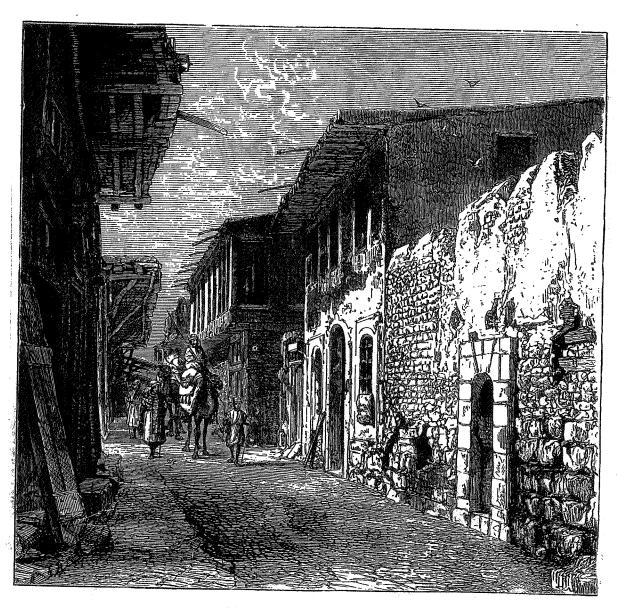
Bulletin of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East: Notes and Queries

No 33

Autumn 2007



STREET STRAIGHT, DAMASCUS.

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BULLETIN 34: The deadline for articles, reviews, news etc is 1 December, 2007.

ASTENE News and Events

ASTENE'S tour to Syria, 17-26 October

The tour of Syria this October will be described in the next Bulletin, Number 34. The tour will include Damascus, Palmyra and Aleppo and places between and there will be a short conference in Aleppo with three papers on varied ASTENE subjects.

The experience of an ASTENE Conference

This was indeed a buffet of delights: the papers ranged geographically from Greece in the west to Arabia and Mesopotamia in the east, from Egypt in the south to Central Europe in the north (though with a strong bias towards Egypt). The historical emphasis was on the nineteenth century, but there were sallies into much earlier periods (for example, one on the beginnings of the incense trade in about 1800 BCE) and later ones (e.g. Czech travel clubs between the wars).

Paul Robertson (in Bulletin 32) has categorised the papers into three groups according to the kinds of questions asked by their authors. For me, they also fell into a different three-way grouping: there were a few papers which were directly relevant to my own research, a larger number on topics about which I had a little bit of knowledge, and many (probably the largest group) on subjects which were completely new to me. This made for a fascinating and challenging few days: it was certainly necessary to keep one's wits about one!

Highlights for me (to name only three – inevitably a personal choice) were Malcolm Wagstaff on the mysterious Evliya Celebi in the Mani, Paul Robertson on Muhammed Sadiq's hajj guide, and Brian Taylor on Beaufort's work on charting the Anatolian coast. But there were many others that left me wanting to know more – and when I'm working in pencil-only libraries, I shall think of Conte, one of Napoleon's savants, introduced to me by Andrew Oliver.

Few marks to Southampton University for its creaky technology, but we were wonderfully lucky to have Bart Ooghe to step into that particular breach, and there was an ample supply of good humour all round.

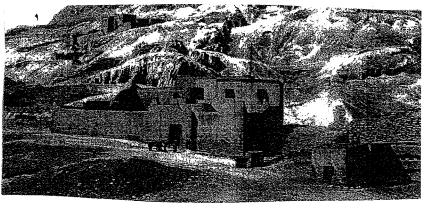
As a first time participant in an ASTENE conference, I realised that there were a lot of people there from different countries who already knew each others, so the friendliness and lack of cliqueyness was all the more welcome. I appreciated the interesting conversations over meals and drinks as much as the formal sessions. It was perhaps a pity that the planned discussion

sessions didn't materialise, but the packed schedule left few gaps, and the smooth organisation was a tribute to the hard work put in by the Wagstaffs. The farewell picnic in the grounds of Highclere Castle - after a visit to the Carnarvon's Egyptian museum - on a beautiful summer day made a fitting end to the days of the conference. Lucy Pollard

Lucy Pollard's introduction to her first ASTENE Conference was giving her paper on Stuart Travellers' Perceptions of Greeks in the Ottoman Empire in the opening session after Professor Emilie Savage-Smith's keynote paper and Dr Renata Tatomir's paper on incense, "the Egyptians' gift to the Ancient World". The abstracts of all the papers can be seen on the ASTENE website.

Yanni's House at Gourna opposite Luxor

ASTENE's Annual General Meeting in South-ampton agreed that, if our constitution allowed, we would help to support the reconstruction of the house on the hillside above the village of Gournu on the west bank of the Nile opposite Luxor, known as "Yanni's House". This house is said to have been built for the British Consul General Henry Salt in the 1820s and was used by his agent in Upper Egypt, the Greek, Giovanni d'Athanasi (1798-1854). Dr Brian Taylor has now checked with the Charity Commissioners that our constitution allows us to contribute to this work, and the ASTENE committee decided at its meeting on 29 September to follow up our involvement with the restoration.



This traditional mud-brick house was popularly known as 'Yanni's house' or the 'English house'. Travellers congregated there on their visits to the sites of the west bank and the Valley of the Kings to take refreshment, often to meet other travellers, and to see the antiquities Yanni had purchased for Salt's collection.

