

Arabah.
Feb 13th 1934

Dear Mother

We have been spending the day at Nag-Hammadi with .M. & Madame Roche. we were taken over the great sugar factory. we drove through miles of sugar cane on our way there, & we saw the trucks laden with it arriving in the yards & the great cranes unloading it & putting it on a sort of moving staircase which carried it through three crushing machines. Then it was boiled & refined & dried & put in sacks, & the pith used to feed the furnaces & the dregs of the molasses used as fuel also, it was very interesting,

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Storks came & had tea with us. They were so funny, they all caught bits of cake in their bills & once when one of the storks snapped up a bit of cake in front of the pelican the pelican took the stork's head in his bill & shook it, & the stork did not seem to mind a bit. Then the pelican very nearly took one of the tea cups off the table & had a tug at the table cloth, it was fun, I have never had such an amusing tea party before. There was also a tame wolf running about the garden, we saw him in the distance but he was too shy to come near while we were there.

Coming home we had an adventure as usual Annie left it late & we had to drive back in the dark

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London A

before we had done a quarter
 of the distance our lamps gave out
 & we were in pitch darkness on a
 road that ran beside a canal.
 Fortunately we had two little hand
 batteries with us. I held one out
 on one side & Sardic held the other out
 on the other side. & Amice drove very
 slowly & we carried on like this
 for about 12 miles. Then we got
 to Baliana where we went to our
 nice mechanic Mahommed Khyami
 & he fitted new bulbs in the lamps
 so we got home about two hours
 late. Very weary with the strain
 of trying to see in the dark,
 if we had not had the little flash
 lamps we would have had to spend
 the night on the canal bank
 & creep home in the early dawn -

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We are off for another adventure on Friday
 I showed Sheikh Sarbit our purchases
 from the weavers in Girga & he said there
 was far better weaving done in Akhmim
 which is near his home, so I asked
 him if he would accompany us there
 one day & show us round & he was
 delighted, so Amice & I are going with
 him next Friday (it being the school
 holiday) & we are going to visit his
 home afterwards & see his wife & his
 parents. I will tell you all about it
 in my next letter which may be delayed
 a little if we are late getting back
 Friday.

Love to you both
 your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

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