

Arabah
Feb 22nd 1935

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Dear Mother.

Have had a sudden unexpected influx of three guests, Amice was in bed with a tummy upset so I had to do the entertaining. They have just departed to catch the 10.30 night train to Cairo, so I am hastily writing before going to bed. I do not want to miss this mail as I wrote to Uncle Jimmie last Tuesday as you suggested.

All the men came to wish me many happy returns of my birthday & they each had a slice of the cake Nannie had made, even our soldiers had heard it was my birthday & came to pay their respects. The letter you wrote for my birthday came some days in advance, until I received it I had not realized the event was so near.

We had our strolling minstrel here again & he played some more songs of Abu Zaid, the Shermans were with us then & they enjoyed the entertainment very much. They left for Cairo on Thursday morning. They spent most of their visit here

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just resting & reading as they were very tired after a very strenuous season, they have found quite a lot of inscribed stones this year, a large number of these have to be left in situ, as moving them is too expensive. however I think there are eleven crates being sent to Cairo, & when the museum has taken what it wants, the rest will come to England.

The guards dog gets so excited every day when I go past him, I always have a little bit of bread for him. he has now decided that all Europeans are friendly to dogs & waves his tail to all of us. guests included. before, he allowed us to pass without barking, but he looked us over with a calculating eye & if we had a guest with us he became a raging fury. his master is very amused. My pockets are always full of bits of bread as I have dog & sparrows to think of. it will be a sad time for them when we depart.

Lots of love to you & Father.

Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

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