad place seemed quite familiar to it. When at last we reached a hamlet whence the road was fair onwards, I got off, & offered some piastres to the owner who had ploughed on foot through all the mess. But he would not hear of my giving anything, but uncovered his wrist & shewed me a tattooed cross; thus I found that he was a Copt. He would not even take anything for his children, but seemed really to have a soul above bakhshish. I asked him if there were many Cpts there; he said there were only five or six. After parting from him with many thanks I went on into Tell el Kebir; there are no ancient remains at the Tells here, they are only little outcrops of desert in the mud land. As Ibrahim had a thorn in his foot since Shibin, which was bad now, I told him to wait there ~~for~~ the dahabiyeh while I went on to some reputed remains in the desert to the south with the boy Khallil. We got round Tell el Kebir very well, & then the troubles began: the country is merely a great marsh,

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rather ⁽²⁸⁾ salt, growing scanty woody grass, on which goats & buffaloes feed. There have been in some past times regular embankments on which one could walk; but these are so often broken away that they are useless. At last I had to wade continually through the marsh, which stunk abominably; and it was a ~~seri~~ rotation of deep mud over the ankles, filthy-looking red water, & salt-dust ground full of thorn bushes which pricked one's bare feet unmercifully. On the whole the deep mud was the pleasantest walking. After all this we reached the desert, & went on for more than a mile over the sand, looking for the reputed site of stones; but I could not find it, and after a considerable circuit we tried a fresh way back again which looked more promising at a distance. But this was worse than before, the water was nearly up to my knees, & mosquitos airily alighted on my legs when I reached dry ground. At last we reached Tell es Sugheir or "the small tell"; and here heard that the place we were in search of was farther to the west, & thus I had been misled by the direction which a shepherd boy pointed out to me. Here we found a fine dry path to Tell el Kebir, & rejoiced in it until suddenly close to the end it ran down into deep mud. We waded again, & I went down so deep that I lost my balance in trying to pull my feet up, & over I went sideways. I saved myself by sticking in the hand in which I

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I am all in the dark about the printing of the lecture; I suppose it was in the Brindisi letter which I missed; I am sorry not to revise, subtract, & add, somewhat if it is to go into type.

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IX. D. 22-

For M^{rs} Petrie Bromley Kent.

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IX. D. 22-

For Mrs Petrie Bromley Kent.

X.
Ismailia
D. 27-

To be sent to M^{rs}
Petrie, Bromley, Kent.

Kassassin 11 Dec 1883.

Yesterday I went all over the hill of Tell el Kebir, for as being the highest point of the country around it was the best place to examine the desert from in search of any chance of tombs. But though I carefully looked over the desert north of this with a telescope, I could see nothing but low, gentle, sweeps of pebble-covered ground; there is no trace of any rock face in which tombs could be cut. Indeed from the nature of the ground such could scarcely be expected. The nearest rock is about 5 to 10 miles south of the wady in the Arabian Desert; all north of that is sand & flints over which lies the mud of the Wady Tumilat & the Delta. The cuttings of the trenches shew that to five or six feet deep the ground is all sand with small pebbles: though strange to say about one to two feet below the present surface is a band of large flints, like those of the surface, shewing a period of wind action before the present top was deposited. The outworks of Arabi's camp extend far into the desert, five or six miles I should guess, & such a quantity of new mounds & ridges quite mask any ancient work heaps that there might have been there. I was struck by the very little degradation of the earthworks since they were thrown up 16 months ago; the edges of the ditches still stand quite sharp, slightly overhanging

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 and in very few parts did the bank & ditch appear worn down by the rush of the attack. Most of the traces of the action have disappeared, & it was only on an outlying part, which had not been much visited, that I found the strew of empty cartridges where each man had lain behind the bank.

The quantity of stores left lying about partly buried is astonishing; in one place are some hundred weights of shells, some unexploded, others uncharged; also ~~some~~ some canister shot & a quantity of balls, about a cwt of lead all in one place; there are also packets of ~~charged~~ cartridges, & a strew of gun fuses. All these things were just put under the surface, & are being dug up again piecemeal by Bedawin & Arabs. It is illegal to take them, & if a Bedawi is caught at it, he is "put in the police" as they say. This of course delays the distribution of the things, but they are sure to be taken sooner or later.

The English cemetery is being very nicely got in order, with white marble monuments & plantations of shrubs. There is a pleasant Arab as bridge keeper, who is learning English by dictionary & phrase-book, but he has a fair pronunciation.