Many of the travellers wrote about their visit. As a contribution to the project of reconstructing this historic house as a living part of Egypt's heritage, we are planning to prepare a short anthology of travellers' descriptions of the house and the people who wrote about it.

We are already aware of the travellers' accounts of: John Madox (1823), Anne Katherine Elwood (1826). If you have a contribution to this project, please would you let the Bulletin Editor know the traveller, date and detailed source of the record. Any information about illustrations of the house or of people at the house will also be welcomed.

Forthcoming ASTENE Events

Visit to the British Museum

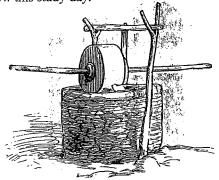
This visit in November was fully booked from its announcement in the last Bulletin. A report on the visit will appear in the next Bulletin.

Will those booked for the visit please meet at the Information Desk in the Great Court at 10:45 on Tuesday, 20th November.

To the Holy Mountains

A date for next year's diary. Professor Malcolm Wagstaff has arranged a study day – Holy Mountains of the Near East - at the Oxford University Department of Continuing Education on Saturday, 5th July, 2008 on this theme. The day school will consider, first, how and why some mountains, particularly in the Near East, have been considered holy. It will go on to examine the motivations and activities of pilgrims and travellers who visited them in the past, drawing upon selected examples. See www.confed.ox.ac.uk or telephone 01865 270380 for details. The booking form and the plans for an activity and dinner the previous evening will be in the next Bulletin.

The Annual General Meeting for 2007-8 will immediately follow this study day.



Other Forthcoming Activities, Lectures, Study Days, Exhibitions

Conferences, lectures and study days

British Museum programme for 2007-8
The British Museum has a most interesting programme of study days, workshops and courses over the winter and into the spring. Those likely to be of interest to ASTENE members are:

Courses

Islam across the Mediterranean: Art and architecture from AD 750 - cultural exchange and impact 11 Thursday evenings 18:30-20:30, from 10 January. 2008

An art history of Islam 11 Monday evenings from 14 April 2008.

Workshops

Middle East Storytelling on Saturday, 26 January, 2008: 11-14:00 all ages; 12 noon and 15:00 for adults only

Study Days

David Roberts and the Holy Land: George Hart considers Roberts' route and the archaeology of the sites he visited. Saturday 16 February 2008 For full details of prices, times and registration, ask for the Adult Learning Programme September 2007-July 2008 or visit learning@the british museum.ac.uk

Oxford University Department of Continuing Education

Sacred Landscapes of Crete

This study day will be held at the Oxford on Saturday 19 January 2008. The day school will look at two millennia of Cretan history, from the beginnings of the Iron Age, ca 1050 BC, until the time the Ottoman Turks left in AD 1898: the Greek, Roman, Venetian and Turkish epochs. For further information: 01865 270368 or ppdayweek@conted.ox.ac.uk.

British Travellers and the East during the Enlightenment

This is the title of a series of 10 weekly classes starting on 10th January, 2008 at Ewart House, Summertown, Oxford for the Department of Continuing Education. Dr Beatrice Tessier will discuss accounts by British travellers to the East during the 18th century. The course will analyse contacts between the perception of Britain and the East (the Ottoman world, India, Persia and China) and examine the 18th century travel genre and its influences.

Celebrating 100 years in Egypt

The German Archaeological Institute in Cairo is celebrating the anniversary of its first century working with archaeological projects from the classical periods of ancient Egypt through to the Islamic period. The celebration will include exhibitions and events. If you are one of our dozen members in Cairo or will be there 18-22 November, 2007, a visit to their website will show you the various activities. www.dainst.org/kairo100jahre These include:

November 19-21 A symposium on the Institute's most important works over the past 50 years. To be held at Hotel Conrad in Cairo.

November 19 The opening of a special exhibition at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo of slected finds from excavations in Egypt – most of which have never been exhibited before. There is a catalogue in German, English and Arabic.

Other publications include A Future for the Past: Restoration in Islamic Cairo, 1973-2004 and reports on the work undertaken in the Old City of Cairo.

For further details: 100jahre@kairodainst.org

British Museum Gallery talk: 1:15 20th October: How Egypt controlled Nubia by Lorna Oakes. British Yemeni Society lecture: A tribal order: politics and law in the mountains of Yemen by Shelagh Weir, Kalili lecture theatre, SOAS, London. Arranged by the Society of Arabian Studies, Wednesday, 24 October at 5:30. Joint Palestine Exploration Fund/Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society lecture: Qumran connected: the roads of the north-western Dead Sea coast, 6 p.m. Thursday 25th October, Stevenson Lecture Theatre, British Museum. All welcome. Palestine Exploration Fund lecture: Trade and Traders on the Roman Red Sea by Roberta Tomber, 6 p.m. Thursday, 8th November, Stevenson Lecture Theatre, British Museum. All welcome. Egypt Exploration Society seminar: Egypt in the medieval world by Alison Gascoigne, EES, 3 Doughty Mews, London WC1, 11 – 4pm, Saturday 17th November. Enquiries to 020-7242-1903. Anglo-Ethiopian Society lecture: The World Heritage sites of Ethiopia by Lazare Eloundou Assomo at 7 p.m. Wednesday, 28th November at Room B102, Brunei Gallery Building, SOAS, London.

