Andrah 373 Manch 14: 1936

Dear Mother.

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Arabah March 17th 1936

Dear Mother.

We had such a jolly evening with the Crosslands at the Marine Research station, there was another guest. a Navy #/<R>eserve officer Commander Boyd he had come from Alex to chart the coral reefs & find places where large steamers could come near the shore. the conversation was very fishey sic.

Next morning Amice & I saw the dawn break over the Red Sea then we donned our bathing dresses & were soon splashing in a sea that looked as if it was made of rainbows. After breakfast we went out in a rowing boat with the native divers, the sea was so dead calm that we did not need the sea telescopes we flo<a>ted over the fairy gardens & showed the men the bits we wanted & they dived in with an iron spike broke off the frond of coral & brought it to us, it was exciting, we spent about half an hour investigating & then came ashore with our "catch". unfortunately corals, though lovely to admire in the depth of the sea have an awful smell when brought into the air

They have to be histed with chemicals before They are fit to his with. however we did not mind as the Professor gave us lots of un-smally speciming from his collection. The bommanda was just going or n a makin santing boat to take soundings a mulid us to go with him. we didn't need asking Twice, he was sailing the book with the aid of an old mate book. mon oil amused us to see Low them ideas of scommenty clashed. The bommande's analic was very timeted he could only give the necessary sailing directions . could not undustand the old anals dialect. or world. I the bon: was amound when we began challen with the old boy o got him yourning stilling lates of stands o to stourd us two scans on his legs when a shall had got him once, you can imagine what fun we had, the bon: god us to make chaving in his note book of the orthones of the mountain; a relation to objects on the stone for entain points when then was deep water. we retired for lunch. other hastily peched up. bade a retuetas good-bye to on new finds a stanted or our 200 miles

they have to be treated with chemicals before they are fit to live with. however we did not mind as the professor gave us lots of un-smelly speciminp/<s>sic from his collection. The Commander was just going out in a native sailing boat to take soundings & invited us to go with him. we did'ntsic need asking twice, he was sailing the boat with the aid of an old Arab boatman & it amused us to see how their ideas of seamanship clashed. the Commander's Arabic was very limited he could only give the necessary sailing directions & could not understand the old Arabs^{sic} dialect, we could, & the Com: was amazed when we began chatting with the old boy & got him yarning & telling tales of sharks & he showed us two scars on his legs when a shark had got him once, you can imagine what fun we had, the Com: got us to make drawings in his notebook of the outlines of the mountains in relation to objects on the shore from certain points when there was deep water. we returned for lunch. & then hastily packed up. bade a reluctant good-bye to our new friends & started on our 200 miles

PAGE 3

drive across the anchar disal. The old professor was very worned about us, o got us to promise to said Lin news of our safe amoval as soon as we needed Kina. In said a Telegram would react him via Sung. After Praving the flat desul near the see stone we passed into the most mountainous part of Egypt colled the Sibel Doklan when the Romans get then purply forplay. The only place in the world when it occurs in balk, we sport the most among thin I saw the sin-set, the dawn we snambled about a extracted various colorned rocks & found curious hals. I enclose a little lil so that you can small it. (does at it remind you of Ian Buh which claims to he made for som scoul but brown to the areals.) The need day we made a long drive o mached Kena about 3-30. reported one safe arrival to the for his police there, I sent on Telegram to he relayed on to the Red Sea This in pushed on to Mag Hamad , slayed the moll will the Rockes is good laxing. (in did orgon on boths).

drive across the Arabian desert. the old professor was very worried about us, & got us to promise to send him news of our safe arrival as soon as we reached Kena. he said a telegram would reach him via Sw/<u>ez. After leaving the flat desert near the sea shore we passed into the most mountainous part of Egypt called the Gebel Dokhan where the Romans got their purple porphory^{sic}. the only place in the world where it occurs in bulk, we spent the night among them & saw the sun-si/<e>t & the dawn, we scrambled about & collected various coloured rocks & found curious herbs. I enclose a little bit so that you can smell it. (does'nt^{sic} it remind you of Zan^{sic} Buk {Zam-Buk} which claims to be made from some secret herb known to the Ancients.)

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The next day we made a long drive & reached Kena about 3-30. reported our safe arrival to the frontier police there, & sent a telegram to be relayed on to the Red Sea then we pushed on to Nag Hamadi & stayed the night with the Roches in great luxury. (we did enjoy our baths).

373 the next morning we were back is camp is time for funct feely on placed with omselves. The day after our return of Junha came to collabon work. In says otto is hymning to get about with a cuch but he would not say much about him. I that the offen has upsel him (& Junke) very much. A week take amic left, i is probably or his way tone now, so lan quite or my own again, lesped the Time will go very quickly o' shall soon he sending to books for the Homeward Santry List. I found all my lintlday letters availing me on my return for the Red Sec. I was nother fun Spending ones buthday in the middle of the discil. Fram Short way on for then good wister. Ist of love to you a feth You affectional dangele Mystic

the next morning we were back in camp in time for lunch feeling very pleased with ourselves.

The day after our return D^r Junker came to collate our work. he says Otto is beginning to get about with a crutch but would not say much about him, I think the affair has upset him (D^r Junker) very much.

A week later Amice left, & is probably on her way home now. so I am quite on my own again, I expect the time will go very quickly & I shall soon be sending to Cooks^{sic} for the Homeward Sailing List.

I found all my birthday letters awaiting me on my return from the Red Sea. it was rather fun spending ones^{sic} birthday in the middle of the desert. Please thank every one for their good wishes.

Lots of love to you & Father Your affectionate daughter Myrtle