

Letters written by Myrtle Broome to her parents.

Synopsis

	<u>Letters nod.</u>
Working with Mr. Harding, Lieutenant and Mrs. Risdon and Miss Tufnell copying scenes from rock-tombs at El-Hammâmiya (B.S.A. Vol.47).	1-14
Holiday in Egypt with uncle.	15-22
First season at Abydos assisting Amice Calverley. Trip to Kharga by camel (letters 63-5)	23-88
Second season at Abydos. At opening of new dam at Nag Hammadi. Long camel trips into desert in A.C.'s absence (letters 120-2)	89-139
Third season at Abydos. Started Arabic lessons with village schoolmaster. Trip by car, with A.C. and Sardic, to Red Sea (letter 191).	140-91
Fourth season at Abydos. A.C. in hospital for 3 weeks at start of season. At end, M.B. had a month on her own. Jaunt by camel to fringe of Eastern Desert (letter 234).	192-236
Fifth season at Abydos. A.C. did not arrive till January. Stay with Oultons in Sohaq, making various expeditions by camel (letters 282-5).	237-91
Sixth season at Abydos. Trip to Kharga by car and train (letter 329). At end of season went to Jerusalem to assist Harding and Miss Tufnell (letters 340-3).	292-343

Letters written by Myrtle Broome to her parents.

Synopsis

(contd.)

Letters nos.

Seventh season at Abydos.

344-79

Trip to Red Sea, with A.C. and Sardic (letters 370-3).

A.C. left early for Canada.

Eighth season at Abydos.

380-415

Trips to Red Sea (letters 401-3 and 409).

Journey home by car (letters 413-15).

LETTERS WRITTEN BY MYRTLE BROOME TO HER PARENTS.

Season working on Tomb of Khentika, Tema.

- 1 Mariette Pasha. November 18th 1927
Journey to Egypt by train & ship (Mariette Pasha), with Miss T[ufnell].
- 2 Canadian Mission, Assyut. November 21st 1927
Arrival in Cairo. Met by Mr. Wainwright. Visits to Giza & Museum. Met N. de G. & Nina Davies. Train to Assyut.
- 3 Our Tomb, Near Tema. [undated].
Journey by train, donkey & boat to the tomb where they were to live with Mr. Harding & the Risdens.
- 4 Tomb of Khenti Ka. November 28th 1927
Address is c/o Post Office
Tima Girgawya, Egypt.
Description of district and her daily life. Visit of Chief of Police.
- 5 British School in Egypt. December 1st 1927
Qau el Kebir, Tima Girgawya, Upper Egypt.
Visit to Qau to see parade in their honour, and show^{of} horsemanship, arranged by Chief of Police.
- 6 Tema. December 5th 1927
Another gift from Chief of Police. Descriptions of birds, a friendly hornet, etc.

7 Tema. December 9th 1927
Shopping expedition in Tema. Invitation from Gerzawy (Chief of Police) to stay with his father in Cairo - regretfully refused.

8 Tema. December 11th 1927
Ride on Gerzawy's Arab stallion.

9 Thebes Hotel, Luxor. December 15th 1927
Another ride in the desert. Packed up camp. Train to Luxor via Baliana - visited Abydos. Next day Karnak & Luxor Temples. Next day West Bank.

10 Thebes Hotel, Luxor. December 19th 1927
Visits Valley of the Kings, etc. on her own. Has to snub importunate Bey.

11 Thebes Hotel, Luxor. December 26th - 27th 1927
[cf. Letter 12]
Social activities in Luxor. Howard Carter judged fancy dress.

Cecil House, Cairo. January 3rd 1928

Stay at Police Outpost at Qau el-Kebir - 'only European woman for miles'. Party with head men of the village - delighted them with paper tricks. Saw case of 'primitive justice'. Villagers want to go back to England with her. Proposal of marriage from Gerzawy. Back to Cairo, sight-seeing with 'the Imp' and Mr. Wainwright.

12 Kan el-Kebir 'Happy New Year'

Written between writing the two parts of previous letter. She has bought Father an Arabic fiddle, from a strolling player in Luxor.

13 S.S. Hakonsaki Maru

January 12 1928

Japanese boat 'not so posh' as the French but lavatory accommodation better. Food good in parts. Cairo was dull after the desert. Sad letter from El-Gerzawy.

14 S.S. Hakonsaki Maru.
Off Corsica.

January 14 1928

Sightseeing in Naples. Expects to be home Jan. 22 or 23.

Holiday in Egypt with uncle.

- 15 S.S. Largs Bay Jan. 24th - 26th - 27th
Account of journey as far as Gibraltar.
- 16 S.S. Largs Bay Jan. 31st - Feb. 1st
Malta. Uncle Jim has bad cold.
- 16A *Picture p.c. to Father from ship*
- 17 Cecil House, Cairo. Feb. 3rd 1929
Visit to Gerzawy's parents and arrangement to stay at Vicha el-Kobra.
- 18 Cecil House Feb. 5th
Muddle on arrival. Fuller account of visit to Gerzawy's parents. Description of Vicha and house where they are to stay.
- 19 Vicha el Kubia, Markaz Menûf Feb. 8th 1929
Arrival in Vicha, met by Gerzawy and others. Inspection of schools. Tea with Greek mill owner, etc.
- 20 Cairo undated
El Gerzawy told them they could not stay at Vicha as it was Ramadan. Bitterly disappointed. They decide to come home by earliest suitable boat.
- 21 Cecil House, Cairo. Feb. 14th 1929
Stay in Arab hotel. Friendly Copt nephew of proprietor. Sight seeing in Cairo.
- 22 S.S. Tjerimai, Off Stromboli Feb. 20th
Last day in Cairo. Visited 'the Imp' and Nancy.

First season at Abydos.

- 23 P. & O. S. N. Co. September 27th 1929 8.30
S.S. Ranpura
Embarkation.
- 24 " " Sept. 30th 1929
Life at sea.
- 25 " " Oct. 1 1929
Off Gibraltar
Walk on the Rock of Gibraltar.
- 26 P. & O. etc. Oct. 3rd 1929
Tour of Marseilles by tram, etc.
- 27 " Sat. Oct. 5th 1929
Shops & zoo at Marseilles.
Miss Calverly & her brother arrived. Visit to Chateau d'If with
Miss C. and to theatre with Captain Calverley.
- 28 " Oct. 8th 1929
Malta - not ashore. Life on board has deadly sameness.
- 29 Cecil House, Cairo. Oct. 10th 1929
Arrival at Port Said. Tea with English Padre. Cairo -
registered at Consulate (Mr. Lamas). Saw the Imp and Mr. Gunn
at the Museum. [page(s) missing]

30 Gresham House, Cairo. Oct. 13th 1929
Social life in Cairo. Feet badly bitten by insects.
[page(s) missing]

31 [2 sheets missing at beginning]

Visit to Dr. Junker's camp at the Pyramids. Interesting man called Lewis(?) employed in treating & preserving Tut's things. Will probably visit and advise on restoring colours at Abydos. R.A.F. officer is to give them instructions to look out for landing strip.

32 E.E.S's Camp. [undated]
Arabah el Madfur^{ah}
Baliana

Description of carpenter, etc. ^{M.B.} has made 2 scale drawings of 'great sandstone doors of the Temple' - details to be filled in by tracing direct from photographic negative.

33 " " Oct. 21st 1929

Settling down to work - daily programme. Gift of Copt sacramental bread from carpenter. Tea with young police officer. Things purchased in Cairo for the house arrived on 2 camels.

34 Arabah-el-Madfur^{ah}. Oct. 25th 1929

Ride on camel. Present of charm from holy man. Very hot. They start work at 6.15. Present of turkey reared by poor guard.
Oct. 26th Police officer came to dinner.
Oct. 27th Invitation to Zar - ceremony for propitiating a possessing spirit.
Oct. 28th Treatment of various 'patients'.
Oct. 29th Man with dreadful cut. Market day, day of rest, washing of 'delicate garments'.

35 Arabah el Madfunah October 27th 1929

Many happy returns to Father.
Description & plan of desert gardens.

[Letter to 'Eric' 29.10.29.]

36 " Oct. 30th 1929

Oct. 31st. Tracing by electric light - negative projected on to drawing-board. Supper in the Temple.

Nov. 1. Mosque day. Workmen had hour off to pray.

Nov. 3. Visit to Sardic's house, then to see weavers at work.
Method of weaving.

37 " Nov. 5th 1929

Work by electric light again. Supper on the roof of the temple.
Visit to market. 'Father of bonfires' for 5th Nov.

Nov. 6. Ahmud washed & clipped his white sheep.

Nov. 7. Drawing in the Isis Chapel.

Nov. 8.

Nov. 10th Village elder called to say Zar could not be held as the lady in question is possessed by a wicked Jinn i.e. quite mad.

38 " Nov. 10th 1929

To Father sending sample of wool.

39 " Nov. 14th 1929

Miss C has gone to Sohaq to pay a state call on the Mudir, then to Cairo. She handed over the keys and 'James' the automatic revolver.
Progress of patients. Mosque day - remembered to send Sardic off.

40 " Nov. 16th 1929

Practising Arabic. Donkey race w. Captain Calverley.

Sand baths.

Nov. 17th. More Arabic. Rebuilding scaffolding; answering telegram.

Nov. 18th. Miss Calverley returns. Encl. batch of photos - keep.

41 Arabah el-Madfunah Nov. 20th 1929

About wool and rugs.

Nov. 22nd. Miss C's friends Mrs. & Miss Faith came. Picnic in Wadi - 5 men and 3 donkeys. Climb to top of cliff - campfire - home by starlight. Next day mad dog appeared at the house, was shot by Sardic.

Nov. 24th Ceremony to protect them from the evil spirit that had possessed the mad dog, attended by all in the house including their dog.

42 " Nov. 25th 1929

Camel drivers' encampment quite close - 200 camels. Visit to camp in the evening.

Nov. 26th Picnic. Climbed cliff, inspected old quarry. Teaching by Mr. Beazley hieroglyphs.

43 " Nov. 29th 1929

Tea with police officer - village gossip. First batch of Cook's tourists - mixed lot. Expecting Mr. Lucas.

44 " Dec. 4th 1929

Mr. Lucas, analytical chemist, there for 5 days. Visit to old excavations in desert. Mr. Lucas is going to try cleaning wall paintings with various solutions. Ahmud Abdu Sellam will not take money for his sheeps's wool. Miss C. suggests they will accept gift with right hands & offer correct price with left. He agrees to take it. Arabic progressing slowly.

Thurs. Dec. 5th. Lunch is now sent to the Temple. They leave camp about 6.45a.m. & return about 5.45. Giving Mr. Beazley lessons in hieroglyphs so not so much time for writing.

45 " Dec. 8th 1929

Mr. Lucas has left after trying all sorts of methods. Description of spinning. Hospital parade most mornings, very bad boils.

46 Arabah el-Madfunah

[undated]

Enclosing Christmas card. One of guard dogs poisoned. Card made with rubber stamp by Miss Calverley enclosed.

47 "

Dec. 15th 1929

People from Nag Hamadi to lunch. Visit to weaver. Sandstorm. Christmas turkey bought and strutting round temple. Written to El Gerzawy for birthday.