British School of Archaeology Iraq fund-raising lecture: My time governing in Iraq by Rory Stewart, 6 pm, Wednesday, 5th December at the British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1. Tickets £15. Tel. 0207 969 5274. EES Study Day: The EES in the Delta, past, present and future 9:30 – 1:30, Saturday 8th December at the Brunei Gallery lecture theatre, SOAS, London WC1. All welcome. Contact: 020 7242 1903.

Society for Arabian Studies lecture: When did people first cross the Red Sea? by Geoff Bailey at Khalili lecture theatre, SOAS, London WC1. 0207 935 5379

British School of Archaeology in Iraq lecture: Mesopotamian discovery: 75 years of BSAI in Iraq, 6 pm Wednesday 12 December at JZ Young lecture theatre, Anatomy Building, UCL, Gower Street, London WC1

Palestine Exploration Fund Lecture: The life and achievements Claude R. Conder, leader of the west Palestine survey 6 p.m., Thursday 13th December in the Stevenson lecture theatre, British Museum.

Society for Arabian Studies lecture: The Syrian Hajj route from Damascus to Mecca by Andrew Peterson at 6 pm on Thursday 17the January 2008 at The Stevenson lecture theatre, British Museum..

2nd Egyptological Conference (BEC-2), Liverpool. 14 – 16 March 2008

The School of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology, University of Liverpool will host a conference, jointly organised with the Egypt Exploration Society. The aim is to provide a meeting point for all Egyptologists based in UK – including those at universities, museums and independent researchers. The deadline for submission of abstracts for papers and posters is 30 November. Please refer to the website: http://www.liv.ac.uk/events/confer/british - egyptology.htm or contact Dr Ian Shaw at the School of Archaeology (+44 (0)151 7942452).

The International Qajar Studies Assocation – IQSA

Jennifer Scarce draws ASTENE members' attention to IQSA, an educational and cultural organisation which is a forum for discussion, research and publication on topics relating to the period when Persia/Iran was under the rule of the Qajar Shahs (1785-1925). European and Indian diplomats, military and technical experts, teachers, archaeologists and artists visited Iran in increasing numbers during the 19th century. Their journeys by the overland route took them through regions of direct interest to ASTENE's members and were recorded in their memoirs, official reports and drawings. Here the programmes of IQSA offer a valuable resource.

Membership of IQSA is open to scholars, institutions and the general public (\$60). There are annual conferences (most recently in Paris on Diplomats and Travellers in the Qajar Era and a journal, Qajar Studies. See the IQSA website: www.qajarstudies,org



SMYRNA FROM THE SEA.

Exhibitions

Venice and the Islamic World 828-1797

Expression of an intense and complex relationship looked at through paintings, glassware, ceramics, textiles, books from Venetian and other collections. This exhibition at the Palazzo Ducale, Venice ends on 25 November.

Egypt's Sunken Treasures

An exhibition of the spectacular more than 1000 finds from the seabed between Alexandria and Aboukir Bay, which shed new light on the historu of Alexandria and Egypt. Exhibition Hall, Bonn, Germany until 27 January, 2008.

Gifts from the Gods: Images from Egyptian Temples

Artefacts from the collections of the Metropolitan Museum, New York exhibited until 18 February, 2008

The Phoenicians and the Mediterranean An exhibition of the objects and furnishings of these great navigators and travellers, focusing on commerce and trade and craftsmanship. Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris until 30 March, 2008.

European Cartographers and the Ottoman World 1500-1750

Exhibition of the maps, sea charts and atlases linked to the intellectual and geographical studies of the 15th century, undermining the medieval view of the cosmos. Oriental Institute Museum, Chicago until 2 March, 2008.

Babylon

Exhibition elucidating the unexpectedly close connections between the ancient Near East and Europe over several millennia. Museum of the Ancient Near East, Pergamonmuseum, Belin through to October, 2008.

Impressed by Light: Photographs from Paper Negatives, 1840-1860

120 works by well known and less familiar practitioners and shows the development of the art in this early period. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York until 31 December, and then National Gallery of Art, Washington DC from 3 February



Research Resources

This section of the Bulletin appears for ASTENE members only in the Bulletin and is not placed on the website.

Researching in Google

At the Conference Cassandra Vivian gave us a brief introduction to some research facilities on Google. We asked her to write up the information for the Bulletin and this she has done with her usual generosity.

The search engine Google has been creating an online library loaded with important resources for the scholar. You can reach all by placing www.google.com into the address bar and hitting return. Once there look immediately below the bar for your choices. In addition to the normal web search, there are a number of entries including Images to search for pictures, maps and drawings on the Internet: Video, Maps and Gmail, which in addition to sending regular mail will allow you to make free phone calls anywhere in the world. The final item is More: a clock on More leads to over a dozen other sites you can search on Google including Scholars and Books.

Scholars

This tool takes you into hundreds of magazines, journals, libraries etc for books, articles, bibliographies, and more on thousands of topics. It provides great bibliographies, some abstracts of articles, a few full articles.

Click on Scholars. I did a search on Carlo Rossetti, the elusive 19th century Consul in Lairo. In 8 seconds I received 1780 references. Of course they were not all about this Rossetti, so I refined the search by adding the word Egypt and re-searched.

