

Gresham House  
Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 1929 -

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Dear Mother -


We are still in Cairo, complications having arisen over the cook. However we have the loan of one for 4 months, so he is going to Abydos to-night with Miss G's nannie to prepare the house for us & we start to-morrow night.


I have been having a hectic social whirl ~~yesterday~~ The night before last we ~~dine~~ had dinner with the Englebachs & had great fun, yesterday morning Miss G introduced me to the manager of Barclays bank & I opened an account there, by the way I forgot to tell you that Cook's bank is no earthly use to me up country, they don't keep accounts & I can only cash cheques in person, so I drew out as much ready money as I am likely to need until my first salary is paid into Barclays, when I can draw what I want by cheque through the post. After the bank we looked in at the Sporting Club, & then on to Mrs Heathcote's to lunch - then to the S.C. again for tea, during tea I was eaten all over the exposed parts of

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My legs & feet by the grandfather of mosquitoes  
 After tea we did some shopping, & got back here  
 barely in time to get a bath & change for dinner.  
 In the evening we went with a party of friends  
 to watch a game of pilote - it is most thrilling  
 to watch & requires the utmost skill. The players  
 are all pros. They have a long wicker basket  
 thing fixed to their right arm. like this   
 it is laced onto the hand & wrist - & they catch the  
 ball in this & whirl it with terrific force against  
 the wall at the end of a very long court  
 they catch it again on the rebound, some-  
 times ~~it~~ it bounces from one end wall to the  
 other. & as the court is quite twice the length of  
 an ordinary tennis court you can imagine the  
 velocity of the ball. The excitement was immense  
 there was a lot of betting of course but our party  
 only had 10PT or just for fun & of course lost it,  
 We arrived home about 1.30 in the morning  
 By that time my poor eaten feet had swollen  
 up to a huge size. I was thankful to get my  
 shoes off. I washed them well in a very weak  
 carbolic & wrapped them in rags soaked in  
 the solution - it eased the awful burning  
 itching. They are very painful this morning

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2  
 I have homocea'd them till they will not  
 absorb any more & am now sitting with them  
 well up, & wrapped in rags soaked in Listrine  
 I am sick about it, because I was to have  
 spent the morning at the Museum with the Imp  
 & in the afternoon the head of the Austrian  
 Institute was going to take us all out to the  
 Pyramids to go over his excavations there  
 & then give us tea at Mena House. I do not think  
 I shall be able to even get my canvas shoes  
 on. but if I do go I shall sit in the car while  
 the other's scramble round. I think I could  
 hobble onto the terrace at Mena. I should  
 hate to have to miss it all.  
 I must warn you that the post at Baliana  
 is most unreliable. & letters may be delayed  
 days. also the camp is 12 miles away. so  
 do not worry if letters are irregular. there  
 may be quite a gap between this & the next  
 as we shall be in a bit of a muddle at first  
 & there wont be a man to spare. the other's  
 hav'nt any people at home expecting regular  
 letters. but I shall do my best to write at  
 every opportunity.

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Oct 13<sup>th</sup>

I am running short of paper, my big block is in my trunk that has gone on to Baliana so I am using both sides to make these few sheets last out.

This place is very much nicer than Cecil House - it is also more expensive. 16/- a day.

It is just possible that I might be able to get a good carpet here - a real old Bokkar or Persian. I believe Father was talking about having a strip rug for the passage upstairs if you would like me to look out for a suitable strip just get Father to measure it up. giving the greatest length & width & the smallest ditto. that would do & I will keep my eyes open for something suitable within the two limits. of course I don't know if I could get one - but it would be a pity to let an opportunity pass.

The Bedouin tent makers weave lovely patterns in their native dyed goats hair, they make beautiful rugs or divan covers. they are very strong but easy to roll up & shake. Miss G's old Nannie has a cousin who is a merchant, he is always on the look out for things when the caravans come in. we paid him a social call one day. & had a look at some of his stock.

I think I shall certainly buy myself a leather suit case, a size larger than the one M<sup>r</sup> Gulstone gave me, so that I can put it inside it when I come

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home, unless it is bust to bits<sup>3</sup>  
by then. it is in excellent condition  
so far. but I wish it was a little

bigger -

Letter

(31)

I have just had a visit from  
a most delightful doctor man.  
it seems that Miss G's account  
of my bitten state so alarmed  
the Imp that he asked a friend  
of his to call & see me.

I thought at first it was just  
a social call. "friend of a friend  
of mine sort of thing".

I only realized it was a  
professional visit when he  
suggested that perhaps he  
had better see me in my  
room. he said my treatment  
was excellent & there was  
nothing to worry about if I  
continued to use reasonable

home, unless it is bust to bits  
by then - it is in excellent condition  
so far - but I wish it was a little  
bigger -