

Arabah el Madfunah.
Sūk day.
Feb 15th 1932.

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Dear Mother.

Amice has gone to Sohag today she has to go with M^r Oulton to see the Mudir of the Province about Sardic's wages as government guard. He did not get his proper pay during last summer & there are the usual fusses & muddles about it, way one says it is some body else's fault etc.

Linda Holey is still with the Oultons but they say she is quite recovered from the effects of the sunstroke & Amice will bring her back with her tonight. I got out of going as I do get so tired of the endless waiting about & there are so many interesting things I like doing here. I have washed my best woollen jumper & done odds & ends of mending, & I am going to work hard at Arabic, during the week I only get scraps of time & cannot really settle down to it. It seems all the wrong way round. When there is a teacher I hav'nt time to study

Dear Mother.

Amice has gone to Sohag to-day she has to go with M^r Oulton to see the Mudir of the Province about Sardic's wages as government^{sic} guard, he did 'nt^{sic} get his proper pay during last summer & there are the usual fusses & muddles about it, everyone says it is some body else's^{sic} fault etc.

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& when I have time to study there isn't a teacher
 it's too bad isn't it. still both Nannie & the
 Sheikh say I am making great progress.
 Amice has got tired of it, she says she hasn't
 time, which is true in a way, as of course
 she has a number of official letters & accounts
 that occupy a lot of time & when she has spare
 time she likes to spend it in other ways
 but I think the real truth is that she is ^{too} impatient,
 she is so very quick at picking up languages
~~not~~ by ear that she can't be bothered with
 anything that requires hard plodding.
 So I shall continue to wrestle with the schoolmaster
 alone. I am trying to get him to teach me grammar
 now, I had the last lesson alone as Amice was
 so late, so I got him to write out verbs for me
 it was a little difficult to explain that I wanted
 to know the different tenses, but I managed to
 write out (more or less correctly) one that I had
 learnt from Mr Wainright as an example
 of what I wanted to do & then he understood

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& we got on famously - verbs simply poured forth.
 This afternoon Nannie & I are going to pay a
 visit to the village school, I want to see how
 the boys learn their lessons, & I shall ask
 the Sheikh if he can give me another lesson
 this evening. I am afraid my letters this time
 contain chiefly news of Arabic lessons I hope
 you are not tired of hearing about them, I have
 described all the other things about our life here,
 & unless we have visitors or go for picnics etc
 there is very little new news to tell you, if we
 go to the Red Sea next month there will be lots
 to describe.

Lots of love to you both
 your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

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