ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS 0 EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ARABAH EL MADFUNAH BALIANA, UPPER EGYPT.

March 5=

Dean Mother

I posted nather a snappy letter to your yesterday as Time was fimiled. Today our quests have whansted themselves plodding through the sand to the Timple & back, & have retired to then rooms to rest. The situation have is decidedly come . Hannic hates Miss 6's intended with a venom Truly oriental here feetings are shared by Sandie. who goes round with a face of gloom + has Taken to shad dowing me. this morning in the Tempte he came & begged me to say I would return neck season +old Ahmed + Mahmud Zuraia added their entrealis, I said Inshalla allat. 4 God is willing) which hought forth smeles & actain Thoms of "Atlet is good & great." The loyally of these people gross one a homendoes Secting of response likely. They come will then troubles die in the firm belief that you are able to hilf them I for wish & I help is not Jorth coming it is only because you can't be bothand. I promised to tell you about the end of Ramadan. In the morning all our sevents were new galatias & gracted us with May all your years le prosperous : + ce Touched their hands , + said And may yours la abo: Our nice patient Mahomed was waiting to have his ' hand dussed a he too wore a new galake of blue a while shipes. when we had got tim nicely bandaged up. 190 my comera out. as I wanted to get a fredure of him. he was delighted to be photograph, but So dear the effect on him was awful. one can but boiling het dussings on him , + cut lig tumps of bleedy flish + stray bits of Tindon of to the just smiles sweetly & says it does not hust. but just show him a camare is he becomes as shift as a ram rod. Tightons

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EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAMP ARABAH EL MADFUNAH BALIANA. UPPER EGYPT.

March 5th [1930]

Dear Mother

I posted rather a scrappy letter to you yesterday as time was limited. To-day our guests have exhausted themselves plodding through the sand to the temple & back, & have retired to their rooms to rest. The situation here is decidedly comic. Nannie hates Miss C's intended with a venom truly oriental, her feelings are shared by Sardic, who goes round with a face of gloom & has taken to shaddowing me. this morning in the temple he came & begged me to say I would return next season & Old Ahmed & Mahmud Ziraia added their entreaties, I said "Inshalla Allah." (If God is willing) which brought forth smiles & exclamations of "Allah is good & great." The loyalty of these people gives one a tremendous feeling of responsibility, they come with their troubles etc in the firm belief that you are able to help them if you wish & if help is not forth coming it is only because you cant^{sic} be bothered.

I promised to tell you about the end of Ramadan. In the morning all our servants wore new galabias & greeted us with, "May all your years be prosperous, & we touched their hands, & said. And may yours be also." Our nice patient Mahomed was waiting to have his hand dressed & he too wore a new galabia of blue & white stripes, when we had got him nicely bandaged up, I got my camera out, as I wanted to get a picture of him. he was delighted to be photographed but Oh dear the effect on him was awful. one can put boiling hot dressings on him, & cut big lumps of bleedy^{sic} flesh & stray bits of tendon off, & he just smiles sweetly & says it does'nt^{sic} hurt, but just show him a camera & he becomes as stiff as a ram rod, tightens his faced muscles up to such a degree that it is difficult to believe he is the same leastiful graceful acature. I course he thought he was showing what a welly fine man he was a lood at hard his feelings by saying I and at like the effect. So I took the photograph, but I shall try to get another some time clen he does not know he's being taken. I have been attending to him in the mornings lately, but if thiss 6 can take it or one again I'm going 15 try to get a snap then I shall pulied to be taking her picture.

After the hospital banade was finished we did our usual mornings work in the Timple, but Hiss & al Took the afternoon of a visited all our friends. We set of with all our sevents as escont + started at the north and of our meanst village, it want first to see Ahmud Unahim, our chief guard + very good friend, We usked him shis wife a family many years of pospecily we sat on the diven & were officed pearly bread dates, acam succhmeds The we each accepted a Tiny moreel to hing a blessing" (our sevends had a good tack in) & then went on 15 the ondat whose house was next. here we partoole of dates & coffee. Then to Sardie's house. his wife gave us Tea, spiced part head a nuts, + showed as three Time new dusses he had bought here. I so we went on from house to house in ada to king prospecily to all our nice people I bliss then family's of them food. It was quick dack Tome we had finished, I we were feeting Tured dusty. I rather sick its we left the last house we suddenly remembined pointlehomed had been waiting about Two hours, so we ushed back as fash as we could, god him attended to & sent home. his vellage is five miles away so he has to walk so miles way day to be attended to. we hope soon one dussing a day will be enough. I must tell you a funny stry about him soon after we took him on. when we returned from the tempte in the evening we found him sitting by the gate as usual with anothe man the thought it dean another policity + asked who he was + what he wanted . Haborned captained he was a friend who had come

his facial muscles up to such a degree that is difficult to believe he is the same beautiful graceful creature, of course he thought he was showing what a really fine man he was, & I could'nt^{sic} hurt his feelings by saying I did'nt^{sic} like the effect, so I took the photograph, but I shall try to get another some time when he does not know he's being taken. I have been attending to him in the mornings lately. but if Miss C can take it on once again I'm going to try to get a snap then, I shall pretend to be taking her picture.

