

Arabah.  
Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> 1935.

Dear Mother.

We had a very nice time when Amice's guests were here. we all went for a picnic up one of the wadys, we took their car & Joey, & five camels. so that some could ride, & if they got tired they could return by car. every one enjoyed it very much & we all had a good scramble about the cliffs & slid down the sandslope, we were very full of sand when we arrived home, we were much entertained by the games our men played in the sand. they made holes & burried<sup>sic</sup> each other & the one who could remain covered the longest won, I caused much delight by saying the greeting one gives when visiting a house of mourning which is, "This happens to every one, it is the state of this world." I had just learnt it from Sheikh-Jed el-Karim, so it came in very opportunately.

Later.

Just returned from a visit to J/<S>heikh-Jed-el Karim's school, I went by camel an hour's ride from here. I was received in great state

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by all the dignities of the village & I saw the small girls learning their A.B.C. they were writing on slates & their copy was beautifully written by the Sheikh on the black board, the school is quite new. only opened this autumn, so the children are in the beginning stage. I was regaled on oranges, dates, nuts, sweets, tea, & coffee, all beautifully served, everything very clean & well arranged, then I was conducted round the village & saw some weavers at work, one was making a new reed, they were very surprised that I knew all about it, I also saw the Coptic Church there. it is fairly new, but had some nice woodwork & a fascinating gallery, of course I admired everything & thoroughly enjoyed myself.

I am now going to wash my hair, there will be just time to dry it before the sun goes down. Abdullah has just arrived with my kettle of hot water

Lots of love to you both.

Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

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