Ismailia 16 Dec

I went to visit Tell er Retabeh, where there is nothing much on the surface, but a promise of results by digging. On my return to my great surprise I found Prof. & M^{rs} Amos back again; they had trained to Ismailia, & not finding me there had taken a boat back ^{along the canal} until they met me. They had been out 30 hrs or so, sleeping at a railway station. I have since found that Prof. A. is a connexion of ours; his sister was

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Lewis Hensley's first wife; they have just the opinion of the Hensleys that we have, reckoning Robert the really sound one of the family; they know them all well, & Prof. A. wrote only today to Lewis. Mrs. Amos also knows Mrs. Frestrail, & Mr. Roby was some relation of Mrs. A's mother. They are much amused at finding such connections.

We had great excitement on going through the lock at bridge at Nefisheh. As we came up the bridge was partly open, so we went straight on to go through. The keeper did not open it wider, & so just as we got up to it, the boat swerved & caught the mast against it. Over tilted the mast creaking awfully, & we expected to see it fall & smash up our cabins; but it did not go over altogether. Then the keeper was so indignant & vociferous that he never saw the stern mast coming on, & that caught also but not so seriously. Then he had not warned the reis to lower the lateen yard, so that caught the telegraph & broke one wire & twisted the others: we also splintered the wood of the bridge. The troubles arose from the keeper not opening the bridge properly (it is a turntable bridge) & not warning the reis; & our having too strong a wind to carry us through well, though we had no sail up. We stopped as soon as through to haul up the mast upright again & stuff in wedges, big & small, cracked & whole, to hold it up (N.B. it only fitted in a loose hole with a lot of various wedges to begin with); and after attending to the rigging, I made them push on to Ismailia. There we found that we had sprung two leaks, by the wrenching of the mast; & after bailing dry at night there was over a foot of water in in the morning, that is to say up to within 6 inches of the floors.

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I have met here (by means of the French Consul & Arab doctor) with an excellent Bedawi who knows all the country well, & walks splendidly. I did 17 miles with him over the desert, going over 4 miles an hour on ~~the~~ good ground; but much of it was heavy sand.

I have got letter No. 6 from Bromley, & also the letter to Brindisi, which did not reach there till 24 hrs after I left. It explains all the more about the lecture. I have not yet received however Miss Edwards' review, either the copy which she sent, or that from home: so I can hardly answer her yet. Many thanks for all the news; I am sorry to hear of the ~~trouble~~ trouble. C.P.S.'s review is rich; he manages to slide over all the awkward points so neatly; and at all events he is far more amiable than I had expected. The grant does not seem to have riled him.

I have had some good finds of things on the way here; including fragments of a large gilt scene of the XXXth dynasty, & parts of a bronze window lattice, both of which are new objects altogether, & so far as I know unlike anything known before. I send full account to Mr. Poole, but there are stronger reasons than usual for not letting the place & details come out at present.

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(34)

The country about Ismailiyeh is very different to any other part of Egypt, or indeed to probably any other place in the world. The general level is nowhere far from sea level; and as the sea is brought freely in by the canal, whenever the sand hills go below sea level a pond or lake is formed. Hence all around Lake Timsah, particularly on the west & south, the country is a continual alternation of sand hills & water, the intricacies of which none but a native who knows the ground well can possibly follow out. Hence for going about there it is necessary to have a man who really knows the place, & then to follow him implicitly through sand, marsh, or water. The first day that I went round there to Tusun the donkey boys (for I had for once taken a donkey) led their beasts through the water, but the current was so strong that I feared every moment that I should be over, donkey & all. Coming back I preferred to wade it, up to the knees & a loose sandy bottom; & then went on on foot, half in the water half out, all round the edge of Lake Timsah in the dark. The next time that I went that way was with my Bedawi guide; he tried to cross another part & after wading a long way through a foot or more of water he found that it was too deep to cross, & we had to go back & take my old crossing which was not over two feet at the worst. It would be hopeless to try to go about this neighbourhood without continual wading.

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(35)
Whenever one reaches a height the view is very pretty for the desert; the blue lake surrounded by yellow sand hills, & with innumerable islands & creeks all around. I enclose a few prints of plates of it.