48 "

Dec. 16th 1929

Bad sandstorm. Visited village pottery.
Dec. 17th Found Roman grave in desert.
Dec. 18th Sardic has flu. Doses of cinammon all round.
Dec. 19th Visited Sheikh Abdu Wahid's farm, met his wife, and Mahomet and Fatima. Sardic better, Semman down with 'flu.
Dec. 20th Director-General of Customs, wife, son and daughter to lunch, on their way to Luxor on private launch. Sardic back at work.
Dec. 21st. Election day, v'ery quiet. Christmas presents from Miss C's aunt, Prof. & Mrs. Newberry.

49 "

Dec. 25th 1929

Wedding festival (on 24th). Mr. Beazley gone to Luxor for Christmas. Miss Jonas secretary of EES staying for 4 days. Christmas tree and presents for children - 80 came.
Dec. 26th Servants' party on Christmas day with whole sheep stew, etc. Description of play.

50 "

Dec. 29th 1929

Boxing day - picnic in honour of Miss Jonas, in Wadi with sand slide. Work next day. On next Mudir came to lunch - in temple. On arriving home 3 cars appeared w. 2 Egyptian Princesses & entourage. They stayed 2 nights.

51 "

January 2nd 1930

A. About photographs.
B. Description of Zar. Successful treatment of Sheikh Abdu Wahid's daughter who had bronchitis.

52 Arabah el Madfura

January 8th 1930

Visit to chief engineer building dam at Nag Hammadi - on camels - 22 miles there. Mr. & Mrs. Ellison could not believe they had done it in 6½ hours. Inspection of barrage. Crossed Nile in 'bucket'. Driven back by car. 'Marmur' of Baliana to tea - told about village fight.

53

"

Jan. 10th 1930

Mr. Beazley's work unsatisfactory & he takes criticism as an insult. Plan to visit Oasis of Khaga (sic). Met Sheikh Abdul Wahid's 'erring' son. Jackals are being a pest. Jan. 11th. Plan to go to Festival at Kena. Mon. 13th. Have decided not to go. Mr. Beazley is leaving for good. Recovering from flu. Welcomed back to work.

54

Jan. 16th 1930

Went to Festival at Kena after all, climax - procession of camels. Watched from Egyptian's house. Tea with English schoolmaster. Curious thing - boat hanging from tree in market place - relic of ancient boat festival? Fri. 17th Visit to Coptic Priest. 'Night on which heavens open'. Gifts of bread give special blessing. Cook had teeth out at Anglo-American hospital, Asyút.

55A Arabah el Madfura

Jan. 20th

[to Mother] M.B. on her own - Capt. C. in Luxor and Miss C. on leave. Previous evening, dinner with Major Anderson and Geneva Gordon on Nile steamer. They came to see work next day & thought it better than that done at Chicago House. Paid men with Nannie's help.

55B [to Father] All about wool and weaving.

56

"

Jan. 25th

Still on her own - how to keep the servants occupied? Photos of the Festival at Kena are splendid.

57 Arabah el-Madfurah

Jan 26th

Still on her own. Sardic went to fetch the engine from Nag Hammadi. Accounts to do, as he had a pound for expenses. Description of hair-nets wanted by Nannie. Visit to 'Mrs. Sardic'.

58

"

Jan. 29th

Last day on her own. Prof. Newberry visited the temple. Showed drawings to his Egyptian students. How to get on with the natives - some of Cook's people are not nice. More medical cases attended to.

59

"

Jan. 31st. 1st Ramadan

Miss C. back but has to go to Cairo again to dentist. Kena photographs enclosed.

60

"

Ramadan 3rd

Difficult to arrange the work with the men sleepy and muddle-headed with fasting. Captain C. thinks Ramadan awful rot and doesn't bother to keep to proper times. Photo enclosed taken by Herr Lanard of luncheon party in the temple. Visit from Dr. Capart - showed him all drawings. Guests, General Wilson & wife and another friend from Luxor, taken on picnic to Wadi and introduced to sand slope sport.

61

"

Feb. 6th 1930

Preparations for visit to Kharga. Feb. 7th. Heard they cannot have police (riding) saddles as the police may need them. Will try to adapt pack saddles. May miss 2 mails - no P.O. in the Libyan desert.

62

"

Feb. 8th 1930

More preparations. Adaptation of saddles. Taking food for 6 days. Expect to go 35 miles a day. Governor of Kharga has been advised of intended visit.

63 Arabah el Madfunah Undated

Trip was a great success. 130 miles across waterless desert in 4 days. Descriptions of desert and of oasis.

64 " Feb. 16th 1930

This is a full account of the journey to Kharga (14 pp.)

65 " Feb. 20th 1930

Day in Kharga. Description of Government Rest House. Visits to Coptic Monastery, Coptic tombs, and Temple built by Darius. Visit to Governor. Tour of underground streets. Visit to guard's house. Arranged to stop train next morning. Most of train journey dull and uneventful. Arrived near Nag Hammadi, had tea with Ellisons. Home by car about 10 p.m.

66 " Feb. 25th

Enclosing snaps taken on journey to Oasis. New assistant coming on week's trial, Charles Little, recommended by Mr. Gunn. Visited Bedouin party with real trotting camels, Miss C. bought saddle cover. M. Baraize is coming to prepare for visit of Queen of Rumania.

67 " Feb. 27th 1930

Queen's visit quickly dismissed. Hospital parade continuing. Account of saving the hand of a beautiful young man. Man came to sing Koran to them.

68 " March 4th 1930

Guests - a Doctor & his wife & another doctor, Miss C's 'prospective fiancé', Dr. Gardiner has written to say, if Miss C gives up, can she persuade M.B. to take on Directorship?

69 Arabah el Madfunjah

March 5th 1930

Nannie and Sardic hate 'the intended'. Men entreat MB to come back next season. End of Ramadan. Visited all friends in the village. Very pleased with Mr. Little.

March 6th. Arabic party with 'tip-top habout stick man'. Guests from 8 villages - about 500. Told that events will be dated by it.

70

"

March 7th

Going to Bruntons for 5 days.

71

Sahel Selim

March 10th

Journey to Baliana with Mahomet (of bad hand) and Oudah who had begged lift. Took Mahomet to ^{clava to} Train to Abu Tiq. Met by stout Arab & deposited in dahabiah. Welcomed by Mrs. Brunton and Mrs. Newberry (sister in law). Visited the dig with Mr. Brunton & Mr. Bach (assistant). Watched excavation of one grave.

72

Arabah el Madfunjah.

(undated)

Miss C. has broken off engagement & gone away for a few days to avoid ex-fiancé a psycho-analyst. M.B. thinks he had hypnotic influence over Miss C. Entertainments arranged for Mollie Newberry. Mahomet's hand doing well.

73

"

March 18th

Captain Calverly leaving. Can Mr. and Mrs Broome put him up for a few nights on his way to Canada?

74

"

March 19th

Visit of Queen of the Belgians in Miss C's absence. Mahomet now doing finger exercises. ^{M.B.} relieved that post of Director is not vacant.


75

"

March 25th 1930

Photos enclosed of Mahomet (patient) and Mohamed (camel man). Tracks seen on desert journey.

- 76 Arabah el Madfunah March 27th 1930
Arrival of wool, etc.
- 77 " April 4th 1930
More sore hands, etc.
April 5th. Visit to bereaved family in village.
- 78 " April 8th 1930
Painting Mahomet. Gift of dolls from Sheikh Abdu Wahid's daughters. Doll made by Miss C. & MB to give in return.
- 79 " April 10th 1930
Sandstorm makes drawing impossible. Letter from Dr. Gardiner.
April 11th. Nannie's daughter engaged; garden; Bruntons leaving their camp next week.
- 80 " April 14th 1930
Dr. de Buck has been going over hieroglyphs. Collecting pieces of amber, & Miss C, cornelian. Patient who has cut his nail off. On Palm Sunday, Coptic priest brought cross of branches & blessed bread.
- 81 April 18th 1930
Attended big religious festival - by camel - in the evening. Did not stay, felt they were intruding.
- 82 " April 23rd 1930
Badly burned old man, sent to hospital in Sohaq.

83 Arabah el Madfunah April 25th 1930
Day at Nag Hammardi with Ellisons. Dam about  two-thirds complete.

84 " [April 30th 1930]
Plans for coming home - feeling a little tired. Rug-making series of photographs completed.

85 " May 2nd 1930
Luncheon party - Mr. Milne, engineer from Nag Hammardi, with wife and daughter. Prince of Wales had flown over Abydos & all went on the roof and waved. Visit of the Omdah, bringing friend - salt instead of sugar in the coffee! They took it well. Struggling to get drawings finished. Working for 6 hours in the morning, then too hot.

86 " May 4th 1930
Badly burned old man [see above] did not go to hospital at Sohaq. Walked home from Baliana. Miss C arranged with police to take him to Sohaq. Horned viper killed outside house. Miss C invited to go home with M.B. and finish drawings there. Longing for shops, frocks, theatres + ICES.

87 " May 11th
Booked passage on City of Calcutta sailing on May 15th for London - fare £33.

88 Cecil House, Cairo. May 13th 1930
Good send-off from the desert people. Next day in Cairo went to Bank (£40 travel allowance cashed) hairdressers, and Cooks. Then shopped.
May 14th. Shopping again with Miss C & Mr. Little. Tea with Dr. Junker, dinner with 'the Imp'.
May 16th. Bringing Miss C. home with her. Bought old Persian rug. Mr. Lucas took them out to dinner.

Second season at Ahydus, 1930-1

89 Fiume Nov. 15th 1930

Day in Venice. Visit to St. Mark's - scaffolding to keep dome up as the building is sinking. Boarded Aventione(?). Left Venice 8 p.m. Arrived Fiume 9 a.m. Shopped for toys. Motor boat trip across bay.

90 Aventino Nov. 17th 1930

2nd day in Fiume, Sunday. Long walk up hills at back of town and down to Yugoslav frontier. Captain entertains them with gramophone and 'some most surprising remarks'. Food very good. Cargo of cows and bulls. Stamp to be saved for Eric.

91 Aventino Nov. 19th 1930

Tour of Bari by horse-drawn vehicle. 4 p.m. arr. Brindisi, landed bulls and cows. Time for only a little walk. Difficulties of conversation with Captain - they are the only 1st class passengers. Day among the Greek Islands.

92 Aventino, Crete Nov. 22nd 1930

Athens 'depressing', 'revolting', partly due to refugees' shelters. Hospitably entertained at British School. Taken over Acropolis by one of the students. 'Not the same thrill and enthusiasm as for things Egyptian'. Drive to see Byzantine Church and Temple of Eleusian mysteries. Next day visited National Museum. More passengers. Riotous game of dominoes. Nov. 23rd. Visit to Mrs. Calucci's house and display of Cretan weaving. Shopped heavily. Mannequin parade with purchases, for Captain and officers. At Candia, went ashore with Major and Mrs. De Lacy & visited their house.

93 Gresham House [Cairo] Nov. 28th 1930

On landing at Alexandria, met by Mrs. Tatton Brown and her husband's secretary who attended to the luggage. Stayed 2 nights with Tatton Browns and had nerve-racking drive to Cairo. Skid off road and into straw stack. Arrived Cairo 5.30, Amice quite done up. Tea with Dr. Junker and his sister.

