

Bulletin of the Association for the Study
of Travel in Egypt and the Near East:
Notes and Queries

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45 Field View
York YO30 6ES



"OPEN, SESAME!"

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The Aims of the Association

The Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East, established in 1997, encourages and promotes education and learning with particular reference to the history of travel and travellers in Egypt and the Near East. It brings together anyone interested in the subject, whether professional academics or not, across a wide spectrum of nations and subject areas. Essentially, the Association acts as a focus for the collection of materials and information and contacts related to its object.

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ASTENE Website

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Here you will find information about the Association, some extracts from the *Bulletin*, membership and standing order forms, a calendar of events, etc. Any material for the website should be directed to the ASTENE Office. The designer of our website is Peter McConochie.

ASTENE BULLETIN

The ASTENE *Bulletin*, published twice a year, aims to keep members informed of research interests in the field of travellers and travel in Egypt and the Near East. Members are encouraged to submit queries, information and articles (2000 words or less) and material relating to ongoing research, relevant exhibitions, conferences and seminars, publications, etc. All back issues of the *Bulletin* are available and may be ordered from the ASTENE Office for £5 each, including postage.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are:

Members A: those from the EU, USA & Canada, £20 per annum

Members B: those from elsewhere and all students, £12 per annum

Libraries who wish to receive the *Bulletin* may subscribe for £12 per annum (two issues)

The subscription covers two issues of the ASTENE *Bulletin* and access to the database of members' interests (The Yellow Pages). Any queries about membership should be directed to the ASTENE Office.

DEADLINE

for submission of copy for *Bulletin* No. 13
15 March 2002

MEMBERS' PAGES

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2000 - 2001

The year since my election as Chairman of ASTENE in July 2000 has been one of continued progress, built on the foundations laid by my predecessor, Paul Starkey, to whom the Association owes a debt of gratitude. As reported in our *Bulletin* No. 11, members visited the Birmingham Art Gallery and Museum in November 2000 and the library of All Souls College in March 2001. They also participated in the Day School (3 March 2001) on Travellers in the Levant and Palestine, organised in conjunction with Oxford University's Department of Continuing Education and held in the lecture theatre of the Ashmolean Museum. The Edinburgh Conference was our fourth international conference. Gratitude is due to Deborah Manley, Janet Starkey, Brenda Moon and Jennifer Scarce for organising it.

As expected, our *Bulletin* appeared twice during the year, thanks to the efforts of Janet Starkey and Peta Rée. Janet Starkey and Peter McConochie are to be congratulated on establishing a website for us, accessible through the University of Durham. After much delay, two volumes of essays developed from our Oxford Conference in 1997 were published by Ithaca in 2001. We are grateful to Paul and Janet Starkey for seeing these through the press, as well as for producing and editing them under the titles *Unfolding the Orient: Travellers in Egypt and the Near East* and *Interpreting the Orient: Travellers in Egypt and the Near East*. Two further publications also appeared during the year, this time under our own auspices: *Desert Travellers: from Herodotus to T E Lawrence* was edited by Janet Starkey and Okasha El-Daly (ASTENE 2000) and *Travellers in the Levant: from Voyagers to Visionaries* by Sarah Searight and Malcolm Wagstaff (ASTENE 2001). These volumes derive from the 1999 Conference in Cambridge. We hope to produce the third volume in the set, *Egypt through the Eyes of the Travellers*, edited by Paul Starkey and

Nadia El Kholy, later in 2001. Ashley Jones of the Museum Bookshop, London, is kindly handling sales and distribution.

The Executive Committee has met four times during the year. Much of our business concerned the routine matters of financial management and the planning of future meetings and events. While the Edinburgh Conference has been a particular concern throughout, we have also been investigating a visit to Cairo (and a conference there) in March 2002 and looking forward to our next international conference in 2003. In addition, the Executive has discussed reports from its working group on Research Resources. I am pleased to report that we are now at the stage of piloting a scheme to build up a data base of archival material on travellers to our regions which will be accessible through the World Wide Web. Outside funding will be sought in the autumn. Thanks are due to Trisha Usick for chairing the working group.

Finally, the Executive Committee decided that the problems of dealing with commercial publishers could be avoided if ASTENE became its own publisher. This bold step was possible through the generosity of Janet Starkey, who not only type-set our first three volumes but also co-edited the first one and saw the two now out through the press. We are very grateful to her. The learning curve has been fairly steep, and our venture into publishing inevitably provoked much discussion between the officers of the Association and on the Executive Committee. Publicity and distribution remain problems, but I hope members will agree that the publications themselves are very creditable.

In closing, I should like to thank all members of the Executive Committee for their advice and support. Particular thanks are due, of course, to the other officers, Lisa French (Treasurer) and Trisha Usick (Secretary). Not only have they done much of the work of the Association during the year, but they have also been very supportive to me.

Malcolm Wagstaff
6 June 2001

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Janet Starkey, editor in chief of the *Bulletin* since its inception in 1995, has had to give it up due to pressure of work. Without Janet, the *Bulletin* might never have existed, nor developed into a journal which our members seem to appreciate.

Her mantle has now fallen on my shoulders, and I hope I will be able to maintain the standard she has set. As a 21st century communicator, I fall short at once; I do not own a computer. Janet has therefore kindly agreed to accept and forward e-mails to me. This means e-mails may well take longer to reach me than post by the traditional method; it also means I cannot reply to anybody who only gives an e-mail address. But please, don't give up getting in touch - the *Bulletin* needs your contributions.

I want to welcome warmly a new member to the 'staff'. Dr Albertine Gaur has become our Books Editor, so please tell her directly of any work to be mentioned, any book review you want to offer, etc.

Finally - in the Spring *Bulletin* we intend to focus (though not exclusively) on Malta, the entrepot for so many travellers voyaging to and from the East. Have you any 'travellers' tale' of a Malta experience? No passage too brief to be considered!

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THE YELLOW PAGES

This, the list of members' interests, available *only* to members, is being updated for publication early in 2002. We enclose a form, and urge you to return it as soon as possible to Neil Cooke, the Yellow Pages Editor. This could be one of the most useful research tools you ever have, for it enables you to exchange information with others interested in the same traveller, area, etc, as yourself.

Annual General Meeting 15 July 2001

At the meeting, which took place at the Edinburgh Conference, reports were given on the accounts and on the year's activities.

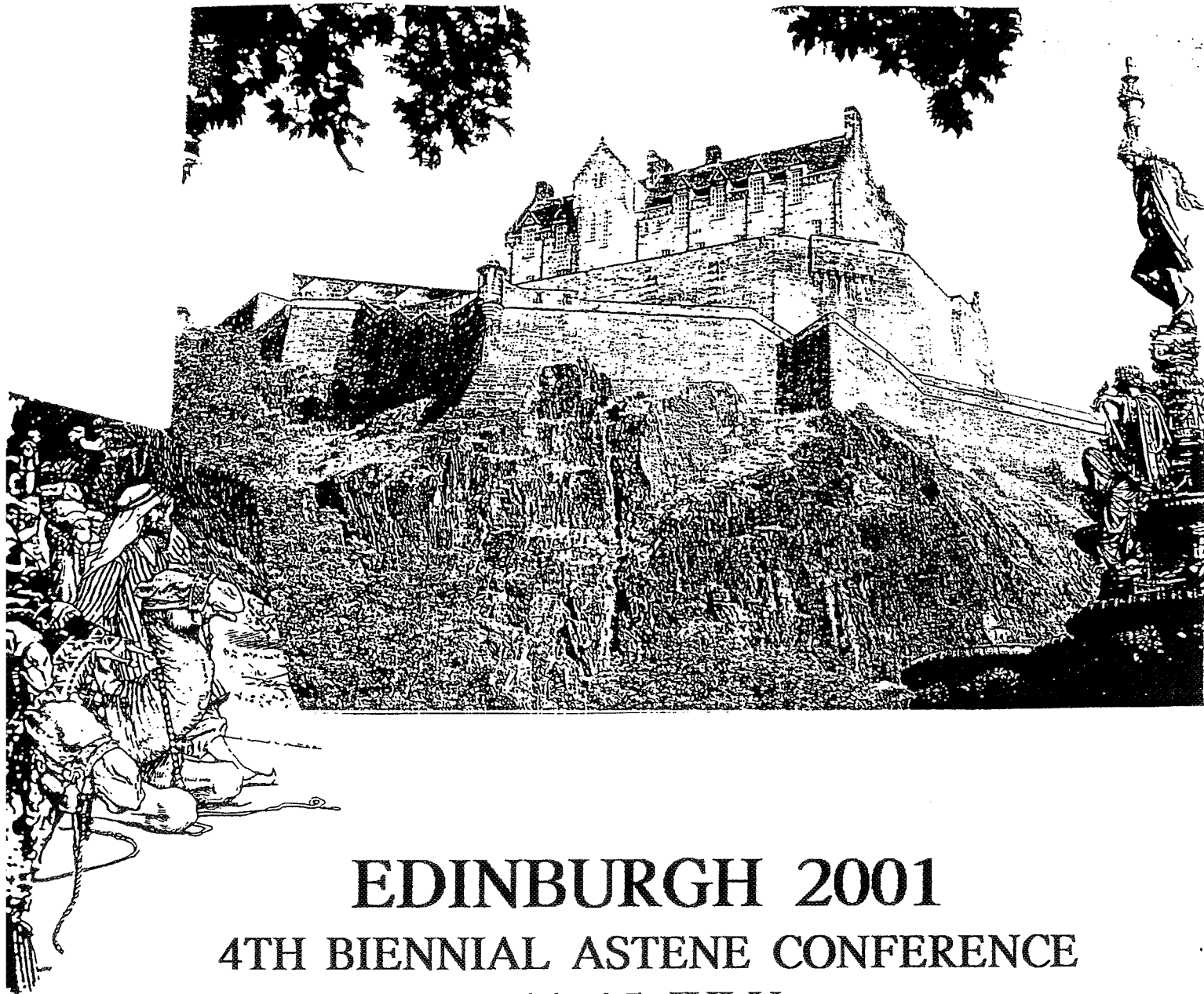
Brenda Moon and Janet Starkey did not offer themselves for re-election; the rest of the Committee were re-elected, and Barnaby Rogerson was elected to the single vacant place.

There was discussion, with suggestions from the floor, of what might be the best way forward in publishing the papers from the 2001 Conference, and the Committee will be considering various options.

Members of the Committee

Honorary President: T.G.H. James
Honorary Vice-President: Derek Hopwood
Chairman: Malcolm Wagstaff
Secretary: Patricia Usick
Treasurer: Lisa French
Events Organiser: Deborah Manley
Bulletin Editor: Peta Rée
Other members. Morris Bierbrier, Neil Cooke, Okasha El-Daly, Ashley Jones, Barnaby Rogerson, Jennifer Scarce

Overseas Correspondents: Professors John Rodenbeck and Jason Thompson, American University in Cairo, POB 2511, 113 Sharia Qasr al-Aini, Cairo, Egypt; Dr Caroline Williams, 6 Coventry Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188, USA; Dr Aviva Klein-Franke, 467 Luxemburger Strasse, D-50939, Cologne, Germany



EDINBURGH 2001

4TH BIENNIAL ASTENE CONFERENCE

11-15 JULY

CONFERENCE REPORT

To this Fourth ASTENE Conference, participants came from 18 different countries, including for the first time Austria, Cyprus, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and South Africa. No less than 21 of about 120 people had attended the very first conference in Durham in 1995.

Even by teatime on the first afternoon, there was already a cheerful hum of people greeting old acquaintances and new, and exchanging reminiscences and information over the teacups.

On the first evening, as a keynote paper, Professor Jason Thompson, of the American University in Cairo, gave - as we have come to expect of him - a fine exposition of Edward William Lane. As the second keynote speaker next day, Professor Carole Hillenbrand, of Edinburgh University, previewed for us her new book on Islamic travel writing, with a stunning array of illustrations.

We can here only highlight a few of an enormously varied range of excellent

papers in the programme put together by Deborah Manley and Janet Starkey (see the list attached). As we were in Edinburgh, it was very relevant to hear various views of James Bruce, Scottish traveller in Abyssinia and the Near East, while everyone came out enchanted (and in stitches of laughter) from the account of the sad adventures of the first mummy to arrive in Scotland.