Changing the spelling can also help: Rosetti. Rosseti etc. Cassandra provided the first three citations which brought up links with Ali Bey, recent published works on Egypt, and journal articles. A click on any of these citations will also produce an abstract, if not the entire article.

Some journals can be purchased on line and downloaded to your desktop for a fee from \$6-\$30. This will remain available on line for a set length of time, but once you download them you have them forever. Some entries will be books – see next item.

Books

For me, the biggest bonanza of the Google library is the Books section. Following the above process, I typed in Carlo Rossetti again and hit *return*. I got page after page of information. This can be refined. Just below the Google icon on the upper left of the page bar allows you to select the type of search you want to pursue.

All books: The value of this section is that you can find anything including the most recent

research in the field. It is the biggest section and can be searched as outlined in the two sections below.

Limited preview allows you to search within the books section. For example, for Rosetti the 2005 book *The Gates of Africa* by Anthony Sattin is available. The book (by an ASTENE member) is about the African Association, but, by clicking on the citation, the page related to Rossetti opens and can be read. THIS IS A COPYRIGHT BOOK. The publisher has given permission for this type of search. (hoping that you will need to buy the book). The limitation is that one cannot see the entire book, and it cannot be downloaded.

Along the right hand side of this page are several additional options: **Table of Contents, Index,** and **Search for other names.** For Rossetti under **Full View** there were only 10 entries, but one was a bonanza. It guided me to *Italiani nella civite egiziane del secolo XIX: storia, biografie, monografie – page 315 ...*

This book, in addition to giving an Italian assessment of Egypt, includes every Italian in Egypt from before Napoleon through the entire 19th century!*

Cassandra Vivian

* Cassandra ended with a list of 66 names of Italians in Egypt in 1811-1828 – of which only 21 were familiar to me. D.M.

The P & O Archive and Egypt in the 19th century

Stephen Rabson, P & O historian and archivist came to the ASTENE Conference – at P & O's home port, Southampton – to introduce us to their archive material held at National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, London SE10 9NF.

The archive holds such material as the Egypt Letterbook 1, April 1843- January 1848 (containing letters from London, copies of letters from Egyptian government, responses to letters from Egypt. The Letterbook for 1862-65 is at present Other correspondence and a being repaired. history of the P & O Company's connection with Egypt: "Service to Egypt, 1856-91". Later documents (P & O 13/8) has references to Nile steamers and P & O's connection with the founding of Shepherd's Hotel in Cairo. There is also correspondence about the Suez Canal from 1860 to the end of the century. Overseas reports for 1900-1910 record passenger traffic and other matters.

In addition there is a section devoted to "Miscellanea, Personal Documents and Ephemera" including P & O Handbook, 1847 and 1849; business letters (some with Abbas Pasha); . Illustrated London News about the opening of the Suez Canal and the Route of the Overland Mail to India dated 1850, some letters home and the journal of a journey in 1854 ... and other documents.

This description can only give a flavour. To see for yourself, contact Stephen Rabson at <u>Stephen.rabson@dpworld.com</u> or 020 8312 6616 (Mondays and Wednesday) or 020 7901 4358 (on Tuesdays). See also Footprints at the end of this Buletin.

You may also wish to visit the P & O Heritage Collection of artworks and artefacts. Contact the Curator, Susie Cox, at DP World, 16 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JQ and at <u>susie.cox@dpworld.com</u> or on 020 7901 4341.

Finding early periodicals

As many of us know, early periodicals from the 17th-19th centuries can produce gems for research on travel, often reporting – even if briefly – happenings in our region sometimes not recorded elsewhere.

The British Library produce an advice sheet on finding such early periodicals. Most of them are listed in the British Library Integrated Catalogue with a brief entry and a shelfmark. If you find you are retrieving too many entries, try using a Catalogue Sub-set Search in Serials and Periodicals or General Printed Books pre-1975.

You may find further problems in locating the very reference you need, but this British Library document provides further advice to help you.

If you fail to find an early periodical which you would expect to be held by the British Library, talk to the Curator at the Rare Books Reference Enquiries Desk – in person or by telephone.

Another route is an internet search on a union catalogue such as COPAC (http://www.copac.ac.uk) to see if your periodical is in another UK research library.

For articles within periodicals, there may be contemporary or local indexes.

Another route is the web-based 19th century Masterfile (accessed through most public reading room computers).

For full details ask for this advice sheet from the British Library.

Maurice Pillet on the web

Michel Azim tells us that the photographic archives of Maurice Pillet (1881-1964) are now on line. Pillet was the French architect and archaeologist who became Director of Works for the Egyptian Antiquities Service at Karnak in 1920-5. He later spent time at the French School in Athens and was attached to the Scientific Delegation in Persia. He became Director of the Moroccan Antiquity Service and later worked at Byblos in Lebanon and directed work at Dura-Europos. He returned to Egypt on several missions between 1933-1951.

His photographic archive is maintained on line at http://www.mom.fr/-Archives-Pillet-html

Portraits of the Travellers – where are they?

Do you know the whereabouts of any portrait of travellers to our region? Please let us know the place, the painter and the date. Coming face to face with a traveller — as one does with Claudius Rich at the British Library — brings them much closer.

