

Arabah
Nov 13th 1931

Arabah 146¹
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Dear Mother.

We have settled down to work again & it seems as if we had never left here at all.

We both celebrated our arrival by getting a nasty fluey cold. probably there were millions of germs in the filthy dust we swallowed on the journey, we dosed ourselves with cinnamon & aspirin & felt nose & throaty & achy for a day or two but hope the worst is over now.

We are both busy on paintings in the Amon chapel, Amice on a very high guntera (scaffold) that we call George Rex, & I, on a smaller one that is just plain George. we expect to be sitting in front of the same portions of wall for the next two months, the detail is simply awful.

Our sparrows are very chirpy, we have not yet had time to observe the habits of the inhabitants of Amon. The minx & co belonged to the Osiris chapel.

Our dog was delighted to see us & greeted us with much bouncing & loud wuff wuffs. he is in splendid condition. Bijou Bast Antar the cat is also well, but

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takes no interest in us except at meal times.

Sardie has a new little girl. & Semman has a new boy. Of course we had to admire them both. Semman's infant had had its eyes painted in honour of the occasion.

Poor Joey has been getting lots of nails in his tyres, he picks them up near the garage, & we conclude that the sand in that part must be full of nails as the society's packing cases have been opened there for at least 10 years, & the Arabs always bend the nails & throw them away, it wouldn't be convenient to move the garage so have set the men to work to make a road of mud bricks over the dangerous area, there are some ruined houses that were used by the workmen when excavating was being done here in Petrie's time, they are only piles of bricks out on the desert now, so we are putting them to a useful purpose again.

I am glad to hear Lady Godiva is looking nice & cosy. I expect the end of the garden must look very bare now. I am looking forward to hearing

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all about the building operations later on.

Amice sends her love & asks me to tell you that she dreams daily of your pies (I am afraid this is not the strict truth) Nannie's pastry is really very nice under the circumstances but hardly up to your standard.

Please give my love to Pat & Mrs Childs.

Lots of love to both of you
your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

All the English out here are delighted at the result of the election, they are in hopes Lord Lloyd may return to Egypt. The present man has made some bad blunders through not understanding the oriental characteristics of the people

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