

[Earlier entries for this season are missing.]

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Feb 8th

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Feb 8th I was so hard driven today I had 'nt time to go in to lunch, but Miss Lawes very kindly brought me out something to eat on the work. We have got some rather important tombs going on just now, which take a long time to clear. They have the same type of burial and same style of pottery as the Prehistoric people of 5000 B.C., but are associated with XII dynasty things, which is rather a puzzle. Petrie's theory is that it was a invasion of the country by the prehistoric people, who were probably of Libyan origin, but so far we have not enough information to settle anything definite. If we find more of their graves we hope to ^{work} find out some ^{thing} more definite. The great man is better today, but has not come back to the work.

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of measuring up all their work and
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and am not sorry to have a bit of
a rest. Tomorrow the Petries go off
to Luxor. He I believe intends to come
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until the end of the week.

Feb 10th The Luxor party set off this
morning, leaving us once more in
possession. As usual on spare days
we spent the morning marking pots and
bones, and in the afternoon went for a
walk into the desert through the Arab
cemetery. We spent some time looking
at the Arab graves, which are quite
interesting. They are mud for the most
part, whitewashed over and then painted
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Feb 11th There was a tremendous row outside my room last night just after I went to bed: a hyæna came prowling about and the dogs got on to him. They had a big fight but eventually he managed to get away. We took the opportunity to do a big days surveying today. We started early and went together as far as the old house, where MacIver's work begins. I dropped him there and went on to my old site, where I had about three quarters of a mile to finish. In the evening I picked up MacIver again at Sheikh Ali, and we

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had a dark walk home. Our old house
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Feb 12th There are some early rock tombs
on the other side of the river, so this morning
MacIver and I started out to try and
find them. We walked down to Hou,
ferried across, and then enquired our
way to a certain village which is given
in Baedeker as the nearest to the tombs.
Arrived here we asked for the tombs, but
apparently no one had ever heard of them.
At last we met a man who told us they
were two hours away in the hills. So we
trudged on again and arrived at the
foot somewhere about midday. No
tombs appeared, so we gave them up and
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by high rugged limestone cliffs, and then sat and listened to the silence. I know no place so absolutely quiet as the high desert: one hears nothing but an occasional bird or the falling of a loose boulder. After lunch we started to climb, but could not achieve the top: we found ourselves continually barred by sheer rock, impossible to climb. We had a long walk back by the side of the river, and arrived home just before sunset pretty well fagged out. We must have done some five and thirty miles of desert walking these two days.

Feb 13th The men are coming back by degrees from the festival. I was very glad they did not all come together as today I was still single-handed. The Great Man returned from Luxor this evening, laden with antiques.

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Feb 14th Who says I have'nt got patience?

I spent four hours today clearing a
small round shallow grave, about
five feet in diameter. It was one of
the invading people I told you about,
and was full of beads and rotted leather-
work and such like things, which take
a long time getting out. This
afternoon I moved my men on to
another cemetery some 2 ½ miles off,
but I don't think there is much there.

In a day or two I shall probably move
on to another half a mile beyond that.
I want to work out these far away
sites before the hot weather comes.

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I took out my Italian grammar and
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Feb. 16th I could 'nt move my men on today after all. I found when I got over to the work that they had all got onto deep pits. Nothing has come from them so far, but still I can't go away and leave them unfinished. The great man seems to have come to an end of his ground, and talks of going off on his exploring trip and leaving MacIver and me to finish up the digging. In about three weeks I expect he will take his departure altogether; so that I shall

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Feb 17th

I moved on to the new cemetery today but found the same old story, a fine cemetery completely plundered out by dealers. A man who came by told us there was nothing there, but beyond a village two miles further on there was a splendid place. I'm getting a bit tired of that story, and shant go on any further. As one of the men remarked today, soon we shall start out to work in the morning, reach the cemetery about noon, have lunch, and then come back again.

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Parkstone	Homewell Tenterden. Kent.
Westbourne Terrace	Rev. F. H. Cox 39. London Rd Tunbridge / Wells
A. Foster 9 Shore Rd	W. Newman. 1 Pittville Lawn / Chelt ^m
S. Hackney.	M ^{rs} Blyth.
(please send on <u>quickly</u>	M ^{rs} C. Bromby
To Rev. W. Cooke.)	F. Rogers. Hamilton House.
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[The lower half of the page was probably added by an unidentified member of the Mace family.]

