

Hawarat el Makta, Fayum,
(address to Medinet el Fayum) Egypt.
8 Dec /10

Dearest Heart 8 Dec /10

Heart wrote after getting to
Cairo, about on the 1st & have been
in so much bustle since that I
could not sit quiet to letters.

There was a bother because Maspero
had forgotten an old permit to
Seton Karr to excavate near Mackay
is. S.K. had asked for it in 1908, never
used it, got it renewed in 1909 &
never used it. Now he is no one
knows where; & Major Rhodes
who had it jointly with him has
been in Cairo, told Quibell casually
that he was not going to do
anything in Egypt. & has gone up
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select from, if S.K. intends to claim⁽²⁾
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 if they claimed permit they must
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 they will be off. It seems S.K. before
 this had a permit in Sudan which
 he did nothing with, so M. is rather
 sick of him, & does not consider
 him seriously. - EEF

I saw in Cairo, Dixon for an evening
 very pleasant, also Winlock (Lythgoe)
 equally agreeable. Much talk with
 both on archaeology. Molesworths
 who asked me to dinner, which I could
 not do. Amoses very cordial, want
 me to stay there some time, but so
 far out that I could do nothing
 in Cairo well. McInneses most
 friendly, settling about meeting in
 spring. And while there Bonté
 Ed Elgood came in, & had a long
 talk. She now lives at Abbasieyeh,
 too far out to call. Hayter & I had a
 day at Memphis sorting stores for the season.

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8.12.1910 HAWARET EL MAKTA

Everyone enquired greatly after you,
also all the dealers & Arabs.

I got some good scarabs in Cairo.

[] Apepa II Hyksos, fine, unique

[] Sebekhotep V rare

Pepy cylinder, large, the best cut I
have seen.

Two plaques of Maat-nefaru-ra the Hittite
princess, queen of Ram II, in perfect
bright green glaze; (<)only one known
before, quite white, from Delta). Probably
here tomb has been found at Thebes.

Half-a-dozen large fine private name
scarabs. Altogether I got 35 name
scarabs & 13 scrolls, a good haul.

Of other things a lovely Greek gold ring
with head in high relief, IIIrd cent B.C.

I saw Quibell & Weigall at the Museum
& had long talks. M^{rs} W. expect No 2
shortly, & is living at Gezireh Palace. hotel.
M^{rs} Amos has a daughter 6 mo[nth]s old,
large & intelligent.

On the 4th I went off to Fayum. At
station I found M^d Osman, Hasan, & Aly
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order for letters, to collect packing & (4)
 bring go stores on, & went by light
 rail to Hawara station, & thence
 walked over 2 miles to the pyramid.
 Aly & R. following with my Memphis
 canteen & blankets. Perished long but
 no Medinet stores came; in the
 hour before sunset I rushed off to
 Hawara to see if they were there by
 rail, but not so! Then back to the
 pyramid by sunset, & found Muh^d
 with the news that the packing was
registered & could not be got from
 the post without my signature;
 so there I was without any food
 in the desert, & no tents. One
 tent from Memphis was being carted
 over, but never came. So Hasan &
 Aly R. went off, & found the cart in
 the dark 2 or 3 miles away, left for
 the night, as the carter would not go
 on. They shouldered tent & nets
 & tramped up with them. After
 3 hours in the dark, I got a tent
 up, & had a cake of chocolate for
 my supper with a scrap of native bread,

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Extract from letter dated 2 Jan. 1911
Medinet el Fayum.

2.1.11.

Extract from letter dated 2 Jan. 1911.
Medinet el Fayum.
2.1.11. (5)

We are grinding on here. The Labyrinth has given up two more busts, faceless, one of Hathor the other a 2nd Sebek.

Two more portraits are quite gone with dark oil, the other partly gone, but on the most beautiful bandaged mummy I ever saw. The rhombic pattern  is 9 layers or steps deep, white & blue with gold bands on the top. It is a little girl.

We have found some bases of walls remaining which may give an idea of the plan of the Labyrinth. More big XII tombs have been found but only pottery found.

Wainwright has got into Atet's burial chamber, cut in the rock: roof much fallen & a thick layer of mud on floor, in which he hopes to find all that was left when the tomb was closed.

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p. 2. & p. 4. of letter dated 5 Jan. 1911.
Medinet el Fayum.