When I got back to Tell-el-Kebir, after a very good days run with a north-east wind, Ibrahim found a fellow who knew the country well, & who promised to get me over to Shofetieh; so I walked off with him, leaving orders for the boat to go on to the canal junction. He took me over a way almost all dry, & I went all over Shofetieh, which is only a late site of pottery. The wind was dead against the boat, & we only got on to a little past Abu Hommad by night. Next day was very windy in our face, with continual rain, and I reckoned it best to promise a bakhshish if they tracked the boat up to Zagazig that night; and they accordingly did so. In the evening I went to hunt up Mr. Clarke, & found him just returned from a long camel ride of several days. He was very kind & talked over matters with me. It is impossible to take the dahabiyeh up to San, as there is a stone bridge at Zagazig; so how I shall get all my baggage up there I don't know. There are three courses, ⁽¹⁾ unload here into small boats, ⁽²⁾ go to Port Said by train & steamer, & boat across Menzaleh, ⁽³⁾ train to Fikus & camels 20 miles to San. Any way is a nuisance with a lot of baggage.

Next morning I went up to the station (as told last night) at 9. Met Mr. Clarke (he is head of the telegraph here, & now K.C.M.G.) & he began routing out about getting the railway bridge open for the dahabiyeh. After some time at last the station master was said to be visible if we would go round to his window. So at the side of the station we found a first floor window open, & then a head in night cap came out, (N.B. this at 9 1/2 a.m.) & conversation began. After long speeches he said that at 6 in the morning was the most convenient time to open; I replied that I was here last night, & was put off till 9 by the officials. Then he came down, & at last sent for the bridge keeper; & then about 11

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(36)

I paid the toll & saw the matter all in proper course, leaving orders for the boat to be brought round to near the station. Then off to the grounds of Tell Basta, with Prof. ~~Amos~~ ^{Amos} & Mr Clarke. He shewed us about a good deal, & then I had a hunt. I think I now identify the pottery of the XXIInd ^{to XXXVIth} dynasty, from various indications here. Back to station about 1 3/4, but no boat there. So went off full tilt to find it, as the Amos's train went at 2 1/2. At last found boat, through the railway bridge but sticking at another in the town, & a statement afloat that it is impossible to get into the Nile at all this way, the Canal being blocked where it joins the Nile below Benha. However hauled out the ~~Amos's~~ ^{Amos's} baggage, & carried it all up by the boatmen. Then had a long talk over all the difficulties with Mr Clarke: he does not believe in the blocking, & agrees with me that it is a tale of the bridge keeper here to prevent our going, as the bridge, &c, is out of order somewhat & would be some trouble to open. He had seen the account of our damage of the telegraph at Kassassin Nefisheh, & bill of £2 damages; he very kindly said that he would see that it was passed over, but he held it over the Reis's head to frighten him into going on, & so it was settled to take the dahabiyeh down to the reported obstruction & try to get through somehow. Then I settled with an old man who knows all about everything here of antikas, & all the country round, San included, to send his son with me to morrow to Tell Mokdam &c. Then to the Mudiriyyeh about the second bridge; but though it was only 4.20, the official had disappeared for the day: & at the bridge the reis of the bridge had shut up also. As the bridge is scarcely ever opened his post must be rather a sinecure. The theory I am told is that both bridges are always opened every day at a fixed hour, for all traffic on the canal; practice differs however.

The donkeys however never turned up, & after various waits & hunts, the man was found at 9 1/2, & he had been looking for me at the hotel! It was too late to start to day so putting him off, I went with Ibrahim to the Mudiriyyeh.

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There was much to do between the chief engineer's & the
 zaptieh three or four times, getting a little more sealed & a
 little more written each time; there were in all eleven
 people involved in merely an ordinary payment for
 passing a lock! and most of those were kept circulating
 about that business alone for over an hour. In theory
 all officials wear European dress & fez; but the most important
 man who wrote final orders & received the money was
 in flowing robes & turban, squat in the corner of a room,
 with his books piled about him, & all the money loose
 in a large bag, lying by his side on the floor. A policeman
 wanted to wander about with us (that is myself Ibrahim
 the reis, the shekh of the bridge, & the keeper of the bridge) from
 office to office; after it was over, I gave him two piastres,
 & he was mightily discontented, & waxed squabblesome with
 Ibrahim over it. Altogether it would seem hard, without
 making a direct obstruction, to spin out & make more
 complex the simple business of paying to go through a lock.
 After all the bridge would not be opened till 8 in the
 evening; so the row & bother of getting through had to
 take place all in the dark. And now I have the
 unpleasant business of somehow clearing the obstruction
 in the canal mouth near Benha; how much water there
 is over it no one seems to know, so all we can do
 is to try it.

There we went to & fro between the chief engineer's & the
 zaptieh three or four times, getting a little more sealed & a
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(9. letter dated Zagazig 23 Dec 1883. RSP.)