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Feb 19th Market day etc (usual formula)
The great man went down to Hou this afternoon to have a rake round the town, and found what he considers to be the site of the town temple, XVIII dynasty. So tomorrow or the next day a body of men will be turned on to sink pits over

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Feb. 20th I had my lunch in style today, under a lebbek tree, by the side of a small pool; delightfully cool and shady: quite a

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Feb. 20th

I had my lunch in style today, under a lebbek tree, by the side of a small pool; delightfully cool and shady: quite a

jolly little picnic all to myself. I think the children of the villages I pass through on the way to my work are beginning to know me: instead of shouting 'backsheesh, ya khawageh', they now call after me 'ya khawageh bankrupt'. So curious that of all the animals one meets in Egypt, far and away the most timid is the buffalo. They run away from anything and are driven about and ridden by the most diminutive children. MacIver has a crusade on against children who call out 'backsheesh'. He chases them and when he can catch them, which is 'nt often, he whacks them. He has broken his measuring stick over one, and the other day his zeal led him into a bog.

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place, but all to no effect. So tomorrow I shall go back to my old cemetery. A dreadful day it was on the work today, a thick sandstorm blowing all the time. I eat my lunch under difficulties, consuming quite as much dust as anything else. In the evening I had a fine gallop home on the gee.

Feb 22nd A regular change today. I had nearly fifty men on, half of them on shallow graves. I cleared 24 skeletons with my own hands, and there still remain some five or six which I had not time to do. I had the extra men thrown on my hands owing to a breakdown on the work at Hou. Petrie took off 24 men and planted them down on the temple site there. After a while up came one of the chief men of the village in a great way and declared that the ground belonged to him; that he had bought

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work it at the beginning of next season.
My men completely overran me today: I
must try and get them on to deeper
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Feb 29th I got one or two quite nice things
today. One was a carnelian amulet with
a gold Hathor head above: quite a pretty
little piece of jewellery. I also got a
scarab with the name of the daughter of
Aahmes I of the XVIII dynasty. Also, rather
a nice green jasper inscribed scarab.
I had also a very interesting burial. There
was one burial in ordinary position, and
below him were two more skeletons in
a crouching position, the regular New
Race style of burial. I think they must
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Feb 25th

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Feb 25th I had rather a fright on the work today. I was measuring out at the far end, when on looking round I say, most of the men gathered round a pit, and the others all running in that direction. I thought at once that there had been an accident and that one of the men had been killed, so I started off at full speed to see, but found there was nothing much wrong. One of the sides of a well had caved in a bit, and two of the boys were in the chamber at the bottom and afraid to come up. There really was no any danger. The men had hauled them up with ropes before I got there, but of course the ^{other} men seeing something was up had rushed up to see what was happening. I am writing this to the accompaniment of MacIver's reckoning up wages and paying up his men. When he has done comes

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my turn.
 Feb. 26th Market day. I had a collection
 of some thirty or forty skeletons to mark, so
 had a jolly time over them in the morning.
 After lunch MacIver and I strolled
 over to Nagh Hamadi to get our hair
 cut, which badly needed it, as we had
 neither of us had it done for two or
 three months. Quite a stylish cut we
 got too, in a native shop. Nagh Hamadi
 is quite a large place, with several
 sugar factories, and full of Greeks.
 Petrie departs on Thursday for five or six
 days exploring up & down the country.
 Then he will come back for a day or
 two before starting off for good. So
 that I am sorry to say we shall only
 have two or three more weeks digging,
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Jan/<Feb.> 27th

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Feb.
Jan 27th I had one pit to clear today with eight skeletons all in position, which naturally took some time to clear; and wasn't it hot just underground: it was a great relief coming up to the surface again. It begins to look like the end of the season now seeing Petrie begin to wind up his affairs, moreover I foresee all sorts of unpleasant jobs that will be left for me to finish up. It seems to be a good deal of a problem too what we are going to do for packing material. The stuff we generally use is not ripe yet, and even if it were I don't think it grows here. Tops of sugar cane, which we used at Sheikh Ali, won't do at all for fragile objects, and so far as I can see there is nothing about here that will do. If the worst comes to the worst we shall have to order something from Cairo, but that would be a great

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expense.