Thomas Phillips "caught as no other the noble gloom of the romantic pose and the inspired intensity of the creative imagination." (Boase) The phrase probably refers rather more to Phillips highly romantic 1813 portrait of Lord Byron in the National Portrait Gallery, London, than to his representation of the charming open countenance of Claudius James Rich in the India and Asia Library in the British Library.

The artists who clearly felt a an affection for their sitter are William Holman Hunt in his 1857 chalk drawing of *Edward Lear* (1812-1888) in the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, and Richard James Lane in his 1833 sculptured seated figure of his brother, *Edward William Lane* (1801-1876) In the National Portrait Gallery. London. Much less well known is E.W. Lane's self-portrait of c. 1826 in sepia wash, which is hidden away in the British Library in Add Ms 34088, f.85.

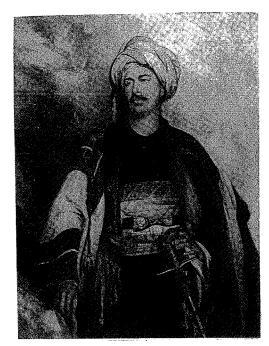
T.E Lawrence (1888-1935), painted by Herbert Gurschner in 1934, is in the National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin. Very 1930s, and rather noncommittal about the sitter – but perhaps that is the way Lawrence preferred it.

Thomas Wyse (1791-1862), painted by John Partridge in 1846, also in the National Portrait Gallery of Ireland, is a sympathetic portrait, showing a kindly, intelligent man looking surprisingly young for his 55 years.

The portrait of *Thomas Shaw* (1694-1751) hanging in St Edmund's Hall, Oxford, is described as showing "a stout and fierce, but not ill-tempered looking man".

And a portrait that has vanished. In about 1815, John James Halls painted *Henry Salt* just before he left for Egypt, the basis for the engraving in Halls' biography of his friend. As late as 1828 it was hanging in Halls' studio, and, since he treasured it, it was probably still in his possession at his death in 1853. It is not mentioned in his will, which simply left everything to his wife Maria. Is there somewhere, in a provincial gallery, an attic, or an antique shop, a portrait of 'An unknown man' of rather solemn and distinguished appearance, holding a manuscript in his hand? *Peta Ree*





The portrait of David Roberts (1796-1864), dressed as for his eastern journeys, by Robert Scott Lauder in 1843 is well known to visitors to the National Portrait Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Where are they buried?

We also welcome readers' information or queries for this section of the Bulletin.

John Tweddell (1769-1799)

Bulletin 32 had a query about the last resting place in Athens of the traveller John Tweddell). Dr Lisa French went on a search and, thanks to her colleague, Professor John Camp (Director of the Agora Excavations), referred us to a deeply researched and fascinating article from the American Excavation in the Athenian Agora, Hesperia: Supplement V (1941) by the great American classical architect, William Bell Dinsmoor. (Swets & Zeitlinger, Amsterdam, 1975) entitled "Observations on the Hephasteion" (pp. 16-30) (available on Jstore).

We cannot of course reproduce the article here and it covers many other travellers', as well as John Tweddell's, resting place. For our purposes we provide a few points which will be of interest to readers of what was referred to by Hughes in 1820 as "that great mausoleum of British travellers".

The earliest British names recorded include those of "Gyles Eastcourt, Fran. Vernon, Barn, Randolph, 1675 An" with details of their deaths – including murder on the way from Trebizond to Persia. N firm evidence of interments appears until John Tweddell's on 25 July 1799, when Fauvel arranged for him to be interred in the 'Theseum'. His grave was, E.D. Clarke reported when he visited it on October 30, 1801, "simply a small oblong of earth, like those over the common graves in all our English churchyards, without stone or inscription of any kind". John Hobhouse in the winter of 1809/10

also found just a simple mound. The epitaphs which started the query thus came later.

Dinsmoor's article is worth following up as it brings together travellers and their associates from the 'infamous' Lord Elgin, the artist Lusieri. Reverend Robert Walpole, Byron, Cockerell, Fauvel, and others, and touches on stone taken from the Parthenon frieze blocks used for an inscription.. The site was visited and remarked upon by such travellers as Pouqueville (1815), Joliffe (1817), (1818).By 1827 the Laurent and Kinnard inscription seems to have disappeared, but much later fragments appeared and may be seen today in the wall of the English church, the Agora museum store, and the Epigraphic Museum (under the National Museum in Athens). If you decide to follow this trail, do first read Dinsmoor's article.

Two further recordings of burials: Beside Tweddell was interred the Austrian Baron Carl Haller von Hallerstein (died 5 November, 1817). The article also reminds us of the funeral in 1818 of Elizabeth Cumming, the female attendant and companion of Lady Ruthven – thus drawing to our attention another traveller...

The 'Theseum' or Hephaistein can easily be visited in the Athenian Agora (joint ticket with the Heropolis) and St Paul's Church is open on Sunday and Tuesday mornings.

Here we can go no further into the detail of Dinsmoor's article, but it shows what fascinating knowledge can surround a traveller's tomb, and how much it can tell us about travellers in a particular place. We welcome contributions on this topic.

Reverend Greville Chester (1830-1892)

Gertrud Seidmann presented a paper on Greville Chester at the ASTENE conference. She now supplies this information of his burial place.

Reverend Greville Chester is buried in Kensal Green Cemetery, London W10. The number of his grave is 33299.