5.1.11

This afternoon I went down a tomb⁽⁶⁾ & took out a limestone (flinty) shabti of beautiful work, XII, inscribed down front, two inscribed canopic jars, 4 perfect pots, of good ware, & the bulk of it is still to be excavated. Yesterday we got two excellent portraits on canvas, one the Hermione, which will become celebrated I expect. This you will see in the enclosed sheet for the E.R.S.A., which please forward to the first meeting due.

We all go on smoothly enough. My two friends are pulling well together. Stopford is a diligent reader, & has gone through several books, including Dill's. I am reading Diehl's Byzantine Art, (French, full of illustrations) & Lansdome

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 XII dyn, with a wavy wall all round.
 The chamber is complete in the pit,
 but doubtless robbed. He has also
 another such site waiting for him.
 Wainwright has cleared Atets chamber,
 & finds that she was more completely
 smashed up than even Nefermaet.
 He is only 10 ft from the inner mass
 of the pyramid now, & has got the
 true position from my survey. He is
 also clearing the site of the temple
 at the foot of the causeway.
 Thank Amy for her letter,
 which I will answer soon.
 Your own man, F.

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pp 2 & 3 of letter dated 9 Jan. 1911
Medinet el Fayum.

9.1.11

PP 2 & 3 of letter dated 9 Jan. 1911

G. I.

Medinet el Fayum.

^{9.1.11} I have written to Mr. Crowfoot. ⁽⁸⁾
also.

We had a perfect burial of a girl,
but much eaten by white ants. It
was in a yellow box coffin with
blue inscription, name $\text{S}^{\text{t}} \text{R}^{\text{t}} \text{S}^{\text{t}}$
Sit-rannut; with it a model
couch 20 inches long, (the only XII one
known), a wooden doll good work,
a box, & some shell & seed
necklaces.

There are no more portraits
since last letter. At the yellow
mound where we are searching
for catacombs we have got
at last the foundation of a
stone building, with brick wall
around it; so I hope we may

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We got a smashed torso of a king
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The splendid work of all these
statues here makes the smashing
all the more grievous. They
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pp 1&2 only

Medinet el Fayum
12 Jan 1911

pp 1 & 2 only

Medinet el Fayum ⁽¹⁰⁾
12 Jan 1911

Dearest Heart,

I have your letter ⁽²¹⁾ & return the two drafts, without thinking I covered Sewell's to Union Bank, as I was signing it. So it must go through my account.

I am very glad to hear that you are mending up. You should not pull yourself down by neglect at home. Try to keep up your condition, & establish a steady-going order of health when you get back.

We turned up four portraits in one hole, unhappily rotted with damp; one may clean, one is half left, the others mere ghosts on touch wood all in chips.

A limestone head of a man nearly life size, of about 1st cent A.D. came

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12.6/1>.11

12.6.11 (11)
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 has been anciently broken, & mended
 with plaster. The work is fairly
 good.

At our trial for the catacombs we
 have now two great blocks of stone
 left of some XII dynasty building,
 & are clearing all about them.

In the middle of the labyrinth we turned
 up a half length figure of goddess,
 but without a face.

Stopford has diligently made boxes
 for the 8 mummies with portraits
 in place, and Hayter has now taken
 all the job drawing in hand.

I have been photographing, about 20
 negatives. I find that I caught very
 passable plates of the portraits, though
 not orthochromatic. So I intend to do

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20-21

Medinet el Fayum
16 Jan 1911Medinet el Fayum 20-21
16 Jan 1911 (12)

Dearest Heart,

I replied to your last letter
in my last, so I have nothing
to answer.

Today we found under 22 feet
of rubbish a granite statue entire
in the Labyrinth. It is in one
from head to foot, but we have
not cleared it enough to see how
far damaged it may be. It shows
the king (doubtless Amenemhat III)
standing in a box shrine, like the
wooden figure of King Hor in his
shrine. It is over life size. Probably
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16.1.11

We have ^{16.1.11} no more portraits, as ⁽¹³⁾
 our portrait men have got excited
 over finding amulets of XXIII dyn.
 on some mummies & are mad
 over them. I have given £2-10
 bakh. on each already: but told
 them they must now go on with
 portrait hunting.
 I cleared an undisturbed burial; a
 woman & 2 children. It had been
 left doubtless because she had no
 jewellery. One child had a scarab
 & a copper shell. The burial was in a
 well made massive coffin of XII
 dynasty, inscribed: name [$\overline{\text{R}}$]
 Bebut.
 Please see that the note opposite
 p is put in Hist. Stud. either at
 the end, or back of title page.
 Best love to the bairns. Will John
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(14)

Note on p. 20. The statue of
 Sebekhotep III at Arg^o in Nubia
 is considered by Prof. Breasted to
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 times. If this supposition be true
 (for which there is no evidence at
 present) it does not affect the
 argument on p. 20, as the name
 of Sebekhotep III is also found
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G.I.