Feb 28th

I spent a good part of the day very happily picking up the most beautiful amethyst and garnet beads I have ever seen: about five pounds worth altogether I got from one tomb. Also three bronze mirrors, two good alabaster vases, some scarabs, and a quantity of smaller stuff. A very good haul for one day. Things vary so. One day one gets nothing worth having, and another all sorts of good things. I suppose I ought to get more now, however, as I have some fifty men on now. MacIver is finishing out his cemetery now, and is going to bring his men on to join mine in a day or two, so that we shall have a week or so's work on it together, which will be rather jolly.

Feb. March 1st & 2nd

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leap year. The Petries start off tomorrow
 on their exploring trip which is to last
 some four or five days. So once more we
 can smoke in the dining room without
~~wrath~~ bringing down on our devoted
 heads the vials of Mrs Petrie's wrath.
 They made a great start this morning,
 with two camels and three donkeys.
 They also ~~took~~ eight pots of jam, so
 they won't starve. Miss Orme and Miss
 Lawes are manfully battling with the
 marking of bones and drawing of
 pots respectively. I hope they will get
 through with them, for anything left
 undone or unfinished at the end of the
 season devolves upon me. If I can
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 days they will take sailing down there

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I don't want to go down to Cairo before I am obliged, and I should be better off there than staying on here with no roof to shelter me, nothing much to do and all by myself, which is the alternative. Green is working for the Research Account (I think I have explained its relation to the Fund) and will probably be working some time longer, as he started very late in the season.

March 3rd We have had two Americans here ~~ever~~ all day, and I hardly know whether I am standing on my head or my heels. They do carry one on at such a rate one has't time to breathe. Just before lunch I saw a gentleman and lady ~~was~~ riding up on donkeys, so I went ~~up~~ to meet them. He introduced himself as a Mr. Crewdson of Chicago who was travelling in Egypt taking

I don't want to go down to Cairo before I am obliged, and I should be better off there than staying on here with no roof to shelter me, nothing much to do and all by myself, which is the alternative. Green is working for the Research Account (I think I have explained its relation to the Fund) and will probably be working some time longer as he started very late in the season.

March 3rd

We have had two Americans here ~~two~~ all day, and I hardly know whether I am standing on my head or my heels. They do carry one on at such a rate one has't time to breathe.

Just before lunch I saw a gentleman and lady ~~w~~ riding up on donkeys, so I went ~~up~~ to meet them. He introduced himself as a Mr. Crewdson of Chicago(*) who was travelling in Egypt taking

[(*)Charles N. Crewdson, corresponding secretary of the Chicago Society of Egyptian Research.]

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colour photographs, and brought a letter of introduction to the great man. Petrie had known he was coming and told me to be kind to him, so he invited him in, and asked him to stay to lunch, which he accepted with alacrity. We had a most extraordinary and haphazard meal. They had brought up an enormous quantity of stuff, not knowing whether they would find anyone here, and so we mixed up their food and ours and eat it all together. Mr Crewdson at one time had on his plate roast pigeon, tongue and apricot jam at the same time. During the meal he shewed us some of his ^{photographs} ~~plates~~, which really are wonderful. He can reproduce any colour or shade of colour quite exactly. After lunch he took a photograph of the dining room with all of us sitting round the table, and has

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promised to send each of us a copy of it. I then took him out onto the work and he took several more photographs of the men working, insisting on putting us in to our great disgust. He also represents a syndicate of American papers, and wants to write an account of the work out here so he asked all sorts of questions and made notes which was embarrassing. Afterwards I took him over to MacIver's work where he took more photographs. Then they stayed to dinner in the evening, and afterwards rode off to catch the 9 train to Kenesh where they stay the night. Well it was a fast and furious day altogether, and I guess I'll go to bed right soon and sleep off the effects of it.

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23

at it for the last week. This evening
we got rid of the least satisfactory,
so as to have a real good gang left for
next week. I had to get rid of my dear
old niggers, which cut me to the heart.
They finish beautifully what work they
do, but they don't get through enough.

The men were very frightened when they saw
that some were to be dismissed, and
were very much relieved when they were
asked if they wanted their money now,
or reckoned on to next week.

