

Arabah el Madfunah
March 3rd 1937.

Dear Mother

We have had our Egyptological grandfather with us for nearly a week, he left for Cairo yesterday & we are disconsolate^{sic}, he is such a dear, we both think he is the kindest person we know as well as the wisest. he has been over all the work finished to date & thinks we have got through a tremendous amount in the time. he has given us strict instructions to take a holiday before doing any more, so we ~~are~~ planning to start off for the Red Sea the day after tomorrow there are so many things we want to examine that we had no time for, & now we know the way we can take it more leisurely in the exciting parts & hurry over the dull parts. I expect I will have lots of news for you when I return but will probably miss a mail.

I am glad to hear that Father has seen Dr Young

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& likes him so much, we must ask him to pay us an unofficial visit when I return, he might like to see the books.

Thank you very much for sending the receipt for the four meat balls. Nannie is going to try her hand at them. Her difficulty is in having no suet, but she says she might manage with a piece of fat.

This morning I was making a little sketch in the village near the school, & one of the masters came & asked me to pay them a visit, so when I finished what I was doing I went along & saw all the little boys learning to read the Koran, & the little girls learning to read words of three letters, then I had to drink a cup of coffee & say all the polite things suitable to the occasion. This afternoon I made a new sketch book to take with me to the Red Sea as my other is nearly full, I do not know if I shall have time to do any sketches on our journey, but intend to take my materials^{sic} with me.

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Amice & I are going to fix up a sort of hood on
 Joey his original one having rotted away a long
 time ago, we shall probably erect palm branches
 on either side & stretch a piece of canvas across,
 he will look a comic sight & when we get all our
 bundles aboard & Sardinia sitting on the top of them
 he will look more like the white knight than
 ever. Our baker woman is coming tomorrow to
 make a big baking of bread for us to take with us,
 & Nannie is boiling lots of eggs. we are looking
 forward to eating fish when we arrive at the
 sea shore.

I hope you are having better weather
 in England, Amice is very depressed at receiving
 constant reports of damp coming in her house.

Lots of love to you both from both of us.

Your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

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