

Arabah. 1

Souk day.

evening

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Dear Mother.

We have just got back from Sohag, having spent the day with the Oultons. When we arrived there this morning we found the British Army encamped in their enclosure, complete with armoured cars, lorries etc. They have been there for a few days. They have come down from Cairo to test the heavy cars over the country roads, making Sohag their objective. Three of the officers are staying with the Oultons. Of course they have caused great excitement in the neighbourhood & the wildest rumours are going round. I think every one will be very disappointed when they return peacefully tomorrow to Cairo.

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Souk day [probably 7 February 1933].

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Last Saturday we went to the wedding of Ahmad Ibrahim's only son. It was really the reception the day after, as there is no actual marriage ceremony as we have, merely the bringing of the bride to the house of the bridegroom, & hospitality being offered to all & sundry for ~~so~~ so many days before & after the event, with music, singing & various entertainments according to the means of the family. This time there were no entertainments as the family is a connection of the Omdahs^{sic} who is ~~now~~ mourning the loss of his brother & any form of festivity would have been considered unsuitable. but we were asked to go & see the bride & bridegroom & have our lunch in their house. which we did as Ahmad Ibrahim is a very special friend

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of ours. The bride was very resplendant
in pink silk & a many coloured veil &
barbaric gold & silver ornaments, & the
bridegroom wore a striped blue & white &
beige satin gallabea with a blue cloth
robe over it. For lunch we had
a turkey, plates of rice, beans, potatoes
& various sorts of bread & we eat with
our fingers in proper Arab manner.
Amice & I gave for a wedding present
a tea set complete with hass tray & a
set of spoons which was very much
admired. Amice had bought them
when she was in Luxor.

Amice joins me in love
to you both & to Pat.

Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

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