Medinet el Fayum
19 Jan 1911

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Medinet el Fayum (15)
19 Jan 1911

Dearest Heart
I have not had any letter from you since (20) received a week ago on 12th, so I have nothing to answer.

We are going on fairly. In the axis of the Labyrinth we seem to have found the ka statue of Amenemhat in a box shrine, of red granite. I have seen the figure entire from cheek to foot, but not cleared. We have to cut down 7 metres of stuff to get on the top of it.

Our hunt for the catacombs has now got on to a long narrow

Dearest Heart

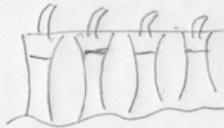
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(16)

continuation of letter from Medinet el Fayum dated 19.1.1911.
 (now got on to a long narrow) foundation bed of a building, only 18 ft
 wide and over 60 ft long. In the ~~h~~ chip over it are two rows of little



incense cups cut in limestone, a sort of fender
 before a shrine. Evidently from a place of
 worship, so we are on the track of a sanctuary
 there.

More portraits coming in, but nearly all much damaged with oil from
~~the mummies~~ the mummies.

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p 3. of letter dated 30 Jan. 1911.
Medinet el Fayum.

(17)

~~the book into the shape required.~~ 30.1.11

We have three more portraits, fair, but not very good. Our hunt for the catacombs has found a big circular stone lined well, which seems hardly needed for water; we must clear it out.

Wainwright has struck a rich prehistoric cem^y, getting stone vases & flint knives first day, & piles of pottery. He may be tied to it for the rest of the season.

It is well you sent me the Carlsberg letter, as it gives me the name & address to write to, offering the second best granite shrine. As it weighs 7 tons we must settle about it before moving it in the summer. I shall pay for the museum moving both shrines down to Cairo.

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26 Feb. 1911

26 Feb. 1911

(18)

The work at Hawara is now almost over and we can take stock of the season for this site. That I have taken 129 photographs will show that we have not done badly. These are of the Labyrinth remains

29	Cemetery views	11
20	Mummies	20
25	Portraits	25
24	Tomb objects	24
20	Inscriptions, &c.	20

Of the Labyrinth there is little chance of ever seeing more; we have turned over the remaining end of the site, under the mounds of pyramid ruins, as much as 24 feet deep. The main find is a granite naos with 2 life size figures of the king. One has the round wig, & holds ankh in one hand across the chest & ankh in the other hanging down. The second figure has the striped headdress with both hands hanging down. Possibly these are Amenemhat III & IV, but we do not know of a coregency.

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(19)
 There are not any inscriptions, but the
 figure is doubtless Amenemhat III
 as every name that we found was his.
 The Shrine is in red granite, & weighs
 about 8 tons. It will have to be
 taken to the Museum by light
 rail & trucks up to the railway. Near
 it is $\frac{2}{3}$ of another such Shrine with
 one figure complete, & just a side
 of the other. This is desired by
 Carlsberg, & will go there probably.
 There are 6 busts or half length
 statues, of gods, all faceless, but
 the ideal figures of gods known.
 There are also dozens of scraps of
 hieroglyphs & inscriptions, & dozens of
 pieces of statues, which may be worth
 bringing away, the work on them is so
 fine. Some pieces of fluted columns of
 small size painted red & black are curious.
 We have not gone on with the tombs
 of the XIIth dynasty. We found some dozens
 of them, pits 20 feet deep, & wide. All

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had been utterly wrecked in Roman (20) times, & we only got two fine stone ushabtis & a few canopic jars.

