

Ae/<r>abah  
Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 1932.

Answer 175<sup>2</sup>  
Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 1932.

Dear Mother.

Your letter with the hankie arrived on my birthday which was ever so nice, thanks so much. I also had a letter & card from Pat, & a card from the Andersons a few days before, I am sorry some of my letters seem to have gone astray, the post card was to wish you Many Happy Returns of Jan 18, & the letter must have gone about the same time.

We had a glorious picnic this week, Silvia Tatton Brown & her friend arrived Tuesday morning, & the Oultons came over after lunch. we had an early tea, & then mounted camels & rode off to our favourite wady where the <sup>ancient</sup> road to Kharga starts, we got up onto the high desert & there we camped. we eat supper by the light of the full moon, the view from the height was superb, we could see right across the valley & see the Nile like a silver thread running through it. after supper we played all sorts of games on the sand. & then crept very quietly

Dear Mother.

Your letter with the hankie arrived on my birthday which was ever so nice, thanks so much. I also had a letter & card from Pat, & a card from the Andersons a few days before, I am sorry some of my letters seem to have gone astray, the post card was to wish you Many Happy Returns of Jan 18, & the letter must have gone about the same time.

We had a glorious picnic this week, Silvia<sup>sic</sup> Tatton Brown & her friend arrived Tuesday morning, & the Oultons came over after lunch. we had an early tea, & then mounted camels & rode off to our favourite wady where the <ancient> road to Kharga starts, we got up onto the high desert & there we camped. we eat<sup>sic</sup> supper by the light of the full moon, the view from the height was superb, we could see right across the valley & see the Nile like a silver thread running through it. after supper we played all sorts of games on the sand, & then crept very quietly

175<sup>2</sup>

To listen to our camel men singing their folk songs after their evening meal.

When we were tired, we just curled up in our blankets on the sand, dug holes for our prominent parts, & were soon asleep.

We were awake before dawn & saw the marvel of the sunrise. We had breakfast, & then mounted & rode for a couple of hours & explored a bit, & the men gave a display of nabout stick play. Then we had lunch, & reached our house in time for tea as Mr & Mrs Oulton had to get home to Sohag that evening. It really was a very jolly outing & we made up quite a large party. Our Soudani ombashi (sergent<sup>sic</sup>) came with us, he looked fine on a camel. Abdullah came also, it was a great treat for him.

I expect I shall miss a lesson this week as we have guests, the last one was very amusing, I told the Sheikh I wanted to do dictation but I didn't want him to read out of the book but make up sentences using

to listen to our camel men singing their folk songs after their evening meal.

When we were tired, we just curled up in our blankets on the sand, dug holes for our prominent parts, & were soon asleep.

We were awake before dawn & saw the marvel of the sunrise. We had breakfast, & then mounted & rode for a couple of hours & explored a bit, & the men gave a display of nabout stick play. Then we had lunch, & reached our house in time for tea as Mr & Mrs Oulton had to get home to Sohag that evening. It really was a very jolly outing & we made up quite a large party. Our Soudani ombashi (sergent<sup>sic</sup>) came with us, he looked fine on a camel. Abdullah came also, it was a great treat for him.

I expect I shall miss a lesson this week as we have guests, the last one was very amusing, I told the Sheikh I wanted to do dictation but I didn't<sup>sic</sup> want him to read out of the book but make up sentences using

175<sup>3</sup>

the verbs I had been learning, it took some explaining in my limited Arabic but finally he got the idea & went ahead like a steam engine & I struggled to keep up, one of the verbs I had done was "to call." so he started off. "the man called his son. the woman called her son." & so on through the entire family. but what was so amusing was that he took possession of my india rubber & when ever I made a mistake he promptly rubbed it out.

Please thank Pat very much for her letter & card & ask Father if he will convey my thanks to the Andersons for remembering me, also my love to them all

Lots of love to you both  
your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

the verbs I had been learning. it took some explaining in my limited Arabic but finally he got the idea & went ahead like a steam engine & I struggled to keep up, one of the verbs I had done was. "to call." so he started off. "the man called his son. the woman called her son." & so on through the entire family. but what was so amusing was that he took possession of my india rubber & when ever I made a mistake he promptly rubbed it out.

Please thank Pat very much for her letter & card & ask Father if he will convey my thanks to the Andersons for remembering me, also my love to them all

Lots of love to you both  
your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.