In some of the papers we were introduced to some very early travellers indeed, from 'anatomically modern humans' from Egypt and the Near East colonising Europe and Africa over many thousands of years, to ancient Greek and Roman views of the seafarers they encountered. Among the papers about writers, we met the authors of *Quo Vadis* and *Ben Hur*. Among the artist travellers were, for the first time, those who recorded Cyprus. Late one afternoon, we made strange spectacles of ourselves by donning strange spectacles to watch an early stereographic picture show. We met a great number of earnest, learned and/or eccentric travellers from many countries.

Away from the lecture rooms, the Librarian, Ian Mowat, cordially welcomed us to the Conference Reception at the Edinburgh University Library, where a showcase of Islamic and 19th century European books had been arranged for our aesthetic pleasure. Later in the evening, one was almost stunned by aesthetic pleasure on entering the Playfair Library Hall for the Conference Dinner, for this, with its wonderful barrel-vaulted ceiling is one of the finest Neo-classical interiors in Britain. After a delicious repast, the 'ASTENE Players', in some curiously eclectic costumes, offered us a recital of poetry by travellers to Egypt, while Heather McCracken brought a tear to many an eye with a selection of songs which might have been given at a Victorian soirée. We would particularly like to thank Brenda Moon for arranging this memorable occasion.

By a happy coincidence, two papers were offered on 'The dancer of Esna' and 'The Almeh', which led most appositely to the evening's entertainment by the Almeh, Lorna. With the graceful, sinuous gestures of Egyptian dance, and the face of a Scottish rose, she could not have better epitomised ASTENE-in-Edinburgh.

Other special exhibitions had been kindly arranged for ASTENE. At the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Nicola Kalinsky

had not only highlighted various pictures of interest to us, but had produced a catalogue with biographical data. Her list, ranging as it did from the first Earl of Balfour to David Wilkie, from William Aikman in the early 18th century to Sir Steven Runciman in the 20th, abundantly illustrated that Scots are well-travelled and enterprising people.

At the National Library of Scotland, Iain Gordon Brown had mounted a display of relevant manuscripts. Included in the 13 diverse exhibits were Alexander Gordon's volume of Egyptian engravings, two volumes of David Roberts's Eastern journal; a letter from John G Kinnear, ridiculing a mummy-unwrapping conducted by Thomas Pettigrew, and speculating what an examination of the mummy of his old friend David Roberts might reveal; a sketch map of the Nile in Upper Egypt, Nubia and the Sudan by Major Orlando Felix, who was travelling with Lord Prudhoe, later fourth Duke of Northumberland; a letter from Edward William Lane to Robert Hay.

Besides these, there happened to be an exhibition of the work of Sir William Allan at the City Art Centre, while Jennifer Scarce led a small detachment to visit the Scottish War Museum inside the walls of Edinburgh Castle.

James Thin, the Edinburgh booksellers, held a bookstall at the Conference, where also Katie Starkey, ably assisted by Jan Dobrowolski, ran an ASTENE bookstall. Jan and Richard Long mounted their interesting Gertrude Bell exhibition created for the British Council.

At Pollock Halls, Edinburgh First provided a comfortable venue for the Conference, with good food and helpful staff - though even they had not been able to arrange the good weather ASTENE has come to expect. But spirits at least remained undamped and many participants departed looking forward to meeting again at Worcester College, Oxford, in 2003.

All in all, a triumph again for the Conference Organisers, Deborah Manley, Brenda Moon, Janet Starkey and Jennifer Scarce.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

(Inter)ruptive Communication: Elizabeth Cooper's Photo-writing of Egyptian Women: Dr Sahar Abdel-Hakim, University of Cairo

The ephemeral tourist: Non-literary resources for the study of travel in Egypt in the late 19th and early 20th centuries: Susan Allen, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Desert Travels by camel in northern Sudan: a comparison of travels made by Browne, Nachtigal, Hassan Bey and others with travels in the Sudan today: Arita Baaijens, Amsterdam

Good, bad, or just plain ugly: sailors of the Ancient Near East and Egypt as portrayed by Greek and Roman travellers: James Beresford, Keble College, Oxford

Pietro Lorenzo Pinchia, an Italian priest and his journey to the East: Giovanni Boaglio, Centro Studi Drovetti, Turin

Preparations for 'Who was Who in Egyptology' (3rd Edition), presentation to Resources session: Morris Bierbrier, formerly British Museum

The affair of Lord Morton's Mummy: Iain Gordon Brown, National Library of Scotland

In search of the physical: George Adam Smith's journeys to Palestine and their importance: Rev. Iain D Campbell, Edinburgh University

Defending the Ottomans: Lew Wallace's *The Prince of India*: Dr Peter Christensen, Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee

The American Palestine Exploration Society and the Survey of Eastern Palestine - the story of a lost cause: Felicity Cobbing, Curator, Palestine Exploration Fund

A young Scottish soldier in Egypt and the Sudan, 1882-1886: Dr David Dixon, formerly University College, London

Not quite in the Desert; not exactly in the Wilderness: Jaroslaw Dobrowolski, Cairo

Early travellers: Egyptian and Prehistoric migrations: Dr Pavel Dolukhanov, University of Newcastle

The travels of emissaries in the ancient Near East: Dr David Elgavish, Bar-Elan University, Israel

By brush and lens: Revealing the Sphinx: Elaine A Evans, Curator, Frank H McClung Museum, Knoxville, Tennessee

Early Crusaders' impressions of the Near East: Charles Foster, London

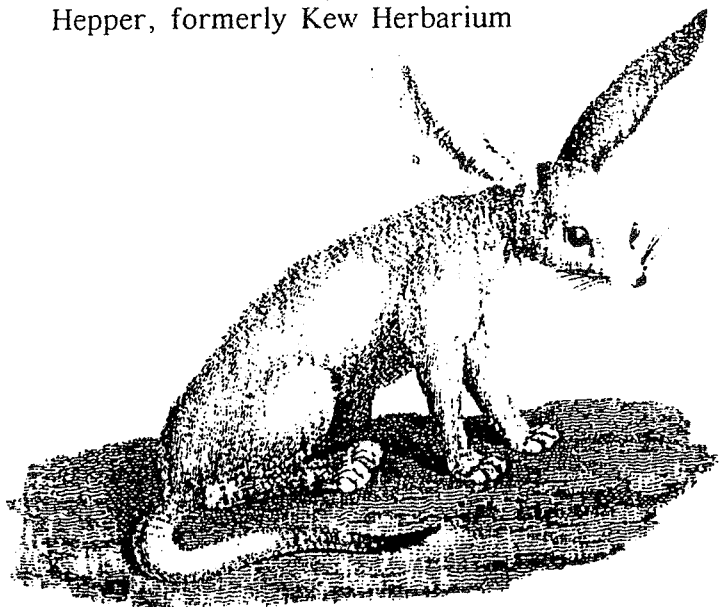
Expedition Scientifique de Morée: Captain Peytier's contribution: William M Frick, delivered by Dr Elizabeth French, ASTENE Treasurer, Cambridge

A Royal visit to Royal Mummies: the journey of the last King of Saxonia to the Sudan and Egypt in 1911: Dr Jochen Hallof, Wurzburg, Germany

The rediscovery of A C Harris' notebooks: Gottfried Hamanik, Klagenfurt, Austria

Stereographers in Egypt: Frith and the Underwoods: Rowena Hart and Dr Paul T Nicholson, Cardiff University

James Bruce and Luigi Balugani's drawings of African mammals, birds and fishes: Nigel Hepper, formerly Kew Herbarium



"Even unto the walls of China" - Islamic travel literature: Professor Carole Hillenbrand, Edinburgh University - Keynote address

The Crusaders in children's stories between East and West: Professor Nadia el Kholy, American University in Cairo

Carsten Niebuhr and the Danish Expedition: Aviva Klein-Franke, University of Cologne

Lost and Found? The Adanson Collection, 1762-1782 at John Hopkins University: Jen Kimpton, John Hopkins University

James Bruce, the Medici Venus and the 18th Century traveller as Libertine: Nigel Leask, Queen's College, Cambridge

Travellers, Tribesmen and Trouble: Journeys to Petra in the 19th century: Norman Lewis, Institute of Lebanese Studies, Oxford

The expedition of Comte de Forbin to the East, 1817-18: Pascale Linant de Bellefonds, C.N.R.S., Paris

Pictorial exchanges I: David Wilkie and John Frederick Lewis in Constantinople, 1840: Bryony Llewellyn, independent art historian

Pierre Tremaux's *Voyage au Soudan Oriental*, 1847-54: Professor Richard Lobban, Rhode Island College

Politics and the Travels of Gertrude Bell: Dr Richard Long, Newcastle

Sir Robert Ker Porter's Travels in Persia: J P Luft, Durham University

A Tale of Two Ciceros: Travels in Asia Minor in the late Roman Republic: Professor Marsha McCoy, Fairfield University, Connecticut

A famous Scottish traveller's little-known journey: Isabella Bird at St Catherine's: Deborah Manley, ASTENE Conference organiser, Oxford

Mr and Mrs Smith in Greece, Egypt and the Levant: Brenda Moon, formerly University of Edinburgh Library, ASTENE Conference Organiser

W E Jennings-Bramley, 1871-1960: Explorer and Surveyor in the Lybian Desert, Sudan and the Sinai Peninsula, authority on and friend of the Bedouin: Yvonne Neville-Rolfe, Joseph Bonomi descendant

Pictorial exchanges II: A qajar case study. Who was Haluka Mirza?: Charles Newton, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

The Dancer of Esna: William H Peck, Curator of Ancient Arts, Detroit Institute of Arts

"A threatening literary inundation" - German 20th century writers visiting Egypt: Dr Sylvia Peuckert, Frei University, Berlin

The God, the King and "The Child": a much interrupted journey: Dr Jacke Phillips, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge

The short happy life of Ernest Harold Jones (1877-1911): Artist and Egyptologist: Lyla Pinch-Brock, Cairo

Buried Women: Sarah Belzoni, Amelia Edwards, Margaret Benson: Megan Price, Wolfson College, Oxford

The Caledonian Mussulman: Osman Effendi: Peta Rée. ASTENE Bulletin, York

The origin of Shelley's *Ozymandias*: Professor John Rodenbeck, American University in Cairo

The Awalim: Professor John Rodenbeck, American University in Cairo

Ahmad Mohamed Hassanein, Explorer in Egypt and Libya and Royal Chamberlain, 1920s and 1930s: Barnaby Rogerson, Sickle Moon Books, London

Christian Rassam (1808-72): translator, interpreter, diplomat and liar: Dr Geoffrey Roper, University Library, Cambridge

Egypt travel laughing: Travel and travellers through the satirical eye: Dr Gabriel Rosenbaum, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Mausoleum and Robert Murdoch Smith at Halicarnassus, 1856-9: Jennifer Scarce, ASTENE Committee, formerly Scottish National Museum, Edinburgh

Walter Plowden in Abyssinia: Sarah Searight, London

Artists in Cyprus in the 19th century: the difference in their perceptions through the century: Dr Rita Severis, Cyprus

The Omda House, Qurna: Caroline Simpson, Gournu Project

Bagnios, Coffee-houses and "glistening pomegranate-thickets": Janet Starkey, ASTENE Conference organiser, Durham University

A Lebanese Traveller in Egypt: Dr Paul Starkey, Durham University

Giovanni d'Athanasia (1798-1854); an outline biography: Dr John Taylor, British Museum

Egypt in Russian poetry: Marianna Taymanova, Durham University

Edward Wiliam Lane's Bicentenary: a Biographic Perspective: Professor Jason Thompson, American University in Cairo - Keynote address

Egypt on the itinerary of the pilgrimages of penitence (1882-1914): Marie-Paule Vanlathem, Fondation Egyptologique Reine Elisabeth, Belgium

Early travellers to Alexandria: dirt, darkness and dismay: Professor Marjorie Venit, University of Maryland

