

Gresham House  
Nov 27/<8><sup>th</sup> 1930.

Dear Mother & Father,

We arrived here yesterday evening after many adventures, I think I had told you the story of our journeyings<sup>sic</sup> as far as Crete - we were loath to leave that lovely island & are hoping some day to make a longer visit. The next day at sea was uneventful, we got the Captain to play dominoes with us after dinner & had quite a jolly evening, & the following day was our last on board the Aventino. we arrived at Ales/<x> about 2 o'clock but by the time all the port officials had finished their parlarver<sup>sic</sup> it was past 3 before we could land.

M<sup>rs</sup> Tatton Brown was on the quay to meet us & had M<sup>r</sup> TB's secretary with her to attend to our luggage - everything went through without a hitch - then we went along to have a look at Joey in one of the Custom's sheds, he was very dusty, but except for two very small dents had stood the journey splendidly. Amice decided to leave him there for the night as there were lots of formalities to be

Gresham House  
Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 1930.

93<sup>4</sup>

Dear Mother & Father:

We arrived here yesterday evening after many adventures, I think I had told you the story of our journeyings as far as Crete - we were loath to leave that lovely island & are hoping some day to make a longer visit. The next day at sea was uneventful. we got the Captain to play dominoes with us after dinner & had quite a jolly evening, & the following day was our last on board the Aventino. we arrived at Ales about 2 o'clock but by the time all the port officials had finished their parlarver it was past 3 before we could land.

M<sup>rs</sup> Tatton Brown was on the quay to meet us & had M<sup>r</sup> TB's secretary with her to attend to our luggage - everything went through without a hitch - then we went along to have a look at Joey in one of the Custom's sheds. He was very dusty, but except for two very small dents had stood the journey splendidly. Amice decided to leave him there for the night as there were lots of formalities to be

93<sup>2</sup>

gone through before he could be cleared, also some petrol had to be fetched. so we went off in Mrs T.B's car. she had arranged to put us up & persuaded Amice to stay the next day & start for Gano the morning after, which really seemed the wisest plan. So we had a nice restful time with these kind people & yesterday their chauffeur had Joey all clean & shining & ready for us to start directly after breakfast. so we loaded the suit cases & bundles. (the bigger things having gone on c/o Mr Cook.) & set off. The first 20 miles the road was quite good. after that it was a packed mud road. fairly level but jolty, very tiring to drive on, we had to keep a good pace as we had 130 miles to go in day light, there were so many native villages to pass through & as the native traffic of donkeys, camels, cattle sheep & goats recognize or follow no rule of the road it was pretty nerve racking work driving through them & at the same time remembering to keep to the right with civilized traffic, so, whenever we

gone through before he could be cleared, also some petrol had to be fetched. so we went off in Mrs T.B's car, she had arranged to put us up & persuaded Amice to stay the next day & start for Cairo the morning after, which really seemed the wisest plan. So we had a nice restful time with these kind people & yesterday their chauffeur had Joey all clean & shining & ready for us to start directly after breakfast, so we loaded the suit cases & bundles, (the bigger things having gone on c/o Mr Cook.) & set off - the first 20 miles the road was quite good - after that it was a packed mud road, fairly level but jolty, very tiring to drive on, we had to keep a good pace at/s> we had 130 miles to go in day light, there were so many native villages to pass through & as the native traffic of donkeys, camels, cattle sheep & goats recognize or follow no rule of the road it was pretty nerve racking work driving through them & at the same time remembering to keep to the right with civilized traffic, so, whenever we

93

got a clear run Joey had to hop along at 35 to 40 miles an hour. I took turns at driving but of course Amice tackled the most difficult bits as she is naturally more used to Joey than I am. We had one thrilling adventure, near one village some men were repairing the road & had poured a lot of water over it. Joey gaily floundered into this muddy surface & promptly skidded violently Amice fortunately was driving, but she was quite unable to steer him, he swapped ends, & ran off the road, down the bank onto the cultivation & charged a <sup>straw</sup> haystack, knocked it over & buried his bonnet in it; as he was doing about 30 at the time you can imagine we were very glad he chose something soft to run into, we were rather alarmed, but could not help laughing to find Joey & ourselves half buried in straw, no harm was done, the men who were working on the road came to our assistance & with much shouting, & some pulling & pushing & tuf-tuffing for Joey we were hauled up the bank on to

got a clear run Joey had to hop along at 35 to 40 miles an hour. I took turns at driving but of course Amice tackled the most difficult bits as she is naturally more used to Joey than I am.

We had one thrilling adventure, near one village some men were repairing the road & had poured a lot of water over it, Joey gaily floundered into this muddy surface & promptly skidded violently Amice fortunately was driving, but she was quite unable to steer him, he swapped ends, & ran off the road, down the bank onto the cultivation & charged a ~~hay~~ <straw>stack, knocked it over & buried his bonnet in it; as he was doing about 30 at the time you can imagine we were very glad he chose something soft to run into, we were rather alarmed, but could not help laughing to find Joey & ourselves half buried in straw, no harm was done, the men who were working on the road came to our assistance & with much shouting, & some pulling & pushing & tuf-tuffing from Joey we wø<e>re haw<u>led up the bank on to

91<sup>4</sup>~~stern~~ just

the road again & we cleaned as much straw & mud off as we could. distributed a few piastres among the friendly natives & continued on our way. much wiser for the experience, & quite determined to treat all muddy surfaces very circumspectly.

We arrived in Cairo about 5.30, very weary.

poor Amice was quite done up, she broke down half way through dinner & I had to get her off to bed & give her a dose of brandy.

She is better today but feels the strain rather. I think it is very likely she will have a man from a garage here to drive us as far as Assiut when we start up country. She doesn't feel fit enough to camp out as we originally intended & Assiut is the first place we can get suitable lodgings but it is 200 miles - rather too much for us to tackle under present conditions without assistance.

We had tea with Dr Junker & his sister today & are invited to dinner on Sunday - they are both such dears.

Tomorrow I am going to the museum

the road again <stern/<stern> first> we cleared as much straw & mud off as we could, distributed a few piastres among the friendly natives & continued on our way, much wiser for the experience, & quite determined to treat all muddy surfaces very circumspectly.

We arrived in Cairo about 5.30, very weary, poor Amice was quite done up, she broke down half way through dinner & I had to get her off to bed & give her a dose of brandy.

She is better to-day but feels the strain rather. I think it is very likely she will have a man from a garage here to drive us as far as Assiut when we start up country. She doesn't<sup>sic</sup> feel fit enough to camp out as we originally intended & Assiut is the first place we can get suitable lodgings but it is 200 miles, rather too much for us to tackle under present conditions without assistance.

We had tea with Dr Junker & his sister to-day & are invited to dinner on Sunday, they are both such dears.

Tomorrow I am going to the museum

93<sup>5</sup>

to see the Imp & we have banks, Consul, etc  
to see to.

Must be off to bed now -

Much love from us both  
your affectionate  
daughter  
Myrtle -

Amice says the envelope will diddle you -  
but perhaps she will write you a letter some  
day -

I got your letter from Cooks today - will call in again  
before I leave in case there is anything more for  
me -

to see the Imp [= Reginald Engelbach] & we have banks, Consul, etc  
to see to.

Must be off to bed now -

Much love from us both

Your affectionate  
daughter  
Myrtle -

Amice says the envelope will diddle you -  
but perhaps she will write you a letter some  
day -

I got your letter from Cooks today - will call in again  
before I leave in case there is anything more for  
me -