Chester was ordained in 1855 and served a slum parish in Sheffield until 1865 when his health broke down. He henceforth spent the winter months in Egypt and the Near east. There he sought out ancient artefacts and became an astute collector of coins, seals, gems, amulets, textiles and other objects. These he sold or gave to the British and the Ashmolean Museums. He contributed many articles to the Archaeological Journal.



Family history seekers

The great international search for family history aided by websites and quick messages sometimes produces queries about the ASTENE region. One such ancestor seeker, in Illinois, struck gold... His, as he put it, g-g-g-grandfather was Reverend Robert Fowler Holt (1792-1870), chaplain to the 2nd Earl of Belmore and tutor to his two sons when the Belmores toured the Eastern Mediterranean in 1817 Castle Coole in County - while their home, Fermanagh in Northwen Ireland was reconstructed and modernised. He had found reference to my paper on this tour given at the ASTENE Oxford Conference in 1997. From this he had read about Henry Salt and found Dr Robert Richardson's narrative of Lord Belmore's travels, in two volumes, 1822.

Then he emailed me and I passed him on to Peter Marson, author of the Belmore's family history, published this year. Mr Marson was able to give the g-g-g-grandson more detail than he was likely to have been able to find himself. Another source of information was *Who was Who in Egyptology* edited by Warren R. Dawson and Eric P. Uphill and updated by Morris Bierbrier, published by The Egypt Exploration Society in 1994.

Do we have other examples of travellers' descendants doing family history research being aided through ASTENE connections? Are there people researching members of their families who travelled in the ASTENE region who members might help?

Queries and Replies

Queries appear both in the Bulletin and on the ASTENE website. The replies are published only in the Bulletin. Please reply to the Bulletin Editor and the person who makes the inquiry.

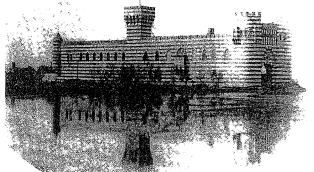
Insinger's House at Luxor

Patricia Usick asks about a house at Luxor In the late 19th—early 20th century Jan Herman Insinger (1864-1918) had built a house at Luxor. He was a dealer in antiquities and also had a private money-lending business. He was resident in Luxor from 1879, and, according to Who was Who in Egyptology? was closely associated with the French Egyptologist, Gaston Maspero, taking many photographs for him. He was notable for collecting for the Dutch museums, particularly in Leiden (where much correspondence is preserved.

The house must have existed at least until c. 1923 when, after his death in Cairo, his wife and children left for Switzerland and later America. Presumably the house was then occupied by local figures. According to the Baedeker guide of 1913, the first

you saw when approaching Luxor by boat from the north was the Winter Palace and "the palace-like residence of a strange Dutchman".

We show below a (not very good) photograph of the 'palace-like residence' and its interior — less 'palace-like. This is reproduced from the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden archive, Leiden.



Does anyone know anything further about this building?

Ambassador Tecco Melchiorre

Gertrud Seidmann asks about a 19th century dealer in antiquities.

Can anyone throw light on Baron Tecco Melchiorre (the name may have been noted inaccurately) a mysterious gentleman I have been pursuing fruitlessly so far? He was supposedly Sardinian Ambassador to the Porte, a collector of engraved gems. He was encountered by Greville Chester in Beirut some time between 1864 and 1891.

Please reply to Gertrud.seidmann@arch.ox.ac.uk and the Bulletin Editor.

Who was Mr Hadfield?

Deborah Manley would like to know about this gentleman.

A Mr Hadfield, in his thirties (so born c. 1790), of Old Hall, Cheshire, travelled to Cairo in late 1818/early 1819 and then sailed on from Damietta to Jaffa where he stayed with the British Consul, Mr Damiani, in late April. He was met there and elsewhere by the party of Archibald Edmonstone and his companions. Does anyone know of him? (He is not known to be related to our member of this name.)

Any news of Francis Levett?

Olga Nefedova, who works at the Museum of Islamic Art in Qata, is researching Mr Francis Levett (? – c. 1764) who was a representative of the Levant Company in Constantinople at least from 1737 to 1750.

If you can help her, please reply to <u>ovnefedova@hotmail.com</u> and to the Bulletin Editor.

Where are Rudolf Swoboda's paintings?

New member Angela Blascheck of Vienna is interested in the Austrian orientalist painter Rudolf Swoboda (1859-1914) – she is especially interested in his Egyptian paintings. Most of his paintings are in Great Britain. Can anyone tell Angela where she will find them?

Please reply to the Bulletin Editor.

ASTENE'S new book

In July we were proud to launch ASTENE's latest book:

Who Travels Sees More:
Artists, Architects, and
Archaeologists
Discover
Egypt and the Near East

Edited by Dr Diane Fortenberry

Who Travels Sees More is an Arab proverb appropriate for this book – and for ASTENE in general. This impressive book is a collection of essays based on papers given at our biennial and overseas conferences and study days. The travellers included had backgrounds as artists and architects of one sort or another – and so responded to what they saw in visual ways – in many cases taking the revelations of their travels home with them to inspire their own work ...

The book is illustrated with 75 black and white pictures and 16 pages of colour plates.

Published in association with Oxbow Books, members can purchase it at a special price of £28 (plus postage and packing)*
(The usual retail price is £45.)

