

Arabah.
Jan 2nd 1934

Dear Mother

Amice arrived yesterday, the first intimation we had was a telegram the day before, asking me to meet the early morning train the next day. we did not even know she had left England, it seems she had written from Austria but so far the letter has not arrived. Every one here was very excited & we had a holiday to celebrate. To-day we had our Xmas dinner & your pudding, which was very much appreciated, Nannie put brandy over it & it came in flaming, & Amice had put in lucky charms. I got the horse-shoe. Amice the button & Nannie the Pig & Little-Un the money bag

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This afternoon we had the children's Christmas tree which was a great success though not at all our idea of a Christmas tree, then the children ran races, & we gave sticks of sugar cane as prizes, of course we had to arrange so that every one had a prize

This evening we are to have the fantasia
Three hours later Have had the fantasia !!
 the men performed their little play.

as usual it consisted of chasing each other about with lighted palm branches more than acting, but their antics were very amusing, then there was singing & dancing & fencing with sticks etc.

The audience formed a huge ring out in the desert with the stage in the centre lit by bonfires.

We are now drinking hot lemonade before going to bed.

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Yesterday he brought me the school copy book with rows of pot & hooks & hangers & I have been solemnly copying them out. this sort of thing. [ر]

[ر] etc I have now got the hang of it & am copying the print in handwriting for his inspection next lesson, I expect he will find lots of faults

Next week the school closes for eleven days & Sheikh Sarbit goes to his own village. & Sheikh Jed el Karim will carry

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 in this way I can go steadily on without
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I must be off to bed now.

Amice joins me in lots of love to you
 both.

Your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

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 two together Wednesday or Thursday.

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