D. 24 - All well so far.
 Letters not yet in-
 Amos left for
 Cairo-
 He is a judge there.

[This last note was written by Anne Petrie, Petrie's mother.]

XI. Zagazig.
 Jan. 2- /84-

For Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.

At Zagazig
 Jan 2 1884

(Letter dated Zagazig 23 Dec. 1883. RSP.)

D. 24 - All well so far.
 Letters not yet in-
 Amos left for
 He is a judge there Cairo.
 For Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.

For M^{rs} Petrie Bromley Kent.

I am now up in Cairo staying with the Amoses until the dam is cut, for a few days.

I got a day over at Tell Mokdam from Zagazig, or rather a couple of hours; for though the distance is but 8 miles direct, my donkey was going fairly, & often galloping, for 3 ½ hours each way, so that I conclude it must be at least 12 miles. The path is anyhow, anywhere, round two sides of each field in general, & sometimes doubling back at an angle of 60°, winding in & out along the canals & water courses. The results at the place were more negative than positive to me; as, though the mounds are both high & wide, they are all late.

At last we got off from Zagazig on Christmas Day; and just as we pushed off up came a man with a small box from the station. This held a small pudding of the orthodox kind from M^{rs} Amos, who still retains her veneration for such compounds, & very kindly thought that I must be miserable without a proper feed. M^r Clarke with whom I had a long talk the night before, had pressed me to stay & dine with him, but I pleaded urgency of time. The canal is going down, & every day is important for trying to get out into the Nile. M^r C. says that he does not expect any difficulty, as he has seen larger boats than mine up in the canal as late as February; still I am very uneasy over it. The wind was dead against us; & all that could be done was to track up against it with the tow rope; in this way we did about 7 miles, for it was so strong that often the men were at a stand still. Then next day the wind was just as bad, and after some tracking the old reis wanted to stop; I would not hear of it, but shifted the men over to the other side, & went ashore with them bearing a hand when any difficulty arose. It had been spitting with rain off & on (& indeed we have not had a dry day for some time) & at a worse shower than usual the men bolted up to some trees; and then Mahmud began fiddling about, trying to light a fire. I knew if they got a fire

Cairo.
XII.
Jan.
10.
84-

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Petrie
XII.
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there they ³⁹would stick by it, so I brought him off that,
 & as the rain had moderated told them to go on, taking
 one of the ropes myself. I pulled away with them for
 some way & so got them on. The old reis howled out to
 me from the tiller about going on, when the rain & wind
 were rather sharper than usual, but as the men only
 laughed at him (as they generally do for his imbecility) we
 pushed on. As a khawaga at the tow rope is a novelty
 in Egypt, I may as well give the results of my experiment.
 The most trying thing is when the rope swings or vibrates,
 as being long it alternately pulls & drops you an inch or two;
 and when one is leaning over entirely on the rope, to be
 suddenly checked & dropped, knocks one's breath out like
 a thump on the back. The next point is the absence of any
 towing path; sometimes one must go up a bank, sometimes
 down, sometimes in thick mud, sometimes in deep ploughed
 dust, round a tree, over a wall of a waterwheel, or anywhere
 else that the vagaries of Egyptian irregularity may take you.
 In the next place you must not tread on the heels of your
 neighbour in front, & you must pick your footing so
 as to get a good hold. Several times the wind was such
 that we could only just hold up our place by digging both
 feet in & leaning far over, and it took six of us to hold
~~over~~ our own even then. Some of the men wrapped up their
 heads altogether, face & all, to avoid the rain, for they
 were pretty well soaked, & my old water proof that I had on
 was in a running condition when I got in. After a long
 stoppage from 1 to 3, I got them to go on again; but the
 rain soon came down as hard as ever. I rather wished that
 I was out with them, for I feared they would drop it, & it is more
 annoying - though drier - to sit in a windy cabin with the rain
 dripping through the roof, ~~with~~ on a chilly day at 57°, &
 fretting over things with cold feet, than to be out in it pulling
 away, warm through, & knowing that you can keep them up
 to the work. Looking out I saw a clump of trees ahead, & told