March 5th Market day. Finishing
up things about the house most of the day,
Towards sunset I Miss Lawes and I
went for a stroll into the desert.
The men are having a great 'fantasia'
tonight; that is to say they stand in
two lines facing each other, and sway
their bodies about, bending forward and
all saying 'Allah'. Gradually they work

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Tunbridge Wells

[The text at the bottom of the page was probably added by an unidentified member of the Mace family.]

8

Feb^{sic} {March} 6th

8

25

Feb 6th The Petries came back about midday today rather unexpectedly. We did not expect them until Wednesday. I have been turning out some rather interesting shallow graves just lately. Up to now I have thought they were XII dynasty - they certainly have XII dynasty pottery with them - but today I got a bead identical with some Petrie found in his Libyan tombs. If I can prove that these were Libyan tombs, it will be very interesting and important. MacIver and I are going to turn all the men on to them tomorrow, and have a good go at them.

Feb 7th If I could only get some of my shallow tombs unplundered I might be able to do something, but they have all been disturbed anciently. I got two or three quite new types of pots from them today, however.

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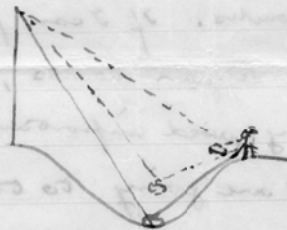
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The great man has got a wonderful idea into his head for clearing large pits full of sand. You procure a pole some 40 or 50 feet high, fasten it on one side of the pit, tie several long ropes to the top, attach baskets to them by means of pulleys, and then let men pull them up on the further side, as thus -



The ordinary way is for men to fill the baskets at the bottom, and then for boys to carry them up on their heads; but if the sides are soft sand they displace quite as much on their way up as they carry out. By this method you could have five or six ropes on the pole, and so six could work at once.

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March 9th

27
March 9th I see yesterday was Feb 8th, but
 what's a month more or less. I am
 pleased to find that my suspicions about
 my shallow tombs ~~were~~ quite correct.
 They are very interesting and important
 and may keep me here for another month's
 work. The pottery from them is most
 queer: there is a good deal of XII, and
 also several quite new shapes. The graves
 too are queer and unEgyptian, while the
 skulls shew a very marked type, large-eyed,
 receding foreheads and very prognathous.
 The women wore most extraordinary erections
 on their heads, their hair being ~~pl~~ done up
 in hundreds of tiny plaits. Yet plenty
 of Egyptian things are found in their graves,
 such as beads pots, alabasters etc; and
 today I got a small ~~statuette~~ ^{statuette} dedicated
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Finding the name Sebekhotep is important too, as the Sebekhoteps were thirteenth dynasty kings. If I can prove, by pottery or otherwise, that the cemetery came in the period between that and the XVIII dynasty it will be excellent, as practically nothing is known during that time; except that the Hyksos overran the country. The unfortunate part is that almost all the graves are disturbed, so much so that it looks as if a systematic destruction of the cemetery had taken place, a thing not unlikely if these people were invaders. I got a beautiful dagger inlaid with ivory today, and a fine ivory wand, near to it. A day of leave-taking and final directions, and now I am left to finish up generally and get the boxes to England. As Petrie remarked there is plenty to be done. I have got to survey the cemeteries here,

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including the old town, a more difficult job than at the other place as it will be necessary to do it by sextant. The telegraph poles make off in the direction of Hou just before the huts. Then I have got the awful job of trying to take down and preserve the plaster from the one of the walls of the town. They is covered with charcoal drawings, and falls to pieces if you look at it. Furthermore I have got to saw ^{the faces off} down some enormous sandstone blocks in the town, and clear a mass of stuff in one of the temples to look for more stone, and try and get the plan. Then there's the packing and the fight at the Museum etc. etc. I shant be idle. Thanks to the things I have brought in the last two or three days I have got leave to go on digging as long as I think advisable and to draw as much money as

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I want, in reason, That is a great relief, as I badly want to work that cemetery a bit more and see what I can make of it. Miss Lawes and Miss Orme start on Saturday morning

March 11th A day of great excitement. Ali came in shortly after lunch, bringing a most beautiful dagger, with a crescent shaped ivory handle ~~on~~, decorated with silver rosettes, in its way the finest thing we have found this year. One side was covered by its cloth wrapping, and this we were going to leave in its place, when suddenly it struck me that it might possibly be inscribed on the cloth side. So I removed the cloth, and you can imagine our delight when I saw a cartouche, very faint but still legible. After about an hour's puzzling we made ^{the name} it out, and then proceeded to look up the lists of things to try and find it. He was't

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March 12th Miss Lawes and Miss Orme departed this afternoon, taking the precious dagger with them. We made them promise not to trust it out of their sight until they had handed it up to Petrie. I got a very interesting little statuette today, a woman, seated, and curling the hair of a small girl who is sitting on her knee. The expression

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32

on the girl's face is most amusing,
 reminding one of Pears' advertisement
 'you dirty boy'.

