116 Arabah Feb 20 - 1931. Dean Father. It was nice to have a fittle form you lan so glad to hear about the outing o the silver boust & the company & compthing. Will you please Thank The Andersons for the buthday card, it was very kind of them to remember mz. Justuday was the big feast day for the end of Namadan, Sandie came out in all his glay + Tooked very fine. Of course we made the day a holiday, + as soon as we had knished our breakfast we set of to The village to worsh all our fiends a Mony Feast. on our way we saw one of Ibrahim's warps being shelthed, hid used live hig palon Trues & lied the wool between them + was damping it with flow + water. a little finther on we saw a darling thing, I was a baby camel one day old, of course we had To go & cuddle it it could just stand by staddling its lags well out, it had the funniced little hump. The softest curly wood of a light quyish favor & The quaintist face

BROOME LETTER 116

Arabah Feb 20^{<u>th</u>} 1931–

Dear Father.

It was nice to have a letter from you, I am so glad to hear about the outing & the silver bowl & the company & everything.

Will you please thank the Andersons for the birthday card, it was very kind of them to remember me.

Yesterday was the big feast for the end of Ramadan, Sardic came out in all his glory & looked very fine. Of course we made the day a holiday, & as soon as we had finished our breakfast we set off to the village to wish all our friends a Merry Feast. on our way we saw one of Ibrahim's warps being stretched, he'd used two big palm trees & tied the wool between them & was damping it with flour & water. A little further on we saw a darling thing, it was a baby camel one day old, of course we had to go & cuddle it it could just stand by straddling its legs well out, it had the funniest little hump. the softest curly wool of a light greyish fawn & the quaintest face

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with big bright eyes it's head was on a fearl with my shoulder + it rubbed its nose on my neck in vain hopes of a meal, it was so sweet + friendly, Mama camel dud'nt mind our attentions to bee off spring at all, we assessed its uncertain steps to her side + left it enjoying a hearty meal, I hope to pay it another call later on + pahaps Take its photo.

Our first official visit was to Ahmud Unahim. he & his family made us very welcome + regaled us with coffee & dates, he had a fine lot of turkeys walking about his house + some little Turkey chicks. thue were frigcons + hens as well, all twing with the family.

The nation own way was the onder of Bini Monsin. he has a real sort of house, with a ligentrance hall a rooms heading of it. We were received in the chief reception room a sat on dwars a write sured again with coffee. a Randsome young mon hought it. I sandie Tota us that it was as anatcustom for the son of the house to some coffee instead

BROOME LETTER 116

with big bright eyes. its head was on a level with my shoulders & it rubbed its nose on my neck in vain hopes of a meal, it was so sweet & friendly, Mama camel did' nt^{sic} mind our attentions to $\frac{xxx}{2}$ /her offspring at all, we assisted its uncertain steps to her side & left it enjoying a hearty meal, I hope to pay it another call later on & perhaps take its photo.

Our first official visit was to Ahmud Ibrahim, he & his family made us very welcome & regaled us with coffee & dates, he had a fine lot of turkeys walking about his house & some little turkey chicks. there were pigeons & hens as well, all living with the family.

The next on our way was the Omdah of Beni Monsur. he has a real sort of house, with a big entrance hall & rooms leading off it. we were received in the chief reception room & sat on divans & were served again with coffee. a handsome young man brought it. & Sardic told us that it was an Arab custom for the son of the house to serve coffee instead

116 of the swant when quests of distinction called on a Jeast day. so I course we expressed our oppreciation of the charming compliment paid us. It took us own three hours to visit way-body, In why house we had to cat a drink some thing so we got rather full before we were through. our mon had made quat puparations for our useds. The quest seat was spread with clean moto (in Sandui's house it uses covered with a maganta salin quilt!! The house place script, the cife & children in Their best pocks a justility + wen the doles that were Afred is had been fishly washed a protected from this. In old ahmud's house there whe two new Pambes to be admined, both black this Time, Ais cloud son is To be manice in a day or Two (The bride is only 13,) I were shown some fine basheds which are some of the young mans puparolions towards house keeping. By the time we reached home we were very wany. hot a dusty a futing a little sick from the cehodinary mixture of shange & sichly things in head cater, but we had enjoyed it himan dousty

BROOME LETTER 116

of the servant when guests of distinction called on a feast day. so of course we expressed our appreciation of the charming compliment paid us.

It took us over three hours to visit every-body, in every house we had to eat or drink something so we got rather full before we were through. Our men had made great preparations for our visits, the guest seat was spread with clean mats, (in Sardic's house it was covered with a magenta satin quilt!!) the house place swept, the wife & children in their best frocks & jewellery & even the dates that were offered us had been freshly washed & protected from flies. In old Ahmud's house there were two new lambs to be admired, both black this time, h/<H>is eldest son is to be married in a day or two (the bride is only 13,) & we were shown some fine baskets which are some of the young mans^{sic} preparations towards housekeeping.

By the time we reached home we were very weary. hot & dusty & feeling a little sick from the extraordinary mixture of strange & sickly things we had eaten, but we had enjoyed it tremendously

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Thue whe holds of buthday letters for me by loidays mail, but it is too late to night to answer them. We had so many people waiting to be docting when we got back from work, that our supple was nearly an how take than usual + we when both anceaffelly thich, thus was a loy with a hoken head to be dussed, he'd fellen down a well i got on awfil gash across his shall, he'd been to hospital be they'd seat him away before it was heated, & of comse he got it dinky & the usual trouble lagan. it's getting all night now, but needs dressing comy day. There was a man with a bad gethered thumb, another man with a skin discase, a words what, another woman with inflammed

ayes - I so on -

The other day old almud said to me, "If Allah will's, you must hing your Father Lath you neet year," he takes a great interest in you & often inquires after your health when he knows I have had a tetter from home. I must go to hed now. Lots of tore to you both in the property your toring daugetter ity the. Man we are not your

BROOME LETTER 116

There were lots of birthday letters for me by to-days^{sic} mail, but it is too late tonight to answer them. we had so many people waiting to be doctored when we got back from work, that our supper was nearly an hour later than usual & we were both dreadfully tired, there was a boy with a broken head to be dressed, he'd fallen down a well & got an awful gash across his skull, he'd been to hospital but they'd sent him away before it was healed, & of course he got it dirty & the usual trouble began. its^{sic} getting all right now, but needs dressing every day, there was a man with a bad gathered thumb, another man with a skin disease, a woman with worms. a baby with the Lord only knows what, another woman with inflammed^{sic} eyes – & so on.

The other day Old Ahmud said to me, "If Allah will's^{sic}, you must bring your Father with you next year," he takes a great interest in you & often inquires after your health when he knows I have had a letter from home.

> I must go to bed now. Lots of love to you both Your loving daughter Myrtle.

> > Amice sends her love. & Nannie too she was delighted with your message