

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Egyptian Art

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Dear Uncle Georg,

What we have been expecting and dreading has happened:- Papa George Reisner died peacefully at the pyramids on Saturday. We can presume that he now at last knows the names of Cheops' queens, has heard the family scandals from the red-haired lady, and even perhaps has had a word with the old Dowager, Hetepheres, herself. It must have been a release to that active spirit, confined as it was in these last years by physical limitations, but for us it is a great loss and sorrow. We leaned on him far more than we realized, even in his illness. You will have to be Papa as well as Uncle to us now. Miss Perkins, who nursed him devotedly all these years, Frank Allen, and his beloved Quftis were with him at the end, and I don't think he could have gone in a happier way for himself.

Your dear letter came last week and you see I am not letting time pass before answering it. We are still busy with war problems: my last one before going back to Kerma is the rearrangement of the Predynastic Gallery, and I am reading and studying a bit on those lines. It seems very queer to me that Scharff has built such a secure-seeming structure on such a small amount of evidence. Naturally, in my inexperience, I have nothing better to offer, but oh dear me, there are so many unaccountable things which are not explained by his theories. More of that

later,- I am still working in Negade I, and am hardly in a position to draw any conclusions.

One thing I have discovered about Kerma. The Metropolitan found a full series of the same types of faience vessels at Lisht as we have from Kerma,- in other words, there was a definite class of Middle Kingdom faience which has hitherto been unrecognized as such. Some day I shall try to do an article on it, maybe.

Yes, I did get a new hat, for my brother's wedding. It is pale pink, with little pink feathers on it and a bit of pale, blue-green velvet, and it is said to be very becoming. Stephen writes cheerful letters from Australia, which he likes very much, and Daddy is quite well again, full of affairs and very active. It is good to hear that you are so well, and that the schreckliche(s) Mädel, Angina, keeps far away. If it were not for the war problems for you all, we could be completely happy about you and dear Tante Lise, except that you are so far away from us.

With love from us all,

Betty