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them to stop there; and there, proved to be Mini-
 el Kamb, beyond which I certainly could not have ⁽⁴⁰⁾
 pushed them. So about 5 miles in as many hours
 of tracking is all this day's work. I gave them bakhshish
 of a piastre a head to make them happy at the village, whither
 they all went to dry & drink; excepting the reis & little Abd
 el Halim; whom I found later on lying in the dark on
 the wet deck, under the tent which they always rig up for
 night. So as I had had my own way in the working I could
 afford to be smooth to the old rascal after it; & he had had
 a wretched time of it, standing still at the rudder in the
 rain. A cup of coffee to each cheered them up, & I stirred them
 to fill & light their lamp, & then when I had done cooking
 I took out the paraffin stove & set it between them for
 a centre of light & warmth. This touched the old man more
 than anything, & his khatter kheraks were many & full. After
 a couple of hours the men returned, & quite appreciated
 the stove also: little Abd el Halim when he had got it to
 himself occasionally, spread his clothes right over it all
 to dry as he sat by it. It was an experiment pushing them
 on in such wretched weather, when they would have sat still
 without a good shove; but I think it has answered, as
 they were not sulky, & are quite lively now after it all.
 Happily for me although nearly every cabin leaks, mine only
 does a little in that way, just above side of the pillow; the
 two mattresses in the end cabin which the Amos s had are soaked
 with the drip, drop.

Next morning was fine, but still with a blustering wind
 ahead; so as I despaired of getting on against it, I went
 over to see mounds at Shalshalamun &c. Ibrahim
 found an old man for a guide, & brought him down to the
 boat; he was a shivering old fellow with his thin cotton
 clothes blown out into balloons by the breeze, & whose
 distinguishing feature was the possession of three teeth
 distributed somehow between his two jaws, but how I never

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quite ⁽⁴¹⁾ made out, for they were so long I never saw much of the ends of them. He had an idea apparently that I was a dangerous character, for he kept up ahead of me the whole way, & would never let me come near him for miles, always running off if he found less than 10 yards between us; in fact he ran so much that I could hardly keep up. He trotted past Shalshalamun, & not finding that I stopped him, went ahead to Tell el Brush, another three miles, & still as I did not stop him (for I was expecting a big mound) he without any explanation - went straight on, & on, & on, until I raced up to him & pulled him up, demanding where the Tell was; Oh! it was there, pointing vaguely ahead; but how far? the other side of Belbeis at the foot of the hills, was the reply; as this was about 8 miles further, & I had already done 8 miles from Miniet el Gamh, I peremptorily declined to go any further. So the gaunt old fellow wheeled round in his cotton balloons & raced back, moderating after a time & permitting me to get up along side of him. Tell Brush I saw coming back, but it is worthless. By the time I got him I had done about 18 miles, & my feet were horribly blistered owing to not having shod in expectation of such a trot. Ibrahim met me at a cotton mill ^{<to>} which he had agreed to take down the boat, with the news that the canal was impassable, & so I saw it to be when Hassan was sent to wade across at the point; it seems to be a dam in the bed, used in the summer. So I am stuck here until the dam at Mit Radi is cut, ^{to let the Nile in & fill the canal} & that will be soon by all accounts, they say three or four days. It is very provoking, but it would probably have taken longer to go all round by Shubra. I telegraphed & wrote to Clarke for information; & next day he sent saying that merchants were complaining of lowness of canal & he expected it to be cut immediately. ^{I shall use the delay by going to Cairo, & so save going later on.}

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For Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.

(42)

As I have now returned to the dahabiyeh, I will give a summary of my doings in Cairo. Finding that it was impossible to go on until the dam at the mouth of the Muezz Canal was cut, I determined to go up to Cairo, & try to settle all the matters for which I must go before going to San, & thus save any further delay; as well as seeing what I could toward getting the boat on by trying at headquarters. I left on the 29th at 7½, by what was somewhat remarkably called the express; turned out at Benha at 8, & had to wait until 12.40 for the train to Cairo, which only takes ¾ hour to go up. I spent the time going over the mounds ^{of Athribis} so as to get a general idea of them; there is scarcely anything but Roman pottery to be seen, but I found one scrap of sculpture with half a dozen hieroglyphs; I could not make up my mind whether it was the fine work of the XVIIIth or of the XXVIth dynasty, there was so little characteristic in it; but soon after I found a block with part of the name of Psamtik I or Uah-ab-ra of the XXVIth, so that settled it. There must have been some large building of that time, all ruined before the 3rd cent AD. I also looked about the town for any antiquities, but only found some of no importance at the station buffet. I saw however a very decisive point in the mounds, that bright blue glazed pottery was ^{commonly} used as late as the 3rd cent A.D.; I never knew before how late it was made. I got letters & papers of two weeks, Nos 7 & 8, many thanks for such a lot of news; at Cairo I met Mrs Amos in the street, just by her door; & she immediately said that I must come in & stay with them, which I was not at all loath to do for many reasons. I looked in on Dr Grant in the afternoon, & on Mr Borg to consult about the question of sending money to San. Mrs Du Port was in at the Amos's, & asked about