94 Gresham House [Cairo] Dec. 1st 1930

Nice time in Cairo. Tea with 'the Imp' twice and he & Nancy came to lunch. Dinner with kind Dr. Junker, a jolly party. Dinner at Mrs. Phillips, with Princess Bessina(?) - Found and her sister, was very dull. Next night dining with Major and Mrs. Congreve.

95 Chicago House, Luxor Dec. 8th 1930

Journey by train to Assyut and car to Baliana via Sohaq (stayed with Oultons). One day in camp & then to Luxor seeing all methods and processes. Everything formal & polite but tea with Mr. and Mrs. N. de G. Davis was more relaxed. Mr. Lucas came to dinner.

96 Arabah el Madfunjah Dec. 13th 1930

Not regretting Chicago House. Furniture made of tin painted to look like wood. Dr. & Mrs. Nelson very kind. Chief colour artist showed all his methods etc. Two days putting house in order, then started work. Endless callers; dog and cat well. Wool sent from England is no good - dried in summer.

97 " Dec. 15th 1930

Misunderstanding about wool - some has been used. Garage made for car (Joey).

[Letter from Miss Calverley enclosed].

98 " Dec. 20th 1930

Visit to Nag Hamardi to opening of new dam by King Fouad. Lunch with Ellisons. Wedges wanted for cameras.

99 " Dec. 22nd 1930

Christmas letters & cards - Dr. Gardiner, Prof. & Mrs. Breasted ... Mrs. Brunton etc.

Zar - final ceremony. Gift of turkey from Ahmud Ibrahim, chief guard of the district.

100 Arabah

Xmas Eve

Exceptionally hot weather. Miss Byles, from Chicago House is guest for Christmas holiday. Drive over desert after tea [yesterday] saw square holes in cliff. Tombs?

Christmas morning

(Dec. 26th) Distributed calf for feast, received callers, including Coptic priest. Another drive, late back. 'Fantasia' - show by natives - very amusing.

[Enclosed Miss C's 'Christmas card']

101 "

Dec. 30th 1930

More Christmas presents including Fortnum & Mason hamper from Dr. Gardiner. Poor season for tourists.

102 "

Jan. 2nd 1931

One letter has come by airmail - took over a week. Thanks for cutting about Amarna discoveries - had not heard before. Omdah called with New Year wishes, amazed to be shown Japanese flowers. Difficulties of teaching Sardic to drive.

103 "

Tuesday, Jan. 6th 1931

Went with Nannie, Sardic, Ahmed and Mahmud to Coptic Christmas Eve service. Local police officer escorted them home and gave MB his horse to ride.

104 "

Jan. 9th 1931

Little girl with badly burnt hand quite recovered. Request for Miss Murray's Coptic grammar. Sending sketch of Shunit Zebeeb as a birthday card.

105 "

Jan 12th 1931

Miss C has gone to Chicago House to make enlargements of photos taken this year. They have been drawing in detail on photos of the big false doors. They will treat other architectural details in the same way.

/contd.

105 /contd.

Camel ride across desert. Preparing frontispiece of the book she will start tomorrow - the 3 cartouches, Sety's name & titles. Camera lucida used to draw outline, saving a photograph.

106 Arabah Jan. 16th 1931

Mrs. Davies staying to paint a scene for her book. Mr. Bennett from Amarna paid short visit, very pleasant, philologist, studying with Dr. Gardiner. Description of Sardi's 'guftan' made for feast.

107 " Jan. 18th 1931

Took Mrs. Davies for a desert ride and chased a jackal. Drove over stone & had oil leak. Exorbitant customs duty on Suttons seeds. Mr. Tatton Brown has retired and they charge what they like. Jan. 19th. 2 regular patients. Old antika men having a bad season.

108 " Jan. 23rd 1931

Order given to village cobbler for shoes for Father. Mr. and Mrs. Foster and Betty from Asyut came to opened day. Also Miss Chubb. Admiration of Mrs. Davies' painting. They are working on Mr. Justice's tracings.

109 " Jan. 27th 1931

Father's wedges (for cameras etc.) have arrived. Musical evening for Mrs. Davies - the Nubian zumara player, a singer, and a drum. Donkey ride along cliffs to investigate holes seen previously. Wild bees on rock face. Holes either abandoned tombs or quarries. In one, name of Pepy.

110 " Jan. 30th

Finishing last roof. Copying some oddments with camera lucida. 'The American from Amarna' - not much good according to Mr. Bennett. Mrs. Brunton has asked if two members of their camp could be put up in Feb.

- 111 Arabah Feb. 2nd 1931
Small child with burnt foot. Repair to car held up.
[enclosing letter from A.C. about wedges and photograph of (?)
with dog].
- 112 " Feb. 6th 1931
Description of sparrows in the temple. Sheikh Abdu Wahid's
finger lanced.
- 113 " Feb. 10th 1931
Guests from the Bruntons' camp. A Cambridge man, and
Miss Buchanan. Took them to the famous sandslope.
- 114 " Feb. 12th
Mrs. Davies and other guests have departed, each with bunch
of flowers from the garden. Coptic priest surprised to hear that
Coptic is taught in England.
- 115 " Feb. 17th 1931
Upsetting overnight visit from Professor Oliver and wife,
her sister and a friend, complete strangers, all over 65. What did
they come for? Old guide Abdu Jouat came to temple to say how do
you do.
- 116 " Feb. 20th 1931
End of Ramadan. Visited Ahmud Ibrahim, Omdah of Beni Mousun,
and others. People waiting to be doctored - late supper - very tired.
- 117 " Feb. 22nd 1931
Another invasion, perfect strangers, very uninteresting
youngish people, Mr. and Mrs. Jones & Mr. and Mrs. Macintosh never
lifted a finger. Nice friends Mr. & Mrs. Sandford, geologists turned
up.

/contd.

117 /contd.

Jolly picnic with the Sandfords & Abdullah and Wip-wat (dog).
Feb. 24th. 2 serious young men from Chicago House for the day.

118 Arabah Feb. 27th 1930(sic)

Two nice friends of A.C's staying for a day - jolly sisters.
Visit to ancient incubator still in use. Industry carried on by
Copts. Bought 17 chicks. Amice off to Alex. Man with bad foot.

119 " [undated, to Father]

Thanks for birthday present & letter. Order for small sable
brushes. M.B. will be alone for 10 days.

120 " March 3rd 1931

Long camel ride into desert. Sardic killed mad dog. On way
back visited Abdu Jouet (guide to Kharga).

121 " March 5th

Continuing camel ride, stopped at Sardic's house. Sardic
assisted birth by firing gun.
Another expedition 2 days later, to visit hermit's cave. A stiff
climb, aided by Nannie's clothes line. Cave covered with Coptic
writing - names of holy men. Took copy for Coptic priest.

122 " March 7th 1931

Another adventure. Ride south across desert. Explored cleft
in the hills. At top, amphitheatre of rocks and rock shaped like the
sphinx. On other side, climbed but stopped by snake's cave.
Abdullah is busy killing locusts in the garden.

123 " March 12th 1931

Airmail does not save much time. Air only from Egypt to Athens
and Paris to England. Request to give 5/= to Professor Garwood's
presentation.

/contd.

123 /contd.

Visit to Ahmud's son's bride after wedding. Amice back, with nasty cold.

124 [undated, to Father]

Shoes for Father & Eric are finished. Enclosing photos, some of places visited recently.
[enclosed photos of dogs and (?)]

125 Arabah March 16th

Visit to tomb of Sheikh Ali, of the sect of snake charmers. About two and a half hours through cultivation. Did not see snakes. Lunch in orange grove. Coffee with Sardic's sister-in-law. Difficulty in getting the men to accept extra money: Sheikh came with big cobra.

126 " March 18th

More about shoes. Thoughts of buying a car in summer.

127 " March 22nd 1931

Man with burnt leg - he put it into a pit of quick lime up to the knee. Description of new treatment.

128 " March 27th 1931

Tea at Baliana with Dr. Abbas. Man with burnt leg nearly well - Dr. surprised.

129 " March 31st 1931

Burnt child, boiling tea over leg. Many people with Ophthalmia - hopeless. Saw drove of camels from Sudan. Visited Sheikh Abdu Wahid's family. Repairs to house needed.

130 " [undated, to Father]

About buying a car.

131 Arabah April 7th 1931

Easter visit from villagers. Ophthalmia - superstitions make hygiene difficult. Visit from Inspector of Antiquities for district. Eclipse of the moon.

132 " April 14th

Religious gathering before pilgrims start for Mecca. Started before dawn. At Beni Hamaet, camel races - not organised but rushing about - some men standing on galloping camels. Arab horses charging tombs to special horse music. Back at work in Temple by 10.a.m.

133 " April 17th

Mahmud's little girls silk frock. She is cured of ophthalmia. Afraid they will not finish as much as hoped.

134 " April 21

Sparrows in Temple. Work will take about two weeks to finish. They do not expect to start another picture.

135 " April 23rd 1931

Amice fed up with Customs. Plans for going home.

136 " April 28th 1931

Packing. Attack of eczema. Leaving earlier.

137 Cairo May 1st 1931

Not eczema but impetigo, needs 10 days to a fortnight's treatment. Private room in Anglo-American Hospital. Rex visits every day. Cutting about Bruntons' treck across desert.

138 A.A.H. Cairo

May 4th

Arrangements made for sailing on May 10th, due London May 21st by 'Hector' Blue Funnel Line. Bad train accident. Nahas Pasha & politicians had fight in the station. Russell Pasha, English Chief of Police, persuaded them to go home. Subsequent riot at Beni Suef. Police fired, 8 people killed.

139 A.A.H. Cairo

May 8th

Home very soon. Face quite well.

Third season at Abydos 1931-32

- 140 S.S. California, Anchor Line Oct. 21st 1931
Embarkation at Liverpool, fellow passengers, ship's gym., etc.
Later. Uneventful life.
- 141 " Saturday
Little news.
- 142 " Oct. 28th 1931
Storm. Lady Constance Perry joined the cabin - apologetic about
being in the way. Maharajah and suite dine in state. Dance^s on deck.
- 143 Dr. Junker's house at the Pyramids. Nov. 1st
Arrival at Port Said. Amice met at Cairo. Tea with Rex and
Nancy. Amice has been copying a painting for Dr. Junker. Sardic
arrived to drive down with them. Misistry for Public Safety has
arranged for Sudanese Camel patrol to be posted near.
- 144 Arabah el-Madfur^{ah} Nov. 6th 1931
At Giza they had a ride on Arab horses belonging to a neighbouring
sheikh. Then tea with Dr. and Mrs. Reisner. Dinner party at Dr.
Junker's. Next day, packing, called at British Consul, Cooks, the
chemist. Dined with Professor Newberry at the Continental Hotel.
On the road soon after 7 next morning.
- 145 Arabah el-Madfur^{ah} Nov. 9th
1st day, stopped for lunch at Beni Suef and spent night there.
Mr. Wakeum (sic) took them over the factory & showed how raw cotton
is prepared for export. Description of ginning. 2nd day arrived at
Assi^{cut} after dark. Stayed with Fosters (Inspector of the railway).
Difficulties of motoring in Egypt. Next night put up with Oultons.
He is subconsular agent for the district. Next night reached camp.
Terrific welcome.

