

The Egyptian Museum,

C a i r o .

20. 8. 31.

Dear Dr Steindorff,

Many thanks for your letter of the 5th.

Firth's death came as a blow to us all here. I saw him for a short time on the 9th., when I arrived back from leave and he left, and he seemed really very well. But he had been suffering with his heart, and had made an appointment to see a heart-specialist in London on his arrival. Then he caught pneumonia on the boat, and it is well-known that people with weak hearts cannot resist a heavy attack of Pneumonia. He died ^{in London} on the 15th., which must have been a day ~~at~~ after his arrival in London.

His death is deeply felt by many of his colleagues, and his friends out here, and is a disaster to the Department. I have no idea who will replace him at Saqqara. The working of the Nubian Survey will be much more difficult without him.

About the proposal of which you speak, which you made to the Department at the end of April, for the subsidizing of your publication, I am sorry to tell you that no further progress has been made about it. I will try to hurry the matter up, and will see that you are informed as soon as any developments arise.

I am extremely sorry that the prospects of seeing you in Philadelphia are so very small. I was looking forward very much indeed to seeing you there. However, I shall be only too pleased to help you in every way possible, and as soon as I arrive I will let you know,

and shall await your enquiries.

What you tell me about the dating of the N.K. cemetery at Amiba is very interesting.

I had a fairly nice time in Florence, Vallombrosa and ~~Amiba~~ in London and by the sea in England. But the child's bad health was very worrying. He seems to be all right now.

With best greetings believe me

Yours most sincerely,

Dattison Gunn