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(43) my boat difficulty as her husband is high in the Canal affairs, asking me also to come to lunch & talk over the business. In the evening Mr. Cookson came in; he is very familiar with the Amos's, & beside their introduction I handed him Mr. Poole's letter which I had not had an opportunity of using before. He was very friendly & seems to be a most amiable man. The Amos's seem seldom to dine alone, somebody or other is almost sure to turn up; the Prof. was in the habit of having frequent parties of the young men of his legal connection both at the Temple & at Cambridge, & Mrs. A is one of the most actively-benevolent people that I have seen; hence their habit is to look after any one that happens to be "detached". Mrs. A's mother Mrs. Bunting, & sister-in-law Mrs. Chubb, live at Chiselhurst next beyond Camden up the Common & she knows Bromley well. Her governess, Miss Martin, is also from Chiselhurst & knows Bromley & Plaistow. Strangely both Mrs. A's & Miss M's father held the office of general secretary to the Wesleyan Committee: but Mrs. A joins with her husband in supporting the Church here heartily.

On Sunday I went to lunch in morn & evening, the last time I suppose for several months to come. Lunched with the Du Ports, & Mr. Du P. promised to make enquiries & push on my waiting boat. In the evening Corbett came to dinner, & Col. Gibbons, a very nice man, chief of country police in Egypt. The A's saw Col. Scott-Moncrieff who is head of the irrigation & canal department, & he agreed to see me at 10 next morning. Accordingly I went & explained matters, & he said that he would write ordering that the boat must be got through as soon as possible, & would inform me when it would go. Mr. Du Port told me that this troublesome dam is only put up in very high Niles, & has not been made for the last three years; so that

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

almost any other year I could have gone ⁴⁴through direct, as I had expected. Then I went to Maspero, & found him as polite & kindly as ever; he had had to give an order for my making small excavations before the canal people would give a permit for free passage of the locks, & this made the strange delay about that permit. He showed me the photos of San & talked over the work, & agreed to make out my official order for working & send it to me to sign by post, so that I need not come to Cairo again. He offered to send with me one of his regular soldier-attendants to impress the minds of the inhabitants, or to send him to me at any time if I find that I want such a man; also to send me a Museum employee if I should want help in the work; but this is to be just as I may wish. I thanked him much & said that I thought it would be best to begin without ~~making~~ shewing too much connection with the Museum, as the people did not love that department. He laughed & quite agreed, telling me that he found the country people run away when he came anywhere crying out that "the Mudir of the antiquities is come". So I have a reserve of help if I want it. He is getting over the fear on the part of the Gizeh & Sakkara people by just & ~~far~~ friendly dealing with them; but it is uphill work to undo all old Mariette's misdeeds. After lunch I went ^{where I had met at the Amos's} to see Col. Watson; he is deeply interested in Δ measures, was with Gill at the Δ , & had been working further on the data in my book. He is fluent in formulae & mathematical work, but could not quite make out some points, owing to thinking that I assumed the diagonals to be exactly at Right Angles, & confusing the co-ordinates of the station marks & of the easing socket corners. We cleared it all up in half an hour's talk. He is a bright active man, much liked here. Then to Dr Grant by appointment to go & see a stone, which he had found displaced in rebuilding an old house;



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45
 he was delayed with visitors, & by the time we drove up the
 Muski & got to the stone it was sunset. It had an inscription
 of Merenptah I round the edge of it; but as there was
 something ^{on the} underneath ^{side} we got some men to come & turn
 it (first weighed about 3/4 ton); then I recognised at
 once the disc with rays of the Tel el Amarna style of
 Khuenaten, & on brushing it up found Khuenaten
 himself, & a quantity of inscription in his characteristic
 style. There are two scenes of him adoring the sun, &
 both of them have had parts inlaid in stone or pottery, which
 has been torn out leaving deep hollows. We got a candle,
 & surrounded by a group of wondering Arabs, I picked out
 as much of the inscription as I could from under the
 dirt & plaster which filled it. To finish this subject; I
 left a copy of the inscrip. with Dr G.; he wrote to Maspero
 telling him of the stone & sending the copy, saying that if
 he wanted ^{to purchase} I should be glad to have it; & then I heard
 from Dr. Davis (Dr G.'s partner) that Maspero is much
 interested & sent to appropriate the stone at once.
 So there is the history of a find. I was writing letters in
 the evening, & arranging a lovely collection of coins
 which the A's have. Some of them are gems, a silver Tarentum,
 several gold early English, & some Commonwealth & Olivers.
 Edgar Vincent called; he is a very charming young fellow, &
 it seems strange to look on him as one of the most
 influential men in the country, - financial adviser to the
 Khedive. While we were at dinner last night, the long
 expected order ^{arrived} to Mr. Amos to be presented to the Khedive
 on taking his post as a judge in the Court of Appeal. He
 accordingly was out officializing all day, & Mrs. Amos
 went to call on the Khediviah, as she had visited her
 before & thought it well to go on such an occasion. The
 difficulty of keeping up conversation is said to be great, owing
 to the absence of intellectual interests; the coldness of the
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Jan. 1 1884.