146 Arabah Nov. 13th 1931

Working as if they had never left, on paintings in Amūn Chapel. Men are making a road to the garage out of mud bricks from houses used by Petrie's workmen. English delighted at election result and hope Lord Lloyd may return.

147 " Nov. 15th 1931

Horned viper, over a yard long, killed outside temple. Sudanese Camel patrol camped near house. Regarded by the villagers with terror.

148 " Friday Nov. 20th

Cases of food arrived, some opened by customs and contents broken. Visit from Myers on way to Armant.

149 " Nov. 24th 1931

L.A.C. Clark lent by R.A.F. to put electric engine in running order. Took him into the desert to look for a suitable landing ground. Thinking of telling Charlie Barnard he can pay a visit. Two visitors from Chicago House. Guards have made nice tidy camp - take their duties very seriously.

150 " Nov. 28th

Visit from Inspector of Antiquities for district, a Copt. Plan to learn Arabic with local schoolmaster. Brick road has been extended into badminton court. They have been playing ping-pong on drawing boards in temple.

151 Arabah el-Madfurāh Nov. 30th 1931

First Arabic lesson - learning Aleph-Be-Te. Expecting Miss Holey for 3 months for photography; preparing dark room.

152 " Dec. 4th 1931

Income tax assessment - income £300 p.a. Carpenter has made garage doors out of packing cases. Work stopped for ten minutes because of sparrows' row.

- 153 Arabah Dec. 6th 1931
2nd Arabic lesson. Both can write alphabet well but find reading more difficult.
- 154 " Dec. 9th 1931
Amazing news that Eric is to be married. Miss Holey there. Working at Arabic writing. Little boy with burnt leg is better. Garden doing well.
[Enclosed letter to Myrtle from Eric.]
- 155 " [Arabic date?]
Amice and Linda Holey gone to Luxor for four days to use darkroom. More Arabic lessons.
[Enclosed(?) samples of cloth.]
- 156 Abydos Dec. 15
'Beetles' sent as novel Christmas cards. Leak in tank mended with Miss Collins' Christmas card and plastic wood. Nannie making Christmas decorations. Arabic lessons going strong.
[Enclosed reply to Eric's letter (see 152) and letter from A.C. to Mr. and Mrs. Broome]
- 157 Arabah Dec. 8th 1931
Surprise visit from Mr. Oulton and Mr. Shirley (from cotton factories).
- 158 " Christmas Day
Biggest post ever. Hamper from Dr. Mond. Arabic lessons continue.
- 159 Dec. 29th 1931
Draw for the men for portions of calf, and oranges, chocolate etc. Soudani guards had a sheep. Christmas Tree for children, and sports - 50 children. Omdahs at teatime. Fantasia (like others described) in evening. Starting on real sentences in Arabic.

- 160 Arabah Jan. 1st 1932
Tea with local police officer and new wife. Sent dose for mother-in-law.
- 161 " Twelfth Night (Day)
Expecting Oultons for the day and have prepared Badminton court. Police officer and wife have been to tea in temple. Mother-in-law's dose did her 'too good'.
- 162 Temple of Sety Jan. 8th
Playing badminton while light lasts. Enclosed letter from Eric. - something strange about his wedding!
- 163 " [undated]
Formal Arabic letter to Mother with translation.
- 164 Jan. 15th
Nancy Engelbach visiting for two days. Amice has been to Oultons for three days to rest strained eyes. Starting third painting this season.
- 165 Arabah [undated]
Took Nancy to catch night train to Cairo, with Balal. Soudanese guard, shouting at passers-by, from back of car.
- 166 Arabah Jan. 22nd 1932
Visit by Lady Lorraine, her parents and others. Magnificent lunch sent from Cairo spread on the ping-pong table. All military police for miles around, as well as camel corps, in attendance.
- 167 " Jan. 26th 1932
To father about income-tax. Expecting Prof. Newberry tomorrow. Started Arabic dictation. Picnic in Wadi.

168 Arabah [undated]

Plans for Red Sea trip with Oultons. Prof. Newberry had been staying for two days. Sardic's gamoose (who provides the milk) over-ate and died. A.C. & M.B. contribute to cost of replacement.

169 Arabah Feb. 2nd 1932

Enclosing page copied out of Arabic exercise book. Miss Holey on sick list - sunstroke diagnosed by friend Major Anderson, passing through. Dinner with Major Anderson, mother, & Lord and Lady (?) on board 'Puritan' Nile boat. Very poor season for tourists. Sardic has bought new gamoose for £9.

170 " Feb. 6th 1932

Enclosing piece of Coptic weaving. Night-scented stock doing well.

171 " Tue. Feb. 9th

Dr. Junker has been staying for three days going over ceiling inscriptions to see that nothing has been missed. Linda Holey still unwell, gone to Oultons at Sohaq. Round of visits at end of Ramadan. School closed for two weeks.

172 " Friday Feb. 12th

Read Arabic story to Sardic.

173 " ~~Sunday~~ Feb. 15th 1932

A.C. gone to Sohaq to see about Sardic's wages. Linda Holey recovered & coming back. A.C. has given up the Arabic. M.B. trying to get schoolmaster to teach her grammar.

174 " Feb. 19th 1932

Visit to village school with Nannie and Abdu Hakim. Three classes - looked at all their copy books. Dictation in evening lesson.

175 Arabah

Feb. 24th 1932

Overnight picnic on high desert with Sylvia Tatton Brown and a girl friend and the Oultons, also Sudanese sergeant and Abdullah. Sheikh dictating sentences in Arabic now.

176

"

March 1st

Hectic week with two visitors, playing ping-pong in the temple etc. Took them to station for night train to Cairo. It was an hour late, so they unpacked Sylvia's gramophone and had concert (César Franck). Native concert for visitors, Abu Sud with long Zumarah, Hassan the singer. Finished third large painting and started fourth.

177

"

[undated]

Difficulties of Arabic lessons. Miss Holey left, Amice with her, for a week in Cairo. Fosters from Assyut want to come on Red Sea trip.

178

"

March 9th 1932

Pilgrimage to Sheikh Ali on camel, Sardic and Sudanese guard on donkeys, and three other men with one donkey. Faith in Sheikh's healing power all over Egypt. Politely refused invitation to lunch, had it in orange grove. Interesting conversation with handsome Omdah. Lesson in the evening - now writing stories. Sheikh Sarbit dictates proverbs.

179

"

[undated]

Second day's outing, with same escort to Beni Hamad, about 10 miles away, to see blacksmith at work. Ordered chisel for father. Coffee with Omdah, lunch in another orange grove. Amice has returned from staying with Lady Rowlatt in Cairo.

180

"

March 15th

Sheikh Sarbit delighted with efforts to write Arabic stories. Visit to Omdah of Beni Mousun. He remembers Professor Petrie and Miss Murray. Now off for a picnic. Present of dates from Ali Azzib from own trees.

181 Arabah March 18th 1932

Unexpected male guest from Chicago House. Pigeons for supper - upsetting for M.B. & A.C. Sardic had severe chill. Reading Aesop's fables in Arabic.

182 Arabah [undated]

Visit to Baliana to smell orange blossom and buy a week' supply. Two Arabic dictionaries purchased. A.C. had left all her underwear in Cairo - received box of lemons from Lady Rowlatt. Difficulty of keeping hands cool for painting. Red sea trip off as Oultons and Fosters cannot manage.

183 " March 25th

Sardic in hospital with hookworms. 'Joey' is now the expedition car. Rockefeller has paid for him. Difficult Arabic lesson.

184 " March 29th 1932

Half-way through last painting. 'Beastly ceiling drawing to assemble' etc. Sardic back. Dr. & wife came to tea. M.B. complimented on her Arabic writing (to Sardic in hospital). Translating English proverbs for Sheikh Sarbit.

185 In the Temple. April 1st

About sparrows. Last Arabic lesson. Struggle to get Sheikh Sarbit to accept money. Took it for sweets for schoolchildren in the end.

186 Arabah April 5th 1932

To Father about income tax. Dinner with government doctor in Baliana, head of new hospital - ten courses plus desert and coffee.

187 " April 7th 1932

Finished last painting and doing ceiling plans. Amice finishing photographs at Chicago House, for next season's work. King Fouad and the Prime Minister asked to see completed paintings - suggested that copies should be hung in Cairo Museum.

188 Arabah

April 12th 1932

Amice off to Luxor. On way back from station M.B. gave Sardic a driving lesson. Friend of Mrs. Davies, delightful young man, came for day. Made lists of table ware, crockery, furnishings, etc. and stores. Amice back with lots of fine photographs.

189 "

April 13th 1932

First lesson by post from Sheikh Sarbit. Trouble with well. Raced into Baliana to get washers and get Sardic back to help with photographs - 40 mph!

190 "

April 18th

Going off for a little jaunt, may miss next mail.

191 Gresham House, Cairo

April 25th 1932

Passage booked on Burma-Henderson Line, sailing April 27th due London May 11th. Red Sea trip undertaken unexpectedly, by 'Joey'. First night at Nag Hammardi at house of head of sugar factory (French). Dangers of Arabian desert exaggerated - definite track (for 140 miles) and several wells. Sardic accompanied with gun. Next night in desert and on shores of Red Sea next day. Village - Quassir - where pilgrims^{all} embark for Mecca. Respects paid to Mudir, then camp among sand dunes. Sea was new to Sardic. Swam, after clearing jelly-fish out of way. Met fisherman on the reef and chatted. Bought fish, cooked in petrol tin over primus. Night on the shore, home 2 days later very satisfied. 'Gaieties of Cairo'.

Fourth season at Abydos 1932-33

- 192 S.S. Yorkshire, Bibby Line, Gibraltar Nov. 16th 1932
Friendly boat. Walk at Gibraltar.
- 193 Yorkshire Nov. 23rd 1932
Coach trip in Marseilles with Mr. Clayton, Australian, to 'Martique' (?) fishing village. Amice arrived next day.
- 194 Avenue Fouad 1st, Gizera, Cairo Nov. 28th 1932
Staying with Nancy and Rex, A.C. at Gresham House. Went to banks, grocers, Consul, & Service of Antiquities, & saw Nannie. Mr. Lucas showed Tut's gold shrine, etc. which he had been restoring. Bruntons came for lunch. Helping Rex to reconstruct Tut's harness, made stuffed horse.
- 195 " Nov. 30th 1932
Arrival in camp. In Cairo dined at Kedival Hotel with Mr. Pendlebury. Got Egyptian driving licence.
- 196 Arabah Dec. 6th 1932
Visits from all friends in the village. First Arabic lesson. Smart new Sudanese guards from a cavalry regiment. Last year's sergeant is promoted.
- 197 " Dec. 9th 1932
Ping-pong table between pillars in temple. Police officer (new) and friends caused unpleasantness in temple. Amice has a new camera. Arabic dictation.
- 198 " Dec. 13th 1932
Visit of condolence to Omdah of Beni Monsua (?). Preparing for Christmas feast. Have asked Davises to come.

[enclosed letter from A.C.]