The Roman cemetery has been fruitful again. About 60 portrait mummies have been found, but many hopelessly rotten. We have got about 25 in fairly good state, of which 14 are more excellent. At the last we got one of the finest, a middle aged man of Homeric type, with a white band & seven pointed star on his hair, which was probably a badge of some office or priesthood. It is of splendid work, & perfect state, except a slight crack at the side. Some of the other portraits are very engaging & interesting in their expression, not least the lady - professor Hermione. Many of them we have kept - a the mummies as they were found, where ever the mummy was in a good state. Others were removed, & the heads of all these are going to Prof. Macalister at Cambridge

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The Roman cemetery has been fruitful again. About 60 portrait mummies have been found, but many hopelessly rotten. We have got about 25 in fairly good state, of which half a dozen are excellent. At the last we got one of the finest, a middle aged man of Homeric type, with a white band & seven pointed star on his hair, which was probably a badge of some office or priesthood. It is of splendid work, & perfect state, except a slight crack at the side. Some of the other portraits are very engaging and interesting in their expression, not least the lady - professor Hermione. Many of them we have kept on the mummies as they were found, wherever the mummy was in a good state. Others were removed, & the heads of all these are going to Prof. Macalister at Cambridge

(21)
 who has been already so successful in the restoration of mummy heads. We shall have in some cases thus the actual restored head to compare with the portrait. I have 19 heads for him; but many are too far gone to do more than photograph the skull. Such a comparison of the living appearance with the remains will be most instructive.

Many gilt bust mummies have been found, but mostly too rotted to move. Three or four are coming over whole. One of a little girl had all her toys laid upon it, including a convex & a concave mirror each in a case. There is a great quantity of wreaths & plant remains, both from mummies & from the bundles of crocodiles.

Half a dozen mummies had painted cloths on them, usually red with gilt figures of gods, not very well preserved. One had a thickly painted cloth with a figure of the deceased in his white robe & stole, very well preserved.

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One curious mummy is that of an old (22)
 lady with white hair, a perfectly preserved
 portrait, except for one crack, with
 red cloth over it & her name & age
 in gilt letters ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΣ Λ⁷⁹, Demetris
 aged 89. Most of the mummies have
 rhombic pattern bandaging, with gilt
 knobs in the centres of the rhombs
 one shows the early stage of this
 when a piece of gold foil was put
 on first, to shew as the centre of the
 rhomb; implying that the mummy was
 cased in gold, of which only just a
 scrap was allowed to be seen by the
 coarse world!



The tricks of undertakers have come to
 light. One portrait, in bad state, was
 found to have an excellent portrait
 on the back of it, a re-used panel.
 But there were scraps of a third portrait
 seen in the wrappings. So I opened it
 all completely. There we found all
 the pieces of a panel portrait split up.
 Why there? On taking off the outer
 wrappings, we found ^{other} completely finished

One curious mummy is that of an old
 lady with white hair, a perfectly preserved
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 Why there? On taking off the outer
 wrappings, we found <other> completely finished

23
 outer wrappings, rhombic bandaging,
 beneath these. Evidently the
 undertakers had used another persons
 mummy - perhaps one left on hand
 owing to not being paid for - they had
 split off the old portrait, put another
 wrapping over the mummy & the new
 portrait painted on the back of
 a reversed panel! These portraits
 to one mummy! Probably done by
 the celebrated great cheap wholesale
 firm, the Whiteley's of undertakers.
 worse still. On the scraps & strips
 used to pad out the bulk of three
 Roman mummies we have found
 (thanks to Aly Suefy) two ink inscriptions
 of the XIIth dynasty. Both are on linen
 finer & closer than the Roman style.
 So the XIIth dynasty tombs were plundered
 of their linen to pad out Roman
 mummies.
 I opened up one mummy completely,

outer wrappings, rhombic bandaging,
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 So the XIIth dynasty tombs were plundered
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 mummies.

I opened up one mummy completely,

a matter of four or five hours to ²⁴ record every wrap & pad, the size of each, & to take samples of the cloths. As it was desirable to know what was customary, & I had no time to do several in this way, I have opened ~~three~~ ^{four} others briefly, noting the different layers, number of pads, &c. A constant feature, about half way down is a long cloth over the front, split at the neck & tied behind, split at the feet & tied round the ancles. I have not yet had time to compare all the records in detail.

There is found a quantity of small things, toys, glass cups & dishes, lamps, & such odds & ends, which have some interest, but I hardly know what now, as I have packed them away. One pair of red leather shoes has much goldwork decoration. A pair of thick cork soles, & several pairs of sandals were found.

