

Tuesday evening.
<15.1.35>

Dear Mother.

We have just returned from spending the day at Sohag with the Oultons, Amice was recovering from a bad cold, so I had to conduct the family, the Ford has been returned to Cairo, Amice having at last realized that he was a heavy expence^{sic} & no pleasure, so we could hardly squeeze 5 into Joey for a two hours^{sic} drive over bumpy roads, but we managed in him as far as Baliana, there I left him in our mechanic's workshop & we went to Sohag by train, Charles met us at the station with two cars. After lunch he drove us through the old part of Sohag & then back to the station in time for the 4 o'clock train.

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We are all feeling very dusty & weary, it is a bit of an effort making the journey that way. Charles & Betty will be in England this summer & I have made them promise to come & visit us, you will like them every bit as much as Rex & Nancy. Betty has all the charm of the Irish at their best. & Charles is a pure Elizabethan both in mind manner & looks. & will adore our house

We enjoyed Dr Junker's visit very much. it was unfortunate that Amice was laid up with a cold while he was here. he went over all the drawings that are finished so far & is very pleased with the work. he was very interested in my Arabic & thought my Arabic writing the finest he has seen by any European. he said he

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would very much like to talk with Sheik Jed el Karim. so I sent a message for him to come specially. & of course he was highly honoured. D' Junker asked about all the special greetings that are customary in this district, & found out lots that we had never heard of. Sheik J-el-K. is going to write them out for me with all the proper & replies so I shall have the correct things to say on every occasion. I will be able to tell you about them later on.

We are to have a visit from the chief Secretary of the High Comis/~~m~~issioner & his wife this week and they will be here for two days. They are motoring down & will stay at the Oultons^{sic} on the way.

I am so glad to hear the end of the great upheval^{sic} is in sight what a lot for me to see when I return~~m~~/~~n~~

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How does the little geaser^{sic} {geyser} work over
the sink, do you get the water
hot enough now?

I am so glad to hear Pat has
got a job, & that it is one that she
has had previous experience in.
Give her my love & wish her luck.

I have given your new year greetings
to all mentioned in your letter.

The Europeans wish you a "Happy
New Year." & the Mahommedans
say "May Allah lengthen your Years."

Lots of love to you both
Your affectionate
daughter

Myrtle.

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