

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.

April 12<sup>th</sup> 1930

Dear Mother

Your letter of April 2<sup>nd</sup> has just arrived. It has taken longer than usual to get here. I am glad to see by the P.S. that the photos have arrived. I expect by now you have the ones I took at the Bruntons camp.

We have had Dr de Buck here all the week going over the hieroglyphs. he is a Dutchman & most awfully nice, we have had a very jolly time in spite of a great rush of work. he is leaving for England on the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. he returns to Cairo tonight, we shall be sorry to see him go; he has treated all our sins of omission in the most kindly manner. Thank goodness there were not very many.

I have been buying lumps of amber from some of the native dealers, now there are no more tourists we can purchase at a reasonable price these lumps are pierced for beads, & probably come from the numerous Roman burials round here. I think they will look beautiful if they are re-polished, & if spaced on ribbon or cord will make beautiful necklaces. I thought they would make

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a nice present. if possible I shall get some more. Miss C is collecting a carnelian necklace, buying a bead or so at a time, now the natives know she wants them they come with all sorts of strings & she sometimes selects 2 or 3 out of a string of 50. she thinks it much more fun than just buying a necklace of matched stones. she is going to the other extreme & getting them as different in shades as possible.

Later. The old bead man was waiting for us when we left the Temple this evening I purchased a short string of the lumpy amber beads & Miss C acquired one more carnelian for her necklace. I expect he will always way lay us now as we are his only hope. we drive a hard bargain with him just for the fun of it but usually give him an extra PT backsheesh. We now have a middle finger to deal with. a man has cut his nail clean off, fortunately he came to us the very day he did it, so it hadn't got septic. we are giving tonic dressings & it seems to be going along all right, but of course it will take a long time for the nail to grow again. he is a Copt & a relative of our carpenter Rubienne.

Yesterday being palm Sunday the Coptic Priest brought us a cross made of palm branches & a loaf of blessed bread with little crosses over it we eat it for supper & hoped we benefited with the blessing.

I expect I shall see a lot of changes in the garden when I return. I am getting quite excited when I think of coming home again. wont there be a lot to talk about

How has your rheumatism been this winter?

Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle

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