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p4 only - of letter dated. 2 March. 1911.
Medinet el Fayum.

2.3.11

p4 only - of letter dated. 2 March. 1911.
Medinet el Fayum.

2.3.11 (25)
rest & get various matters
in order. He has been
an incessant drinker, being
single handed in all except
the box-making, in which
stopford did much. Hayter
on the whole took up more
time than he saved me. He
could not get into Arabic enough
to say anything beyond table use;
& had no mechanical sense
so that he was continually
breaking down the edges of holes
when he went to see things.

I made out today a very weathered
bit of inscription on red granite
[R]
a Ptolemy & a Kleopatra. This shows
that the Labyrinth was still in going
order, with Ptolemaic additions, down
to the early Ptolemaic times, which is new
to us.

rest & get various matters
in order. Here it has been
an incessant drink[?], being
single handed in all except
the box-making, in which
Stopford did much. Hayter
on the whole took up more
time than he saved me. He
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KA = Βαο ΙΑΙΣΣΗΣ ΚΛΕΟ

Bedrashen
14 March 1911

Dearest Heart,

Bedrashen
14 March 1911
(26)

Hydrogen 29 with
enclosures to day. There is
nothing to answer in it; I have
already written saying that I shall
not require any further remittance
beyond what was settled last Nov.
The Mackay tiff is over. I left him
alone for 3 days, quite pleasant about
everything; then when I went in to
Cairo I left a note for him saying
that for such a step as he named a
written notice was needful, as it would
affect several others who would have
to be consulted. So I shall presume
that he intends to renew agreement,
unless I now have a formal written
notice. And as his friend I counsel him
to stick to this till he gets a better opening.

Dearest Heart,

I got your 49 with
enclosures today. There is
nothing to answer in it; I have
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that he intends to renew agreement,
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notice. And as his friend I counsel him
to stick to this till he gets a better opening.

(27)
 This leaves him going on unless he takes
 a fresh step, so he does not need to
 withdraw anything. When I came
 back that evening he was aggressively
 cheerful to me & everyone, & has
 continued so since. So that little
 hump of his is over.

Aly has been getting some silver
 & stone beads, gold earrings, &c. deep
 down in the ruins.

On the church site we have sundry
 bits of Ramesside inscriptions & scenes,
 & scraps of XII also.

I had a full audience at the
 library lecture. I hope to get
 the same at our 10 P.T. lecture
 on Friday.

I went yesterday, & saw Maspero.
 He received me in his house, as
 Museum proved to be closed for a

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I went yesterday, & saw Maspero.
 He received me in his house, as
 Museum proved to be closed for a

holiday. We discussed all Hawara²⁸
 stuff, & he saw photographs.
 He is quite pleased about the
 8 ton naos, & wants 3 of the
 broken statues - all the better. He only
 takes one portrait, as he wants
 a good one of a child. So we have
 some 30 possible portraits, half
 or mummies, & bits of a dozen
 more much gone. I am to get
 the case of loose portraits sealed
 tomorrow, & bring them with me.
 So I shall exhibit them in Rome
 where I expect they will be
 very fetching. So all the
 business went very smoothly.
 I got a few scarabs &c at dealers,
 & met the mainstay of the Brooklyn
 Museum at Casira's. I broached to
 him - as they wanted a fine mummy -

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(29)
 that I should put their £30
 (still in my hands) into E.R.A. &
 let them have one of your
 portrait mummies. He is well
 pleased over it. A lady with
 him Mrs Perkins who is keen on
 antiq^s. will be in London in July
 & come to exhibit to see things!

Gilbert-Smith & Mrs Ruffer are
 settling my Alex. lecture very
 kindly. To be 10 P.T. a head, in the
 Ruffers' drawing room as before,
 the evening before I leave. So
 I hope my 3 lectures will pay all
 my fares to & fro.

I have now packed my photographs
 & send them direct to Flatters &
 Garnett to print.

Your own man who
 will be with you a week after this
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F.

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Bedrashen
18 March 1911

Dearest Heart

I have not had another letter from you since 49 to which I replied. This will be my last letter from Egypt, as the next mail is that by which I leave. So you will next hear from Rome I hope.

Our Brit. Sch. lecture was badly attended, not a quarter of the audience which I had ~~for~~ ^{at} the lecture for the Church Library. There have been too many lectures this winter in Cairo. We ought to get in our own lecture by Jan^y, before people are flagged.

I saw Edgar here, & he talked

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I saw Edgar here, & he talked

(31) about Heliopolis, so I named that I knew of early stuff there. He thought it would be well for me to work it. So I asked Maspero, saying that if he wanted it searched I would do it. He seemed pleased. So I have now applied for a renewal of our permits for Memphis, & south to Ehnasya, & to make exploration at Heliopolis as may be convenient to his department. That is not a regular permit, so no one can object that we should give up Memphis if we go there. If I should get on the early stuff there - you remember the 1st dyn. vases - then I can work it out just as well on such terms as on a usual permit. Thus I can get

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to work there without imperilling our
position here. (32)

I quite think if we got it that we
should face getting another man
on (Bushe-Fox?) & spending
a slice of our reserves. There is
no virtue in avoiding work for the
sake of piling up a balance.

We had it warm yesterday, & today
a khamsin, thick dust & up to
90°. The wind has gone north now
so it is over. I am glad not to
have <had> more heat before leaving.

There is more sculpture of Ram <II> coming
in from the church foundations.

I have my loose portraits sealed, so shall
bring them with me, & shew them at
Rome. There is no other news I think.

All loves to you & John, whom I hope
to see a few days after this arrives.

Your own man, F.

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I left Bedrashen on the 22nd, caught the train in Cairo. M^{rs} Ruffer met me at Sidi Gaber & drove me in to lunch. D^r Ruffer is detained in Paris much longer than expected over the Congress there. But I had a pleasant sight of Bonté Elgood who ran down from Cairo for a day or two to M^{rs} Ruffer's. My lecture in the Ruffers

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Ashby appointed me & I suppose
it holds good.

Then 30th to Milan
31st to Bale

1 Ap to home Charing X 10.45
& tube up.

I post this on 28th.

I shall not write again as I
start on 30th.

Ever your own loving man
F.

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Looked in on the Gilbert Smiths next morning for a few minutes, & after lunch caught the Italian boat at 2 p.m., changed for 3 & 4 p.m. lately.

We had one night choppy with a head wind, which spoilt my feed for a day & a half. But it was very smooth to finish. We were 2 days out to Catania, & on to Messina both on ~~Mon~~ Sunday, & got in to Naples just in time for the 10 am train today, Monday.

All the ships were in flags, & here in Rome the streets are partly illuminated, & crowds out about. It is the Jubilee of the Independence, & they have had great speechifying.

I went to Brit. Sch. from 4 to 7 reading, but Ashby was out. I go again tomorrow aft. I left the portraits all safe there.

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Copy of Letter from Prof. Flinders Petrie.
5th January, 1911.

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5th January, 1911.

We are now fairly into our work here, which is productive though without any great novelty.

The Labyrinth is at last yielding some of its sculptures though in a fragmentary state. The Statues of Sebek are the oldest figures of gods yet known; the form is human, with a crocodile's head projecting from the wig. There is a half length and 2 busts over human size, highly polished in the hardest crystalline limestone. Also a bust of Hathor. Unhappily all the faces are broken off. There are two panels of inscription of Amenemhat III beloved by two local gods whose names I have not met before; and there is a mass of fragments of reliefs and of a gigantic colossus of the king. All these are recovered beneath mounds 16 ft. high.

We are also trying the outlying part of the Labyrinth, which is heaped over with great banks of canal excavation, so that it is difficult to reach anything.

In another part we have uncovered the jamb of the great gate of the Labyrinth with a spacious inscription of Amenemhat.

We have found a wall 500 ft. long which is built nearly 12 ft. thick with a batter and overhanging inside as the overhanging is all in rough courses it was clearly a retaining wall to an immense mass of chips inside it.



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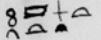
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[Page also numbered 2 and -2-.]

-2-

Against it we cross walls with painted dadoes of the XIIth dynasty and great masses of pottery offering vessels of the XIIth dynasty. As this is to one side of the Labyrinth I believe it is the pleron or wing named by Pliny, where the catacombs of the crocodiles were. Close to it is a great quantity of clean marl from excavation, probably from subterranean work. So we are hunting for the entrance to the catacombs for a fortnight past.

The marl heaps were thrown out after late houses were ruined and I found Ptolemaic pottery under the heaps, so they must be from a late Ptolemaic Roman excavation, but the pit might join the earlier catacombs.

XIIth dynasty tombs about 20 feet deep we are clearing many of. They were all plundered in 1st century A.D. as shewn by a Judean coin found below. But we have 4 stone Canopic heads and 2 coloured heads of the XII dynasty which are scarce. Also a lovely ushabti in the hardest white limestone, of a woman  Hent nefert, quite perfect, XVI dynasty and another large one of a man  of fine work.

Much pottery from here is identical with that of the sebek offerings at the pleron. So the XIIth dynasty is fairly interesting here. The great prize however is in the painted portraits of Roman age. Part of the cemetery which I could not work before owing to mounds is now exposed. We have only four men on it but they have found 13 portraits already. These are earlier than most of those I got before

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[Page also numbered 3 and -3-.]

-3-

as they are mixed in groups with gilt stucco heads and 2 are on canvas. Unhappily they did not understand then how the oil soaked out into the portrait, so most of these were damaged and some quite spoiled by oil and by weathering. We have half a dozen fairly good, the best is a canvas portrait a little injured, of a woman very refined and thoughtful in type, inscribed ΕΡΜΙΟΝΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΙΚΗ
Hermione must have been classical Lecturer in Arsinoe. If we can get a good photograph of it, the Association of Head Mistresses might well adopt it as a seal - the oldest portrait of a lady professor. I fear that Cairo will claim it. A mummy of a little girl, though much damaged in the portrait, is the most exquisite piece of bandaging known: the rhombic openings are very regular, of 7 layers white and blue, and gilt bands over the whole top layer.

I hope for a good many more portraits and though mostly injured, yet the work is of the best before the decadence.

as they are mixed in groups with gilt stucco heads and 2 are on canvas. Unhappily they did not understand then how the oil soaked out into the portrait, so most of these were damaged and some quite spoiled by oil and by weathering. We have half a dozen fairly good, the best is a canvas portrait a little injured, of a woman very refined and thoughtful in type, inscribed []

Hermione must have been classical Lecturer in Arsinoe. If we can get a good photograph of it, the Association of Head Mistresses might well adopt it as a seal - the oldest portrait of a lady professor.

I fear that Cairo will claim it. A mummy of a little girl, though much damaged in the portrait, is the most exquisite piece of bandaging known: the rhombic openings are very regular, of 7 layers white and blue, and gilt bands over the whole top layer.

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G.I.
LC. (7) III

Hawara, 15 Dec. 1910.

... Stopford came on Tuesday, delayed by slow voyage long sea. He is very pleasant, and follows every point of the work very closely. He is quite staggered by the permanence of things here; the pottery lying in front of the tombs since the XIIth dynasty, and so on.

