

Jan 15<sup>th</sup> [1932]

Dear Mother

I am afraid my last letter did not contain very much news. it was a real Arabic one. & a proper Arabic letter only contains compliments & enquiries about health & a few pious phrases. The only really interesting bit of news I have to tell this time is that Nancy Engelbach is here on a visit for two days, it is so nice to have her. we are sorry Rex was too busy to come too.

Amice has been to Sohag for three days, she has been having trouble with her eyes. The close work is very trying. & she had been helping Linda Holey with the reflecting mirrors & the changing from the shaded light in the temple to brilliant sunshine reflected from a mirror surface was very bad for her, she could not get her focus right again for some time, so I persuaded her to go to the Oultons for a little rest. She returned yesterday in time to meet Nancy

Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 164

Dear Mother

I am afraid my last letter did not contain very much news. it was a real Arabic one. & a proper Arabic letter only contains compliments & enquiries about health & a few pious phrases. The only really interesting bit of news I have to tell this time is that Nancy Engelbach is here on a visit for two days, it is so nice to have her. we are sorry Rex was too busy to come too.

Amice has been to Sohag for three days, she has been having trouble with her eyes. The close work is very trying. & she had been helping Linda Holey with the reflecting mirrors & the changing from the shaded light in the temple to brilliant sunshine reflected from a mirror surface was very bad for her, she could not get her focus right again for some time, so I persuaded her to go to the Oultons for a little rest. She returned yesterday in time to meet Nancy

164

2

The Observer of Jan 3 came today. I have just looked through it & noted the picture of the traffic held up by frost. I prefer the climate here thank you.

I am starting my third painting this season. This one will take a long time as it is a large one with a lot of detail & five figures & endless rows of hieroglyphs.

I am so sorry to hear about the burglary in Bourne Road. It does sound as if it were our Miss West, poor little thing, what a scare she must have had. I am so sorry for her living alone like that.

I hope you & Pat have a nice time when you go to town to buy the new coat. I shall want to hear all about it.

The garage sounds wonderful. It will be so strange when I come home to find it all finished & Lady Godiva installed, won't it be exciting when they bring her up. I hope she is all right & has not been affected by the

The Observer of Jan 3 came to-day. I have just looked through it & noted the picture of the traffic held up by frost, I prefer the climate here thank you.

I am starting my third painting this season. This one will take a long time as it is a large one with a lot of detail & five figures & endless rows of hieroglyphs.

I am so sorry to hear about the burglary in Bourne Road. It does sound as if it were our Miss West, poor little thing, what a scare she must have had. I am so sorry for her living alone like that.

I hope you & Pat have a nice time when you go to town to buy the new coat. I shall want to hear all about it.

The garage sounds wonderful. It will be so strange when I come home to find it all finished & Lady Godiva installed, won't<sup>sic</sup> it be exciting when they bring her up. I hope she is all right & has not been affected by the

164<sup>3</sup>

frost in any way. have you visited her again.  
 I cant say I like driving Joey very much.  
 but with even the most luxurious cars it is  
 anxious work here with the people & the animals  
 & the narrow roads on high banks. we had  
 to go over a canal bridge of wobbly planks  
 when we fetched Nancy. it looked anything but  
 safe. we had to make a wide detour as  
 the main road to Baliana is being made  
 up & is impassable for cars for the time being  
 Love to you & father  
 your affectionate daughter  
 Myrtle.  
 Love to Pat & Mrs Childs —

frost in any way. have you visited her again.  
 I cant<sup>sic</sup> say I like driving Joey very much.  
 but with even the most luxurious <of> cars it is  
 anxious work here with the people & the animals  
 & the narrow roads on high banks. we had  
 to go over a canal bridge of wobbly planks  
 when we fetched Nancy. it looked anything but  
 safe. we had to make a wide detour as  
 the main road to Baliana is being made  
 up & is impassable for cars for the time being

Love to you & Father  
 your affectionate daughter  
 Myrtle.

Love to Pat & M<sup>rs</sup> Childs —