- 199 Arabah Dec. 15th 1932
Read some of Sheikh Abdu Wahid's Koran. Amice at Luxor.
- 200 " Dec. 19th 1932
Practising dictation with Nannie - great improvement. New Inspector of Antiquities made police officer apologise to Ali Azib and himself. Peas and tomatoes doing well.
- 201 " Dec. 26th 1932
Missed mail because of rush - meeting Amice, etc. Guests arrived Christmas Day, Mr. Last secretary of E.E.S. and Prof. Adcock, History, Cambridge - caused season's gaieties to be curtailed. Fantasia as before.
- 202 " Dec. 30th 1932
Found Soudanese guards sound asleep. Next night kept awake by man on duty, coughing clanking, etc.
- 203 In the Temple. Jan 2nd 1933
Colds started. Amusing Arabic lesson.
- 204 Arabah Jan. 7th 1933
Worst cold for years - spoiled the Arabic lesson. Police officer has become more polite, probably rebuked.
- 205 " Jan. 9th 1933
Convalescent from cold. Translated story about Jew and Arab.
- 206 " Jan. 12th 1933
Nightmare drive to station with Amice, going to Anglo-American Hospital for treatment for after-effects of cold. M.B. painting in camp, not at temple. Guest for 2 nights - nice old boy, member of E.E.S.

207 Arabah Jan. 15th 1933

Amice has sinusitis, still in hospital. M.B. has not been to temple yet. Going to write historical tales in Arabic for schoolmaster, starting with Canute and the waves.

208 Arabah Jan. 20th 1933

Working in Temple for first time since cold started. Visitors enquiring for health.

209 " Jan. 23rd 1933

Sweets given to schoolmaster for wife. Mr. Oulton has lent Arabic grammar. M.B. thinks she is bad at speaking and understanding because her ear is not good.

210 " Jan. 23rd 1933

Visits at end of Ramadan, alone with Sardic and the men as Mr. Little didn't go. 8.30a.m. till teatime. Next day two German professors, friends of Dr. Gardiner had to be shown round. After tea had to meet train at Baliana; architect from Amarna coming for two days with friend. May miss mail.

211 " Jan. 31st 1933

Paying monthly wages; saying goodbye to Soudanese guards and greeting replacements. Enjoyed end of Ramadan visits. Saw wedding clothes, etc. at Ahmud Ibrahim's. Finished first painting and started next. Gave Sardic and schoolmaster pens made out of turkey's feathers.

212 " Feb. 3rd 1933

Amice back but still weak. Omdah and Coptic priest called. Writing in Arabic 'The Story of the Thirsting Stones'.

213 " Souk day

Day at Sohaq with the Oultons. British Army encamped in their enclosure - come to test heavy cars. Three officers staying with Oultons. Wedding of Ahmud Ibrahim's son. Lunched in house of bride and groom. Present, teaset with brass tray & spoons.

- 214 Arabah, In the Temple [undated] p.m. 11 Feb. 1933
Writing story about three wicked Kings turned into stones.
Question of gender. A lot of illness about, but all well.
- 215 Arabah Feb. 14th 1933
Going on picnic to sand-slope with Lavers, the architect.
Practising bows for King of Italy in March. Mrs. Davies will be there,
painting Rameses Temple. Dancing display by Mahmud's little girl.
- 216 " In the Temple. [undated] after lunch
Took Lavers to see house of bead-seller Abu Shem. On Sunday had
tea with doctor's wife in Baliana.
- 217 Arabah Feb. 21st 1933
Settling down to Arabic again. New undermaster introduced.
Sheikh Sarbit told how he beats the boys. With Mr. Little, found
inscribed stone with name of Abydos.
- 218 " , In the Temple Feb. 24th 1933
Musical evening with strolling players, songs of Abu Zayd.
- 219 Arabah March 3rd 1933
Visit from King & Queen of Italy, two princesses, and ex-King
of Bulgaria. Presented by M. Lacau. King dislikes pomp and ceremony.
Mrs. Davies there, but did not come to temple and "Little Un funk'd it".
- 220 " March 7th
Pet raven. Writing story of Osiris and Isis in Arabic.
- 221 " March 10th
Miss Gardiner, professor of Geology at Bedford College and two
of her students staying.

222 March 14th

Raven has recovered and flown away. Mahomed Abdu Rahman badly bitten by his camel - angry at being separated from lady camel. Visited Mahomed in hospital. Good Arabic lesson. Surprised schoolmaster with grammatical terms in Arabic.

223 Arabah [undated]

Mr. Little has flu - in Anglo-American Hospital. Miss Gardiner was returning to Cairo and looked after him on the train. Dr. Abbas and wife to tea. Mahomed recovering well. Amice tired and nervy.

224 " March 21st 1933

Tea with Dr. Abbas - large garden with fruit trees of all kinds. Wife had cooked lots of cakes.

225 " March 24th

Great rush. Amice is taking some of the work to Luxor to show to Professor Breasted who has had flu and decided not to come to Abydos. Translated story from Decameron (proper one) into Arabic. Schoolmaster very interested in story of Abydos from Ancient Egyptian.

226 " March 28th

Unexpected unofficial visit from Crown Prince and Princess of Italy. Took them for drive in 'Joey', and beat their hosts' 40 h.p. car which stuck in the sand.

227 " April 1st 1933

Enclosing letter from M. Roche at Nag-Hamadi saying prince was very pleased with his visit and asking Miss Calverly the name of her friend.

[letter as above enclosed.]

228 " April 4th 1933

Amice started on homeward journey. Mr. Little not able to return this season. M.B. will enjoy a month on her own. Arabic lessons continue by letter.

- 229 Arabah April 8th 1933
Sudani Guard changed again - favourite character, Mahomed Kheir, is back.
- 230 " April 11th
Unexpected visitors - British Officer and wife touring with £25 car, a puppy and 10 year old servant. Camped near house and had dinner next day. 'A jolly couple'.
- 231 " April 14th 1933
Picnic in one of the wady's with entire staff except Nannie. Advised on camel's saddle-sore.
- 232 " 'March 18th' [April 18th] 1933
Easter Sunday - watched threshing in Sardic's, Senman's and old Ahmed's field. Ancient feast-day, Shem en Nessim.
- 233 " April 21st 1933
Picture finished and hoping to sail on the 30th. Making all arrangements for closing camp.
- 234 " April 25th 1933
Jaunt across Nile Valley to fringe of Eastern Desert. Crossed Nile, camel and two donkeys by barge. Riding for nine hours - exhausted.
- 235 128 Fouad al Awal April 29th 1933
Sailing on 30th, London May 12th. Two days winding up things in Cairo. Day after long camel ride, very stiff; in evening visited Ahmed Ibrahim and said goodbye to various friends. Next day rode to the orange garden. Had quite long conversation with the Omdah, Faiz Abu Stati(?). Home laden with flowers including pomegranate - scarlet blooms.
- 236 Bibby Line, M.V. Shropshire May 3rd 1933
Uneventful voyage.

Fifth season at Abydos 1933-34

- 237 4 Sharia El Emir Ibrahim 24th Oct.
Gezira, Cairo
- Arrival in Cairo. Getting things fixed up. Lunch with the Bruntons, out of Cairo, with charming garden.
- 238 Arabah el Madfurah Oct. 30th 1933
- Arrival and unpacking. All well. Mr. Little arrived. Mahomed Kheir back.
- 239 Arabah Oct. 30th
- To father, birthday wishes. Repairs to mud house are very easy.
- 240 Arabah Nov. 3rd 1933
- First game of ping-pong. Sudanese guard acted as ball-boys.
- 241 " Market Day Nov. 7th
- Shopping etc. in Baliana. Soudanese guard changed into uniform in back of car.
- 242 Arabah el Madfurah [undated]
- Supervised repairs to car. Sheikh Sarbit has bronchitis. Lessons with Sheikh Jedel Karim.
- 243 " Nov. 15th 1933
- Visit to Sheikh Ali, the holy man. Lunch in the orange garden. Sudanese guard interrupted fight on way back. Lesson on how Sudanese leather work is done. Dog has been poisoned.
- 244 Arabah Nov. 17th 1933
- At. M.B.'s request, Omdah has given order for poisoned dog to be buried and not left out in the desert. Lessons from Sheikh Jed-el-Karim. Sardic has bought pup for them.

- 245 Arabah Nov. 21st 1933
Cutting up old boots into strips and binding palm stick to make riding whip. Sheikh Sarbit back, looking ill.
- 246 " Nov. 24th 1933
Progressing in leather work - invented three new patterns.
- 247 " Nov. 28th 1933
Coloured letter-cards a great success - especially 'London Military Life', with Mahommed Kheir.
- 248 " Dec. 1st 1933
Ombashi gave concert with home-made harp. Lessons from Sheikh Sarbit, still not well.
- 249 " [undated]
Picnic in Wady. Accounts to do and bills to pay. Two Sheikhs for last lesson.
- 250 " Dec. 8th 1933
Visits from the Omdah, and Sawish of the Camel Patrol. Party of schoolboys in the Temple. Pup doing well.
- 251 " Dec. 12th 1933
Suk day, too busy for a picnic; letters and odd jobs. Fine tomatoes, etc. from garden.
- 252 " Dec. 15th 1933
'Magic transfers' and ribbon-threaders appreciated by all. Sardic will fit brackets from the blacksmith to strengthen table.
- 253 " Dec. 20th 1933
Arabic lesson with the two Sheikhs. Now Ramadan. Ahmud Ibrahim fattening turkey for Christmas.

- 254 Arabah Dec. 22nd 1933
Finished second painting, will start third tomorrow. Some Christmas festivities will be postponed till Amice arrives. Sheikh Jed-el-Karim brought party of schoolmasters to Temple. Amazed at M.B.'s drawing.
- 255 " Dec. 26th 1933
A quiet Christmas. Lesson with both schoolmasters - they enjoyed story of first Prince of Wales. Coptic priest called.
- 256 Dec. 29th 1933
Story of Cleopatra and the harper (from Shaw's play) enjoyed by schoolmasters. Going to see Mr. Oulton about Sardic's wages.
- 257 Jan. 2nd 1934
Arrival of Amice. Christmas dinner, childrens' party, and fantasia. Starting to learn rapid Arabic handwriting.
- 258 Jan. 5th 1934
Visit to Sohaq with Sardic and Ombashi - 40 miles in two hours, good going. Mr. Oulton saw Mudir about Sardic's pay - extension granted. Made snowman for European childrens' party.
- 259 Jan. 8th 1934
Starting story of Llewellyn and his dog. Sheikh Sarbit home for holidays. Accounts balanced and in order at end of each month, not muddles that A. gets into.
- 260 Arabah Jan. 12th 1934
Daily routine. Struggling with Arabic 'joined up' writing.
- 261 " Jan. 17th 1934
Round of visits after Ramadan. Included Sheikh Jed el-Karim this year. Camel man's daughter danced. Didn't translate Alfred and the cakes - difficult for an Arab to understand King's undignified position.

262 Arabah [undated]

Visit from Roumanian Princess and husband, another prince, a minister, and ²cousin of King Fouad. Grammatical discussion with Sheikh Jed-el-Karim. Paid his salary.

263 " Jan. 23rd 1934

Visit to Qirga(?) to see silk weavers. Description of process. Both purchased a length. Then shopped for goatskins with Mahomed Kheir's help.