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BOOK REVIEWS

Dr Edwin Aiken is always pleased to receive details of new books of interest to ASTENE at: 1 Ulster Avenue, Annalong, NEWRY, BT34 4TX.

'Who Travels sees More': Artists, Architects and Archaeologists Discover Egypt and the Near East, edited by Diane Fortenberry, ASTENE and Oxbow Books, Oxford, 2007, 197 pp, ill., ISBN 9781842172735, £45.00

The first thing to say is that this book, which commemorates the first ten years of ASTENE, is the most handsome and attractive of the volumes so far produced by the Association, and then to congratulate Diane Fortenberry and Oxbow Books. It is a lavish production. Wide outer margins set off the single column text and contain thumbnails of the 25 coloured plates collected at the back. There are also numerous black-and-white full- or half-page illustrations throughout. The dust jacket reproduces a painting by F.A. Bridgman in full-colour, while the endpapers carry a David Roberts lithograph. The content is good too! The fourteen contributors write beautifully and knowledgeably on the broad theme of the responses of mainly European architects, painters and craftsmen, several with clear archaeological interests, to the cultures and scenes of the Near East and Egypt over a period of four centuries. Eight of the contributors deal with the travels and researches of individuals, some well-known · like Sir Robert Ker Porter and Charles Barry but others less so - Muhammad Sadiq, for an Egyptian Muslim example. professional engineer. However, there are exceptions to the focus on individuals. Rita Severis and Caroline Williams discuss the work of groups of artists and the ways in which they reacted to the landscapes of Cyprus and Egypt respectively, while in two contributions Elaine Evans shows how photography not only produced 'truer'

images of the enigmatic Sphinx but also promoted a popular interest in ancient Egypt the stereoscope. Another through exceptional contribution describes the arrival in Cairo of two German travelling journeymen stonemasons in their distinctive clothing and their work on the new Sam Ibn Nub mosque supervised by the author, Agnieszka Dobrowolska. Finally, the book contains an impression of Henry Salt's house near the Ezbekiah in Cairo, compiled by Deborah Manley from the descriptions left by some of the many travellers who stayed when Salt was Consul General (1816-27) and even beyond. With such a variety of material, the book is a delight for the mind as well as the eye. It is rich in informative and a useful reference, a quality assisted by the index of persons and places.

Malcolm Wagstaff

The Rash Adventurer: a Life of John Pendlebury, by Imogen Grundon with Foreword by Patrick Leigh Fermor, Libri, Oxford, 2007, 320 pp, ISBN 9781901965063, £25.00

As John Pendlebury is not included in the new DNB, this biography fills a much needed gap.

To summarize his importance: he was a young and dynamic field archaeologist widely active in Egypt and in Crete between the late 1920s until his death at the hands of the German forces during the invasion of Crete in 1941. Imogen Grundon has done a magnificent job in portraying John as a whole: athlete, traveller, archaeologist, intelligence officer as well as "too bloody independent minded for his own good". When she undertook the task, which she did (I was told by mutual friends) instead of a PhD, she faced a mountain of source material as both John himself and his wife Hilda corresponded regularly and vividly with their families in England. Because of the bulk of material, she has used a strictly chronological approach, though illuminated with telling comment. She obviously came to know her subject very well and has managed to tame the sources into a coherent narrative.

I am less sure of what the readership will be; it is not a reference book but a straight biography told in a somewhat pedantic manner and certainly not a fashionable one. For someone like myself who actually knew John when I was a child and was made to play with his son, and knew of him throughout my life, it is fascinating to fill in the gaps and meet old friends. John had much impressed my father (Alan Wace) during his first trip to Greece as a student and my father became one of his mentors, writing too the Aegean archaeology section of his obituary in the Annual of the British School at Athens. The assessment there of his publications on Crete remains true today some sixty years later though his first work, Aegyptiaca, is currently being thoroughly brought up to date by ASTENE member Dr Jacke Phillips.

Libri are to be congratulated on having persisted with this book which complements related titles (by Dilys their re-issued Powell and Mary Chubb - both sources for Imogen) which are listed at the end of the book. I am less happy with the illustration on the dust-cover - surely there must be a picture of John in his Cretan dress somewhere in the archives - but it can at least be removed. There are some errors. both of fact and in the proof reading; the dramatis personae though useful is very uneven particularly where both it and the text refer back to the earlier history of the characters of the British School. However they are under study by others.

So read and enjoy what now seems a quite different world inhabited perhaps by men of over life size but do not treat this book as a source in itself.

Lisa French, Cambridge

Travel, geography and culture in ancient Greece, Egypt and the Near East, edited by Colin Adams and Jim Roy, Leicester Nottingham Studies in Ancient Society, vol. 10, Oxbow, Oxford, 2007, 208 pp, ISBN 9781842172490. £40.00

Perhaps there are two things within the remit of ASTENE that many of us often neglect in our researches: travel *from* Egypt and the Near East and travel in times of antiquity. Nevertheless, our researches may now be spurred, as the editors of this volume remind us that 'In recent years there has been a considerable amount of research into travel, travel writing and geography in the ancient world.' (p.1).