After the hospital parade was finished we did our usual mornings work in the temple, but Miss C & I took the afternoon off & visited all our friends. We set off with all our servants as escort & started at the north end of our nearest village, we went first to see Ahmud Ibrahim, our chief guard & very good friend, we wished him & his wife & family many years of prosperity. we sat on the divan & were offered feast bread, dates, cream, sweetmeats etc, we each accepted a tiny morsel to "bring a blessing". (our servants had a good tuck in) & then went on to the Omdah, whose house was next. here we partook of dates & coffee. Then to Sardic's house, his wife gave us tea, spiced feast bread & nuts, & showed us three fine new dresses he had bought her. & so we went on, from house to house in order to bring prosperity to all our nice people & bless their family's^{sic} & their food. It was quite dark by the time we had finished, & we were feeling tired, dusty. & rather sick a/<A>s we left the last house we suddenly remembered poor Mahomed had been waiting about two hours, so we rushed back as fast as we could, got him attended to & sent home. his village is five miles away so he has to walk 20 miles every day to be attended to. we hope soon one dressing a day will be enough. I must tell you a funny story about him soon after we took him on. When we returned from the temple in the evening we found him sitting by the gate as usual with another man & we thought "Oh dear, another patient", & asked who he was & what he wanted. Mahomed explained he was "a friend who had come

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS 69 EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S BALLANA LIPPER FOUR to save him from the afreds on the way home. the night before as the work by the ancient for tress in the desul a dreadful afect. Three the height of a man black & Touch we ap in post of him. Then it took the shape of a dog. a for, a sheep, he attack all the nomes of allah & still it remained before him. then he said of Blessed one pumilit me to leave you sil made an awful mine Kingingingi the was ormaone with Tenn . Ing says these affects haunt tonely places + way lay love Travelless, they never appear to two together. so he had pensuaded a friend to accompany him. I am ahard we both would with long file at this talk, o tild how his eyes were seeing what was in his mind & that there was nothing to be apaid of the It seemed rather butal is laugh at him, as the por man was in a dreadfully weak condition what will fasting the sleeplins nights with the pain of his hand I really don't wonder the was seeing things. But sympathy would entainly have reduced him to a nervous irreck, we Told him of he saw that affect again he was to come back here, I one of us would go afore & drive it away as English women work stand any nonsine from such silly things. I had the disined effect. Mahome wint going to be langhed at any more even by such superior brings as the English ladios. The gentleman friend is left of home I we have the heard any thing more about the afect. We are very pleased with 11 diltle. The is like his name very this i deliest looking, he is very much like Handed , has the same rether sky manner, he draws our well, has some knowledge of herogypts (self tauget) & is out to learn all he can so altogether he is a very in welcome addition to our camp. He had been working da camp in

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to save him from the afreets on the way home, he said the night before as he went by the ancient fortress in the desert a dreadful afreet, twice the height of a man, black & terrible rose up in front of him, then it took the shape of a dog, a fox, a sheep, he uttered all the names of Allah, & still it remained before him, then he said Oh Blessed One permitt^{sic} me to leave you" & it made an awful noise Ki-yi-yi-yi & he was overcome with terror. he says these afreets haunt lonely places & way lay lone travellers <at night>, they never appear to two together, so he had persuaded a friend to accompany him. I am afraid we both roared with laughter at this tale, & told him his eyes were seeing what was in his mind, & that there was nothing to be afraid of etc. It seemed rather brutal to laugh at him, as the poor man was in a dreadfully weak condition, what with fasting. & the sleepless nights with the pain of his hand, I really dont^{sic} wonder he was seeing things. but sympathy would certainly have reduced him to a nervous wreck, we told him if he saw that afreet again he was to come back here, & one of us would go alone & drive it away, as English women wont^{sic} stand any nonsense from such silly things. it had the desired effect. Mahomed is'nt^{sic} going to be laughed at any more, even by such superior beings as the English ladies. the gentleman friend is left at home & we hav'nt^{sic} heard anything more about the afreet.

