Anabah. April 7.4 1931. 131 Dean Mother

We had quite a sinfrise Easter Sunday, we decided to take the afternoon of a have lunch with Mannie in the house, Eordently she had been Telling Sonde the others that Easthe is a very great frast in England. for after funch a great cured I people came from the village, to wish us a happy feast. was at it nice of them, we had to hastily open a tin of sweet biscuits , hand round, we had to do something as the proph the so hospitable when we useled them for the feast after Ramadan. Even our two old antike men came. I punchased 6 brads Towards the connelian necklace. They have now gone of to hunt up some more The little boy with the burnt teg is getting on splendedly. he is soplucky he makes the most atodinary chokes & guggles in his forts not to cry, the other day tonic was concludy lossing a lit of list that had stuck + the little beggar signed hold of it + ripped it

BROOME LETTER 131

PAGE 1

Arabah. April 7^{<u>th</u>} 1931.

Dear Mother

We had quite a surprise Easter Sunday, we decided to take the afternoon off & have lunch with Nannie in the house, Evidently she had been telling Sardic & the others that Easter is a very great feast in England. for after lunch a great crowd of people came from the village, to wish us a happy feast. was'nt^{sic} it nice of them, we had to hastily open a tin of sweet biscuits & hand round. we had to do something as the people are/<were> so hospitable when we visited them for the feast after Ramadan. Even our two old antika men came. I purchased 6 beads to-wards the carnelian necklace. they have now gone off to hunt up some more

The little boy with the burnt leg is getting on splendidly. he is so plucky. he makes the most extrordinary^{sic} chokes & guggles in his efforts not to cry, the other day Amice was carefully loosening a bit of lint that had stuck & the little beggar siezed^{sic} hold of it & ripped it

2 131 of himself. He is very proud because I have given him the leg of an old silk stocking to wear over the bandage to keep it chan. we have used up lots of old legs of stockings this way. They do splindidly. There are a lot of cesus of opthalmia among the babics . Amice is going to report it to the authorities of this province as it is so very injulious & with all these flus about will become an epidemic in no Time. The people's superstitions make it very difficult to deal with them, of course our supply of bandaque is limited so when it is a fanly long case we use Two bandages + Tell The women to wash one in soap swatce every day. . but they will not use soap in connection with any form of iteness. They consider it highly dangerous, directly any one is ill a hurt they throw away any soap they may have a will not allow any of the people to use any ahall they say if soap is near a such prion he is sure to die - + if his clothes are wasked with soap he

BROOME LETTER 131

off himself. He is very proud because I have given him the leg of an old silk stocking to wear over the bandage to keep it clean. we have used up lots of old legs of stockings this way. they do splendidly.

There are a lot of cases of opthalmia^{sic} among the babies. Amice is going to report it to the authorities of this province as it is so very infectious & with all these flies about will become an epedi/<e>mic^{sic} in no time. The people's superstitions make it very difficult to deal with them, of course our supply of bandages is limited so when it is a fairly long case we use two bandages & tell the women to wash one in soap & water every day. but they will not use soap in connection with any form of illness. they consider it highly dangerous, directly any one is ill or hurt they throw away any soap they may have & will not allow any of the people to use any at all they say if soap is near a sick person he is sure to die -& if his clothes are washed with soap he

131 is as good as buried - is at it a hopeless state of affairs. And they incomage the flus in The children's ayes breause they say they protect them for the will cyr - The women all wear their clothes Trailing in the dust behind them, because they blot out the Trace of them foot steps in the sand - this is To prevent an cord spuit following them to steel then childher - really life mush the very complicated for them -Tustaday the inspection of antiquelis for this district came to Baliance, so as a melle of deptomacy we invited him to dinnee. we had jugcons. we cal them with our fingus, otherise The poor man would have had a very por mcal It is fairly hot now, we are working from y till one + then resting in the afternoon we found use one getting too live staying all day in the Timple o then doctoring the people in the wining .

I wonder if Father has got his shoes

BROOME LETTER 131

is as good as burried^{sic} – is'nt^{sic} it a hopeless state of affairs. And they encourage the flies in the children's eyes because they say they protect them from the evil eye – The women all wear their clothes trailing in the dust behind them, because they blot out the trace of their footsteps in the sand – this is to prevent an evil spirit following them to steal their children – really life must be very complicated for them –

Yesterday the inspector of antiquities for this district came to Baliana, so as a matter of diplomacy we invited him to dinner. we had pigeons. we eat them with our fingers, otherwise the poor man would have had a very poor/<sorry> meal

It is fairly hot now. we are working from 7 till one & then resting in the afternoon we found we were getting too tired staying all day in the temple & then doctoring the people in the evening.

I wonder if Father has got his shoes

4 131 yet, & what he thinks of them. I have bought a pan of orange ones to wear in the house . They and quilt compy -A few days ago we had an celipse of the moon. The people in the village whe in a great state of mind, they prayed to Allah To deliver the moon from the speet that was swallowing it , but drums & should guns to pighter it away, Sondic was very upset because amice would not allow our gun to be dischanged. Mannie picturds to laugh at all these ideas, but in the back of her mind she has a Jecting that there may be something in them. nothing would induce has To go to bed until the moon was visible again. amice remarked on the way The shadow wobbled before the lotal relibse two wonduced what caused it was if the movement of the carth, a suns rays Hickering or what : Just had your letter mentioning the Swedesh Exhibition, lam glad you cryoyed it.

BROOME LETTER 131

yet, & what he thinks of them. I have bought a pair of orange ones to wear in the house. they are quite comfy –

A few days ago we had an eclipse of the moon. the people in the village were in a great state of mind. they prayed to Allah to deliver the moon from the afreet that was swallowing it & beat drums & shoot^{sic} off guns to frighten it away, Sardic was very upset because Amice would not allow our gun to be discharged. Nannie pretends to laugh at all these ideas, but in the back of her mind she has a feeling that there may be something in them. nothing would induce her to go to bed until the moon was vise/<i>ble again. Amice remarked on the way the shadow wobbled before the total eclipse & we wondered what caused it. was it the movement of the earth, or suns^{sic} rays flickering or what?

Just had your letter mentioning the Swedish Exhibition, I am glad you enjoyed it.

31 The gorden seems to be doing very well, our garden here is getting burnt up. I wole To Hoss a few days ago & sent In puris of some of my photoes I lope they arrive safety -I Lad a latta for hic to say the was pleased with the stamps - from the tone of it I gathered he was nother depressed. I do worsh he was able to cryoy life more Than he docs. Pat a Mrs Childs the. Your affectionale daughter

BROOME LETTER 131

The garden seems to be doing very well. our garden here is getting burnt up.

I wrote to Floss a few days ago & sent her prints of some of my photoes^{sic} I hope they arrive safely.

I had a letter from Eric to say he was pleased with the stamps. from the tone of it I gathered he was rather depressed. I do wish he was able to enjoy life more than he does.

Lots of love to you both. also to Pat & M^{rs} Childs etc. Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.