

March 17, 1934.

Dear Albright:

The trip over was uneventful, and not pleasant because of the terrific amount of vibration in tourist class of the Conte di Savoia, as you warned me. However, we were in Haifa in eleven days, and I shall regard the vibration as a preliminary training for the shaking we will get on the camels.

I had a hectic day in Haifa getting the truck through customs. I saw one of the chief British officials, and he convinced me that the British Empire would most certainly fall if I did not pay the customs duty of forty five pounds. I finally paid it under protest. It has its advantages, because now it will be possible to sell the car to private persons, if necessary. I secured test plates from the Chevrolet agency in Haifa, and one of their drivers, and we drove to Jerusalem the same night. The traffic authorities in Jerusalem tried to make me pay twenty five pounds for a licence for the car. In their eyes all trucks must be used for commercial purposes. I protested vehemently, and finally convinced them that the truck was going to be used for private, scientific purposes, and that therefore a private licence, costing two pounds, would be quite sufficient. Finally by going directly to the head of the traffic bureau, Major Monroe, I won my point. Now a precedent has been established.

The insurance has been heavy, amounting to eighteen pounds, because the bounds covered by the insurance companies stop at the Kerak line, and there is an extra charge for the territory beyond that line. However, even after all these preliminary expenses, I think that we have come off rather well. The total cost of the car to the expedition, including freight, insurance and licence, totals about \$1170. I can easily get rid of the car at the end of six months, if it is advisable, and secure at least a hundred and fifty pounds for it, if not more. The same car here at the Chevrolet agency costs exactly \$500 more. They ask three hundred and fifty pounds for a similar car.

We leave tomorrow morning for Amman, where we shall stay overnight. Monday morning we go to Kerak. Ali Abu Ghosh has been there for several days arranging for camels. We hope to get off the same day from Kerak. I have engaged Upchurch to drive the truck. He will return to Jerusalem. I am lending the truck then to the Jerash expedition to transport its load of stuff to Jerash on the second of April. Then Upchurch is taking Horsfield and his equipment to Jebel Rum, and will wait there for us till we turn up from the Arabah. Phythian Adams will be with Horsfield in Jebel Rum, in addition to the Dominicans. Head was over here for a few days as our guest. He claims that water corrodes his stomach, and acted accordingly. It is a matter of taste, I guess. He relates with pride, that he induced you to take several spoonfuls ~~off~~ rum. I am afraid your politeness must

have ruined your sleep for several nights.

Things at the School seem to be going along very nicely. The Stinesprings are carrying on very well. It is a pleasure to be back here. If my wife were here, I should be completely happy. I miss her terribly much. She is a good sport to let me go. We were lucky in marrying the right kind of women. I have been out very little, because I have been accepting practically no invitations.

I have completed the report of last summer's survey, and am having it sent to you tomorrow or the day after, taking advantage of your kindness to read it through for me, and correct it where necessary. I have tried to limit it as much as possible, in order not to overstep too much the approximately hundred page limit, which Burrows has asked me to observe. Out of the several hundred photographs, I have chosen about thirty five to illustrate the text. However, I have gone over them again, and have eliminated still more of them. In addition to the pottery photographs, which I should like to have used as plates at the end of the article, I am sending two groups of photographs, one of which I think should be, and the other of which might be included in the text if there is space, and if it is advisable. I should like to leave that to your and Burrows' judgement. I have cut out the Christian Kilwa and the el-Hammeah material, because that would have made the report far too large for the allotted space. I am also having sent to you two plates of drawings, one of the Moabite sherds, and the other of Nabataean pottery. I am anxious to have the report appear in this coming issue of the Annual.

I have had a long discussion with Fisher, and another with Iliffe about the Nabataean pottery, and the plain and rouletted sigillata, and the rouletted Nabataean ware. I showed them the sherds in question, and both of them agree with the conclusions I have put in the report, that both types of ware are contemporary, and both of them probably of local manufacture. Iliffe puts the dates between 100 B.C. and 50 A.D., and Fisher between the second century B.C., and the first century A.D.

I was glad to see you and Ruth in New York, and hope that her health continues to improve. I hope that we will have much to tell you when you return this summer. I am writing to Burrows that I have forwarded the report to you, and that you will send it on to him.

With heartiest greetings to you and your family,

I am, as ever,

sincerely yours,

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