Crossing borders in the Near East and Egypt: comparative research resulting from travel to the ancient sites: Professor Petrus Vermaak, University of South Africa

John Antes: Dilettante Americano or What?: Cassandra Vivian GDI

Surveying the Morea: the French Expedition, 1828-32: Professor Malcolm Wagstaff, ASTENE Chairman, University of Southampton, who also summarised the introductory paper to this session, in the absence of Professor Mike Heffernan

Ventur de Paradis: Reports from Tunis: Bruce Wannell, York

American female missionaries and archaeologists, 1854-1914: Dr Jeanne-Marie Warzeski, Columbus Museum, Georgia

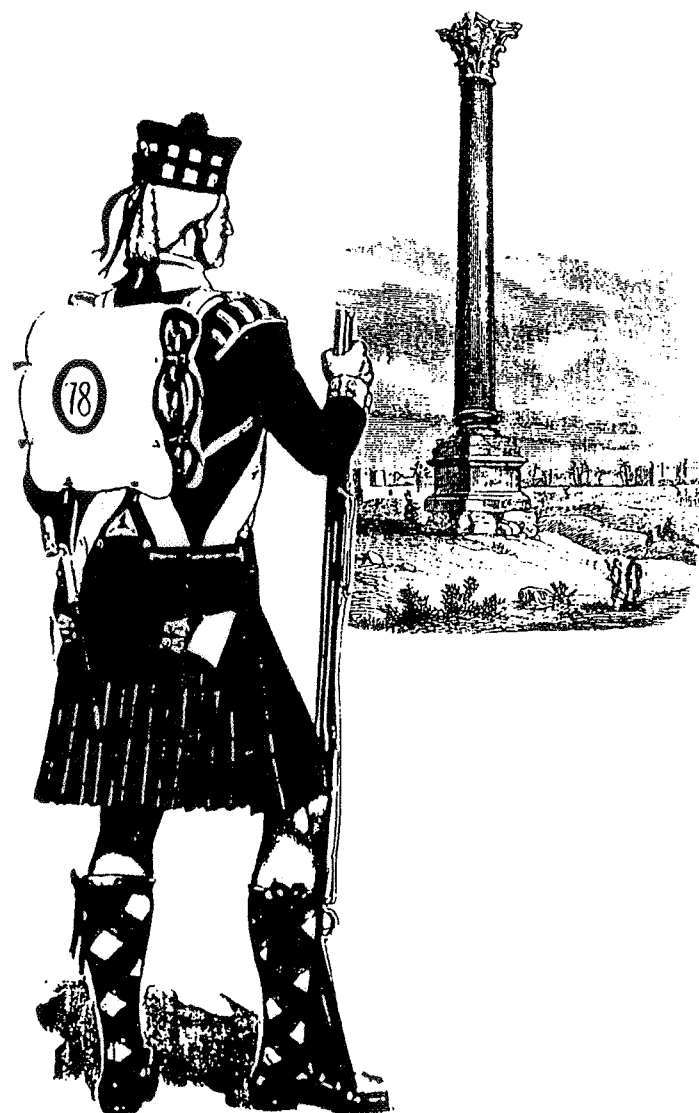
19th century images of Egypt: Caroline Williams, William & Mary College, Williamsburg

Railway Engineers in Ottoman Yemen: Andrew Wilson, Leeds

Johann Wild: a German slave in Egypt, 1606-16: Anne Wolff, Liverpool

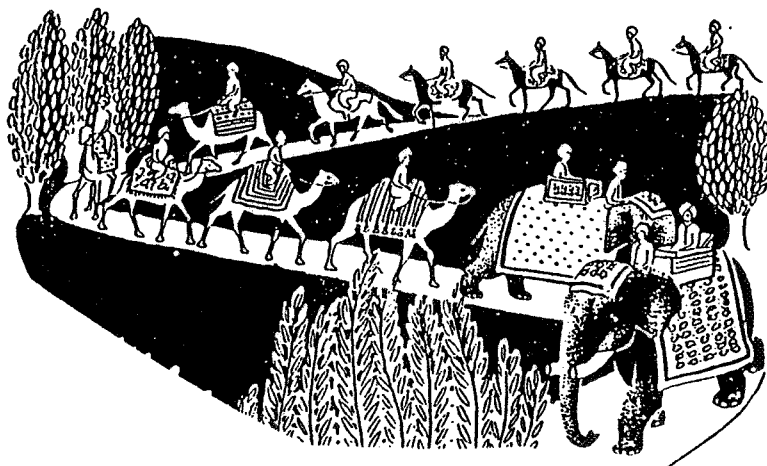
Follow the Yellow Brick Road: Dr Yuval Yekutieli, Ben Gurion University, Israel

Caviglia and the lost tongue of Egypt: Marco Zatterin, Turin



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 Dr Paul Starkey, Durham University
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 Dr Brian Taylor, Rutland
 Christine Taylor, Edinburgh University
 Dr John Taylor, British Museum

Marianna Taymanova, Durham University
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 Professor Christopher Thompson, University of
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 Mr and Mrs C Thompson, Edinburgh
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 Marie-Paule Vanlathem, Fondation Egyptologique
 Reine Elisabeth, Belgium
 Professor Marjorie Venit, University of Maryland
 Professor P Vermaak, University of South Africa
 Cassandra Vivian, GDI
 Professor Malcolm Wagstaff, ASTENE Chair,
 University of Southampton
 Bruce Wannell, York
 Dr Jeanne Marie Warzeski, Columbus Museum,
 Georgia
 Dr Alix Wilkinson, Birkbeck College, London
 Caroline Williams, William & Mary College,
 Williamsburg
 Professor John Williams, Williamsburg
 Andrew Wilson, Leeds
 Anne Wolff, Liverpool,
 Edwin Wolff, Liverpool
 Dr Yuval Yekutieli, Ben Gurion University, Israel
 Marco Zatterin, Turin, Italy



HUGH VERNON JACKSON (1925-2001)

Hugh was a founder member of ASTENE, and always a keen and supportive one. He seldom, for example, let the appearance of a *Bulletin* go by without writing to tell us how much he appreciated it - I shall miss the warmth of that encouragement, and also the snippets of information he would impart in his uniquely unreadable calligraphy. Since I knew little about Hugh's past, I wrote to his son Gerald, and his reply tells so much more clearly who Hugh was than anything written by one who regarded him as a friend, but to whom he was comparatively a stranger, that, with his permission, it is Gerald's words that are given here.

Dad was an internationalist.

He was born in Hankow, China. His father worked for Jardine Matheson - selling arms to the warlords, as Dad described it.

He first visited Egypt in the same year, when his family came back through the Suez Canal. He grew up in Victoria, British Columbia and did his first degree at the University of British Columbia, his second at London and his Doctorate at Columbia, NYC.

He first worked in Africa as a Colonial Officer in Northern Nigeria. He was the image of a colonialist with his white shirt, shorts and socks, but he was a firm friend of the Emir of Sokoto and a firm believer in independence for Nigeria and the Camerouns. He stayed in Northern Nigeria and the Camerouns after independence and set up a teacher training college in the Camerouns. He wrote several books of West African Folk Stories.

After his Doctorate, he went to Grenada in the West Indies and again worked as principal of a Teacher Training College. In the late 1960s he joined the Canadian International Development Agency. He was seconded in the early 1970s to set up the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland and he was Pro Vice Chancellor of the Botswana campus, which he founded.

He continued to work for the Canadian Government with long spells in Nigeria and was then posted to Addis Ababa. He lived in Addis, Khartoum and Cairo through most of the 1980s, co-ordinating the Canadian aid to the region throughout the terrible famine. He had a huge love of the area and in 1991 when he retired, he chose to move back to Cairo.

He continued his reading and researches throughout his life. His love of history and the peoples of Africa was a current that passed through his whole adult life - but from an African not a European standpoint.

Dad died in Berkshire after I brought him back from Cairo. He was an independent, proud and kind man who has left a mass of people around the world who will miss his friendship, interest and the letters (which took such a time to decypher).

Many people have kindly contributed in his memory to funding for the Sudanese refugees who are helped by the Anglican Cathedral in Cairo, and I am sure he would have been pleased.

TRAVELLERS' TALES (1)

Soldiers on the Summit: some military pyramid climbers, 1882

I

At the beginning of October 1882 the First Battalion of the Royal Highland Regiment (the Black Watch), headed by the Band and Drums, marched in fours out of Cairo along the raised, tree-lined road to Giza. There orders were given to 'stack arms' and 'fall out'.

The men immediately challenged each other to race to the top of the Great Pyramid - this after a seven-mile march! They must have been superbly fit. Within minutes swarms of soldiers were clambering up the face of the monument. The three-foot high stone tiers are too high for an ordinary step, so the Highlanders ascended by a series of handsprings.

On reaching the summit, the eighteen-year-old Lance Corporal Gordon, third in the race, could only lie on his back till sharp pains in his head had subsided. But he still climbed the flag-pole and from there, 500 feet above the desert, he admired the spectacular view.

On the way down, he entered the King's and Queen's Chambers, candle in hand. 'How dismal. It gave me the creeps.'

II

At much the same time as the Black Watch, the Second Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry also marched to Giza, equipped in their case for an overnight stay. Corporal John Philip, seated on a rocky mound near the base of the Great Pyramid, 'but at such a distance as to secure as full a view as possible', was overwhelmed by the immensity and grandeur of the monument.

Postponing the ascent until the cool of the evening, Philip and two friends explored the rest of the site. With a guide and clutching candles, they too penetrated the interior of the Great Pyramid - 'a gruesome spot'.

Prior to climbing to the summit - without a guide - they unwisely removed their heavy boots, thinking they would be lighter and more surefooted. Unlike the Highlanders, they did not bound up in one go, but took a short breather about halfway up. On arrival at the summit, they too marvelled at the wonderful vista that stretched in all

directions. Like Lance-Corporal Gordon, one of the party shinned up the flagstaff despite the pleas of his companions, who feared it would give way under his weight and cast him into eternity. Then, with the sun now fast setting, they began their descent, 'a giddy and dangerous task'. With feet sore from much bootless climbing, they were greatly relieved to reach terra firma.

David Dixon

John Gordon, *My Six Years with the Black Watch* (Boston, 1929); John Philip, *Reminiscences of Gibraltar, Egypt and the Egyptian War, 1882* (Aberdeen, 1893)

TRAVELLERS' TALES (2)

A Victorian Holiday Slide Show
At the Saltaire Club & Institute
on March 16, 1871

The subject chosen by the lecturer, Mr Titus Salt Junior, was 'Reminiscences of a tour in Egypt and the Holy Land'.

There was a large and appreciative audience. A large screen 25 feet square was suspended above the platform, upon which coloured photographs of the principal scenes of interest, visited by the lecturer, were reflected by the oxy-hydrogen lime light lantern.

Mr Salt commenced his lecture by saying that he started from London, on the 16th February 1865, and went via Paris and Marseilles to Alexandria, touching at Malta, where he went ashore for about two hours, and was struck with the numbers of things he saw which reminded him of old England - some rather sad than otherwise, such as drunken sailors and soldiers. He described what were his impressions and feelings when he first landed among the Orientals, and gave several amusing illustrations of the customs of the people and the roguery which they attempted to practice upon all strangers passing through their country. He described a railway ride towards Cairo, and mentioned the fact that all the railway officials were Englishmen, and that the carriages were noticed by himself and his party to be very much like those of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company. On making enquiries they were told that they were the worn-out carriages of that company which had been bought and

renovated for service in that country. Mr Salt and his friends preferred to ride in some open carriages which were attached to the train, that they might see the country better; and on the journey, which was conducted at a speed much lower than on English railroads, they passed many ruins which had been excavated from the sand only to be buried again in the course of time.

