ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND HE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

72625=

Dear Mother.

Have are the snaps I took on our journey to the Cases they may help you To see a few of the things I have tried to discribe but of course they fall very short of the reality. the lons flattons things in the distance so you get no idea of the splindow of the mountain called The Plundows nor the maggedness i grander of the descent. but the camets. with their many shange bundles are really very good. I the one of me I am sure will amuse you very much. I pahaps you will to able Tosse how strange some of the discit formations are. not at all one's idea of flat sandy We are settling down to work in carnest now. I still have three days of my leave chiel ishall probably spind with the Bruntons next month. There is more work here than we can possibly get through this season without help. so we are having a new man on a week's Trial, to see if he can eavy on with Beggleys job. his name as Charles Little + the was recommended by to gunn (prind of the trops) so we have he may prove useful, he is coming Today. he did'at washing any time accepting Miss 6's offer to pay his copieses for a week if he which to come they his hand at apping cickings he simply writed. arriving Behane 6 o'clock tonight

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAMP ARABAH EL MADFUNAH BALIANA. UPPER EGYPT.

Feb 25^{<u>th</u>} [1930]

Dear Mother.

Here are the snaps I took on our journey to the Oasis they may help you to see a few of the things I have tried to describe but of course they fall very short of the reality. the lens flattens things in the distance so you get no idea of the splendour of the mountain called The Plunderer nor the ruggedness & grandeur of the descent. but the camels, with their many strange bundles are really very good, & the one of me I am sure will amuse you very much, & perhaps you will be able to see how strange some of the desert formations are, not at all one's idea of flat sandy plains.

We are settling down to work in earnest now. I still have three days of my leave which I shall probably spend with the Bruntons next month. There is more work here than we can possibly get through this season without help, so we are having a new man on a week's trial, to see if he can carry on with Beazleys^{sic} job, his name is Charles Little & he was recommended by M^r Gunn (friend of the Imps [= Reginald Engelbach]) so we hope he may prove useful, he is coming today. he did'nt^{sic} waste any time accepting Miss C's offer to pay his expenses for a week if he liked to come & try his hand at copying cielings^{sic} he simply wired, Arriving Baliana 6 o'clock tonight

the condently look the Just Train after receiving her letter Hope such enthusiasm books well. In some ways we an bath to have a shanger since we are so very happy as we are . but he may prove very nice . & any way mething definite a settled, we needed keep him on after The week of we dont like him . Ramadan ends either Saturday a Sunday. it all depends on the moon. The first day after Ramadan is a quat just , we shall go to visit the houses of all our native piends to offer our salutations & good instes, we shall have to drink coffee starte food conjustice ishell probably need a good dose of our own physic afterwards. but it will be fun + I hope to describe it to you next Tuesday Last Sunday we had great fin. a party of Bedavin with net hajin testing comets passed the Timple some of the quands told them there were two English ladies who were very interested in comets, so the men waited + drowse when we heard they were them we lift our work & went out To see them, they, were beauties with real riding saddles. we got up & had a letter ride on two of them. When the cheef Shull gave us a display of real camel riding. In just spoke to his camed, I as it rose he lept to the saddle. + If it tested incling & Turning then liste into a gallop this as he came Towards is at the last he just left from the saddh a ran beside it. I have never seen anything more chegant in man ful. his saddt had a lovely cover ud & black + while woon work with guet finges & Tassels. Hiss badmind it saked if she could buy one like it she affend to sell the that very one. she gave here PT230 for it. The accepted it

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he evidently took the first train after receiving the letter. I hope such enthusiasm bodes well. In some ways we are loath to have a stranger since are we are so very happy as we are, but he may prove very nice, & anyway nothing definite is settled, we need'nt^{sic} keep him on after the week if we dont^{sic} like him.

Ramadan ends either Saturday or Sunday, it all depends on the moon. the first day after Ramadan is a great feast & we shall go to visit the houses of all our native friends to offer our salutations & good wishes. we shall have to drink coffee & taste food everywhere & shall probably need a good dose of our own physic afterwards, but it will be fun & I hope to describe it to you next Tuesday.

Last Sunday we had great fun, a party of Bedawin with real hajin trotting camels passed the temple & one of the guards told them there were two English ladies who were very interested in camels, so the men waited, & of course when we heard they were there we left our work & went out to see them. they <(the camels)> were beauties with real riding sal/<d> we got up & had a little ride on two of them, & then the chief Sheikh gave us a display of real camel riding. he just spoke to his camel, & as it rose he lept to the saddle, & off it trotted, circling & turning, then broke into a gallop then as he came towards us at the trot he just lept from the saddle & ran beside it. I have never seen anything more elegant & graceful. his saddle had a lovely cover red & black & white <& blue> woven wool with great fringes & tassels. Miss C. admired it & asked if she could buy one like it, & he offered to sell her that very one, she gave him PT 230 for it, he accepted it

66 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAM ARABAH EL MADEUNAH BALIANA. UPPER EGYPT I handed own the saddle over saying This is a gift. the money is a more nothing " We now have this gorgeous thing spread over ain lounge chair in the diving room. There are great proparations being made for the Incen's visit next Thursday. a special road has been made To the Osision, & a new High of stains fixed for her to go down by. To the Osision, & a new flight of stains fixed for her to go down by. instead of the plante that ordinary Tourists use. M. Baraise the chud inspector of itonuments anives Tomorrow to see all isin there inly protoably be here for funch o dinner. I am apaid this letter is rette Tame after the limburger of the ordinary the sector of the time Two previous ones - still one cant have adventines all the time. I cutainly don't think I have missed much. Here fuceds who happen along. Youn affectionale daug the

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& handed over the saddle cover saying "This is a gift, the money is a mere nothing" We now have this gorgeous thing spread over our lounge chair in the dining room.

There are greae/<t> preparations being made for the Queen's visit next Thursday. a special road has been made to the Osirion, & a new flight of stairs fixed for her to go down by, instead of the plank that ordinary tourists use. M. Baraise^{sic} {Baraize} the Chief Inspector of Monuments arrives tomorrow to see all is in order for her, he will probably be here for lunch & dinner, there will probably be a lot of fuss & palarver^{sic} as he is a Frenchman.

I am afraid this letter is rather tame after the two previous ones, still one cant^{sic} have adventures <u>all</u> the time, & I certainly dont^{sic} think I have missed much.

Lots of love to you both. also to Pat & any other friends who happen along.

Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.