

EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY 1
ARABAH EL MADFUNAH
BALIANA UPPER EGYPT

Jan 23rd 1933.

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Dear Mother.

I had to drive into Baliana this morning to get a parcel that had to be signed for. so while there I bought a nice box of sweets for the schoolmaster to take back to his wife for the feast after Ramadan. He goes home tomorrow, & as I had a lesson today I gave them to him, I could not think why he looked very confused & didn't say a word, I wondered if I could have made a mistake in pronouncing the word for wife & said something awful instead I felt very embarrassed & tried to carry on the conversation by asking what time he started his journey & then he recovered & talked as usual & when he went he took the box of sweets & said "I am very

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Amice writes to say she is better & hopes to return in a weeks time

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 so I will have to go on the round of visits
 on my own. I do not know if Little un
 will come also I think he regards these
 affairs as beastly bothers. I thoroughly
 enjoy them.

Our cat has been off on the
 raffle dazgle for some days & has now
 returned looking thin & hungry. we
 are very glad to see him again.

M^r Oulton has lent me a
 gorgeous Arabic grammar. I am longing
 to get my nose well into it. I am
 getting on with my writing & when I have
 time to think & look up things I can
 express myself fairly correctly. but
 I do not seem to improve in talking
 or understanding what is said to me,
 I am sure it is because I have a bad
 ear. & am slow at memorizing sounds.
 & cannot reproduce them any better
 than when I try to sing in tune.

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I am trying to believe in the Arabic
 proverb Patience is the key of success -
 My story of King Canute & the waves met
 with full approval. To my surprise the
 Schoolmaster had heard the story but
 did not know the name of the King or
 how long ago it was. He was very
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Lots of love to you & Father
 also to Pat.

Your affectionate
 daughter
 Myrtle.

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