Jan. 1 1884. Off to the Pyramids to see Ali & settle matters. Saw all my old friends there, & had a long talk with Ali. When I asked him whether he would go with me as I had proposed to him he replied "well, I not go for money, but if you want me go, I go; I know you, I not care to go for any man, but I know you take care for me, & take care for you. Yes, when you wantey me I go to you" Such was our agreement, & I assured him that I would take care for him as I would for myself. I then settled that when I was ready for him I would let him know through Dr Grant, & he should bring down a small tent & anything else that I wanted & join me when I left the boat. Also he is to bring the best of the men that I had at Gizeh, if he will agree to come. (Putting my head out from door I have just lost my only penholder, which I had used for many years, so I continue with a pen stuck in a bit of splinter of deal; but I saw a ferry boat, & such a ferry boat; it was a barge loaded with 72 men women & children, two buffaloes, a camel, & a lot of sheep, while a crowd of much the same size & nature were trying to board it in addition: the ferry man however pulled off & left them declaiming: 1) Suleiman had some good scarabs, for which he wanted too much, but one ^{plaque} was important having a scene of King, Bast, &c, with  twice repeated, & Sesonk I cartouches on reverse. This shows that  belongs to Sesonk's time, if not to him personally, & agrees well with the appearance of the 088 scarabs as to age. After I returned to Cairo the American Consul called, & I was particularly glad to see him, as I shall need to name some consul as arbitrator in case any dispute should arise about antiquities between me & the Museum. It is only a form Maspero says, but I must name some one; & as the American is quite above suspicion, & friendly both with the English & with Maspero personally he is by

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far the ^{4th} most suitable man. At dinner in evening we had several stray people; Mr. Webster, Wesleyan chaplain (who is M^{rs} A's terror as he sits an unconscionable time, & has nothing to say in particular) Rose, an army contractor; Marvel, an invalid; & others; & a lieutenant at Shepherd's was invited to bring in anybody in the evening who was "desolate". We accordingly had three young R.E.s & an Ordnance store officer, including Manby a minute man who had been in with the Palestine Exploration, & was intelligent, he is now examiner in Arabic for the officers entering the Egyptian army in which he is, and also Haughton who is a pleasant fellow.

Next day ^{2^d} I went over to old Cairo as I wanted to see what was at the extreme south of the mounds. Miss Martin, & the two children went with me as they did not know anything of that region, in fact Miss M. had never been on an Egyptian donkey before, & had to ride side-saddle on one of the usual bump saddles, which was not an easy beginning. We went down to Atar en Nebi & then back to Babylon, but I saw nothing before Byzantine times. The children pressed to know what the date of the mound was, & I said between 500 & 800 A.D., judging by the glass & pottery &c; soon after I picked up a small copper of Heraclius (630 A.D.), which was a curiously close confirmation of the date. When I got back I found waiting me a letter from Col Scott-Moncrieff saying that I should be able to leave Zagazig by Saturday & get freely to Benha; but also my telegram had come saying that the water & had risen <today ^{2nd}>; and soon after came a letter from Mr Du Port saying that the dam would be cut tomorrow (3rd). So of course I decided to go back as soon as possible to the boat. The next available train was the 6 o'clock, & it so happened that Mr Amos was going by that to Alexandria for a