264 " Jan. 26th 1934

To father about weavers. First lesson with Sheikh Sarbit after Ramadan. Polite greetings (Note from Amice). Pictures of soldiers in London sent to Ombashi, now in Cairo.

265 Arabah Jan. 30th 1934

Day at Sohaq with the Oultons. Nearly finished third painting - elaborate figure of King Sety.

266 " Feb. 2nd 1934

Mr. Little gone on leave to Cairo. Boatload of Cooks tourists comes each week - no one they know. Some strange people - one man with an ice axe!

267 " Feb. 6th 1934

Visit from Sir Robert and Lady Greg. Nannie made two pigeons go round four people. Adapting story of Big Claws(sic) and Little Claws.

268 " Feb. 9th 1934

Visit from Dr. Abbas, wife, and her two sisters. Ordered cream machine for them. Answers to questions about pots etc.

[note to Father from Amice asking advice about music publishing]

269 Arabah

Feb. 13th 1934

Day at Nag Hammadi with M. and Madame Roche. Went over sugar factory. Tea with two storks and a pelican. Waited too late and car lamps failed on way home.

270 "

Feb. 18th 1934

Expedition to Akhmin by car and ferry. Sheikh Sarbit met and took them to see weavers - cotton weavers, Copts; the silk weaver a Moslem. Placed orders for silks - no time to see Akhmin. M.B. went on to see Sheikh Sarbit's village and meet his wife and family. 'Lenten' lunch. On way back from Oultons, car broke down - rescued from Baliana.

271 "

Feb. 23rd 1934

Another silk weaver from Akhmin came to show his work. More orders placed for satin.

272 "

Feb. 27th

New puppy, an Aramenti, good guard dog. Sheikh Sarbit has written down names of relations - wif's on a separate piece of paper.

273 "

March 2nd 1934

Enclosing snaps of pelican and stork. Finished story of Big and Little Claws - writing the origin of the flea.

274 "

March 6th 1934

Visited the weavers at Girga. Bought a shuttle. Dr. Gardiner's friend Czerny staying for a week or two translating texts not worthwhile copying. Enclosing snaps of puppies.

275 "

March 9th 1934

Sheikh Sarbit has been moved to village nearer his home. Continuing lessons with Sheikh Jed el-Karim. Enclosing snaps of Mahomed Kheir with cushion cover he made from skins bought at Girga.

- 276 Arabah March 13th 1934
Enclosing snap of Sheikh Sarbit.
- 277 " March 16th 1934
Mr. Czerny has returned to Cairo. Mr. Little very nervy and jumpy - doctor recommended that he should leave. Letter from Sheikh Sarbit with thanks for present of £2.
- 278 March 20th
Planning long camel ride on her own. Sheikh Jed-el-Karim has brought huge list of verbs.
- 279 In the Temple. Friday, March ? 1934
Amice and Mr. Little gone to Cairo. Long trip may not come off. Mr. Little's nervous symptoms. Enclosing more pelican and puppy snaps, also M.B. with M. and Madame Roche.
- 280 Arabah March 27th 1934
Very hot. Amice returned with one of Dr. Junker's assistants to do Mr. Little's work. Plan for M.B. to go to Oultons - needing a change after five months.
- 281 In the Temple. Friday 29th March
Dr. Junker's assistant seems very suitable but still finding the work difficult. Feast day - men bought bread. About puppies, etc. Disturbed by rat in bedroom. Abdullah caught it.
- 282 British Consular Agency, Sohaq [undated] p.m. 4 April
Rode on camel to Girga (15 miles) called on bank manager, caught train, camels following. Sheikh Sarbit at station. Plans for camel trip.
- 283 Sohaq April 9th 1934
First day went to Akhmin and saw weavers. Then Suwamah, Sheikh Sarbit's village. Received by ladies of the family, rested, washed and had roast chicken, etc. On way back climbed to tombs. Missed last ferry for camel, chartered special launch for self, home in time for dinner.

284 Arabah el Madfurrah

[undated]

Back in camp. On second day of holiday in Sohaq, visited two Coptic monasteries. Next excursion took three days. Crossed Nile, rode north to Gebel Haridi. At Beled Haridi climbed to famous Sheikh's tomb, and ancient quarries. Slept on verandah of meeting house. Excellent supper of pigeon. After breakfast set off along desert track.

285 "

April 16th 1934

Continuing journey. In first village, Galaweyia, met Mahomed Kheir. Camped in desert near Swamah. Slept till sun shone in her face. Early call from Sheikh Sarbit and uncle. All went to visit Coptic Church of Roman period. Packed and started off for Sohaq. After an hours ride, investigated tombs in cliff. Saw weavers again at Akhmin. Spent next day mostly with Oultons. Next day driven back to camp by Mr. Oulton, with Harry. Entertainment in afternoon for Amice's birthday.

286 Arabah

April 20th 1934

Baby fox - sent to Madame Roche.

287 "

April 24th 1934

Amice collecting Arab instruments and learning drum. One weaver has finished order. There will be a lot of letters to write in Arabic this summer.

288 "

April 27th 1934

Only great upheavals and repacking. Going to visit Professor Oliver at Burg el Arab. (He has bird sanctuary at Blakeney Harbour).

289

April 27th

To father about car. Second weaver has done only one small item.

290 Cairo

May 2nd

First flight: with Professor Oliver from Heliopolis to Alexandria. Then by car to Burg el Arab where he is going to study plant life in desert. Back by air - 130 miles in about an hour. Had lunch with Bramley Bey. Very tired, staying with Nancy.

291 T.S.S. Antenor Blue Funnel Line

May 7th 1934

Uneventful voyage. Catching up on sleep. Had 2 days with Prof. Junker.

Sixth season at Abydos 1934-35

- 292 S.S. Tuscania, Anchor Line. Oct. 22nd 1934
Met old friend from 'California' 1931. German zeppelin flew over, swastikas clearly visible.
- 293 " Oct. 27th 1934
Uneventful voyage.
- 294 Cairo Oct. 30th 1934
Landing and going through Customs with 25 cases as well as own luggage. Amice arrived next morning. Missed aeroplane, went by train to Cairo. Bother about Austrians. Miss Clark is new photographer.
- 295 Arabah el Madfunjah Nov. 1st 1934
To father for birthday. Busy unpacking. Calls from new police officer with Sheikh Jed el-Karim and the Omdah. Dogs and cat well.
- 296 " Nov. 6th 1934
All settled in camp now. Truda Clarke, thw two Austrians, M.B. and A.C. Thunderstorm without rain. First Arabic lesson.
- 297 " Nov. 9th 1934
First day for all to be at work in the Temple.
- 298 Arabah Nov. 13th 1934
Extra three rooms being added to house, and house of two rooms being built for guards. Building is a simple matter. New oven built outside kitchen. Mahommed Kyami, mechanic, working on 'Joey'.
- 299 " Nov. 16th
Arabic lesson - head buzzing. Larger party agrees very well - all first names, Erica and Otto, etc.

300 Arabah el Madfurjah

Nov. 20th

Different characters of the two dogs. Soudani house complete. Annexe nearly at roof.

301 "

Nov. 23rd

Otto knows his job and gets on with it. Erica needs constant supervision, Truda will soon get used to methods here. Amice worried and harassed. M.B. put temporary stopping in A.C.'s tooth.

302 "

Nov. 27th

Expedition to festival at Kena. Erica had headache and did not go. Five including Sardic, ~~hit~~ in Ford. Went first to National Bank of Egypt and left coats etc. with Mr. Purr(?). Recognised singer of songs of Abu Zaid. Watched procession from Mr. Purr's balcony. Success of building - house of 2 rooms, annexe of three, table, settle, 2 cupboards, 2 washstands, etc. all for £20.

303 "

Last of November

Camp complete - arrival of Elfie Gridson, completely bewildered. Otto now in new quarters. A.C. and M.B. did all carpentry with help of village carpenter. Field day making curtains, cushion covers etc. made with new sewing machine. Morse drill impresses Mahomed Kheir.

304 "

Dec. 4th 1934

New local police officer, a Copt, to tea on Sunday. Pipe man attending to well. Amice gave man a goat to celebrate when the roof of the annexe went on, and another goat to the Soudanis. A few tourists have been in the Temple. M. Lacoé(sic) head of Service des Antiquities had lunch in Temple.

305 "

Dec. 7th 1934

Arabic lessons - her method of making lists of words works well. Difficulty of writing letters with people talking.

306 Arabah

Dec. 11th 1934

Christmas greetings. Amice's card enclosed. M.B. is making casts from some hieroglyphs in the Temple - will send one to Dr. Gardiner and perhaps Professor Breasted and Dr. Junker. Mahommed Kheir acts as M.B.'s personal guard.

307 "

Dec, 17th 1934

Missed sending Friday letter. Amice and Truda have gone to Luxor to use darkroom. A. has cold & nervous prostration. Truda getting on well. Two who should help to prepare drawings having great difficulty. Otto knows his job. Erica twisted her ankle, then Nannie complained of similar pain. M. Roche brought Director of Suez Canal to see the Temple - also flowers and vegetables from his garden.

308 "

Dec. 21st 1934

Ford wouldn't start. Towed by 'Joey' all over desert till engine functioned, but battery weak. Elfie thinks Amice was sold a pup. Visit from M. Baraize in charge of temple repairs - came to lunch and dinner.

309 "

Christmas Day

Account of Christmas^{and} presents. Police officer called with enormous bunch of roses - much better mannered than his predecessor, so is asked to tea. Sardic made a Christmas card & hung it on wall - M.B. translated. Amice much better.

310 "

Dec. 28th

Nannie made gooseberry fool with mayonnaise instead of custard. Fantasia on Christmas night very amusing. Sheikh Jed el-Karim was asked to explain difficult bits.

311 "

Jan. 1st 1935

Happy New Year. Eating turkey presented by Ahmed Ibrahim. Sardic having eye trouble and Amice is taking him to specialist in Cairo.

312 "

Latest interest, watching bees building nests. Stroked one and he (or she) squeaked.

313 Arabah el-Madfunah

Jan. 8th 1935

Watching bees again. Took new members of camp to midnight service on Coptic Christmas Eve. Amice returned, Sardic to have slight operation on his eyes.

314 "

Tuesday evening. 15.1.35

Day at Sohaq with the Oultons, all except Amice who has bad cold. Ford sent back to Cairo, squeezed into 'Joey' to Baliana & got train. Four o'clock train back, dusty and weary. Dr. Junker has gone over all finished drawings and is pleased. He had talk with Sheikh J. el-K.

315 "

Jan. 18th 1935

Preparing for four visitors from the Residency, Chief Secretary and wife and two friends.

316 "

Jan. 22nd 1935

Picnic with guests, two cars and five camels. Scrambled about cliffs and slid down the sandslope while the men played games. Later. Visit to Sheikh Jed el-Karim's school, an hour's camel ride away. Saw weavers etc. in village, and Coptic Church.

317 "

Jan. 23rd 1935

To father on his friend's death.

318 "

Jan. 29th

Visit to orange garden while Amice takes others to Nag Hammadi to see the sugar factories. Oranges over early, but conversation and mint tea with the nice-looking Omdah Faiz Abu Stati. Enclosed sketch of 'four-legged owl'.

