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 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.

Jan 26th

Dear Mother.

I am still alone in my glory. I do not expect Miss C. back before Wednesday so I shall have the cook's accounts to wrestle with again tomorrow, & pay the men the following day.

Yesterday I sent Sardic over to Maj Hammandi to see about getting the engine back. he left before six yesterday morning & he arrived this evening about 5 o'clock with the engine on a mule cart, he must have had some difficulty with transport & had to stay over night. I shall have to take his account tonight, as I gave him a pound for expenses, so with Nannie's

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help I hope to hear the whole history.
 Ramadan starts the end of this week,
 I expect our servants will be very tired
 & sleepy during the day, as they have
 to eat during the night. we shall
 try to arrange the work to let them
 have either the morning or the afternoon
 off in turn.

Nannie has asked me if you
 would be kind enough to get her
 some hair nets. she says she will
 pay you for them. but I shall not let
 her do that. I will give them to her,
 & pay you back on my return.
 She wants half a dozen small cap
 shape hair nets, black. or very dark
 brown. you can get them from any
 hairdresser's. & they can all go together
 in one envelope it does not matter if
 you fold them, If you are in at
 Woolworth's would you get 6 of those
 silk hair nets. they are 2 for 3^d. you will
 see them displayed on a round card
 like this  They would be useful for
 wear in the morning when she is making
 bed's etc as they don't tear as easily as
 the real hair.

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Later -

Sardic had quite an adventure with the engine at Naj Hammardi. he got it on board a boat to come to Baliana, & part way here they got stuck on a sand bank. it was getting too dark to get the boat off again. so he went to the omdah of the village & asked for two gaffirs to guard the engine during the night. The omdah sent them & also offered Sardic hospitality for the night. then in the morning they got the boat afloat again after considerable difficulty. arrived at Baliana, transferred the engine to the mule cart. which brought it to the Temple. so now I hope all will be well. I had quite a little conversation with Sardic this evening & he complimented me on my Arabic. I really am having a hard struggle with it, such a slight change of pronunciation alters the meaning for instance gemal

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is camel. but gemāl is beautiful
 some of the kh sounds are hopeless
 & the gh sound is pronounced more
 like an r. I get frightfully tangled
 & find myself making the most extraordinary
 noises - quite different to what I intended

The day before yesterday I paid
 a visit to Mrs Sardic after lunch. it
 was great fun. I was shown two baby
 goats. six days old. of course I had to
 cuddle them both. then two baby
 pigeons ~~two~~ were brought for my
 inspection. they were not fledged so
 I didn't cuddle them. then I had to
 see the three sheep. they came up to
 be petted just like dogs. Sardic said
 "Their wool is not so nice as the wool of
 the English sheep." & I said. "The Arabic
 wool is very strong, it is like wire." which
 remark caused much amusement.
 Mrs Sardic makes all our bread. she
 showed me the oven where it is baked,
 it is made out of Nile mud shaped like
 this.



for fire. One day I am going
 to see the corn
 ground. I hear they
 use a simple stone mill. I shall try to
 take a photograph.

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III

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Nannie makes such a fuss of me,
 since I had the bad cold, she makes me
 a drink of hot lemon & black currant
 as I still sometimes get a tickly cough
 in my throat at night & she insists on
 bringing me a hot water bottle & tucking
 me up. She is such a nice kind old
 thing I am sure you'd love her

I hear her primus going so
 I must hurry off.

Lots of love to you both & to

Pat.

Your affectionate
 Myrtle.

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