Thebes Hotel. Luxor. 19-12-27

Dear Mother & Father.

I am all on my own. & doing wonderfully well, the people who own this hotel are very friendly. & know the Imp [= Reginald Engelbach]. they are a young married couple, rather haphazard like the Barnards but very nice to me. so I dont sic worry if meals are not absolutely on time or my hot water a little late. one learns patience in the East.

Tell Pat that if she wants a husband she had better come out here, for I am spending my spare time dodging them. There is a Bey. (rich merchant) staying in this hotel. he has had tummy trouble & is here for his health & he has made a dead set at me. he told me he should not stay here except for me, & each evening at dinner he says he has been very sad because I have been away all day. he keeps offering to send me presents, & when I say I could not accept he says why? – it is why, why, why to everything. when I told him, in answer to his question that I was not married – he said why – he now says he is going to accompany me on my daily excursions & has sent to Cairo for an Antiquities ticket. I dont sic know how I shall dodge him. I have told him that I have seen all the sights & am not going only for painting. Again he asks why?. I shall have to ask Gerzawy to come & arrest him, only I am afraid it would be a case

Thebas Hotel . 10

Dear Hother & father. well, the people who own this total are very friendly, stonow the Imp. they are a young married couple - nothin happingard like the Barnards but very nice to me, so I don't wary of meals are not absolutely on time or my hot water a lettle late. one leaves policie in the East. Tell Pat that if she wants a husband she had better come out here, for lam spending my space time dodging them. There is a Bey (with merchant) staying in this hotel. he has had turning houble at me for his health o he has made a dead set at me. he told me he should not stay here acept

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of out of the pying par into the fire - craft that Inzawy is a profest gentleman. where the Bay only thinks he is - any how. I am not going to let how bother me.

I have an adorable donky boy. (young man righty Hough they are all boys even of they are doddering) he knows a few words of english I orgage hom through the total is the hall portion comes with me across the river in a datable to the Next bank when all the downing boys are waiting. As we go along, if I am not gallofung I be running, we declarge conversation points to something . + says. his nome anche sunt Ilsay his name Inglosia Tree . only I find Hel hoad gin makes a polite bors 1 says Tomorrows a treat to him. he did not know what britter was, but he said it was very good, , licked it

of out of the frying pan into the fire – except that Gerzawy is a perfect gentleman. whereas the Bey only thinks he is – anyhow. I am not going to let him bother me

I have an adorable donkey boy. (young man really though they are all boys even if they are doddering) he knows a few words of english^{sic} I engage him through the hotel & the hall porter comes with me across the river in a dahabia to the West bank where all the donkey boys are waiting. <& gives the boy instructions.> As we go along, if I am not galloping & he running, we exchange conversation – he points to something. & says. his name Arabia swnt. & I say his name Inglisia Tree. only I find that he remembers the English better than I do the Arabic. I give him 2 piasters above his field hire for carrying my lunch & he trys^{sic} to get more out of me. he starts by bowing & asking in a very pathetic pleading voice. & I say la la mafish. No. No. I have nothing for you. & when I have repeated it very loudly & determindly sic he draws himself up & folds his arms & frowns & looks very ferocious, then I just laugh at him, & he breaks into a broad grin makes a polite bow & says "tomorrow lady" & goes off quite satisfied.

They had given me more lunch than I could eat. so I put aside half a white loaf some butter & a bit of cream cheese & gave it to him. it was a treat to him. he did not know what butter was, but he said it was very good. & licked it

out of the paper. , made an awful mess of his face - it was all butter ogus. I visited the valley of the Torners of the lings again as there were some I had not seen on a provious visit. The scenery is glorious wild & desolate just a winding valley shown with the next solltade until on comes to the quands The quide who took me down into the Tombs was amusing too, he started telling for Enable words. I he patted me on the back I said good lady - very good lady. he gan me a cup of their wordings coffee after wands which I chank with qual gusto. To his delight. after lunch I went to the temple of Sety !. I created a good impussion on the quard there. Her returned to the west bank when my boat man was waiting I sailed across the Nih 15 the East bank when the village of Luxor is -I was surprised to find Luces so small resuntifue a can is a name sight, on goes about in two

Lose carriages or or dorhays.

out of the paper. & made an awful mess of his face – it was all butter & grin.

