

Arabah
Jan 12th 1931

Dear Mother.

I am in charge here again, Amice has gone to Luxor for a few days, Chicago House kindly offered her the use of their photographic apparatus any time she wanted to make enlargements, so as we have finished most of the prepared work, she is going to make enlargements of the photographs taken this year instead of sending the negatives to Alex as we did before. We have been drawing in all the detail on the photos of the big false doors & they look splendid, so we are going to treat other architectural details in the same way.

I went for a camel ride this evening it was lovely, I went across the desert in a Northerly direction, our dog came with me & had a gorgeous time chasing a wolf that was on its way to the cultivation for its evening meal. He did not succeed in catching it, but came

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back looking very pleased with himself. When the sun had set I turned & came home nearer the cultivation. The return journey passed the Mohamedan burial ground. Mahmud was with me, & he pointed out the tombs of the relations of some of our people. It was rather funny. He showed me one & said, "this is my mother," so I said "& where is your father?" "Oh" said Mahmud, "he's not here yet, but I hope he will be next year." This remark caused roars of laughter from Mahomet Abdu Rahman & Ahmad, it seems Mahmud is not on the best of terms with his paternal relation who has taken another wife, & turned his first family out of the house.

It was just getting dark when I got back here so I had my bath & changed quickly ready for our evening meal.

Tuesday. I had this soûk day all on my own. I went out sketching in the morning but was not very fortunate for a sudden gust of wind

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sent my waterjug over & drenched my paint box & my painting as well. so I packed up my things & came home, it was nearly lunch time anyway. this afternoon I did various odd jobs & prepared a sheet of paper for the frontice^{sic} piece of the book that I am going to start tomorrow, it is to be the three cartouches that form Sety's name with all his titles. it will be in colours I am looking forward to starting the painting, I shall use my camera lucida to draw the outline as it is to be reduced to half size, this will save taking a photograph.

I received your letter with the post office form. I will fill it in & post it from here. please thank Father for seeing to it for me, I also had a letter from Pat & one from Miss Jonas

This is all my news for today, my bath is ready & I shall have to take Sardic's account for the marketing after dinner

Lots of love to you both
 your affectionate daughter Myrtle

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