The natives of those parts took kindly to the trains as a means of locomotion, but they were very guilty of riding without tickets. Europeans were laughed at for taking tickets, and told that the cheapest way to travel was to 'tip' the guard, who there also acted as ticket collector. Thus the natives travelled at extremely low fares, and this, of course, would not tend much to increase the dividends of the shareholders, who were mostly Englishmen. (Laughter)

Mr Salt then described Cairo, and went on to speak of their visit to the tombs of the Mameluke kings, to the bazaars of Cairo, and to some of the pyramids. He and his friends mounted the largest of the pyramids. He experienced considerable difficulty in the ascent, although he was assisted by three natives, two to pull him by the hands and another to push him. Not being able to speak the native tongue he could not make them understand that he should like to rest. (Laughter) The top of the pyramid was about 13 feet square, and on it was cut the names of a great many travellers who had ascended it. Many English names were there, for Englishmen always carve their names. (Laughter) The pyramid covered an area quite as large as Saltaire Park. He spoke of the Sphinx, which he said, was 60 feet high, and had been carved out of a solid piece of rock.

Having concluded his account of his tour in Egypt, Mr Salt introduced two persons attired in the male and female costume of the Orientals. He said he had bought the female dress while in Egypt, and had walked about in it, the natives not knowing but that he was a woman, as it is the custom of the females to show nothing of their faces but the eyes. (Laughter)

The tour through the Holy Land, and the pilgrimage of his party to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Tomb of Absalom, Jericho, Bethlehem, Samaria, Nazareth, Capernaum, and other places of note in Scripture history were next described. Mr Salt related instances of the impostures

which the natives carried on in order to deceive and fleece travellers, and towards the conclusion he gave a description of Damascus, which he said on account of its antiquity was entitled to the appellation 'Eternal City'. The views which were exhibited were very numerous and well executed, and enabled the audience to realise the scenes depicted and described.

At the termination of the proceedings, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr Salt for his kindness in giving the entertainment.

The Saltaire Magazine, April 1871



Titus Salt Junior (1843-1887) was a younger son of the wealthy textile mill owner, Sir Titus Salt, who, between 1853 and 1876, built the model village of Saltaire, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, to house his workers away from the crowded, polluted and unhealthy city of Bradford. The village was a complete community, with mills, houses, churches, shops, schools.

Officially opened in November 1872, but clearly in use some time earlier, was the impressive Saltaire Club & Institute, which was both a social club and an educational institution. The Lecture Hall could seat 800, and was presumably well-filled to hear this inaugural lecture by the Club's President.

How one wishes the pictures Titus Junior showed, or the journal he surely must have kept, still existed, but it seems they do not. However, some boxes of glass photographic negatives, several of which depict scenes in Egypt, were given by Titus' great-grandson to the Bradford Industrial Museum. Anyone wishing to examine them should contact: Eugene Nicolson, Curator, Bradford Industrial Museum, tel: 01274 031 756

ASTENE EVENTS

An Evening with the Friends of the British Museum

In cooperation with the Friends of British Museum, we have arranged for ASTENE members to attend the talk by Victor Winston (biographer of Leonard Woolley, Gertrude Bell, and Lady Anne Blunt) entitled 'Queens of the Desert: Women and Archaeology in Mesopotamia, Agatha Christie, Gertrude Bell, Kate Woolley and Freya Stark', at the British Museum at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 29 January 2002, followed by a private view of the exhibition *Agatha Christie and Archaeology: Mystery in Mesopotamia*, with pay bar.

To join us, please send your cheque for tickets (£7.50 each) made out to Friends of the British Museum, to David Dinnage, Events Officer, British Museum Friends, British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Remember to give your name and address!

We are very grateful to ASTENE member Henrietta McCall (author of the recently published *Max Mallowan: Archaeology and Agatha Christie*) for arranging this event.

The exhibition runs from 8 November 2001 - 24 March 2002; there is an admission charge. For details about the exhibition, see *Bulletin 11*, page 5. If you would like more information about events at the British Museum, write to Alison Maw at the Museum (address as above) to be put on the free mailing list.

Common Threads

An exhibition of Balkan costume from the collection of ASTENE member Diana Wardle will be on display in Milton Keynes in mid January during the Conference organised jointly by the Open University and the University of Birmingham on 'The Clothed Body in the Ancient World'. The exhibition will show the kind of clothes worn by the varied population of Thessaloniki which was frequently the subject of comment by travellers.

It is hoped to organise a guided tour of the exhibition for ASTENE Members. Will those who would like to be kept informed about this send their names to Lisa French at the ASTENE Office, 26 Millington Road, Cambridge CB3 9HP: email LISACAMB@AOL.COM

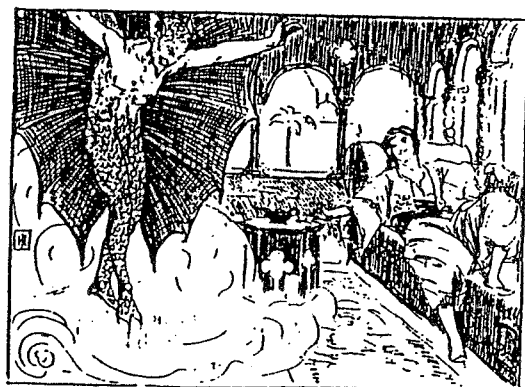
Medieval Cairo Tour & Conference

March 15 - 23, 2002

This tour has attracted enough UK members to go ahead although a few people might still be added - see Bulletin 11 for an idea of the visits to be made. Various ASTENE members have volunteered their services as guides to specific venues.

The travel arrangements are now being made by Saga Tours. Accommodation will be at the 4-star Pyramisi Hotel, for bed and breakfast, cost £699, plus £29 travel insurance (if you do not have your own) in twin-bedded rooms (there is a £179 supplement for single occupancy).

For further details, please ring Deborah Manley, 57 Plantation Road, Oxford OX2 6JE, Tel: 01865 310284 fax: (44) (0) 1865 310284



ASTENE Conference in Cairo - Call for Papers

ASTENE plans to hold its first conference abroad in Cairo, 18-19 March 2002. We are seeking papers (2500-3000 words maximum) on aspects of travel in Egypt and the Near East from

earliest times to the last century. As this conference is being held in conjunction with the ASTENE tour of Medieval Cairo (see above), we would particularly welcome papers on travel before the 17th century. Papers already offered give an idea of the range of topics: Relationship between travels to Egypt and to the Holy Land: The Gardens of Shubra Palace: travellers' accounts; Travellers' reports on the British Consulate 1816-1830.

Please send your title and abstract (no more than 100 words), either by email to the ASTENE Office, LISACAMB@AOL.COM or to Deborah Manley, 57 Plantation Road, Oxford, OX2 6JE or fax: (44) (0)1865 310284 not later than 1 February 2002. Please provide your name and affiliation (if any) for registration, and contact address, telephone and/or fax and email. Details of the venue in Cairo and the programme will be displayed on ASTENE's website during February: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/astene>

Annual General Meeting 2002

Nigel Hepper, formerly of Kew Herbarium, has offered a Near East walk around Kew Gardens. We are negotiating to combine this with the AGM, which will also include three invited speakers to give papers on travel in different parts of ASTENE's area. Full details of the event, to take place on Saturday, July 13, 2002, will appear in the next *Bulletin*.

Day School on Travellers in Greece & Cyprus

Following the success of two previous day schools, ASTENE in conjunction with Oxford University Continuing Education Department, Rewley House, Oxford, has arranged a third for October 19, 2002 on Greece and Cyprus.

Details and a booking form will be in the next *Bulletin*.

During that weekend, ASTENE will arrange one of its 'Occasions'. People will also be able to visit the Griffiths Institute Library in the new Sackler Library on October 18.

ASTENE Conference 2003

This will be held at Worcester College, Oxford, in July 2003. Details and the call for papers will appear in the Autumn 2002 *Bulletin*.

OTHER EVENTS

Oxford University Department for Continuing Education is running a series of six lectures on Mediterranean Cities, given by Trevor Rowley, an expert on landscape history. They are weekly on Mondays, 2-4pm at Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford.

Rome (22 October); Athens (29 October); Byzantium to Istanbul (5 November);

Jerusalem (12 November); Cairo (19 November); Venice (26 November)

Series ticket, £28.50 or individual lecture tickets, £6, available from Rewley House.

The Midwest Victorian Studies Association 2002 Conference at the University of Illinois-Chicago, April 19-20. Papers are invited on the theme of 'Victorian Borders': racial, social, sexual, national and international; colonial, professional, literary or religious; borders between centuries, periods, professions; teaching across borders. Interdisciplinary topics are encouraged. Please direct enquiries and 500-word abstracts by November 2 to: Dr Anne M Windholz, MVSA Executive Secretary, Dept of English, Augustana College, 2001 South Summit Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57197; fax:605-274-5288; email:windholz@inst.augie.edu

On Monday, 5 November, as part of the Winter Programme of the Friends of the Petrie Museum, UCL, Anthony Legge will speak on 'Edward Daniel Clarke in Egypt', at 6.30pm in Lecture Theatre G6, Institute of Archaeology, Gordon Square, London WC1. Admission is

free and refreshments will be served.

On Wednesday, 7 November, Peta Rée will speak to the Anglo-Ethiopian Society on 'Henry Salt in Abyssinia' at 7pm at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Malet Street, London WC1.

TRAVELLERS' TALES (3)

Twain's Travail

At almost exactly the same date as Titus Salt Junior scaled the Great Pyramid, Mark Twain described the same experience with far more rancour.

A laborious walk in the flaming sun brought us to the foot of the Great Pyramid of Cheops. It was a fairy vision no longer. It was a corrugated unsightly mountain of stone. Each of its monstrous sides was a wide stairway which rose upward, step above step, narrowing as it went, till it tapered to a point far aloft in the air. Insect men and women...were creeping about its dizzy perches, and one little black swarm were waving postage stamps from the airy summit - handkerchiefs will be understood.

Of course we were besieged by a rabble of muscular Egyptians and Arabs who wanted the contract of dragging us to the top - all tourists are. Of course you could not hear your own voice for the din that was around you. Of course the Sheiks said *they* were the only responsible parties; that all contracts must be made with them, all moneys paid over to them, and none exacted from us by any but themselves alone. Of course they contracted that the varlets who dragged us up should not mention bucksheesh once. For such is the usual routine. Of course we contracted with them, paid them, were delivered into the hands of the draggers, dragged up the Pyramids, and harried and bedeviled for bucksheesh from the foundation clear to the summit. We paid it, too, for we were purposely spread very far apart over the vast side of the Pyramid. There was no help near if we called, and the Herculeases who dragged us had a way of asking sweetly and flatteringly for bucksheesh, which was seductive, and of looking fierce and threatening to throw us down the precipice,

which was persuasive and convincing.

Each step being full as high as a dinner-table; there being very, very many of the steps; an Arab having hold of each of our arms and springing upward from step to step and snatching us with them, forcing us to lift our feet as high as our breasts every time, and do it rapidly and keep it up till we were ready to faint, who shall say it is not a lively, exhilarating, lacerating, muscle-straining, bone-wrenching, and perfectly excruciating and exhausting pastime, climbing the Pyramids? I beseeched the varlets not to twist *all* my joints asunder; I iterated, reiterated, even *swore* to them that I did not wish to beat anybody to the top; did all I could to convince them that if I got there the last of all I would feel blessed above men and grateful to them forever; I begged them, prayed them, pleaded with them to let me stop and rest a moment - only one little moment: and they only answered with some more frightful springs....

Mark Twain, The Innocents Abroad, c1868

[It makes one almost glad that we are no longer allowed this invigorating experience!]

General Ulysses S Grant, travelling in Egypt in 1878, was less than impressed by the usual tourist attractions.

He takes no interest in the ruins, believing Cairo to be more interesting because of the cafés, which remind him of Paris, than the Pyramids, which he regards as entirely useless.

John Russell Young

British Consul John Barker took his family to Cairo, and *they* found a use, if a rather unconventional one.

We were amused in our trip to Cairo, by a view of the Pyramids, on the top of the largest of which my daughters danced a quadrille.

Letter to J Bradfield, 20th June 1829

NEWS and VIEWS

AN ORIENTALIST ILLUSTRATOR

The cover illustration in this *Bulletin*, the picture on this page and one of the other illustrations through the pages, are the work of Henry Justice Ford.

Born in London in February 1860, Ford gained a First Class Classical Tripos in 1882 at Cambridge, before studying art at the Slade under Legros, then at Bushey under Herkomer. He is best known for his illustrations to the Colour Fairy Books edited by Andrew Lang between 1889 and 1910, and also to 13 other volumes edited by Lang, including *The Arabian Nights' Entertainment* of 1898. His work combines 'the realistic and fantastical in a wealth of thoroughly researched and intricate detail', comments Joyce Whalley in *A History of Children's Book Illustrations*, 1988. He died in November 1941.

By no means all his illustrations, of course, have eastern themes, which is also the case with two other book illustrators of the period, Edmund Dulac and H.R. Millar. Nevertheless, one wonders if anyone interested in orientalist artists has done any research on these talented men? H.R. Millar illustrated at least one adult book, the 1898 edition of Kinglake's *Eothen*.

QURNA DISCOVERY

One day in April 1997, a young citizen of Qurna, Abdu Osman Taia Daramalli, showed Caroline Simpson a very faded photocopy of an old illustration of a house built about 1817 by Henry Salt for his agent in excavation, Yanni d'Athanasia. 'This one picture,' writes Caroline, 'started the search for the true history of this threatened community,' and led to the setting up of the Qurna History Project and to the establishment of a museum to show the Theban Panoramas made by Robert Hay and his companions in 1826.

On April 6 this year, *Qurna Discovery, Life on the Theban Hills 1826* was opened in style, attended by the Curator of Manuscripts at the British Library, their Senior Press Officer; the Deputy Governor of Luxor City and senior officers from Tourism and Press Offices; the Director General, Senior Inspector and colleagues



from the West Banks Antiquities Office; American, Polish, Hungarian, German and French archaeologists, a few tourists, two journalists, and last but not least, a large number of local people. There were speeches, there was food, there was music and dancing.

In the first month, there were over 170 visitors and the local people feel proud their village was recorded and delighted that it is appreciated.

Despite the generosity of The Imaginative Traveller and many individuals, there remains a shortfall in finance, and fundraising is still vital. Caroline says, 'All suggestions of things to try, people to approach, banks to rob gratefully received. I will give lectures, write short articles, share my know-how of Luxor DIY - all for my expenses and a fee/donation to the project. No job too large or too small or venue too far.'

Qurna Discovery, Omda House, Qurna, just by the Tomb of Ramose, Nobles' Tombs, is open Wednesday-Monday (Tuesday is market day) 7-12am and 2-5pm. Entry is free.

The guardian is Mohamed Osman Taia Daramalli.

Please encourage anyone you know who is visiting Luxor to visit this remarkable exhibition. Caroline and the people of Qurna

have achieved what most people believed was impossible. Congratulations and every wish for success to them all.



THE GAYER-ANDERSON MUSEUM, CAIRO - appeal for the Rare Book Collection

R G Gayer-Anderson Pasha (d. 1945), known to his friends as 'John', was an omniverous collector. Amongst the material left in his Cairo home - the *Bayt al-Ktitliyya* - which is now the Museum which bears his name, is a significant library. It is particularly strong in 18th and 19th century travel and topography, and therefore of considerable interest to ASTENE members. The library was intended to be accessible to all who were interested in its holdings, but this is currently difficult. The collection is dispersed around the house in grime-filled cupboards, often locked and nailed shut.

As part of the ongoing restoration of the Museum, the Gayer-Anderson Warner Partnership is seeking to improve the condition of the library. The proposal is to rehouse the collection in the room designated as the Library. This will involve replacing the existing bookcases with larger and dustproof cases, refurbishing one existing mahogany bookcase and introducing a rotating book display. A preliminary catalogue has been prepared of the older material (16th to 19th century). Designs have been produced for the new bookcases and estimates received for their construction and installation. A total of £3,600 is being sought.

ASTENE members interested in providing financial support for the project are invited to contact Nicholas Warner at:
18 Sharia Ismael Mohamed, Apt. 15,
Zamelek, Cairo
Tel: +20 10 575 9835
email: njwarner@hotmail.com

DESERT TOURS

Cassandra Vivian has asked us to mention three tours of the Western Desert for which

she is the *Expert in Residence*. For details of the first, Islands of the Blest, January 18-28 2002, contact Michael Ackroyd at Ancient Tours mra@dial.pipex.com For the second, Deep Desert Tour, February 23-March 9, 2002, book with DABUKA EXPEDITIONS, Hubertusstr. 91 1/3 82131 Gauting Germany. For the third, Exploring the Western Oases, March 16-28, 2002, contact
http://www.egyptrrevealed.com/images/dune_trip.htm

THE ASSOCIATION OF MALTESE COMMUNITIES IN EGYPT

Joe Attard Tabone has drawn our attention to this association, which traces its origins to 1854, when a small number of Maltese workers in Egypt formed a mutual aid society. Their activities expanded and in the 1930s a central Council of Maltese Communities in Egypt was formed. In 1956 the committee re-grouped in Britain and continue their work. The Association issues a Newsletter, and has published 'Humble Beginnings - Great Achievements: A short history of the Maltese Community of Egypt' by Ivan Magri-Overend, also 'A short list of the principal Maltese Associations' and 'Directory of Maltese Firms active in Egypt around the 1940s'.

The minimum membership is only £2 per year for UK residents, though many give more.

Further information from:
The Honorary Treasurer A.M.C.O.E.,
34 Mills Road, Melksham, Wilts
SN12 7DT

Two Opinions of the Pyramids

I Some people found the impression of awe produced by the Pyramids more painful than pleasant, but 'others have acknowledged ideas of duration, almost endless; of power, inconceivable; of majesty, supreme; of solitude, most awful; of grandeur, of desolation, and of repose.'

Edward Daniel Clarke, 1801

II 'It is true they, at least, are of a shape solid and geometrical, but their surface is of an unevenness most displeasing.'

Hercule Poirot, c1923

ILLUSTRATIONS OF CAIRO

During the Edinburgh Conference, Robert Hay's *Illustrations of Cairo* was on display at Edinburgh University Library - but something has always been missing from the book -

Robert Hay returned to England in 1834 with portfolios of beautiful drawings and watercolours showing the tombs and temples of ancient Egypt and a wagon load of plaster casts. In the years that followed, his friends John Gardner Wilkinson and Edward William Lane published accounts of the ancient and modern Egyptians. Hay, however, was unable to interest a publisher even though his friends from Egypt considered the drawings superior to those of many artists.

In the early part of 1839 Hay was finally persuaded to invest in a single book of lithographs and text to drum up patronage and develop interest in further volumes and invited James Burton and Frederic Catherwood to assist him. Their first task in publishing *Views of Cairo*, as the book was initially named, was to prepare and disperse a prospectus in order to find subscribers. This they did with help from Owen Carter, who prepared a sample illustration and on 16 May 1839 Burton was able to write to Hay saying, "I believe the circulars are all printed."

Hay was not comfortable writing the text for his book and to postpone the task he proposed a return to Cairo for further research. But financial restraints forced him to give up a second journey and he turned to Lane in the hope he would write the text, but there were difficulties with this. Lane was busy with the *Arabian Nights* and to complicate matters Hay proposed to dedicate the book to him.

Hay's saviour was Burton, who wrote him on 22 October 1839: "When I mentioned my desire of having some talk with you about the text of your work, I am afraid you gave me the credit of total disinterestedness in such desire and I loath at last that my communication should appear in the character of solicitation rather than information and that my offer should sense so much of absolute self interest. The necessity of circumstances must apologise for me. ... Under these circumstances, induced by my necessities, as well (in spite of them) as by a sincere desire to be of any use, if my services can be so, to one to whose friendship I am already so deeply

indebted and of whom I am about to ask other favours, I venture now to offer my own memoranda in aid of your work and my best endeavours to arrange these and whatever others you will furnish me with from the numerous stores you must have somewhere or other. I think I can rake out sufficient material amongst my papers in aid at any rate of your text and as I said, my efforts shall be exerted to make them available... But let me not be thought putting myself forward in the slightest degree should you be inclined yourself to set to work, or to avail yourself of his [Lane's] most valuable assistance. In a conversation I had with him, we agreed that the text need not necessarily be completed now - that it should be in folio, the same size as the plates, and printed in double columns to save the difficulty and inconvenience of following it with the eye, if in one continuous line. We at first thought the folio should correspond with [Ippolito] Rosellini's work to which, in fact, it will be a companion on account of the antiquarian spirit, which dictated and directed the drawings - but upon looking at his work, it does certainly appear an enormous size and it will perhaps be advisable to have it somewhat smaller. Will you let me know, what plan you have yourself thought of for your text? Do you intend it to be concise or to enter much into detail? Is it to give a general or particular history of the objects of interest in the drawings? Is it to touch upon the styles of architecture and to venture upon ancient Egyptian works as well as the more modern? These and any other points that may strike you I shall be obliged to you for any information upon, can I in any way forward your views. And now for the most disagreeable part of my task and I trust you will in your friendship pardon me. In case you should, owing to some other avocations be willing to take my chivalrous project into consideration, I propose putting my time and labour as a counterbalance in some way against the interest of the money you were so kind to lend me in Egypt and against that also of the forty pounds you so liberally advanced two years ago to poor Humphries. [Charles Humphries, Burton's

secretary in Egypt, had recently died].. "To this sum of £310 my earnest entreaty is that you add £190 the making of the whole debt £500 for which from this time forward I will regularly pay into your bankers or agents hands by quarterly payment the interest at 5%, the first payment to be made on January 1st and so on every three months, paying the principal at the same time by degrees and making you legally assured of both principal and interest by bond or other wise as your own and my lawyers may arrange."

It was well known to Burton's friends and relatives that his finances had veered from one crisis to another since his return to England from Egypt. To bring equilibrium to Burton's bank account, Thomas Chandler Haliburton - the Canadian author 'Sam Slick' - informed his publisher, Richard Bentley, that his nephew would read the proof sheets of his latest book. Burton, however, was more interested in writing text for Hay and easily formed a prejudice against his uncle's writings. "I have a job in hand looking the proofs of Sam Slick's *Letter Bag of the Great Western* but *between ourselves*, I wish I dared delay the publication."

In January 1840 Burton had yet to begin Hay's text, being necessarily active in sorting out the process of publishing and printing. "I shall be obliged to see some publisher or other tomorrow to satisfy ourselves on a very material point viz - how many copies are claimed by public institutions under certain circumstances"... "if the text be printed up with the plates - whether that text could, in case you wish to avoid this claim, be anything more than an index". He also informed Hay he had seen a letter to Lane and as a result, "we consulted some time on the subject and as it seems from the letters of Mr Carter and Mr Bonomi to yourself and me that the best text must be very short, in order to make the work pay".

At the beginning of February, Burton, having met with Lane, [Joseph] Bonomi and [Owen] Jones, wrote to Hay, "I then wrote to Carter again, setting him right this time, I hope, about the unfortunate prospectus of which he accuses me of having been the cause of retarding... I gave you the result of my consultation with Lane and the following is an extract referring to it, 'Upon consultation with Mr Lane at Mr Hay's desire, we have agreed that the 1st volume will have a text index sheet...and when the

subjects do not allow of being individually, they will be collectively described'. As there are some dates that we may not have at hand and which Mr Lane says he cannot furnish for 2 or 3 months, that the 2nd volume will contain these and a further account. The volumes will be thus quite as complete in themselves as necessary and as can be expected since we must confine ourselves within the usual bounds adopted in such works. There can be no difficulty, therefore, in advertising the work as you suggest...'To be published etc in Royal Folio etc each volume containing 30 views and complete in itself with brief descriptive notes etc' ... Another text sheet that will be given with the 2nd volume to those continuing subscribers, may even without any real additional expense be given to those who do not desire to continue the work - should we not find all the dates required of the buildings in the 1st volume. I think however, we shall. ... Lane thinks that Carter should not interfere with Jones in the Title frontispiece of the style and design of which Jones is so much more competent to judge. Jones's statement to me is that it was not his idea - it was Carter's own desire to have a vignette introduced and that according to Carter's request he sent him a rough sketch outline in a letter of such a design. All opinions here, Lane's, Bonomi's, [?] Boys's, Jones' and my own is that the vignette design is too common and not advisable. Will you give me your own? Will you leave it to Jones, subject to your own approval? Are you aware that Jones is engaged in a work similar to your own, composed of his and [?] Goury's drawings? He said he would write to you about it, I believe - he does not mean to let any of the views interfere with yours. There are three done - two Views in Cairo, one of a Temple in Upper Country... You have I fancy something additional to pay for the introduction of the figures by [?] Warren."

A week later Burton had Hay's authority to start writing. "As to myself I most willingly accept of your offer and will join you hand and heart in the prosecution of your packet. It will compensate for the scanty index sheet you are obliged to give now ... You must have numerous invaluable notes available for the purpose and I shall be happy to add my quota ... I shall follow Lane's advice as to the order of the plates. He would have had them placed in such an order, that in entering at the Bab al Nasr,

we should take the subjects in regular succession as they presented themselves in passing particular routes through the City by principal streets and quarters. But this will be impossible as the way in which the drawings have been selected and the order the plates are printed will not allow it. Had the work been completed we might then adopt this plan. It is submitted to you whether you will suppress altogether (giving another view) the Sooltan Hasan - or leave it for a second volume? You have asked my opinion of the plates and opinion is, I believe, generally against this; and as you have [David] Roberts, Jones and I hear another rival, [John Frederick] Lewis (the Spanish Man) to contend with, it be may perhaps worth your consideration. ... A thought has stuck me lately that Lord Prudhoe may have induced Lewis to go to Egypt - if he *has* gone. I know that he desired to obtain Roberts' sketches and made an offer which was declined - so I have heard."

Burton continued his letter with details of likely profits and the problem of theft. "As to the *percentage*, as they call it, I pay to the Bookseller, who sells my *Excerpta* £33 6s 8d per cent - that is - the book sells for £3 and I receive £2. There is absolutely no way of preventing imposition in the impression of the plates. Lane gave me a very strong instance of it the other day. They may be dishonest and you cannot prevent them. I assure you, that your suspicions are not ill founded and unless you had the impressions struck off in your own house, you cannot be secure. All say so! It is a sad state of things!"

And there were other problems. "The following is the Law regarding works similar to yours. Not even a single sheet of Index can be bound together with the plates, without giving a right of claim as a book, to 5 or 6 different public institutions. If the sheet Index or description notice be done in lithography and not printed you may escape the claim - but it would not look well perhaps. No loose sheet may be given away with the work containing the Index or descriptive notice, nor sold as part of the bound volume. Thus I am at Boys's, the publisher, as work of his, *The Picturesque Architecture of Paris, Ghent, etc.*, of which the plates were elegantly bound together in Morocco and the sheet of text loose, by the side of it. So much for evading the Law. I will see what Mr Carter says upon this

point, which I suppose he has considered." As amateur publishers they had much to learn. "I will send you the alterations I made in the prospectus - omitting altogether the dangerous passage, which you detected and which might entitle the subscribers legally to the pictures."

By May 1840 the work was almost ready for the press. "I have seen Bonomi who tells me he has ... put the figures of the Slave Market into [?] Hassan's hands. Jones has done the design for the title ... and must make a more finished drawing for your approbation. It will require tints not colouring. It is simple ... Bonomi likes it. Jones agrees it ought not to be coloured.."

Having seen proofs from many of the finished plates Bonomi wrote to Hay, "I have seen Roberts's drawings several times .. I have no hesitation in saying they are inferior to yours ... Where he falls very far short of you will be in the views of the Temples. His chief merit is in the elegant way his Cairo drawings are highlighted with white chalk and bits of colour. In all of them is a great ... exaggeration of the lengths of buildings and mountains. I doubt much if he will be able to get up his subscription, the accuracy of the drawings is very much questioned. I am told Lord Prudhoe had bought a great many of his sketches. You and Roberts have the field entirely to yourselves."

Sometime later in 1840 Burton finished the text, including the notes added by Hay and *Illustrations of Cairo* was published. On receiving a copy, Wilkinson wrote to Hay, "I ... acknowledge your kindness in sending me your beautiful views of Cairo ... I have only had time to look them over but from the gratification I have felt in this cursory view I feel how fully I shall enjoy them at my leisure and I must not defer writing to thank you and to assure you that however great may be the pleasure of having such excellent reminiscences of old times, a still greater one is that of being [obliged] to you for them and shall always look upon them as a most welcome memento of your friendship."

Although involved with the book at the start, Catherwood went to join John Lloyd Stephens on a journey into Central America. Returning to London in 1844 he contacted Hay. "I am very desirous of possessing a copy of your beautiful work on Cairo and therefore, propose that we should make an exchange, if agreeable to you." A few days

later he sent a second letter. "I was so stupid as to suppose you had seen my work, as it appeared while you were in London. However, it is a work somewhat similar to your own but not as good. It is called *Views of Ancient Monuments in Central America* – consists of 25 plates, tinted lithography, price £5.00 ... and may interest you. I heard from Mr Bourne, who did some of my plates, that you had not paid your expenses, this I can easily understand for Gentlemen Publishers, like Gentlemen Farmers, seldom make money by their operation. But what I cannot understand is the great amount in your deficiency which must arise from (I suppose) having printed a very large section. The expenses of my work have very little exceeded the estimate. £1,000 covers the whole, including drawing on stone and completing an edition of 300 and 30 coloured (these last sell for £12.12.0) I have only 2 remaining. Of the 300, I have just 50 left and when I balance my accounts, of the 200, expect to gain by about £100 to £150, all expenses paid. I fear this is poor work but with yours it is incomprehensible, as I consider your book as one of the very best that has appeared. I am the more sorry from this result, as it evidently will be a bar to your publishing anything else. I hope this will reach you in time to receive your answer before I go. I expect to sail on the 17th but my books must be packed several days before."

Although it was not a financial success for Hay, James Burton has to be credited with producing one of the finest illustrated books showing Cairo as it appeared in the first half of the nineteenth century and for writing the accompanying text. Yet, because he was in debt to Hay and possibly considered as an employee, Burton's name was omitted from the published work.

It was around this time that Burton's family disowned him and he removed to the Edinburgh area where he lived until his death at 10 Hamilton Place.

Neil Cooke

Source: British Library AddMss 38094



Robert Hay
1799-1863



James Burton
1788-1862

WOMEN TRAVELLERS

at
The National Portrait Gallery

The National Portrait Gallery is preparing an exhibition on women travellers for 2005. It will include a section on travellers to Egypt and the Near East and the following have been identified for possible inclusion:

Lucie Duff Gordon	Jane Digby
Lady Mary Wortley Montague	Freya Stark
Rebecca West	Kathleen Kenyon
Ethel Mannin	Lady Elizabeth Craven
Vita Sackville-West	Rose Macaulay
Amelia Edwards	Isabel Burton
Florence Nightingale	Gertrude Bell
	Rosita Forbes

I have written to members whose interest in these women is identified through the 'Yellow Pages', but all who may have information about collections holding material relating to them are invited to contact the exhibition organiser, Clare Gittings, at The National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2H OHE;

Tel: 020 7312 2418;

email egittings@npg.org.uk

Additions to the list would also be welcome (but presumably there must be a known portrait available, Ed.)

The final section of the exhibition will cover women who visited Britain from abroad. The following have been identified from our region:

Lady Allia Abbas Ali Beg	Zaha Hadid
Lady Florence Baker	Mona Hartoum

There must have been many others and again suggestions would be most welcome.

Malcolm Wagstaff, Chair of ASTENE

TRAVELLERS' TALES (4)

Mrs Elwood gives up

Anne Katherine Elwood (née Curteis) accompanied her new husband, Major Charles Elwood, to his posting in India, travelling via Malta and Egypt. An enthusiastic romantic, who extracted every drop of the sinister or exotic that could be wrung from her experiences, she describes a picnic party to view the Pyramids in May 1826.

As we wound along the plain, you cannot conceive how picturesque our party appeared. The heavily-armed Janissaries - Osman* in his Mameluke dress - some of our English friends in their splendid Turkish costumes, rich in scarlet and crimson, green, blue and gold - our Turkish, Arab, and Indian attendants, whose dark complexions, wild countenances, and fantastic dresses, harmonized well with the scene, and I could have fancied we were a caravan bound for Mecca, or a party flying to the Desert for safety. I, in my English attire, was the only humdrum among the whole, and perhaps the only one who could have walked in London without being mobbed.

We at length reached the Pyramids... We all immediately commenced the labour of ascending; but I can truly say those ladies who have accomplished the arduous task *without* feeling alarm, and *without* encountering difficulties, must have had very differently constituted nerves to mine, and their faculties, both physical and mental, must have been far stronger.

We scrambled up to the door-way, and continued along a ledge on the North side, till we came to the North-East angle, where the tug of war began. I was fairly pulled up by the friendly aid of the party, most of the rugged stones by which we clambered being two or three feet high. My heavy cloth habit was but ill suited for the attempt, and I soon found neither my courage nor my strength were adequate to the undertaking. I however did not relinquish it till I had been repeatedly entreated to desist, and I was at length glad to veil my cowardice under the pretence of conjugal obedience, as Charles was really seriously alarmed for my safety.

I therefore accepted Osman's proffered

services, and remained with him, *tete a tete*, for about half an hour, suspended, like Mahomet's coffin, between earth and heaven, upon the north-east angle of the Pyramid of Cheops. It was a curious situation, looking over the valley of the Nile on the one side, and the immense deserts of Africa on the other, surrounded by pyramids and tombs, in company with a Scotch Turk!

Osman made an excellent cicerone and soon convinced me that we were in the old burial-place of ancient Memphis, and I saw, or *fancied* I saw, (which was almost as good,) evident marks of the old bed of the Nile, which ages ago is said to have flowed close to these edifices...

The gentlemen, on their return, all told me I had lost nothing but the honour of carving my initials on the top *myself*, which however, was done for me by deputy.

Mrs Colonel Elwood, Narrative of a Journey overland from England by the Continent of Europe, Egypt and the Red Sea, 1830

*Osman, or William Thomson, born in Scotland, had come to Egypt in 1807 as a private soldier with General Mackenzie Fraser's disastrous expedition, had been captured at Rosetta, enslaved and forced to convert to Islam. After the British Consul General, Henry Salt, had obtained his freedom from Mehemet Ali, he became the Dragoman at the British Consulate usually sent to attend British visitors.

These several accounts of climbing the Pyramid on various dates raise a question - is it possible to pinpoint the year in which climbers no longer went up on their own or mainly with the help of their companions, but were always assisted by local guides? Can it be tied to the advent of the Cook's Tourist?

BOOKS & BOOK REVIEWS



Note from the Book Editor

I have taken over as Book Editor and would be grateful if any information about publications for inclusion in the *Bulletin* could be sent to me (see the address on page 3). I would also like to make sure that all publications, and all research, by our Members is mentioned. But I rely on you to give me the information. This applies particularly to non-English language publications. Please include articles also, they often offer the most useful information on a particular subject, but they are usually difficult to find.

Albertine Gaur

Marianne Ellis, *Embroideries and Samplers from Islamic Egypt*, (Ashmolean Museum, 2001), £24.95 hardback, £16.95 paperback. This guide to the medieval textile collection in the Department of Eastern Art, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, was published to coincide with a recent exhibition of some of these treasures.

Elaine Altman Evans, *Scholars, Scoundrels, and the Sphinx: A Photographic and Archaeological Adventure up the Nile*, (Frank H McClung Museum, University of Tennessee, 2000), 136pp, 202 illustrations, 1 map. ISBN 1-880174-04-9
Egyptology and photography emerged to

prominence in Egypt in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It was a time when travellers from all over the world began to flock to Egypt, and when dealers and fakers flourished. Egyptologists and archaeologists, who slowly used more sophisticated methods of excavation, uncovered temples, tombs and works of art for millennia hidden beneath the desert sands. Funds for research were established, among the first the Egyptian Exploration Fund in 1883 under the inspiration of Amelia B Edwards. In 1857 the first Museum of Egyptian Antiquities was established, eventually becoming the new Egyptian Cairo Museum in 1903. Both were, to begin with, under the directorship of Western scholars, and both happily sold authenticated antiquities together with photographs, postcards and publications. It was only in 1912 that the Egyptian Government declared all discoveries of antiquities to be State property by law.

Early photographers struggled with their cumbersome equipment under the relentless Egyptian sun, along impossible roads and treacherous pathways. Much of the photographic process had to be done on site. Apart from commercial photographs they also worked with Egyptologists at their excavations. Photographs quickly became valuable, considering that, until the middle of the 19th century, travellers and scholars depended on engravings to record their discoveries.

Elaine Evans produces short biographical notes of early photographers and the most prominent scholars and excavators working in the Nile Valley. She also provides a list of more than 40 original sites, illustrated with early photographs, mostly from the McClung Museum collection. Photography also assisted the documentation of inscriptions, which previously had to be copied by hand, if they were not, regrettably, brutally removed.

There is a final chapter on dealers, scoundrels and fakes. Hardly an excavator discovered a tomb under the sand, or deep in the rock face, that had not been entered before. Robbery and destruction began in the Old Kingdom and continued well into the 20th century. Already during the XX Dynasty, hierarchy and other officials,

outraged at the frequent plundering, had secretly removed the mummies of important Pharaohs and hidden them in the Theban necropolis. It was not until 1881 that the hiding place of a group of mummies was discovered. Abd al Latif, a doctor from Baghdad, in Egypt between 1193 and 1207, reported how Egyptian peasants were robbing graves to obtain mummy wrappings made of pure linen, either as clothes for themselves or to sell to paper factories. Indeed, anybody interested in Egyptian culture can only marvel at the original richness the country must have possessed, of which only a fraction is now left.

Conceived as a catalogue, Elaine Evans has actually achieved much more. This is a valuable educational resource, both from the point of view of Egyptology and the development of photography. Valuable too are the bibliographical notes that accompany each chapter.

Albertine Gaur

Timothy Gabashvili, *Pilgrimage to Mount Athos, Constantinople and Jerusalem 1755-1759*, translated and annotated by Mzia Ebanoidze and John Wilkinson (Richmond, Curzon Press, 2001), illustrated. ISBN 0-7007-1264 X

Archbishop Timothy Gabashvili was the first Georgian to leave his country on pilgrimage, though not the first to travel to the Holy Land. The text, here competently translated into English, is based on the notes he made during his journey. Four surviving manuscripts, written by Gabashvili himself, and/or to which he made additions, are here used. Their authenticity is proved by the handwriting, and also by the notes he made in the margins. The manuscripts are illustrated; plan painting of monasteries, Georgian inscriptions, etc. Elene Metreveli edited the original in 1956, providing a reliable text, and setting Gabashvili's life in the context of Georgian history and culture. The present book relies on her work.

Timothy Gabashvili was probably born around 1709, the date when the first Georgian printing press was installed in Tbilisi; after an interesting and adventurous life he died in 1764 in Astrakhan. The *Travels* proved popular and were written out many times. His style varies according to the subject. The main aim of his pilgrimage was to show 'what has happened to Georgian Kings, who had once possessed Jerusalem and Palestine, and whose relatives

in Georgia had been supreme and powerful. Now they are so much weakened that, at least in our vicinity, those who have any slight influence do not take even the trouble to talk to us.'

The translation of the *Travels* (pp67-156) are of great interest from many different aspects. Changes in language and inconsistencies have no doubt added to the difficulties, but the final work (with notes and bibliographical details) is well worth the effort.

Albertine Gaur

Paul Hulton, F Nigel Hepper and Ib Friis, *Luigi Balugani's Drawings of African Plants: from the Collection made by James Bruce of Kinnaird on his Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile 1767-1773* (New Haven, Yale Centre for British Art; Rotterdam, AA Balkema Publishers, 1991), 272pp, 297 b/w & 48 colour plates, \$175, £92. ISBN 90 6191 779 4

While James Bruce's journey to the source of the Blue Nile was widely celebrated in the 18th century, little has been known or published about his travelling companion the Italian artist, Luigi Balugani. In fact, for years, Bruce was presumed to be the artist of the splendid field sketches and beautifully finished watercolours of African plants. Here, for the first time, the work of Balugani is being presented in published form. The drawings, now in the Yale Centre for British Art, have been studied and identified by three authors: Paul Hulton, formerly Deputy Keeper of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum, Nigel Hepper, systematic botanist in the Herbarium of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, and Dr Ib Friis, botanist at the University of Copenhagen Botanical Museum. Their research reveals the artistic and scientific value of Balugani's observations on plants and animals within a broad historical context. There is a summary of Bruce's itinerary. Biographical chapters on Bruce and Balugani describe their difficult relationship, their extraordinary voyage, and its tragic conclusion.

The book is an exceptionally well-designed publication, no pain or expense has been spared. The 48 colour plates, printed in offset, accurately reproduce the original watercolours.

Roger O De Keersmaecker, *Travellers' Graffiti from Egypt and the Sudan: I The Kiosk of Qertassi* (published and printed by the author, 2001), 32pp, 5 illustrations, £8, plus airmail postage, £2.

The first in a projected series, this book lists the travellers' graffiti to be found on the small Kiosk removed from its original location to save it from being drowned in Lake Nasser and rebuilt at the site of New Kalabsha near Aswan. For each name there is a short biography, insofar as the graffitist is identifiable, and a list of the other sites where his name is to be found.

We who study the travellers know very well how valuable these vandalisms are in fixing places visited and, with luck, accurately dating the visit. We look forward to the next in the series.

The book is available from the author at Graffito Graffitti, Fruithoflaan 27 Bus 9, 2600 Berchem-Antwerp, Belgium
email: roger.dekeersmaecker@wanadoo.be

Richard Long, *Bygone Head: Travels of an Idealist in the Middle East*, (The Radcliff Press, 2001), 272pp, £24.50
ISBN 1866064 5933

The story of over 30 years of the author's life, including his time as a diplomat, told with enthusiasm and affection. He begins at Cambridge, following his career through the twists and turns of history in Libya, Iran, Lebanon, Syria, the Sudan, Turkey, the UAE, Qatar and Jordan and, above all, Iraq, a country he regards with understanding and concern. He describes his colleagues and local people at all levels, showing us the history, politics, geography, culture and social structure of the countries where he served. Richard Long, modestly, discounts the possibility that his story offers any insight into political or historical events, stressing his book is only meant to amuse. Nevertheless, the reader will find much more, above all an insight into a life spent in the most turbulent regions of the globe, and during a long period of political turmoil.

Deborah Manley & Peta Rée, *Henry Salt, Artist, Traveller, Diplomat, Egyptologist* (Libri Publications, 2001), 341pp, £29.95 hardback, ISBN 1-901965-03-1, £18.50 paperback, ISBN 1-901965-01-x

Anyone interested in the stories of early 19th century travellers in Egypt will be familiar with the role played by Henry Salt

in Egypt, perhaps less familiar with the man or his previous career. As British Consul-General from 1816 until his death in 1827 he is present in many narrative journals of his time as the pivotal figure around whom the luminaries of a heroic age of exploration and scientific enquiry swirl. Salt funded men like Giovanni Belzoni, ex-circus strongman, who excavated and plundered temples and tombs on the cusp of the decipherment of hieroglyphics and before scientific archaeology. At Sir Joseph Banks's suggestion, Salt amassed antiquities for the British Museum, since, with a meagre salary and no pension, the sale of his three great collections represented future financial security. In so doing, he became a part of the story of the rediscovery of ancient Egypt, the exploration of Nubia, and the decipherment of the hieroglyphs.

Salt was born in 1780 into a family of moderate means and trained as a painter, but despite considerable talent failed as a portraitist. In 1802 he accompanied Viscount Valentia as artist and secretary on a tour to India and a survey of the Red Sea coast, intended to open up Abyssinia to British trade and influence. As a result, in 1809, Salt was chosen for a solo Government mission to Abyssinia, returning having displayed inner resources of courage and diplomacy while documenting the ancient sites, inscriptions, and local languages.

Salt published his mission, also *24 Views*, landscapes acknowledged as rivalling the work of Thomas and William Daniell. In Egypt he accompanied distinguished travellers up-country and into Nubia, published an erudite essay on hieroglyphs, and investigated the pyramids and the sphinx, although his intellectual accomplishments were derided by contemporaries led by Sir William Gell. Relations with Belzoni, an independent spirit who hauled out colossal statuary, opened the Temple of Abu Simbel and the magnificent tomb of Seti I, but refused to see himself as an employee, were tempestuous and, despite Salt's good nature, rancorous. Salt's later years were dogged by dispiriting ill-fortune: the death of his wife, separation from his daughter, and the obduracy of the British Museum in strained and prolonged negotiations over the price of his collections (one subsequently enriched the Louvre).

Deborah Manley and Peta Rée bring his world vividly to light. Unlike the earlier

biography by his close friend, JJ Halls, Manley and Rée examine the crises and criticisms of his career. Salt's reputation is re-evaluated from that of an amiable figure of flawed intellect and judgement, to that of a talented, enterprising and intellectually able diplomat. Dying in his own bed, he is largely forgotten while the names of many of those who disappeared in fruitless quests into the interior of Africa survive. Salt well deserves this enjoyably readable rediscovery.

Patricia Usick

A version of this review was first written for the Times Higher Education Supplement, with whose kind permission it is reproduced here.

Philip Mansel, *Sultans in Splendour: Monarchs of the Middle East 1869-1945*, (London, Parkway Publishing, 2000), 192pp.

This book gives a vivid picture of a vital period in the history of the Middle East, with interesting portraits of the main players on the political stage. It also provides a condensed analysis of European infiltration into the area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, which resulted, directly or indirectly, in the overthrow of the dynasties that had previously ruled there.

During the 19th century the Middle Eastern kings had looked towards Istanbul for inspiration, but by 1945 the Ottoman Sultans were no longer in power. Even the splendid opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 had not quite fulfilled all of Egypt's expectations. Overall, British influence was not altogether beneficial: Farouk, the last king, to begin with 'prudent, well-informed and quick-witted' (according to General de Gaulle), died in exile 'torn between East and West, the mosque and the nightclub... a monarch in search of an identity'.

In Iraq, the British did succeed with Emir Faisal to create a strong Hashemite monarchy, but his successor took a liking to drink, fast cars and American films. One of the most affecting photographs shows the Emir's grandson, Faisal: a young boy occupying half the seat of his throne. The most outstanding personality in the Middle East was the Saudi King Abdul-Aziz Al Saud. There is also a chapter on Afghanistan, which stretched geography perhaps a little, but Mansel states, correctly, that the country was saved from absorption by a European Empire because of

its 'mountains and the quality of its soldiers and Emir'.

The last chapter, 'New Monarchs', states that some of the republics created since 1945 in the Middle East were only 'parodies' of the monarchs they set out to replace. Perhaps. But the author's own portrayal, in word and picture, does make one feel that for the people they ruled, there was really little to choose between them.

Albertine Gaur

David Rohl, ed., *The Followers of Horus: Eastern Desert Survey I*, (ISIS, Oxford, 2000), 200pp.

The rock inscriptions of the Eastern desert of Egypt have long fascinated travellers to this remote area. They are noted for their depiction of local fauna and also, most curiously for a desert location, of boats. In this book, an extensive number of these remarkable drawings, some newly discovered, some long known, are presented with photographs and line drawings. The dating of the inscriptions remains speculative, although most are generally attributed to the prehistoric and predynastic periods. This interesting volume can be obtained from ISIS, 127 Porter Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 4JT.

Anthony Sattin, *The Pharaoh's Shadow*, (The Orion Publishing Company Group Ltd) Paperback published by Phoenix, 2001, £7.99.

Anthony Sattin's travels through Egypt reveal a fascinating world, still clinging to its ancient roots while moving into the 21st century; a country where millions of visitors each year discover ancient buildings and monuments, but Egypt's extensive ancient culture remains virtually unknown. From fertility rites and tomb dwellers to saints and magicians, Sattin's discoveries and observations give us a truly wonderful insight into the Egyptian experience. 'This book is a rarity among modern travel books, a genuine labour of love... It stands as one of the most fascinating and remarkable travel writing debuts to be published for many years.' *The Spectator*

Rita C Severis, *Travelling Artists in Cyprus 1700-1960*, (Philip Wilson Publishers Ltd, 2000), 288pp, 300 colour and 50 mono illustrations, £29.95. ISBN 0 85667 522

Books on art need a focus - on an artist, a period, a genre. In Rita Severis' book the

focus is place, and that the place is an island makes for a special containment. Within this narrow compass a wide variety of visiting artists are examined. What they have in common, suggests Dr Severis, is that they bring to their presentation of the topography and ethnography of Cyprus their own cultural and political agendas. Sometimes these seem to have been largely informed by commercial considerations – what image might induce the artist's countrymen to purchase. But also, though one sometimes felt Dr Severis was making an almost Procrustean interpretation when reading political intentions in an image, there is no doubt that by the end of her period, while Cyprus was a British colony, many artists were consciously serving as propagandists for a view of the island which the Establishment wished to present to the British people.

Dr Severis has taken a thought-provoking angle for a book on art – which means that to get full value, the reader should study the well-researched text, and not merely delight in the often stunning visual images.

Peta Rée

Looking for an out of print book? Try website <http://www.scry.com/ayer> They hold the rights to several including some 19th century volumes and need only 10 back-orders to reprint most titles – you wait until they get that many orders.

ASTENE PUBLICATIONS

Two of the three books developed from papers given at the 1999 ASTENE Conference in Cambridge and published by ourselves, are already out. The third is expected shortly.

I *Desert Travellers from Herodotus to TE Lawrence*, edited by Janet Starkey and Okasha El Daly, illustrated
ISBN 0-9539700-0-0

II *Travellers in the Levant: Voyagers and Visionaries*, edited by Sarah Searight and Malcom Wagstaff, illustrated
ISBN 0-9539700-1-9

III *Egypt Through the Eyes of Travellers*, edited by Nadia El Kholy and Paul Starkey, illustrated ISBN 9539700-2-7

All the volumes cost £19.95 (£17.50 for ASTENE members) and are obtainable from The Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell Street, London WC1 3QB
Tel: 020 7580 4086; Fax: 020 7436 4364
email: mbooks@btconnect.com

The volumes based on papers from the 1995 Durham Conference (I), and the 1997 Oxford Conference (II & III) are also available:

I *Travellers in Egypt*, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey, (London, IB Tauris, 1998), £25 hardback ISBN 1 86064 324 8
£14.95 paperback 1 86064 674 3

II *Unfolding the Orient*, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey, (Reading: Ithaca, 2001), illustrated £35 ISBN 0-86372-257-1

III *Interpreting the Orient*, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey, (Reading, Ithaca, 2001), illustrated £35 ISBN 0-86372-258-X

Ithaca Press: orders@garnet-ithaca.co.uk

All the books are also available through The Museum Bookshop



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RESEARCH RESOURCES

THE GRIFFITH LIBRARY

The new Sackler Library in Oxford incorporates the collections of the former Ashmolean Library (including the Griffith Institute Library and Western Art Library), Classics Lending Library, History of Art Library and Eastern Art Library.

The Griffith Library's specialised collections are an integral part of the Sackler (Ashmolean) Library, which embraces the wider discipline of Old World archaeology and ancient history, and maintains historical continuity by acquiring publications in the fields of Papyrology, the Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine East and Graeco-Roman Egypt.

The Griffith Library contains 30,000 titles on Egyptology, Coptic and Near Eastern Studies. The nucleus of the Egyptology Collection was formed by Francis Llewellyn Griffith (1862-1934) and bequeathed to the University of Oxford in 1938. Since then, Griffith's endowment has been used to keep the collection up to date and to expand into Ancient Near Eastern Studies. In 1944 the Library acquired the library of Walter Ewing Crum (1865-1944), one of the foremost Coptologists of his time, which forms the core of an expanding collection focusing on the language, literature and material culture of the Copts. The Ancient Near East Collection has developed principally from the bequests of Griffith and Professor Archibald Sayce (1845-1933), and includes material donated by Sir Alan Henderson Gardiner (1879-1963). It focuses on Middle Eastern archaeology and cuneiform languages.

Today the Griffith Library, along with its American counterpart, the Wilbour Library of Egyptology in the Brooklyn Museum of Art, is one of the finest research collections for the study of pre-Islamic Egypt.

The Griffith collection is housed in the first floor rotunda. It is divided into two large sections, Assyriology (shelfmarks 200-299) and Egyptology (300-399). The travel accounts of Egypt are in shelfmarks 327-329 and the rest of the Near East in 208. A few larger than 32cm, are shelved elsewhere but nearby. A very few, rare by nature of their age or condition, are stored in the Rare Book Room and can only be seen by special arrangement.

The Griffith Collections exist to support

the work of scholars of the University of Oxford and their students. Holders of a (current, blue-stripe) Oxford University card or a Bodleian Reader's ticket may register to use the library. Outside readers should write to Diane Bergman, the Griffith Librarian, to arrange a visit. All serious researchers in the fields of Egyptology and Assyriology are welcome.

Opening hours: Monday-Friday 9.00-22.00
Saturday 10.00-17.00

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email: Diane.Bergman@SacLib.ox.ac.uk

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

The Library of the Faculty of Advocates, opened in 1689, and from 1710 one of the five British copyright libraries, became the National Library of Scotland in 1925.

Today the Library is Scotland's largest, and is both a general research library of international stature and the world's leading repository for the printed and manuscript record of Scotland's history and culture. The Map Library holds atlases, maps and reference works relating to the whole world. The manuscript collections (from which the exhibition shown at the conference was selected) range from medieval and Scottish literary manuscripts to family and estate papers and sporting archives.

The Library is open to anyone with a need to use its collections. General Reader's tickets are available to postgraduate but not undergraduate or school students. Application forms are available from any of the Library's service points and must be presented in person, together with evidence of identity and two passport-quality colour photographs. Short-term tickets, for occasional access, can be obtained by applying in person, with evidence of identity, address, and details of the material which it is desired to consult.

Opening hours: General Reading Room (which contains most post-1800 printed books); North Reading Room (manuscripts, pre-1800 printed books, books from special collections, photographs); Microform

Reading Room (microform material, CD-ROMS), all in the George IV Bridge Building: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9.30-20.30; Wednesday, 10.00-20.30; Saturday, 9.30-13.00.

The Map Library, in the Causeway Building: opens at the same time as the other rooms, but closes at 17.00 (13.00 on Saturday)

Please direct initial enquiries to:
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Fax: +44 (0) 131 466 2804
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QUERIES & ANSWERS

Andrew Bednarski, a PhD student in the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Cambridge, is 'tracing the distribution and dissemination of the first edition of the *Description de l'Egypte*, with the aim of evaluating its accessibility and possible impact on perceptions of ancient Egypt', and would like to hear from anyone with information on, or other interest in, the topic. His address is: Flat 3, 8 Harvey Road, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1ET: email: andrewbednarski@hotmail.com

In mid-May 1818, near Benisouef, Giovanni Belzoni met a Reverend **Slowman** (sic), a man aged 62, who had (without a word of Arabic) travelled through 'the lands of Syria, which travellers fancy wonderfully difficult'. He was on his way to the Second Cataract and Belzoni met him again on his way back. A search of the Oxford and Cambridge Alumni records reveals no Slowman or more likely, Sloman, of the right age. Does anyone know who he was? Also Belzoni says darkly that Slowman had been laughed at and even ill-treated 'by some person who deserves to be mentioned, and who wished to be alone in travelling'. Who might that have been?

In answer to a query in Bulletin 11 about a Mr **Chahine**, Philip Mansel writes that Richard Chahine is a dealer in art in our field, and is very knowledgeable.

Hala Cochrane kindly sent us a list of the books published by Mr Chahine, which deal with the artistic and architectural heritage of the Lebanon; of interest to us would be *The Orientalists in Lebanon*, Editions Chahine.

TRAVELLERS' TALES (5)

Dr Clarke does it twice

In 1801, Edward Daniel Clarke (1769-1822) visited Egypt, and, following the surrender of the French Army at Cairo, he and his travelling companion, John Marten Cripps, went up from Alexandria to see the sights. William Richard Hamilton (1777-1859), Lord Elgin's secretary, sent by him to Egypt to examine the monuments, and Josef Hammer-Purgstall (1774-1856), a member of the Austrian Embassy at Constantinople, together with some English officers, made a party to view the greatest sight of all...

From Djiza, our approach to the Pyramids was through a swampy country, by means of a narrow channel, which however was deep enough; and we arrived without any obstacle, at 9 o'clock, at the bottom of a sandy slope, leading up to the principal pyramid. Some Bedouin Arabs, who had assembled to receive us upon our landing, were much amused by the eagerness excited in our whole party, to prove who first should set his foot upon the summit of this artificial mountain.

As we drew near its base, the effect of its prodigious magnitude and the amazement caused in viewing the enormous masses used in its construction, affected every one of us; but it was an impression of awe and fear, rather than of pleasure... Here and there appeared some Arab guides upon the immense masses above us, like so many pygmies, waiting to shew the way up to the summit. Now and then we thought we heard voices, and listened; but it was the wind, in powerful gusts, sweeping the immense ranges of stone.

Already some of our party had begun the ascent and were pausing at the tremendous depth which they saw below. One of our military companions, after having surmounting the most difficult part of the undertaking became giddy in consequence of looking down from the elevation he had attained; and being compelled to abandon the project, he hired an Arab to assist him in effecting his descent. The rest of us, more accustomed to the business of climbing heights, with many a halt for respiration, and many an exclamation of wonder, pursued our way towards the summit.

The mode of ascent has been frequently

described, and yet, from the questions which are often proposed to travellers, it does not appear to be generally understood. The reader may imagine himself to be upon a staircase, every step of which, to a man of middle stature, is nearly breast high; and the breadth of each step is equal to its height: consequently, the footing is secure; and although a retrospect, in going up, be sometimes fearful to persons unaccustomed to look down from any considerable elevation, yet there is little danger of falling. In some places, indeed, where the stones are decayed, caution may be required; and an Arab guide is always necessary, to avoid a total interruption; but, upon the whole, the means of ascent are such that almost everyone may accomplish it.

Our progress was impeded by other

causes. We carried with us a few instruments; such as, our boat-compass, a thermometer, a telescope, &c.; these could not be trusted in the hands of the Arabs, and they were liable to be broken every instant. [When they reached the top, they sent an Arab down with a note to the vertiginous officer, urging him to try again, but the messenger returned without him. So Clarke went down to him himself]

...and found him in the entrance to the Pyramid...and having with some difficulty prevailed upon him to renew the attempt, succeeded in conducting him to the top.

Edward Daniel Clarke, Travels in Various Countries, etc, Vol 2, part the second, section the second

PELTERS OF PYRAMIDS

A shoal of idlers, from a merchant craft
 Anchored off Alexandria, went ashore,
 And mounting asses in their headlong glee,
 Round Pompey's Pillar rode with hoots and taunts, -
 As men oft say 'What art thou more than we?'
 Next in a boat they floated up the Nile,
 Singing and drinking, swearing senseless oaths,
 Shouting, and laughing most derisively
 At all majestic scenes. A bank they reached,
 And clambering up, played gambols among tombs:
 And in portentous ruins (through whose depths -
 The mighty twilight of departed Gods -
 Both sun and moon glanced furtive, as in awe)
 They hid, and whooped, and spat on sacred things.

At length, beneath the blazing sun they lounged
 Near a great Pyramid. Awhile they stood
 With stupid stare, until resentment grew,
 In the recoil of meanness from the vast;
 And gathering stones, they with coarse oaths and jibes,
 (As they would say, 'What art thou more than we?')
 Pelted the Pyramid! But soon these men,
 Hot and exhausted, sat them down to drink -
 Wrangled, smoked, spat, and laughed, and drowsily
 Cursed the bald Pyramid, and fell asleep.

Night came: - a little sand went drifting by -
 And morn again was in the soft blue heavens.
 The broad slopes of the shining Pyramid
 Looked down in their severe simplicity
 Upon the glistening silence of the sands
 Whereon no trace of mortal dust was seen.

Richard Hengist Horne (1802-1884)