I visited the valley of the Tombs of the Kings again as there were some I had not seen on a previous visit. the scenery is glorious wild & desolate just a winding valley strewn with boulders with high limestone cliffs worn into rugged crags. & only just the donkey & I & the donkey boy & a few vultures circling round – all the rest solitude until one come to the guards tents – The guide who took me down into the tombs was amusing too. he started telling me. "this snake. this mummy. this Horus. this King sitting (not on eggs) – this cobra". etc. so I began to tell him a few things & was able to convey quite a lot with the English he knew, & my few Arabic words. & he patted me on the back & said "Good lady, very good lady." he gave me a cup of their wonderful coffee afterwards which I drank with great gusto. to his delight. After lunch I went to the temple of Sety I. & created a good impression on the guard there. then returned to the west bank where my boat man was waiting & sailed across the Nile to the East bank where the village of Luxor is I was surprised to find Luxor so small & countrified a car is a rare sight, one goes about in two horse carriages or on donkeys.

I am sending some more snaps. They are from my Brownie & are better than the Rodak ones I sent a few days ago. I had them dwelford spirited at a different place, so perhaps that is why- The foreground in the picture of Que Il telie shows you what the ground was like that I galloped over on the Chab Loise. 20-12-27-Sport to day in Juxor. an Englishquitteman who is staying here asked me if I would like to see the native market +1 very much injoyed walking round will him I saw a work a work cractly as in Bha. Cher Cher I have taken sweed snap shots. This afternoon I sport skitching in Laker Timph P & O & orient have Port Said or Sundays so shall probably book for Jan & h says This Bay is a would preson. he way laid me to lake Eno's fruit Salt. I told him to follow The instructions on the bottle. Then he begged me net to be untered to hom because he was so sad of I was angry. I insisted on kissing my hand - I got and I him by going into my room & shutting the door in his face. The English gentleman told me late that when

I am sending some more snaps, they are from my Brownie & are better than the Kodak ones I sent a few days ago. I had them developed & printed at a different place, so perhaps that is why — The foreground in the picture of Qau el Kebir shows you what the ground was like that I galloped over on the Arab horse.

20-12-27.

Spent today in Luxor. an English gentleman who is staying here asked me if I would like to see the native market & I very much enjoyed walking round with him. I saw a cobbler at work exactly as in Chu Chen^{sic} {Chin} Chow I have taken several snap shots.

This afternoon I spent sketching in Luxor Temple I also visited Cooks & find out that the P&O & Orient leave Port Said on Sundays so shall probably book for Jan 8th he says there is no need to hurry. so shall write to M^r Jackson in a few days.

This Bey is a weird person. he waylaid me in a passage to day & asked me how he ought to take Eno's Fruit Salt. I told him to follow the instructions on the bottle. then he begged me not to be unkind to him because he was so sad if I was angry. & insisted on kissing my hand. I got rid of him by going into my room & shutting the door in his face. The English gentleman told me later that when

he passed down the passage a few mindes afterwards there was the Bay having against my closed door in a most obscorsulational.

Lay.

21-12-27.

Hue are some snaps from the Rodah. Here are better printed than the offers.

My dontry boy is coming on - he started by calling me Sitt or Lady. Here he got hold of my name & it was Sitt Broome.

Today it was bounters a Sultana.

he sings as we go along sometimes.

I don't know if it is an analy for forwards.

Inceved two littles from you forwards.

on from Toma. Slad to get news of

home - I wish you both world come out

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he wants me to usit him again al gand

talu side the Onat Forse: I don't quele

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convenient. Heaps of love to you both also Pat & Jack. Your affectionate daughter - Mynth -

scom a lik stronge to me now.

he passed down the passage a few minutes afterwards there was the Bey leaning against my closed door in a most disconsulate way.

21-12-27.

Here are some snaps from the Kodak. These are better printed that the others.

My donkey boy is coming on. he started by calling me Sitt or Lady, then he got hold of my name & it was Sitt Broome.

Today it was Countessa & Sultana.
he sings as we go along sometimes.
I dont^{sic} know if it an Arabic love song but it sounds very like the record.

I received two letter from you forwarded on from Tema. Glad to get news of home. I wish you both could come out here one winter it would do Father no end of good. The eastern scenes do not seem a bit strange to me now.

I have had two letters from Gerzawy he wants me to visit him again at Qau-el Kebir & ride the Arab horse. I dont^{sic} quite see how I can fix it. as trains are not convenient.

Heaps of love to you both also Pat & Jack.

Your affectionate daughter – Myrtle –