


Arabah.  
Jan 27<sup>th</sup> [1931]

Arabah.  
Jan 27<sup>th</sup>

109<sup>1</sup>

Dear Father.


The wedges have arrived, there was great excitement when they were unpacked. They are exactly what we want & will be useful for many things besides leveling the cameras. I am very proud of my special pair with my initials on them. Sardic was very thrilled with them, he amused himself arranging them in the various sizes, he fetched the parcel in from Baliana. Ever so many thanks from both of us for making them.

We had a musical evening last Sunday, we had the nubian zumara player & a singer & a drum to entertain us after dinner. We wanted M<sup>rs</sup> Davis to hear some of our local music. The drum was very curious. It was like this  the frame was made of pottery

and the drum was fish skin it was about 12 to 14 inches across. They warm it over a few blazing sticks to tune it.

Dear Father.

The wedges have arrived, there was great excitement when they were unpacked. They are exactly what we want & will be useful for many things besides leveling the cameras. I am very proud of my special pair with my initials on them. Sardic was very thrilled with them, he amused himself arranging them in the various sizes, he fetched the parcel in from Baliana. Ever so many thanks from both of us for making them.

We had a musical evening last Sunday. we had the nubian<sup>sic</sup> zumara player & a singer & a drum to entertain us after dinner, we wanted M<sup>rs</sup> Davis<sup>sic</sup> {Davies} to hear some of our local music. the drum was very curious. it was like this [  ] the frame was made of pottery and the drum was fish skin it was about 12 to 14 inches across. they warm it over a few blazing sticks to tune it.

109<sup>2</sup>

To-day being our day off, we had donkeys & rode along the desert to the foot of the cliffs where we had noticed some interesting holes at a time when it was too late to stop to explore. We left our donks in charge of one of the men, & clambered up, it was a good long climb. when we got there we found the place humming with wild bees, they were building in the rock face above the holes we wished to investigate; as we did not interfere with them they did not take any notice of us at all, but went about their own affairs & left us to attend to ours.

The holes were either tombs that had been started & then abandoned because the limestone was not specially good or else quarries that were not used for the same reason. in one of these holes we found the name of Pepy, one of the early kings of Egypt, so we were quite excited about it.

We had taken our tea with us, so when we had scrambled down we picniced at the foot

To-day being our day off, we had donkeys & rode along the desert to the foot of the cliffs where we had noticed some interesting holes at a time when it was too late to stop to explore. we left our donks in charge of one of the men, & clambered up, it was a good long climb. when we got there we found the place humming with wild bees, they were building in the rock face above the holes we wished to investigate; as we did not interfere<sup>sic</sup> with them they did not take any notice of us at all, but went about their own affairs & left us to attend to ours. The holes were either tombs that had been started & then abandoned because the limestone was not specially good or else quarries that were not used for the same reason. in one of these holes we found the name of Pepy, one of the early kings of Egypt, so we were quite excited about it.

We had taken our tea with us, so when we had scrambled down we picniced<sup>sic</sup> at the foot

109<sup>3</sup>

of the cliff, & after a good rest we mounted our donks & rode home

Tell Mother I got the letter written on her birthday, evidently the letter I had written for the special event had not arrived. It is not always possible to know how long a letter will take, it all depends which boat they go by. I always look forward to the days the home mail comes in, it would seem an awful blank if my usual letter did not arrive, when one's away from home all the small happenings take on a double interest & one learns to appreciate things that one is rather apt to take for granted when one stays at home all the time.

It is very good of you to try to find some more <sup>Japanese</sup> expanding flowers, the people here simply love them, I still have a packet left

Lots of love to you both & many thanks for everything  
Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

of the cliff, & after a good rest we mounted our donks & rode home

Tell Mother I got the letter written on her birthday, evidently the letter I had written for the special event had not arrived. It is not always possible to know how long a letter will take, it all depends which boat they go by. I always look forward to the days the home mail comes in, it would seem an awful blank if my usual letter did not arrive, when one's away from home all the small happenings take on a double interest & one learns to appreciate things that one is rather apt to take for granted when one stays at home all the time.

It is very good of you to try to find some more <Japanese> expanding flowers, the people here simply love them, I still have a packet left

Lots of love to you both & many thanks for everything  
Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.