

Arabah

Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 1930.

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Dear Mother.

Our Christmas is being spread over quite a long period; since my last letter we have had a hamper from D<sup>r</sup> Gardiner, one of Fortnum & Mason's containing all sorts of good things, & yesterday a parcel came from Canada. Hugh Calverley had sent something for each of us. Amice had a book, Nannie stockings & I had a new sort of coloured crayon pencils & there was a dear little baby Christmas tree for our table, all decorated with snow & isicles & candles, everything arrived in splendid condition.

Ahmud showed us a pair of new shoes he has had made. They are wonderful. The soles are gamoose hide & they are all sewn together with thongs in the most ingenious way, a man in the village made them, I should like to get him to make a pair for Father if you will send me a paper


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sole his size, I might get a pair for Eric too  
as he can wear Fathers<sup>sic</sup>; they are this shape  
 not like the others with no heels.

They are rather stiff but very light.  
& can only be got from a little village cobbler.  
Also another request. Can you send me the  
receipt for oatmeal ginger pudding, the  
one we used to make in war time, it is  
written in the little book in the drawer with  
the fish knives, the same book that has our  
favourite receipt for macaroni<sup>sic</sup> cheese.

I forgot to tell you that among our  
Xmas fare was a big drum of stuffed dates  
from The Imp & Nancy, & some central heaters  
& ginger from M<sup>rs</sup> Calverley.

It is much cooler now. The North  
Wind has arrived, ~~we~~ we are very glad, as  
it was too hot to work in comfort.

This letter seems to be chiefly about  
eats, but they seem to have been our main  
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We have had very few tourists so far it seems to be a poor season for them, the antika men are not at all prosperous, Amice purchases from them sometime, she is collecting some necklaces by request for friends.

This is about all my news today. When you measure Father's <sup>sic</sup> sole, draw the outside of one of his slippers, not the inside sock.

Love to you both  
your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

Tell Pat I have received her letter & thank her very much for same.

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