

Christmas Day [1931]

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Dear Mother &amp; Father.

Happy Christmas to you both. I am just snatching a few minutes before breakfast to write as I foresee a very busy day ahead. There is the Christmas Tree to prepare, the merriment to divide, native visitors to receive etc. Yesterday Amice & Linda Holey returned from Chicago House, I had to drive Joey in to meet them, on the way I met the post man & stopped for our mail, the letters, books, papers & parcels half filled up the back seat, biggest post we have ever had. D<sup>r</sup> Mond has sent us a hamper, he ordered it through a Cairo firm so we had no custom bothers, there is Champagne, Red Wine, Whiskey!!! as well as pate-de foie gras, Xmas Pudding, Chocolates & other delicacies, & a box of crackers - the latter gave us great joy, we pulled them last night at our Xmas Eve dinner.

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last letter, Linda Holey does not know enough Arabic to join in our lessons, with a native teacher it would be too difficult for her. she only knows enough to tell the men to fetch what she needs for photographic work, so Amice & I continue to wrestle with the school master on our own. If there is a prize to be given I think we shall do the giving - & the school master the receiving. Amice & I are giving Sardu a new black cloth gallibea for Xmas, he fetched it from the Tailor in Baliana while I was waiting in Joey outside the station, he is very pleased with it.

Do you remember the old pinkish jumper of yours I had last year? I have now given it to one of the boys who does odd jobs, it is very cold at sunset & early morning & he was shivering in a single cotton gallibea. he is an orphan so has no one to pass on cast off garments. he was so delighted & proud & it fits him beautifully.

Will tell you all the Xmas news in my next letter.

Lots of love  
Myrtle.

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