

[Earlier entries for this season are missing.]

Feb 20th

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Feb 22nd

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by the way, that all letters in future
should be addressed to me

Mena House ~~Hotel~~
Pyramids
Cairo.

It sounds a very extravagant sort
of address, but it doesn't imply that
I shall be living there; they have a kind
of post-office attached to the hotel.

Feb. 25th Elisabeth's enlarged
photograph arrived today. It was
not so good as I expected: the
small photograph was not quite sharp
enough to stand the enlargement. It
has made it look a little fuzzy.

I start for my new quarters I think
on Sunday night, that is to say in
four days. I am getting everything

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finished up as far as I can, but
I shall have to come back when
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March 8th There's a gap for you.

My only excuse is that I've been
moving about since I last wrote.

I came down here on Tuesday last,

and until today I have been in

the hotel. Now I have four tents

up and the house started, so have

moved out. I have never tented out

in such luxury before. I have a

fine large tent for myself, with a

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Kitchen, the house is being built
 just downwards from the second pyramid,
 about a quarter of an hour's walk
 from the hotel. It is on high ground,
 and it will, I am sorry to say, be rather
 conspicuous. I am afraid it will draw
 a good many tourists. However the
 Sphinx is in the opposite direction, and
 that draws off most of them. We are
 going to have a regiment of Tommies
 camped out near us soon, for manoeuvres.
 Altogether the place seems likely to be
 lively, and a great contrast to
 Gizeh. Tomorrow is a great Arab
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I shall let most of my men go
into Cairo for a treat, as hardly
any of them have ever been there.

I had a terrible rush at Girgeh the
last few days. I could not possibly clear
everything up, and shall have to go
back when I get through here. Its a
nuisance, but it cant be helped, I
suppose its all in the days work.

Cairo as a health resort is a fraud. We
have had nothing but cold, wind and
rain since I came, and yesterday at sunset
it came down in sheets, just as three
cart loads of wood came up from Cairo.
We could not get them up to the camp,
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 of the big pyramid, and make a
 shelter with them for some of the men
 to sleep in. When I got back to the
 hotel I was just like a drowned
 rat. I am having rather a varied
 time this season altogether, first
 now about canal works, then cholera,
 then Cairo, then Gergeh, and now Cairo
 again, with another visit to Gergeh
 in prospect.

March 9th all my men except two
 have gone off to Cairo, so I have
 had a solitary day. I spent the
 morning going over my concession
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 much but sleep. We have got a
 fine concession of ground here: any
 number of fine tombs that have not
 been touched since ancient times.
 I shall be glad when we have got
 the house finished and can get to
 work. It's a curious thing how
 people seem to lose their manners
 when they come to this country.
 Tourists come up casually to where ^{we} ~~they~~
 are building and stare as if we
 were a show got up for their special
 benefit. As soon as the house begins
 to look more like a house I shall
 warn them off. Keeping people off the

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work is going to take up a good
deal of my time here. So far I
have seen noone I know since I
came out here. There is another
Englishman camping out near by, a
young architect who has an appointment
in Cairo, a son of Richmond the
painter. I hope I shall see something
of him. Also I expect Blyth will
be out from the hotel pretty often.
anyway you cant feel lonely when
you hear the toot of an electric
train about every half hour.

Studley Frost 23. Linden Gardens / W.
Clifton Waterman. Homewell
Daison Tenterden. Kent.
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[The text at the bottom of the page was probably added
by an unidentified member of the Mace family.]

[Later entries for this season are missing.]

[According to Peter der Manuelian, "On the Early History of Giza: The 'Lost' Wadi Cemetery (Giza Archives Gleanings, III)", in *JEA* 95 (2009), p. 107, "Mace began to build 'Hearst Camp' (later to be renamed 'Harvard Camp') west of the Khafre pyramid on 11 March 1903 with the help of fourteen workmen from Quft". In this journal, however, the building works are said to be already under way in March 8th. "From 18 March through 19 April 1903, sixty-one workmen cleared about twenty Fifth and Sixth Dynasty mastabas under Mace's supervision, including a small number of intact burials, reliefs, and inscriptions".]