March 13th market day. So strangely
 quiet the place seems now all the
 ladies have gone. We spent the day
 working over pottery and drawing
 types for identification use on the work.
 The last two or three days work has
 completely upset all our arrangements;
 we may carry on the work now for
 another month. If the graves last we
 probably shall. It is a most curious
 cemetery in many ways, and MacIver
 and I indulge ourselves in all sorts
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10

March 14th-15-16th

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 to get a moment to myself now: we are
 kept hard at it all day long, and all
 the evening too. I spend a good deal
 of my time drawing pots. We are trying
 to get all the types of ^{pots} ~~drawing~~ done as
 they come in; and that with the superintendent
 of the work, marking skeletons (of which we
 bring in some thirty a day) putting
 away small things etc, keeps us about
 busy. We have been anxiously awaiting
 a letter from Cairo to tell of the
 dagger's safe arrival, and this afternoon
 it arrived. The great man was
 very pleased about ~~it~~ ^{the dagger},
 and immediately wrote to the secretary
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 scarabs with names that would fit
 either of two kings in XII and XIII.
 Today a second scarab of Useresen,
 This little cemetery should be of the
 greatest importance in dating XII
 and XVIII pottery. Up till now the two
 classes have always been considered quite
 distinct, but in this cemetery a good
 many of the types ^{constantly} occur together.
 From name-evidence we are a good
 deal nearer XII than XVIII, but even if
 we run half way between the two
 periods, we must either antedate
 XVIII pottery or else allow that XII
 continued on much longer than was
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 It is beginning to warm up; the glass
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From the feel of the air I should say
we were in for a khamsin.

March 16th

We seem likely to be kept
on at work here for a long time to
come: the supply of tombs runs on gaily.
The great puzzle is what to do with
the skeletons. The place is so full that
we cant move, and still they come
pouring in. We score now, however, by
having all the other people's rooms to
put things in. Our men are in tremendous
spirits just now; they are singing and
'Allah'-ing, and having a 'fantasia'
generally outside. It takes very little
to amuse them. If one gives anyone on
the work a nickname the others immediately
take it up.

March 17th

I had my first go at
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removed two heads with indifferent
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35
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March 18th We have been suffering from an excess of weather today. In the morning the burst of hot weather we have been indulging in came to a climax in a thunderstorm, accompanied by real rain. I don't know what the country is coming to: we have had rain twice within three months. Then in the afternoon, just to level things up, we were treated to a blinding sandstorm. We lost the sun at about two o'clock, and he has'nt

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[The end of the last entry in the previous page (March 18th) and the entries for March 19th-21th are missing (1 sheet = 4 pages).]

Ian / <March. 23 / <2>nd>

The plague of ladybirds is extraordinary. There was a skull on the work today literally covered with them: I counted over a hundred on just over a square inch. The men say they sting, and I believe they're right. Another scarab with a cartouche today, and another debateable king settled I hope. How can one stop work when one gets a king's name every other day? At this rate I shall be here all the summer. Every morning after breakfast now I take a couple of hours' work at my wall. By the time it is finished I shall be a fully qualified worker in mosaic.

March 23 & 24th

I spent last night writing a long letter to the great man anent the work, so had't time to write up my journal. You ask me to tell you exactly when I shall reach London. That is just what I want

37

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March 25th - 28th - It's been too hot to write the last day or two. We have been obliged to sit ~~under~~ outside in the evenings. One could not breathe indoors. Last night we had a tremendous gale from the North, and

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3.

