364

Anabah, il Madfima. Jan 7: 1936.

Dear Mother.

Last Saturday we went to Mag. Hamadi to limit with M. & Madame Roche, They had made a special feast for us. first we had some cold savay soils of meat with solad. Then a deluous cawliflows suffere, Then a Tunkey was hought for M. Roche to carve + we cat it with beans canols o potatois. afterwards came & mas pudding. He Roche heaped supar all round it on the dist then pound half a bottle of num our it . set it alight, it made a terific blage + our shows whe all in flames when our plates were set before us. it was very creating, we had a light white wome during the Punct + then with the pudding champagne. + all soils of discret to follow, o wife o liquen afterwards. as you can imagine we wild handly move after all this. we sat around a lit to let

Arabah. el Madfuna. Jan 7th 1936.

Dear Mother.

Last Saturday we went to Nag. Hamadi to lunch with. M. & Madame Roche, they had made a special feast for us. first we had some cold savory sorts of meat with salad. then a delicious cawliflower^{sic} sufflee^{sic}, then a turkey was brought for M. Roche to carve & we eat^{sic} it with beans carrots & potatoes. Afterwards came Xmas pudding. M^r Roche heaped sugar all round it on the dish then poured half a bottle of rum over it & set it alight, it made a terrific blaze & our serves were all in flames when our plates were set before us. it was very exciting, we had a light white wine during the lunch & then with the pudding champagne. & all sorts of desert to follow, & coffee & liqueur afterwards. As you can imagine we could hardly move after all this, we sat around a bit to let

it settle of then went round the garden. we saw some of Madamis pots, There were Two while nots in a run spicially constructed for them & Two cranes who followed 7 us all round The gonden, lasked Mr Rocke if They were a M'sH's , he said nather sadly that they were both Hiss. Thue was also a Tame wolf but he did not appear as he is sky of strangers. Hadame Idal us that they cannot hugh labels on any of The plants, as he goes round & pulls them all off. he does not do any other damage in The garden, but he cannot bear the sight of a label. just before tea time a famous holy skiekt came to pay a call on M. Matten Rock + we all sal solemnly in the truly awful hind chaving room & chank tea, amice of Talked in our very best Onabic, of fact conversation must have sounded very strange part inglish

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it settle & then went round the garden. we saw some of Madame's pets. there were two white rats in a run specially constructed for them & two cranes who followed & us all round the garden, I asked Mr Roche if they were a Mr & Mr & he said rather sadly that they were both Miss. there was also a tame wolf but he did not appear as he is shy of strangers. Madame told us that they cannot keep labl/<e>ls on any of the plants, as he goes round & pulls them all off. he does not do any other damage in the garden, but he cannot bear the sight of a label.

Just before tea time a famous holy sheikh came to pay a call on M. & M^{dme} Roche & we all sat solemnly in the truly awful French drawing room & drank tea, Amice & I talked in our very best Arabic, if/<in> fact conversation must have sounded very strange, part English part French & part Arabic. & a radio making unrecognasi[?]/<nisa>ble noises in the distance

When the time for deporture came for was lader with vegetables o flowers.

Namnic is now wraning the shill I made her, oshe looks very min in it, when I asked if it fitted properly a was comfortable she said, It yes it was all right but the flammed top priched her. Our mice police officer has been removed to Sohaq. we are very sorry about it he was quite the nicest we have had, police a friendly, without being over officious like the shore. we have not yet seen his successor.

Amice of have had a feller from Otto he says he is getting or quite well. The Just plastic case has been taken off. The B'es very satisfied by the way it is healing o has put a new plastic case that holds the leg rigid right up to the hip. he has to be in this eight weeks, but can leave the hospital soon o stay with be funker, his siste in law is acting as howelesspeed to junker so she can help look after him.

When the time for departure came Joey was laden with vegetables & flowers.

Nannie is now wearing the skirt I made her, & she looks very nice in it, when I asked if it fitted properly & was comfortable she said, oh yes it was all right but the flannel top pricked her.

Our nice police officer has been removed to Sohag. we are very sorry about it he was quite the nicest we have had, polite & friendly, without being over officious like the others. we have not yet seen his successor.

Amice & I have had a letter from Otto. he says he is getting on quite well. the first plaster case has been taken off. the D^r is very satisfied by the way it is healing & has put a new plaster case that holds the leg rigid right up to the hip. he has to be in this eight weeks, but can leave the hospital soon & stay with D^r Junker, his sister in law is acting as housekeeper to Junker so she can help look after him.

There is an iclipse of the moon to night, we have been onl losse it swonal times just fall The shaddow was quite black, now only a little rum of the moon is visible other shadder is a sol of coppey colour. all the people in the village one shouting + banging of guns + all the dogs are banking. We have taken down all the xmas decoretion I last night we lit the canales on amices line Xmas True & all the men came in to see it. Sandie Told us an amusing story of his frist Experience of English customs of xmos. I was many years ago when he was quite a lad. Prof Petet was working here Then, & he had an X mas pudding & set it elight with handy I called Sardie to come quickly because the foudding was on fine. Sandie came a saw it flaming a signed the water jug to pour our it, but of course Prof Pech stopped him in time, aplained that it was only a johe. Abdellat has a new galabia & he goes about

There is an eclipse of the moon to night, we have been out to see it several times first of all the shaddow^{sic} was quite black. now only a little rim of the moon is visible & the shaddow^{sic} is a sort of coppery colour. all the people in the village are shouting & banging off guns & all the dogs are barking.

We have taken down all the Xmas decorations & last night we lit the candles on Amice's tiny Xmas tree & all the men came in to see it.

Sardic told us an amusing story of his first experience of English customs at Xmas. it was many years ago when he was quite a lad.

Prof Pet/<e>t was working here then, & he had ansic Xmas pudding & set it alight with brandy & called Sardic to come quickly because the pudding was on fire. Sardic came & saw it flaming & siezedsic the water jug to pour over it, but of course Prof Peet stopped him in time & explained that it was only a joke.

Abdullah has a new galabia & he goes about

crackling & rustling like a bag of sweets at a theatre he looks simply enormous in it, he is the tallest of our servants now. & has a moustache, in fact he looked so hairy & bristley^{sic} that Amice toll/<d> Sardic that he must be trimmed & not go about looking like a gamoose. it was too much for Sardic's gravity he could not stop laughing, we dare not mention that whiskery animal now for fear of setting him off again. any way Abdullah is now clipped & trimmed & made quite presentable.

So glad to hear Father's cold is better. lots of love to you both – Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.