We are very pleased with M^r Little, he is like his name very thin & delicate looking, he is very much like Harold & has the same rather shy manner, he draws very well, has some knowledge of hieroglyphs (self taught) & is out to learn all he can so altogether he is a very welcome addition to our camp. he had been working at a camp in Syria & had been obliged to give it up on account of Halaria. Sandie is most aufully funny when any one new comes, he is intromely proved of the high standard of the work the society produces, + makes a point of presonally examining the effects of new comers the visited Habittle's scaffed yetinday + uspectfully requested to be promitted to see this chairing, he had a good took of it, discussed it with a formed + said to the filte "Hay the lad he praised" He also Praised the tod on account of my chairing soon after + started works, but Beagley toolded him acceedingly the said to me once. He kawaget (gentleman) does not undustand the cestorn of the work have.

Yestuday Ibrahim the weaver hought home the while table runnes he has made from the fleer of Ahmed's while sheep. it is a wonderful piece of work, at present it is sty) will the rice flow which was used to stiffen the warp, but when it is wasked it will be soft as timen. It is 23/4 yards long with a tings loinches tong at each and + 17 inches wide, I expect it will Shrink up a bit when it is wasked, one cannot order any special lingth. one sends so much work To be woven a cutain width March 6" Had a great day Today. is gave an Arabic party. we had the tip lop natural stick man for a village some way from have a invited all the men in the nughborn hood to come stry then shill, they came from about 8 vittages she rector we had 500 quests. they formed a great encle in the descel a the naboral man preform in the centre. The play is nother like quartie staves only the sticks are longer clock 5 pt. The proformer stuke attitudes rather like finces a leap a Terst atur whenling these long steels with manuelous agility. they hardly use loved Each other on clash the states. they make a movement of attack The site instantly galls in to a position of suitche quand. It is a since of one rapid posteries. duedly one facts to make the proper

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Syria & had been obliged to give it up on account of Malaria. Sardic is most awfully funny when any one new comes, he is extremely proud of the high standard of the work the society produces, & makes a point of personally examining the efforts of new comers. he visited M^r Little's scaffold yesterday & respectfully requested to be permitted to see his drawing, he had a good look at it, discussed it with Ahmud, & said to M^r Little "May the Lord be praised" He also "Praised the Lord" on account of my drawing soon after I started work, but Beazley troubled him exceedingly, he said to me once, the Kawargeh (gentleman) does not understand the custom of the work here.

Yesterday Ibrahim the weaver brought home the white table runnes[?]/<r> he has made from the fleece of Ahmud's white sheep, it is a wonderful piece of work, at present it is stiff with the rice flour which was used to stiffen the warp, but when it is washed it will be soft as linen. It is 2³/₄ yards long with a fringe 10 inches long at each end, & 17 inches wide, I expect it will shrink up a bit when it is washed, one can not order any special length, one sends so much wool to be woven a certain width

March 6th

Had a great day to-day. we gave an Arabic party. we had the tip top nabout stick man from a village some way from here & invited all the men in the neighbour hood to come & try their skill, they came from about 8 villages, & we reckon we had 500 guests. they formed a great circle in the desert & the nabout men perform in the centre, the play is rather like quarter staves only the sticks are longer about 5 f^t. the performers strike attitudes rather like fencers & leap & twist & turn whirling these long sticks with marvelous^{sic} agility, they hardly ever touch each other or clash their sticks, they make a movement of attack & the other instantly falls in to a position of suitable guard. it is a series of very rapid postures, directly one fails to make the proper

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS 69 EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAMP ARABAH EL MADEUNAH quand the game stops. I wouse sometimes they rep sticks Togethe but only to make it book more spectacular. I sometimes they loose this tempers & go at it in well servert. This happened once this afternoon, but the quards rushed in + scharated them. they have the drum gamare as an accompanined & then movements keep parfect time with the muric The quests were provided with againtto, I the onder a sword the more important proper had the will us in side It was a great success & we are total that for some time creats will be dated by it as happening the week on the month after the Today include you little with the poniel note To say you had received my long little of it the great adventure I shall look forward to the next to hear your comments on it. I always like to know what you should about my valious doings Thavind hand about the work yet but parcels Take 3 weeks ho a most toget sure. I have notified books a shall hear in Juls of for Your affection als daug the Type the.

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guard the game stops, of course sometimes they rap sticks together but only to make it look more spectacular, & sometimes they loose^{sic} their tempers & go at it in real ee/<a>rnest, this happened oncethis afternoon, but the guards rushed in & separated them,they have the drum & zumara as an accompaniment, & theirmovements keep perfect time with the music

The guests were provided with cigarettes, & the omdah & several other more important people had tea with us in state

It was a great success & we are told that for some time events will be dated by it, as happening the week or the month after the great nabout party.

Today I received your letter with the pencil note to say you had received my long letter about the great adventure I shall look forward to the next to hear your comments on it, I always like to know what you think about my various doings I hav'nt^{sic} heard about the wool yet, but parcels take 3 weeks to a month to get here, I have notified Cooks & shall hear in due course.

Lots of love Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.