

Arabah el Madfunah.
March 15th [1932]

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Dear Mother.

I was so glad to hear all the news about the Barnard family, you must have enjoyed seeing Mrs B & Bessie again. what a pity Charlie's trip to Egypt did not come off.

I worked very hard at Arabic while Amice was in Cairo, Sheikh Sarbit came every evening. he was highly entertained with my efforts to write Arabic stories & read them without the least effort, I am going to try to do some while I am at home this summer & post them to him for correction, he is very delighted at the suggestion, I think he will feel a person of tremendous importance to receive letters from England. It will be fun. I think I shall be able to read his handwriting without any help because he writes most beautifully as clearly as print. Sardic is also going to write he writes quite well, but it is ordinary handwriting & is as different from the Arabic print as our's differs from English type. However I have hopes of mastering it before I return, so far I have only

Dear Mother.

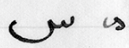


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Tried reading from the printed book, & I use the printed forms in my own writing, the quick writing omits a lot of squiggles & some of the letters look quite a different shape. for instance
 u is written , + s is  + o is 
 & so on -

Will you get me a copy of Elizabeth.
 Barrett Browning's Sonnets from the Portuguese
 I want to give it to Amice for her birthday
 early in April, not a de luxe edition, just a
 nice sensible one,

Last Tuesday I went to tea with
 the Omdah of Beni Monsur, Sardic of course
 acted as escort & I said all the polite things
 I could think of. The Omdah was very interested
 in my lessons, he had heard all about them
 since the schoolmaster lodges in his house as
 his own home is near Sohag, The Omdah also
 remembers Professor Petrie & Miss Murray. & was glad
 to hear news of them,

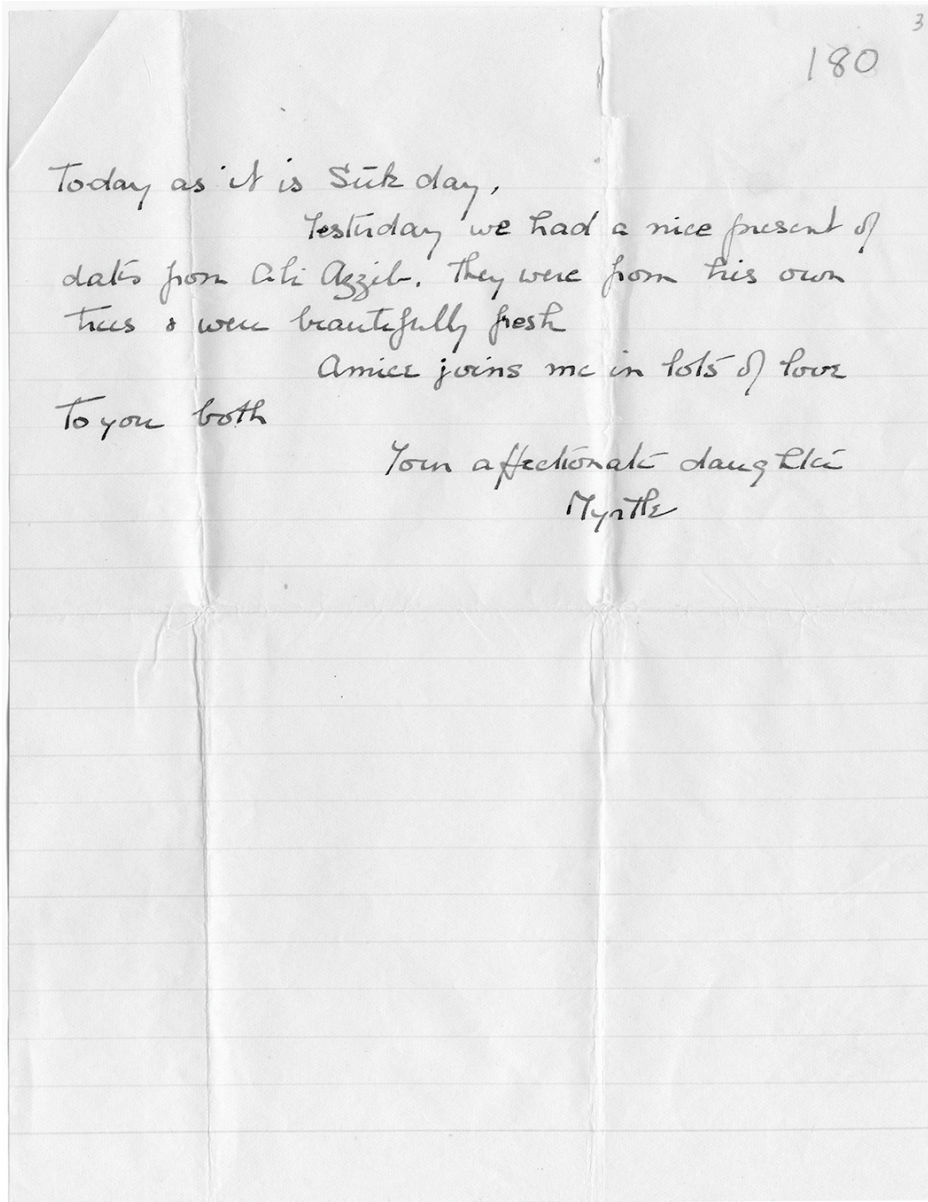
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to-day as it is Sūk day,

Yesterday we had a nice present of
dates from Ali Azzib. they were from his own
trees & were beautifully fresh

Amice joins me in lots of love
to you both
Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle