

Arabah-el-Madfunah¹
Nov. 6th 1931. 144

Dear Mother.

We arrived in camp safely last night after a long dusty journey; there is such lots to tell you, I will have to go back to the day after my arrival at the Pyramids.

I wrote my last letter there while Amice finished the painting she had been doing for D^r Junker, then in the afternoon, we went for a ride on two arab horses belonging to a sheikh in a neighbouring village, it was gorgeous, they went like the wind, & got so excited that they would do nothing but gallop as fast as they could all the time, it was easy going through the desert sand, but I had'nt ridden for so long that I was quite tired when the hour was up. but I did enjoy it.

After our ride we changed & went to tea with D^r & M^{rs} Reisner, they are excavating some early dynastic tombs near the Pyramids & have quite a nice house (mud brick of course) out there, we had a very enjoyable time & very nice cakes

Arabah-el-Madfunah
Nov. 6th 1931.

Dear Mother.

We arrived in camp safely last night after a long dusty journey; there is such lots to tell you, I will have to go back to the day after my arrival at the Pyramids.

I wrote my last letter there while Amice finished the painting she had been doing for D^r Junker, then in the afternoon, we went for a ride on two arab^{sic} horses belonging to a sheikh in a neighbouring village, it was gorgeous. they went like the wind, & got so excited that they would do nothing but gallop as fast as they could all the time, it was easy going through the desert sand. but I had'nt^{sic} ridden for so long that I was quite tired when the hour was up. but I did enjoy it.

After our ride we changed & went to tea with D^r & M^{rs} Reisner, they are excavating some early dynastic tombs near the Pyramids & have quite a nice house (mud brick of course) out there, we had a very enjoyable time & very nice cakes

144

After our tea party we had to prepare for a dinner party at Dr Junkers to celebrate the finishing of the picture, we had a very merry time there I must say for a Jesuit priest Dr Junker is unbelievably frivolous. He is coming to Abydos some time this season to help descypher some of our knotty problems & we are looking forward to his visit very much.

The next morning we started to pack up. then we had to go into Cairo to attend to various matters, I had to call at the British Consuls, & go to books, & the chemist & Amice had numerous things to see to. we had intended having an early evening meal & going to bed early so as to make a start as soon as possible the next morning. but we called to see Professor Newberry on our way back to the Pyramids. found him all alone. & he insisted on our going to dinner with him at the Continental, (a swagger hotel next to Shepheards) Of course we went

After our tea party we had to prepare for a dinner party at Dr Junkers^{sic} to celebrate the finishing of the picture, we had a very merry time there I must say for a Jesuit priest Dr Junker is unbelievably^{sic} frivolous. he is coming to Abydos^{sic} some time this season to help descypher^{sic} some of our knotty problems & we are looking forward to his visit very much.

The next morning we started to pack up. then we had to go into Cairo to attend to various matters, I had to call at the British Consuls^{sic}, & go to Cook's, & the chemist & Amice had numerous things to see to. we had intended having an early evening meal & going to bed early so as to make a start as soon as possible the next morning. but we called to see Professor Newberry on our way back to the Pyramids. found him all alone. & he insisted on our going to dinner with him at the Continental, (a swagger hotel next to Shepheards^{sic}) Of course we went

144³

& had great fun. There were some people we know from Chicago House ^{there} - so I am afraid we did not get to bed as early as we intended; The next morning we got up at 5.30, & were on the road soon after 7. which really was a noble effort. The history of our drive here will have to wait till next letter as it is late & I want this to catch Tommorrow's post.

I am so sorry to hear poor Father had such a horrid time with a chill, I hope he will not go out in foggy weather again. The pen you mention must be Amice's, will you keep it for the time being, she has two in working order just now

Thanks so much for sending the white ribbon. will you get me a yard of suspender elastic & cut it into four pieces & send one piece at a time in your letters. The suspenders on an ancient pair of corsets I left out here are rather tired, but if renewed will be quite useful. but there is no hurry as I have

& had great fun. There were some people we knew from Chicago House <there> - so I am afraid we did not get to bed as early as we intended; The next morning we got up at 5.30, & were on the road soon after 7. which really was a noble effort. The history of our drive here will have to wait till next letter as it is late & I want to catch tomorrows^{sic} post.

I am so sorry to hear poor Father had such a horrid time with a chill, I hope he will not go out in foggy weather again. The pen you mention must be Amice's, will you keep it for the time being, she has two in working order just now

Thanks so much for sending the white ribbon. will you get me a yard of suspender elastic & cut it into four pieces & send one piece at a time in your letters. the suspenders on an ancient pair of corsets I left out here are rather tired, but if renewed will be quite useful. but there is no hurry as I have

144⁴

Two other well worn ones in use.

Nanny was very pleased with her skirt & it fits her very nicely. The top is a little long but that is a very good fault. The skirt length is perfect. Amice gave her two pairs of combinations. Nannie said they were just what she wanted & the only fault she could find was. that when they were worn out she would have got so used to them & would be too poor to replace them & then it would be worse than if she had never had them - it takes a brain like Nannie's to work a thing like that out. The seeds are flourishing. there is a splendid row of hardy looking tomato plants.

I really must go to bed
All my love to you both
Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

two other well worn ones in use.

Nanny was very pleased with her skirt & it fits her very nicely. the top is a little long but that is a very good fault. the skirt length is perfect. Amice gave her two pairs of combinations, Nannie said they were just what she wanted & the only fault she could find was. that when they were worn out she would have got so used to them & would be too poor to replace them & then it would be worse than if she had never had them - it takes a brain like Nannie's to work a thing like that out.

The seeds are flourishing. there is a splendid row of hardy looking tomato plants.

I really must go to bed
All my love to you both
Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.