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 it is quite cool: almost cold. I
 have never seen such an animally
 place as this, and it gets animallier
 every day. The latest thing is a hornet's
 nest in process of construction in
 one of the inside walls of our dining-
 room. Packing is going ahead now
 full swing. I am leaving the packing
 of the pottery to Ali, while I get on with
 the more delicate things. The most
 ticklish thing I have is a painted
 Roman mask of plaster: a beautifully
 lifelike piece of work, looking, as the man
 who found it remarked, as if it wanted
 to speak, but rather fragile for such a
 lot of travelling and knocking
 about. He had as protection - first,
 a layer of soft paper, then cotton wool,
 then more paper, then an old coat of
 the great mans, and finally straw,

that has blown the heat away. Today
 it is quite cool: almost cold.

I have never seen such an animally
 place as this, and it gets animallier
 every day. The latest thing is a hornet's
 nest in process of construction in
 one of the inside walls of our dining-
 room. Packing is going ahead now
 full swing. I am leaving the packing
 of the pottery to Ali, while I get on with
 the more delicate things. The most
 ticklish thing I have is a painted
 Roman mask of plaster: a beautifully
 lifelike piece of work, looking, as the man
 who found it remarked, as if it wanted
 to speak, but rather fragile for such
 a lot of travelling and knocking
 about. He had as protection - first,
 a layer of soft paper, then cotton wool,
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4
 so I think it ought to arrive in
 safety. How I am going to sleep in
 my room tonight, I don't quite know. I
 took the roof off this morning, and
 consequently the whole place is strewn
 with the straw that was kept above
 to protect the boards. Furthermore there
 is a high wind, so that I shall never
 be able to keep my blankets under
 restraint: I can't turn round in the
 room, because the floor is so covered with
 various things, and lastly I can't get
 in at all because there are two
 packing boxes half finished right
 across the door.

March 29th In spite of all I slept very
 well last night: nor did the wall fall
 in on me, as I half feared. You had
 better not post any more letters here
 after this week, as I am not quite
 sure where I shall be. Send the next

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41

to the Hotel du Nil, as I shall go
there first when I get to Cairo.
It is quite exciting getting so near
the end. I am looking forward very
much to my visit to Green while the
boats are going down; and then in
Cairo I shall see a good deal of the
Anticks & hope, which will be very
jolly when I get there.
March 30th, It is a melancholy
thing, but I can't think a remember
a single thing that I have done
today. Oh yes I can, I marked box
No. 135. I calculate that we
shall run to about 200 altogether.
There is a great quarrel going on
in the men's hut next door, and the
expressions 'Pray to the prophet' and
'thirty piastres' are being hurled in
all directions. It is a funny thing that
Arabs can never talk of anything but

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42
 money. I saw a curious case of
 obstinacy today. ~~A man~~. There were
 two gaps in a wall, and a man
 was trying to induce a donkey to go
 through one of them, which the donkey
 steadily refused to do. The donkey
 was brought up to the gap time after
 time, and ~~then~~ time after time backed
 away, the man whacking the while,
 and abusing in choicest Arabic, which
 is very choice abuse indeed. Every
 now and then he would sit down
 for a rest and then return to the
 attack. The other gap was quite
 close, but he had determined to
 get through the first. I watched them
 for some time, but did not see the
 end as I had no time to wait.

March 31st If we go on working much
 longer I don't know what will become
 of me. I am in absolute rags already,

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43

Native clothes will be the only way out of the difficulty, so don't be surprised if I return home in a gelabiya and turban. Keeping accounts is driving me off my head. The whole day long I am paying out small sums for various things, and it's impossible to book them all on the spot. Our horse has become a regular white elephant to us. We have no use for him now, and he eats his head off, nor strange to say can we find anyone anxious to buy a spirited thoroughbred, cost price five pounds but would take less, great bargain.

April 1st Have just paid the men their week's money: not a very serious matter now we have so few. Work is running out fast now. Unless anything unexpected happens we shall

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8)

easily finish up by the end of next week. That would clear me here somewhere near the end of the following week. It is very jolly having work running on while one is packing: one doesn't feel bound to rush everything through as quickly as one can.

Perfectly absurd weather we have been having this week: the glass has'nt touched 80 for about four days. Next week I expect we shall pay for it.

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W. Terrace	Chelt ^m
A. Foster.	M ^{rs} Blyth
9 Shore Rd S. Hackney	M^{rs} C. Bromby
Rev. W. Cooke	F. Rogers. Hamilton
Miss Waterman	House. Lansdown Bath
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[The lower half of the page was probably added by an unidentified member of the Mace family.]

[Later entries for this season are missing or do not exist.]