

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY, TEMPLE OF SETI I, ABYDOS  
EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY  
AND  
THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAMP  
ARABAH EL MADFUNAH  
BALIANA, UPPER EGYPT.

May 4<sup>th</sup> 1930

Dear Mother.

You will remember the poor old man I told you about who got his arm badly burnt. We had ordered a taxi to take him from his village to Baliana to get the train to Sohag to go to the government hospital there. Well, we heard that he got in the taxi, had his ride into Baliana (at Miss B's expense) & got out & walked back to his village !!! you can imagine we felt a little annoyed

about this, specially as the B's had warned us that he ought not to be about in that condition as he might spread infection. Miss B sent a message to our local police officer & he came along the same afternoon, so she reported the case to him & asked him to see that the poor old man was sent to the hospital & properly treated. The Melahes of course knew nothing about the fire or anything, (he is a fat fool) but said he would make all necessary inquiries.

The next morning when we got up at 5 o'clock, there was the poor old man waiting outside. He was ~~looking~~ in a simply appalling condition. He said he had been to the hospital & they wouldn't take him in without a letter. This of course was a fairy tale of his own - he had not realized it took a whole day to go to Sohag & return, & he was back in his

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village a few hours after he left it - we could not do anything for him it would have been very risky without the suitable apparatus for disinfecting etc. so Miss C sent him off to the Police station with Sardic on the donkey & wrote a note to insure him kind treatment etc. She is going to Sohag tomorrow on a visit to the Mudir to arrange for the guards who have to look after the house here during the summer & she will call at the hospital to see how the old chap is getting on.

To-day Ahmud Waled killed a cester (horned viper) outside our house, it caused quite an excitement. Nannie has had the gateway into the garden walled up so we have to step over it to come in & out. This is to prevent snakes getting into the house as they are evidently waking up from their winter sleep.

Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup> I have not heard anything more from Cook's so imagine there is no accommodation on the boat that leaves Port Said on the 16<sup>th</sup>. They usually know 10 days before she is due here. The next boat on my list leaves 16<sup>th</sup> I will send you word directly I hear. I hope I can get a passage all the way by sea.

I was so glad to hear Capt C has been to see you. what a pity it was such a short visit. I expect you did have a lot to talk about. I had a hasty note from him by today's mail to say he had been to see you & that you were both looking very well etc etc. I was sure you would like him. doesn't he remind you a bit of Christopher? not looks of course, but all the mad sort of things he likes to do & his interest in every thing.

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We are all working as hard as we can to get through the remaining work. we cannot complete everything, but there are parts that can be done in England so we are leaving them till we get home. I have suggested that Miss C comes to stay with me for a couple of weeks or so, & we work together in the studio, I am sure you will second me in the invitation. she makes herself at home under any conditions, once when she was at her brother's farm in Canada she had to nurse her sister in law, look after 3 small children & cook for 14 harvesters. all single handed - !!! I expect you have heard the Father lives in Devonshire & is much more concerned about saving his own soul than considering his own children, so Miss C usually stays as P.G with some people at Barnes when she wants to be near London. I thought it would be much nicer if she stayed a little time with us to complete the work. otherwise we should both have to go up to Tavistock Square & work in the E.E.Soc's rooms there.

I am looking forward to coming home. we must have some jolly outings. do think of all the things you would like to see & do. I am longing for shops, frocks & theatres & ICES. I am not quite certain what my Barclays account is

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but I know it must be over £150. I shall probably leave  
a small deposit to keep on my account in Cairo & have the  
rest transferred to my Watford bank. (swank. what -)  
I can arrange about that when I get home -

Fancy you getting a letter from Florence after  
all this time. I am glad she is comfortably settled - I am  
not at all surprised to hear she was not very upset at losing  
her Mother. She had no thought or care for anything but  
getting married & now probably thinks very little of her  
single existence. She certainly did not have a very happy home  
life

Give my love to Pat & tell her I hope she  
is prepared to celebrate when I come home.

Lots of love to you & Father  
Your affectionate daughter  
Myrtle.

P.S. We have the N wind again so it is not so hot as  
it was.

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