

Arabah el Madfunah
[probably 7 and 8 December 1936]

387
Arabah el Madfunah

Dear Mother

We are expecting some guests this week. Mr Stanville is in Egypt this year. you may remember Pat talk of him, he used to be hon. sec. of the E.E.S. now he is Egyptological lecturer at the University College. He has with him three lady students, they will be here two nights, so we shall be full up, of course we are very amused about this visit, we hear one of the ladies is a Miss Lazarus. we refer to them as Stanville & his Harem & are very curious, I will tell you all about them in my next letter. Joey had a puncture, or rather a flat tyre. Sandie found the valve was torn out & the rubber too old & perished to mend successfully so I am going to cut it up & make false noses out of it for the men to wear at the fantasia.

Amice is now working on a very high scaffold. I have christened it the Queen Mary. it is

Dear Mother

We are expecting some guests ~~n~~/~~t~~his week. Mr Glanville is in Egypt this year. you may remember Pat talk of him, he used to be hon. sec. of the E.E.S. now he is Egyptological lecturer at the University College. he has with him three lady students, they will be here two nights, so we shall be full up, of course we are very amused about this visit, we hear one of the ladies is a Miss Lazarus. we refer to them as Glanville & his hareem & are very curious, I will tell you all about them in my next letter. Joey had a puncture, or rather a flat tyre. Sandie found the valve was torn out & the rubber too old & perished to mend successfully so I am going to cut it up & make false noses out of it for the men to wear at the fantasia.

Amice is now working on a very high scaffold. I have christened it the Queen Mary. it is

387²

a tremendous affair when the men have to move it they look just like small tugs manoeuvring a great ship into dock.

The other day when we went to feed the guards dogs as usual on our way home we found a fourth dog or rather bitch waiting with them, so we had to give her a share, we shall have to stipulate that we cannot have any more pensioners, otherwise I do not know what where it will end, we shall find the dogs of his relations & friends tied up along side his in a long row stretching from the house to the Temple



this is the size of
Myrtle's latest yawn
it's getting near bed time

add curls & it will do for
Amice's portrait as well!!

aint Myrtle mean!!!

ditto sister smut!!!


BOO!!!

with brass knobs on!!!

Hope M swallows a rat with
her next yawn!

a tremendous affair when the men have to move it.
they look just like small tugs manoeuvring^{sic}
a great ship into dock.

The other day when we went to feed the guards^{sic}
dogs as usual on our way home we found
a fourth dog or rather bitch waiting with them,
so we had to give her a share, we shall
have to stipulate that we cannot have any
more pensioners, otherwise I do not know what
where it will end, we shall find the dogs
of his relations & friends tied up along side his
in a long row stretching from the house to
the temple

[] this is the size of
[Amice's writing] Myrtle's latest yawn
its^{sic} getting near bed time

[Myrtle] add curls & it will do for
Amice's portrait as well!!

[Amice] aint^{sic} Myrtle mean!!!

[Myrtle] ditto sister smut!!!

[Amice] BOO!!!!

[Myrtle] with brass knobs on!!!

[Amice] Hope M swallows a rat with
her next yawn!

387³Next day.

We have just returned from a shopping expedition in Girga, the men are to have a new galabia each for the feast & we went with Sardic to purchase the stuff, it is blue & white stripped cotton, the stripes vary in width & design, but the general effect is the same. then we went to see the old mosque again that has the persian tiles & we asked if it was permissible to go up the minaret & the sheikh said we might go, so we went up ~~up~~ up the tiny winding stair, the tower was built of rough baked bricks with mud cement & the front of the tread of each step was a piece of wood about 4 ins x 4 ins after a long breathless climb we came to the little balcony where the holy man stands to call the faithful to prayer. we could see all Girga, & the Nile stretching away into the distance, it was a marvelous view, all the roof tops & domes looked so picturesque down below us & the people & animals looked

Next day.

We have just returned from a shopping expedition in Girga, the men are to have a new galabia each for the feast & we went with Sardic to purchase^{sic} the stuff, it is blue & white stripped^{sic} cotton, the stripes vary in width & design, but the general effect is the same. then we went to see the old mosque again that has the persian^{sic} tiles & we asked if it was permissible to go up the minaret & the sheikh said we might go, so we went up ~~xxx~~[?] up the tiny winding stair, the tower was built of rough baked bricks with mud cement & the front of the tread of each step was a piece of wood about 4^{ins} x 4^{ins} after a long breathless climb we came to the little balcony where the holy man stands to call the faithful^{sic} to prayer. we could see all Girga, & the Nile stretching away into the distance, it was a marvelous^{sic} view, all the roof tops & domes looked so picturesque down below us & the people & animals looked

387⁴

It was a wonderful experience
 so tiny. We were not tempted to buy any
 silks this time but it is quite probable that
 we may make another expedition.
 Thank you very much for the calanders,
 I think six will be enough this year & size
 does not matter.

I expect you are very busy with all
 your preparations for Xmas, I have nearly
 finished the little plaster reliefs of our house
 that I am sending to friends in Egypt this
 year.

My bath water has just come in
 Lots of love to you both
 Your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

so tiny. < It was a wonderful experience > We were not tempted to buy any
 silks this time but it is quite probable that
 we may make another expedition

Thank you very much for the calanders^{sic},
 I think six will be enough this year & size
 does not matter

I expect you are very busy with all
 your preparations for Xmas, I have nearly
 finished the little plaster reliefs of our house
 that I am sending to friends in Egypt this
 year.

My bath water has just come in
 Lots of love to you both
 Your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.