

Arabah el Madfunah.
Nov 24th 1936.

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Dear Mother

The letter with the safety first plans arrived yesterday, they are quite amusing, We have had a visit from a Belgian minister he was staying with the Roches but they were both indisposed, flu or something, so they sent him along with an escort & a large luncheon basket, he was such a dear old gentleman, he made me think of Noah he had such a fine beard & quite a biblical expression, he had his lunch with us & we pooled the eats & had quite a good time, he spoke excellent English & was very interested in the work, he came back with us to the camp for tea & then returned in the Roche's car to Nag Hamadi. We had the first dish of beans out of the garden today, the peas are coming on but the weather has been rather too hot for them, Nannie says

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They are waiting for the cool wind.
I have not had any news of Rex or Nancy since
I have been here, I do not expect I shall
hear anything until Xmas

Will you ask Father to get me a piece of
flour sand paper & send it to me half at
a time, there is no hurry as we still have
some to go on with but not enough for all
the season,

Sardic was telling me about one of hens who
laid her eggs in a pigeons nest & the pigeon
sat on them as well as two of her own & hatched
out three chickens. Wasn't it clever of the
pigeon, she must have been surprised when
she saw what came out.

Amice is very worried about her house, she had
a letter from the woman who airs the rooms
& lights occasional fires to say the damp is
coming in in various places, she is writing
to Mr Axford about it.

Poor old Ahmed is feeling very depressed

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his youngest son has been taken to do military service & he may not return to his village for a couple of years, they are only taking two boys from Arabah this year & he feels very upset that his son should be one of them, we try to cheer him up & tell him he should be proud to have had him selected, but he cannot see that point of view at all.

Amice returned from Chicago House looking like a boiled owl after ~~two~~ three days in the dark room, she says the place seems quite deserted now that they have reduced their staff & Nelson thinks they will have to close down entirely after three years, he hopes to be able to complete the work they have in hand.

Our dog is being led astray by a disreputable lady dog who will run after him, our men chase her away but she will sneak back again. she is no beauty

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but very determined, she is black & he is white
so will the puppies be grey or pie bald?

The guard's three dogs still greet us with joyous
tail wagging, we had a great treat for them
the other day we had saved them some
chicken bones, you should have heard them
scrunch them up.

News seems very short this week,
one day is so very like another most of the
time.

Amice joins me in lots of love
To you both. That's right + lots of it!
your affectionate
daughter

Myrtle.

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