319 Arabah

Feb. 1st

Basket of oranges (80) from Omdah from another estate. Hopes to make return gift of Australian apples. Sardic back from Cairo but eyes needing attention so now in Sohaq.

Enclosed letter from A.C. and sketches of sparrows.

320

"

Feb. 4th

Prescribed treatment for fierce dog of one of temple guards. Amice having trouble with her clavichord.

321

"

Feb. 8th 1935

Sent basket of apples to Omdah Faiz by little Mahmud. Trouble with cost of catering for the two Austrians who eat as much as the four English. Amice may put a month's salary back. Output is poor with so many to coach. Vol. ii will soon be out.

322

"

Feb. 12th 1935

Heatwave. Sewing machine doing well. Request for 'The Sarcophagus of Sety I'. None of the others have seen or heard of this sarcophagus. Expecting visit from two members of Pendlebury's camp - their season finished as funds were short. Description of Soudani saying his prayers. Surjab's camel has had a son.

323

"

Feb. 15th 1935

Expecting Mr. and Mrs. Sherman from Pendlebury's camp.

324

"

Feb. 22nd 1935

Strolling minstrel here again when Shermans were visiting. Unexpected three guests while Amice was in bed with tummy upset.

325

"

Feb. 27th 1935

Will be hard put to it to finish work for Vol. iii this season. Amice not well. Truda spent her leave at Chicago House.

326 Arabah

March 1st 1935

Hakim - a silly dog - had to be put to sleep with ether.
[enclosed letter from A.C. with sketch].

327 "

March 5th 1935

Everyone interested in book of sarcophagus of Sety I, arrived today. Plans for going to Dakhla, with Sardic, by car and train.

328 "

Sunday March 10th

Hasty letter to say all is in order for journey to Dakhla.

329 Kharga Rest House

March 13th 1935

Journey by car to Kara, camp for the night. Boarded train (really trolley) at dawn. Stopped every 40 kilos or so for water. Met at Kharga and invited to tea with Governor. In the village of Mout, Dakhla Oasis. Friday morning. Leisurely tour of Kharga. In afternoon boarded Ford lorry, piled with wood, bundles, etc., and passengers. M.B. and Sardic sat with driver. Arrived Mout about 1 a.m. Slept in Government Rest House. Donkey tour of (mostly underground) village - Roman Fort. Back in Mout. Monday. On Saturday set off in ramshackle Ford - beautiful desert colours, mirage. Received by Omdah of Gedida. Saw round village and fields. comfortable guest wing in Omdah's house. Next day on to Kasr, the most ancient village - hot spring in rock. Back to Gedida for night. Next day Rashdah, lunch with Omdah, small village, marvellous gardens, many bees. Visited another spring. Back to Mout. American in charge of expedition from Berlin, Mr. Fox, tracing remains of prehistoric man, invited her to dinner at camp, 50 miles away. Two German ladies with little English. Cook with none.

330 Back again in camp March 25th

Journey back to Kharga by Ford lorry. Camp fire with camel caravan. Started next day in same old Ford car for Bulaq and Beris 100 miles south, accompanied by Hagg Rachid, Chief Guard of Antiquities service, Roman fortress. Stayed in Police Outpost in Beris. Ombashi overwhelmed. More springs, Sardic distressed at waste. At Bulaq visited Omdah, lunch with Hagg Rashid. Back in Kharga, tea with driver and exchange of gifts. Return to Kara by train, Amice met with car.

331 Arabah March 30th 1935

Busy writing 'thank you' letters, some in Arabic. Ordered cigarettes for Governor and Marmur of Kharga. Feeling much better for the holiday. Arabic lessons - writing description of trip.

332 Arabah April 2nd 1935

Baby donkey. Cat disappeared. Dog well.

333 " April 6th 1935

Receiving letters from the Oasis. Pleasure of knowing conventional polite replies - makes conversation possible.

334 " April 9th 1935

M. and Mme. Roche have come for Amice's birthday. Erica left yesterday. Elfie, Truda going soon. Rat in bedroom - scarcity of cats. Police officer transferred.

335 " April 13th

Visit to Omdah Faiz Abu Stati's orange grove with Elfie.

336 " April 16th 1935

Trouble with overcharging tailor - put matter in hands of police. Dr. Junker now collating work. Otto will go back to Cairo with him - has been out of sorts.

- 337 Arabah el-Madfurah April 19th 1935
Sherlock Holmes for the young Omdah's present? May make him think of England full of criminals. Dr. Junker & Otto have gone. Enclosing aerial view of Palestine.
- 338 " April 23rd 1935
Plans for Palestine & visit to Prof. Oliver.
- 339 Dar el Nabaty (House of Flowers) April 29th 1935
Burg el-Arab
Arrived via Cairo, very tired. Day on seashore. Tea at Major Bramley's.
- 340 Beaumont House, Jerusalem May 2nd
Air journey to Jerusalem. Met by man sent by Starkey to drive her to camp. Harding and Miss Tufnell there. Site of Nebucadnezzar's palace. Back to Jerusalem. Visited museum and saw things to be copied. Purchased materials.
- 341 " [undated]
Hard at work. Heard Jubilee service on wireless. May 7th, bought Damascus silk frock and ordered one for mother.
- 342 " May 9th 1935
Sight-seeing tour. Prof. and Lady Petrie have arrived, from excavating in South Palestine. May 12th. Bus ride to Jaffa. Miss Murray arrives. They went for bus ride to Bethlehem.
- 343 Nazareth May 14th 1934(sic)
More sight-seeing.

Seventh season at Abydos 1935-6

- 344 Tuscania, Off Cape St. Vincent Sunday [postmark 24.10.35]
Not luxurious cabin but food very good. 'A lot of nice dogs aboard'. Amice has had a bad throat.
Monday. Stopped at Gibraltar. Everything normal though Amice expected they'd have a convoy.
- 345 Tuscania Oct. 26th 1935
'Alot about nothing at all'.
- 346 Arabah Nov. 3rd 1935
Spent night in Port Said, saw Italian troopships taking sick soldiers home. Two busy days in Cairo, staying with Nancy. Then came on to camp with Otto. Amice staying to have treatment for her throat. Marmur of Baliana and police officer called with temporary guard.
- 347 " Nov. 5th
Sheikh Jed el-Karim brought kitten. New Soudani guard found viper in room. M.B. has ordered brick floor to be put down.
- 348 " Nov. 7th 1935
People afraid Italians may drop bombs on Egypt. Settled in to work.
- 349 " Nov. 14th
Amice has arrived. Still needs treatment to throat. Visit from Coptic priest. Arabic lessons - writing account of visit to Jerusalem. Latin quotation from Mr. Last, Hon Sec. E.E.S. Replied with Arabic proverbs.
- 350 " Nov. 15th 1935
Visit from Sheikh Jed el-Karim, two other teachers and former owner of kitten. Car has been overhauled by M. Roche's mechanic.

- 351 Arabah Nov. 18th 1935
'State Visit' from Professor Breasted with Mrs. Breasted and Dr. Nelson. Lunch of roast turkey. Professor Breasted very satisfied with work. Another horned viper killed.
- 352 " Nov. 22nd 1935
Mudir of the province called, with colonel of the Soudanese camel corps. Mr. Oulton has been ill, still in hospital in Cairo.
- 353 " Nov. 26th 1935
Lunch of Sohaq with Mudir. Then tea with Marge and dinner in Oultons' flat with assistant John Webb. M.B. stayed night with Marge and Jenks in their new home. Home via Girga - shopped there.
- 354 " Nov. 29th 1935
Ramadan. It was last day of previous month Sheban, in Qirga - procession. Riots in Cairo, not serious.
- 355 " Dec. 3rd 1935
Working in the hypostyle hall - abode of owls. Amice had breakfast in bed, and produced enclosed poem, with illustrations.
- 356 " Dec. 6th 1935
Death of Professor Breasted in New York. Visitors, Dennis Peel son of 'Cotton King' has been helping at Sohaq in Charles Oulton's absence, and English teacher and wife. Amice checking photographs - many gaps. Preparing to send photographic record to EES in case of trouble 'out here'.
- 357 " Dec. 10th
Sand storm. Amice in Cairo for treatment to throat. M.B. hopes to finish painting soon - the largest yet, has taken five weeks. Explained to Sheikh Jed el-Karim with diagrams that Dead Sea is below sea level.

358 Arabah

Dec. 13th

Cold weather. Sardic has been mending panes of glass damaged by sandstorm.

359 "

Dec. 17th 1935

Disaster - Otto has broken leg and wrist. First aid was given. Telephoned police. Ambulance arrived with police, military doctor, hospital doctor, two attendants and local police officer. Packed a bag for Cairo. Leg re-dressed in Baliana hospital, waited seven hours till time to get him with Sardic to Cairo express. Home by taxi, 'nearly dead'.

360 "

Dec. 20th 1935

Sardic back from Cairo - Otto settled in hospital. Who is liable for expenses?

361 "

undated [postmark 25th Dec.]

Amice back, furious with Otto. Plan to write once a week & send via Marseilles. Post is irregular possibly because all letters going through Italy are opened. Christmas presents: chocolates from Junker signed 'grandfather'. 'The Lord Fish', by Walter de la Mare, from Gardiner. Flowers and vegetables from M. and Mme. Roche. Mr. Oulton still in hospital.

362 "

Dec. 26th 1935

Iced cake from Rex and Nancy. Sent oranges to Mr. Oulton, Dr. Junker, and Otto, and presents for doctors and nurses. Police officer came to lunch, fixed up his little radio so that they could hear B.B.C. relayed from Cairo. Children's party after lunch. Too cold for fantasia in the evening.

363 "

Dec. 31st 1935

A letter has gone to England via New York. Now trying to catch P. & O. leaving Port Said every Sunday. Music and play to entertain overnight visitors. Later two English officers to lunch. Round of visits. Difficulty of refusing food offered.

/contd.

363 Arabah Dec. 31st 1935
/contd.

Mrs. Jenkin, wife of secretary to Sir Miles Lampson sent parcel including crackers. Marmur's wife and daughter visited temple. Finished 2nd painting. Abdullah's buffalo has died. A.C. & M.B. giving £1 each to replace it.

Enclosed, letter from Amice [with Christmas card].

364 " Jan. 7th 1936

Festive lunch with Roches at Nag Hamadi. While there, a holy Sheikh called. Police officer transferred. Otto getting on well, leaving hospital to stay with Junkers. Eclipse of moon. Tale of Sardić, Professor Peel and the Christmas pudding. Abdullah's hair trimmed.

365 " [undated, postmark 16 Jan. 1936]

Amice at Luxor making enlargements. Madame Roche and friends visited temple. She spoke French, M.B. Arabic, it worked well. Soudanis had visitors from camel corps. Charles Oulton is to return to England.
Later. Major Anderson came to Temple, from Nile boat. Invited them to dine on boat's return.

366 " Jan. 22 1936

Grieved to hear of King's death. Jolly outing to Girga. Much shopping. Crossed river by sailing barges, walked to cliffs and had picnic. Tea with bank manager in Girga.

367 " Jan. 28th 1936

Visit of wife and daughters of Marmur to tea. Next day, the doctor to tea, easier to entertain. On Sunday Dr. Nelson from Chicago with American lady Egyptologist came for the day. In the evening, dinner with Major and Colonel Anderson on Nile boat. Otto now at Dr. Junker's - hospital bill of £35 sent to Amice.