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 fairly, pay my way readily, & have a man intro with
 me, nothing more will be required. The question of
 sending money he agreed had better be done through the
 farmer of the fishings there; & he gave me a letter to
 Blum Pasha (head of finance here) on the subject. I went
 off to Blum at once, had to wait a little as there was
 a council of ministers on, & then saw him. He was
 agreeable over the matter, & referred me to the Fishery
 department, sending his secretary with me. There I
 saw two Frenchmen who are at the head, & their native
 secretary; they all agreed in chorus that there was no
 difficulty in the transmission of money to San, the farming
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 there, & whatever I paid in to the department in
 Cairo I should receive an order on San for, & an
 order would also be sent to the office there; & then
 after two or three days I could draw ^{money} ~~the~~ in any amounts
 & at any time that I wish at San. This is admirable, as
 it is absolute safety (being paid in under German & French
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 Then I saw Borg again, & told him; met Dr Davis & heard
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Then I packed up & off by the 6.0 train with Mrs. Amos, left her at Benha, where I got bread & eggs & waited 3 hours. The latter part of the time I was in the waiting room (lighted by one candle on end without any candlestick) & saw a native enjoying a nargileh; after a time he finished, & began a few questions to me. I found that he spoke very fair English, & his history is characteristic of Egypt. A Tunisian by birth, he was educated at Brugsch Bey's hieroglyphic school as one of the Arabs who were to be learned; that however led him to nothing, & he was secretary to George Kilgeour the Engineer (whom he said that I was much like, in fact he seemed to expect me to be a relation of his), this lasted for 18 months; then he was governor of Bedrashen district, & had 120 villages under him; now he is evidently not high & dry for he had a smart servant travelling with him, but what he is he did not inform me. Such is the history of Cassim. I got to the boat at last by 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, & settled in again to my old surroundings.

for me, & settled about tent &c. (I intend to buy a small tent, as I should pay nearly its value for a season's hire, & it will always be useful among the stores of the Fund, for detached expeditions of a few days to outlying places). I also drew £30 to take to San to begin with, as I expect to spend nearly all I have here before I discharge the boat. If I have bad winds I fear I may not get done in the two months; but I have a week over in/for the <boat's> return to Cairo in which I may take even a day or two, & Panyon the manager says that they will get the owner to let me have $\frac{1}{2}$ month more if wanted, so I need not pay for a whole month. I must do Desuk & that part, particularly after the find of the Carian figure that I got at Gizeh.

Then I packed up & off by the 6.0 train with Mrs. Amos, left her at Benha, where I got bread & eggs & waited 3 hours. The latter part of the time I was in the waiting room (lighted by one candle on end without any candlestick) & saw a native enjoying a nargileh; after a time he finished, & began a few questions to me. I found that he spoke very fair English, & his history is characteristic of Egypt. A Tunisian by birth, he was educated at Brugsch Bey's hieroglyphic school as one of the Arabs who were to be learned; that however led him to nothing, & he was secretary to George Kilgeour the Engineer (whom he said that I was much like, in fact he seemed to expect me to be a relation of his), this lasted for 18 months; then he was governor of Bedrashen district, & had 120 villages under him; now he is evidently not high & dry for he had a smart servant travelling with him, but what he is he did not inform me. Such is the history of Cassim. I got to the boat at last by 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, & settled in again to my old surroundings.

Looking out tonight at the reflection of Sirius in the canal, ⁽⁵⁰⁾ an idea occurs that may be worth noting. The law of broken reflection owing to waves is of course that the images ^{are} formed in a line passing through the eye, the object, & the image ^{i.e. in a line at right angles to the plane} if true of reflections it is also true of broken refractions. If then the air had a definite superior surface as has sometimes been supposed, that surface would certainly have waves, & waves of large size owing to its lightness; yet in the most stormy weather with conflicting winds when such waves — if any — should arise, no trace of irregular refraction of stars near the horizon is seen of this character, i.e. broken transmissions of light flaking off above & below a star. On the contrary any fluctuations that we see are always of a tremulous nature such as we know, by daylight vision is due to motion in the air ^{upon} the earth's surface. Hence there is a great improbability in there being any definite superior limit to the atmosphere, at least of any perceptible tenuity.

^{3^d} We left Miniet el Gamh the morning after my return; but the men wanted more wages advanced as they had run out at the coffee shops, & were in fact on the wrong side I suspect. However they only need what is due up to now, so it is safe to let them have it. The wind was ahead & all we could do was to track on; & by night we had got nearly up to Mit Radi. I was occupied writing up this account, copying some scarabs, &c, all day.

Next day, 4th we went out of the canal quite easily through the dam, and I felt very much better after it. I wrote a lot of letters to Cairo people, & wound up ready for mail, as I may not be at a post office again in time. In the afternoon I was going over the mounds, & got more information on pottery of a late period. Also took some good photos. The boat got safely through the railway bridge, & I am now clear to the Barrage.

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