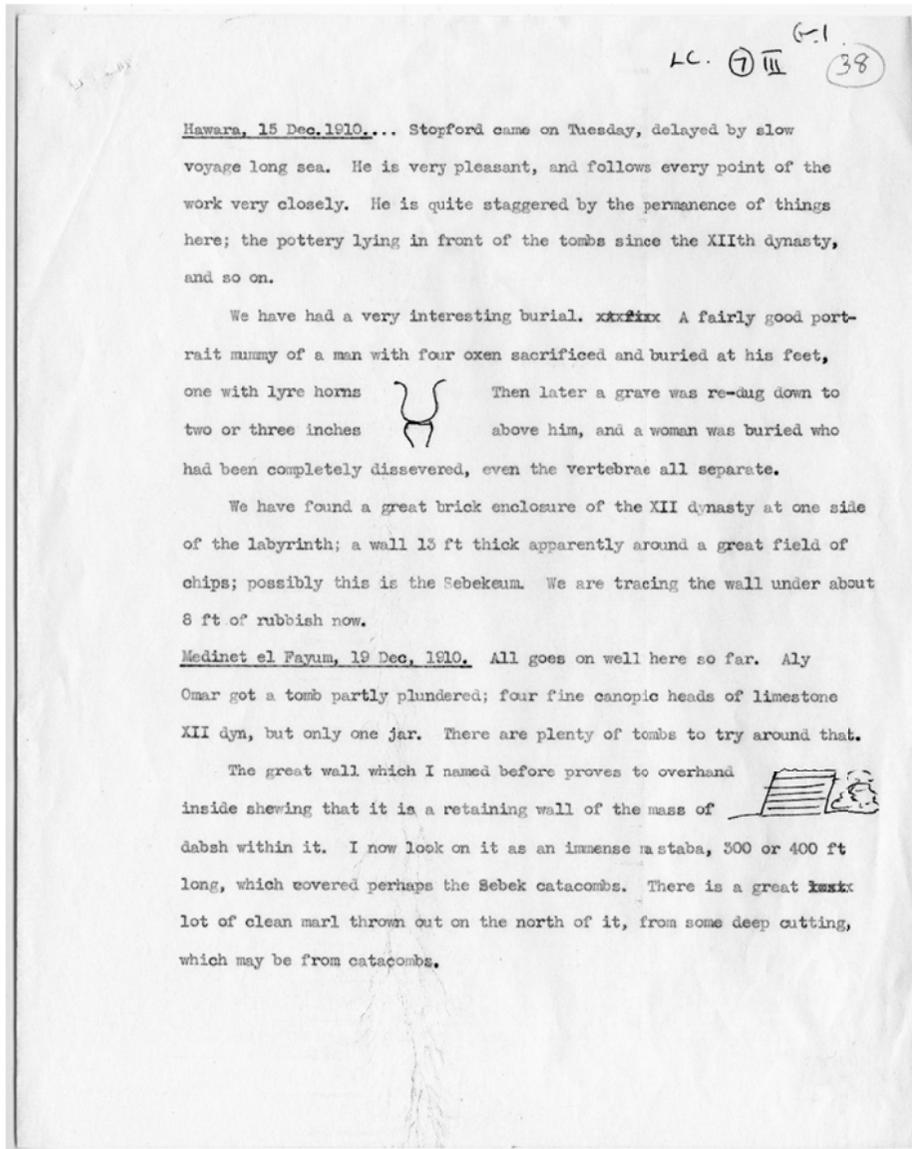
We have had a very interesting burial. ~~A fair~~ A fairly good portrait mummy of a man with four oxen sacrificed and buried at his feet, one with lyre horns [] Then later a grave was re-dug down to two or three inches above him, and a woman was buried who had been completely dismembered, even the vertebrae all separate.

We have found a great brick enclosure of the XII dynasty at one side of the labyrinth; a wall 13ft thick apparently around a great field of chips; possibly this is the Sebekeum. We are tracing the wall under about 8 ft of rubbish now.

Medinet el Fayum, 19 Dec, 1910.

All goes on well here so far. Aly Omar got a tomb partly plundered; four fine canopic heads of limestone XII dyn, but only one jar. There are plenty of tombs to try around that.

The great wall which I named before proves to overhand [] inside shewing that it is a retaining wall of the mass of dabsh within it. I now look on it as an immense mastaba, 300 or 400 ft long, which covered perhaps the Sebek catacombs. There is a great lot of clean marl thrown out on the north of it, from some deep cutting, which may be from catacombs.



Medinet el Fayum, 26 Dec, 1910.

... Today we got some stuff, A grave had two bodies at full length, behind one a bronze mirror and handle and a Syrian jug of XVIII dyn, 3 tweezers, needle, burnt kohl stick.

After two men had searched for a week for mummies I shifted ground, and got on to a small pit with four gilt face mummies of fine work all together. We have to enlarge the hole to get them out tomorrow.

Our main work here is on two big speculations – A, the big rubbish heap at the head of the Labyrinth, result a block with parts of two crocodiles; B, the great square block which I am trying to find a passage beneath as there is a great heap of deep earth thrown out before it. It may be the crocodile catacombs.

The XII tombs are proving blanks since the set of canopic heads. Old Khalifa has turned up after all, though not sent for. He seems more active this year. All the men are satisfactory and working well in spite of not being able to get enough boys here; some have no boy at all and carry all their own earth.

Medinet el Fayum, 28 Dec. 1910.

... 'We have been doing well. Aly er Rahim got three portrait mummies, 1 very good, yesterday. Hasan got 2 portraits, today. We seem to have tapped a region of them, buried several mummies in one grave. These alone are worth more than all we have spent so far. An exquisite hard marble shabti figure of XII dynasty or so from Aly Omer. A good block of inscription, and part of a statue from the Labyrinth, Amenerhet III. So we have been prospering.

... Wainwright is clearing Atet's pit, unopened, and hopes to get into her burial soon, doubtless plundered. Mackay has got a site of a destroyed pyramid.

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