[one missing?]

368 Arabah el Madfurah Feb. 12th

Another afternoon's shopping in Girga. Sheikh invited them into mosque, and showed them another, with wall of Persian tiles.

369 Feb. 18th 1936

Planning trip to Red Sea, so may miss mail. Visit from friend of Eve Samuel. Letter from Dr. Gardiner, Rockefeller in financial difficulties because of new supertax, so work may not go on much longer.

370 Arabah Feb. 20th 1935(sic)

Preparations for Red Sea trip. Surprise visit from Dr. Gardiner's son and his wife. This letter is being left with Nannie to post on next mail day.

371 " March 4th 1936

Red Sea trip. South to Qift, into Arabian desert, stopping at camp of Frontier Police. Explored old Roman well. Delivered letters from police to Bedouin Sheikh. Did not stop at phosphate mines. Reached seashore, bathed, collected shells, etc. Camped among dunes.

372 " March 10th 1936

Continuation of journey, north to Port Sofaga. Fresh water and all provisions come by sea from Suez. Swarm of pink crabs, caught one of them. Met by General Manager of Sehl Co. looking out for them. Ceremonial tea with Marmur at Hunqhada. Stayed in resthouse. Next day visited marine research station - Dr. Crossland and his wife - saw collection of coral and were rowed out to see corals growing.

379 S.S. Ranchi, P. & O. S.N.Co.

April 30th 1936

Had nice time with Rex and Nancy. Dinner with Dr. Junker. Otto has only slight limp but has jaundice. Walk round Malta. Uneventful voyage.

373 Arabah

March 17th 1936

Naval Reserve Commander Boyd, charting coral reefs took them out with him taking soundings. Spent night in Gebel Dokhan. Next day Kena, Nag Hamadi, stayed with Roches. Back in camp for lunch next day. Dr. Junker came to collate work, would not say much about Otto. A week later Amice left for Canada.

374 Arabah

March 24th 1936

Guests, Secretary from the Residency and his wife. He spent visit in bed with cold. Visit to Sheikh Ali of tribe of snake charmers, by camel, men and ^{their} relations following with three donkeys. Lunch on way back in lemon grove. Yet another new police officer, seems more efficient than last.

375

"

March 31st 1936

Sardic at party given by man returned from Mecca - his ambition is to go. Sandstorm demolished garden. Mended rat trap, and flit spray - the flea season!

376

"

April 5

Finding she gets through more work on her own. Mahmud has had swollen face, sent to Dr. Nossia at Baliana Hospital - various prescriptions have cured him. Visit by boys school. Maintenance work on house.

April 7th. Girga - new bank manager, English. £8 changed to silver for all tips. Finished last painting. Hoping to finish OHO's uncompleted wall.

377

"

April 14th

Easter Sunday spent with the Roches. Sheep roasted whole 'a ghastly sight'. Another guest was French war correspondent from Addis Ababa - reluctant to talk about war. Visit from Oxford man who has been excavating in the Sudan. Mrs. Griffith asked for him to be put up.

378 At Nancy's

April 22nd

Sailing on Ranchi due Tilbury May 8th. May get off at Plymouth.

Eighth season at Abydos 1936-7

380 S.S. California, Anchor Line Monday [posted with next letter]

Comfortable cabin and good food. Tuesday - strenuous half hour in gym.

381 " Oct. 24th 1936

Fellow-passengers ordinary, except three Indian ladies.

[one missing]

382 Arabak el-Madfurah Nov. 4th 1936

Settled down to work, bothered with mosquitos. Sheikh Jed el-Karim visited. Three new Soudanis, one is a Hajj.

383 " Nov. 10th 1936

Visit from Sheikh Hassan. Also from son of Sheikh Abd el Wahid who had died (& who had given charms to bring them back each year). Inspector of Antiquities to lunch, Egyptian, studied with Junker.

384 " Nov. 19th 1936

Visit to Oultons at Sohaq. Charles quite better. Saw Marge and son and heir. Amice off the Chicago House to do enlarging. Now Ramadan.

385 " Nov. 24th 1936

Visit from Belgian minister staying with Roches. Ahmed depressed because son taken for military service. Amice has returned. Chicago House seems quite deserted. Nelson thinks they may have to close down after three years. One day very like another.

386 Arabah el-Madfun^{ah} [undated, postmark 3 Dec. 1936]

Ramadan half over. Post office in Baliana has been moved. Not many patients this year - afraid they may be sent to hospital.

387 " [undated, postmark 11 Dec. 1936]

Expecting Mr. Glanville, lecturer in Egyptology at University College, and three lady students. Making old tyre into false noses for fantasia.

Next day. Shopping in Girga. Visited mosque with Persian tiles and climbed minaret.

388 " Dec. 15th 1936

Christmas greetings. 'Glanville and his hareem' have not come owing to muddle - other guests expected. One arrived, lady doctor. Have postponed round of visits at end of Ramadan. Concerned about abdication.

389 " Dec. 22nd 1936

Christmas preparations. Books from Dr. Gardiner and Prof. Oliver. Old police officer, 'camel-fly', back.

390 " Dec. 29th 1936

Usual Christmas festivities, M. & Mme. Roche and Mr. and Mrs. Martindale from Luxor, for lunch. Fantasia on Dec. 27th when Major Anderson came to dinner. Parcel of Christmas decorations from Mrs. Jenkin, wife of First Secretary at the Residency. No candles for tree so they made their own.

391 " Jan. 5th 1937

Old friend, the wandering minstrel, came with son-in-law and two nephews. Traditional soup and tales of Abu Zaid. Songs in praise of the ladies, and to Christmas tree, sung by the nephews. Police officer's reformed character. Preparation for King Farouk's visit. Going to service in Coptic Church this night.

392 Arabah el-Madfunah

Jan. 12th 1937

Visit to Oultons for 2 nights. Made, at short notice, Consular flag for Charles' car, for King Farouk's visit.

393

"

Jan. 19th 1937

Great excitement on King's visit to the temple. Presented by head of the Service des Antiquités, King's mother and four princesses there. Royal family had lunch in special tent. Inspected Osireion lit by mirrors and reflector. Minstrels performed at King's lunch. He gave them £5.

394

"

Jan. 25th 1937

Amice's cousin Jan staying. Lunch with local police officer, 9 course menu. Visit to Sardic's house and farm. Later. Expedition to Girga, tea with bank manager.

395

"

Feb. 2nd 1937

Luncheon party for Jan to meet some upper-class Egyptians - Mudir to the province and the Chief of Police. Sketching Singab's house & wife. Old guard with friendly dogs is pensioned off, but visits every Sunday and Thursday.

396

"

Feb. 9th 1937

Police Officer sent special Egyptian dish for lunch. Old guard dogs back with new guard. Sketching in village. Visit from the minstrels. Amice wrote down tune of song in their honour.

397

"

Feb. 16th 1937

Letter from Mr. Little, married, and working on chicken farm. More sketching in village of various interiors, and view from temple roof.

398 Arabah el-Madfurah

Feb. 24th 1937

M.'s birthday - had tea at Sardic's farm. Day before was a Moslem feast and they visited all friends in the two villages. Magnificent lunch with the Roches. Russell Pasha, Chief of Police in Cairo, visited temple with his wife, and had lunch there.

399 "

March 3rd 1937

'Egyptological grandfather' Junker just left after nearly a week going over work to date. Planning trip to Red Sea. Sketching in village. Visit to school.

400 "

March 16th 1937

Returned safely from Red Sea.

401 "

March 16th 1937

First day of trip, to Kena. ^{They are} to report on arrival at Hurgada. Camped at dusk. Next day, both were constantly sketching - spent two days crossing Eastern Desert - authorities anxious. Stayed with Crosslands at Marine Research Station. Saw corals feeding. Set out to see Roman ruins but trouble with tyres - spares were motor-bike ones! Hanafey Bey, Inspector of Mines lent driver to go with Mrs. Crossland. Returned when only two kilometres from ruins.

402 "

March 18th 1937

Expedition to porphyry mountains with Hanafey Bey, in Government lorry, 8-cylinder Ford. Three and a half hours drive, stopped to look at ruins of Roman settlement. Picnic. Climbed to quarry. On way back stopped to sketch, then bumpy ride.

403 "

March 28th 1937

Filled up with petrol. Called on Hanafey to tell him return route. Camped in foothills. Amice disturbed by jerboa in her bed. Next night, campfire with Beduins. Visited well with Beduin Chief. Next night Rest House at Kena, then back in camp.

404 Arabah el-Madfunah

April 5th 1937

Major and Mrs. Calverley arrived by boat, Major too ill to stay for night. Oultons came to dinner. Amice went on Cooks boat to Luxor with parents, back two days later. Hanafey Bey unexpectedly arrived. On return voyage Major and Mrs. Calverley did not leave the boat - had dinner with them.

405 "

April 13th 1937

Plan to drive home via Greece. Sacks of grain bought as leaving present for staff.

406 "

April 20th 1937

Mudir's luncheon party. Stayed night before with Oultons. Before lunch went to Onion Exhibition.

407 "

April 27th

Commander of the Camel Patrol at Sohaq came to tea, and ride in the desert on three of the best riding camels of the Corps.

408 Société Générale des sucreries
et de la raffinerie d'Egypté

5th May

Four hectic days packing. Staying with Roches. Had loan of three best riding camels for four days & each evening rode in desert with the Hagg Mahomed.

[enclosed letter from A.C.]

409 Cairo, with Nancy

May 15th 1937

Expedition with Hanafey to Mons Claudianus. Young Egyptian naval officer, Badr, came too. Camped at ruins. Back to Crosslands & then set off for Suez. At Garib lighthouse first night, next night Zafaran lighthouse. Merry evening, Hanafey and Badr arrived. Visited Monastery of St. Antonious. Continued to Suez and Cairo. Dr. Junker gave supper party for them at his camp.

410 Cairo May 20th 1937

Preparations for journey. Can Mother put up Nancy and Joan?
[page(s) missing].

411 Bourg el Arab May 28th 1937
Mariut, Lower Egypt.

Staying with Professor Oliver. All ready for journey. People are suggesting a book describing the Eastern Desert, with their sketches.

412 8 Rue Abassides June 1st 1937
Alexandria, Egypt

Staying with Lady Barker, mother of Amice's friend Beryl. Dined with Bramley Bey and his wife in house like Crusaders' castle. Sardic has returned to Arabah el-Madfunah and will be guard at the house.

413 Criaova, Roumania ? June 1937

Deck passage on Greek boat to Piraeus, sight-seeing in Athens for two days, camped at Eleusis. Visit by mule to Monastery of St. Luke; Delphi; Yugoslavia about 6 days after landing - mediaeval, compared with classical world. Journalist in Belgrade wrote article about car.

414 June 22nd & 27th

P.c's from Budapest and Nürnberg respectively.

415 Aschoffenbach near Frankfurt, Bavaria June 28th

Car repairs, back axle snapped. Waiting for spares. Two nights in Budapest, one in Vienna. Had lunch with Erica and tea with Linda Hole's parents. Amice's friend Fifi is coming to help her with housework. Otto in the country, said to be well. Later - spare parts are arriving by air.