This notable volume is a collection of papers delivered at a conference in Nottingham in 2002 that all of us probably wish we had attended. Eleven papers range in topic from Late Period Egyptians Abroad Travel in the Greek Novels Representations of Landscape and Identity in the Mosaics of Antioch. The scope however is not the only impressive feature of this anthology: the papers are richly researched and deftly written. The volume is clearly and pleasantly illustrated where necessary, and, as ever, handsomely produced by our friends at Oxbow. As a nice touch that I for one appreciate, each chapter has its own bibliography and the volume as a whole is usefully and rigorously indexed.

Hopefully the synergy of ideas here will inspire us all to broaden our research horizons.

Writing, Travel and Empire: in the Margins of Anthropology edited by Peter Hulme and Russell McDougall, I. B. Tauris, London, 2007, 248 pp, ISBN 9781845113049. £42.50

We are all familiar with the fraught and often unsatisfactory nature of disciplinary histories. This volumes grapples, capably, with the history of anthropology form about 1850 - 1940. Its approach is unusual and rewarding: eight servants (in some sense) of the British empire are considered as travel writers and as anthropologists. writings, as the subtitle suggests, have been thought, for one reason or another, to be on the margins of where anthropology has traditionally drawn its disciplinary boundaries, and the editors of this collection

argue ably that this is where their value lies; such a boundary-focussed approach certainly resonates with me as a geographer, and I can immediately see the value of a geography of anthropology alongside a history, complimenting and contrasting with each other.

The eight figures are George Grey, Henry Ling Roth, Flora Annie Steel, Everard im Thurm, Gertrude Lowthian Bell, Hugh Casement Roger John Clifford, and Harrisson. They form a geographically and historically diverse group, and their analysis, by a range of internationally recognized scholars, is introduced and followed by rich scholarly pieces setting the studies within the contexts of the intellectual history of anthropology and, in the conclusion, blending their findings with the incisive and insightful thought that we have come to expect of Professor Peter Pels.

Edwin James Aiken

To The Heart of the Nile by Pat Shipman, Corgi, London, 2005, 470 pp, ISBN 9780552771009. £8.99

Having previously read Anne Baker's absorbing book Morning Star, which is Florence Baker's account of the expedition to put down the slave trade on the Nile in 1870 – 73, I was looking forward to learning a good deal more about this extraordinary woman from Pat Shipman's biography. To write this she has had access to the Baker family and a wealth of fascinating material including Florence's own diaries, and those of Samuel and Julian Baker, as well as numerous letters, iournals and other . manuscripts of the period.

At this point I feel I should alert potential readers to the author's decision to attribute 'thoughts and words to Florence and the people in her life that are in keeping with their characters and recorded words.' By choosing to dramatise her material in such a way I fear she may have undermined her authority as Florence's biographer. However, time spent reading the endnotes is time well spent and will allow a reader to evaluate the credibility of the author's

dramatisations; incidentally some of the resulting dialogue can sometimes be irritatingly clumsy.

In spite of this however, this book provides an enthralling account of Samuel and Florence's life together and their two expeditions into the dark interior of nineteenth century Africa. It charts their great love for each other and their indomitable will to overcome not only disease, treacherous wildlife, hostile natives and extreme deprivation, but also the grumbling disapproval of Victorian Society.

Some of the material will be familiar to members of ASTENE and the fictional feel of the writing might be off putting to some. However to those who are tempted by the prospect of a gripping story about two remarkable people, then this is the book to read.

Angela Reid

Note-The first edition of this book was entitled *The Stolen Woman*. (Bantam Press, 2004)

A Conversation on the Quai Voltaire by Lee Langley, Vintage, London, 2007, 384 pp, ISBN 9780099492924. £7.99.

In her latest novel, A Conversation on the Ouai Voltaire, Lee Langley reconstructs the life of Dominique-Vivant De Non, a member of the eighteenth century French aristocracy, who dabbles in art, politics and love. Like Tracy Chevalier in her depiction of Vermeer in Girl With a Pearl Earring, Langley paints in the colourless gaps between the works of an artist, filling them with sketches of cities such as Venice and St. Petersburg as well as the lives of Denon's acquaintances. However, Langley casts her net wider, and more ambitiously, than Chevalier taking in the whole scope of Denon's life from his childhood in Burgundy to his decrepitude in Paris.

This novel is however not simply a biography, but a work built on and examining layers of tension between master and servant, revolutionaries and the aristocracy, past and present, age and youth.

It is this final conflict that is perhaps the most interesting; the mingling of narrative time allows the vibrant colour and activity of Denon's youth to be contrasted with the stagnation of his old age which forms the present time of the novel. Thus a 'shiver of mortality' (p. 50) vibrates through the novel, facilitating the revelation of what may have lain behind the carefully-crafted appearances which characters such as Napoleon, Madames La Pompadour and Denon himself have presented to society and history.

In this well-researched depiction of an artist, Langley focuses on Denon's humanity as he struggles to reconcile the conflicts that fill his life while negotiating the delicate webs of society, life and love.

Amy Finch, Durham University

The Sphinx Revealed: A Forgotten Record of Pioneering Excavations

by Patricia Usick and Deborah Manley (British Museum Research Publication no. 164), London, 2007, 80 pp, ISBN 9780861591640. £25.00.

In 2002, following the relocation of the library and the archives of the Egyptian Department at the British Museum, ASTENE founder members Patricia Usick and Deborah Manley discovered a 105-page handwritten *Memoir on Pyramids and Sphinx* text with an *Atlas* of illustrations by Henry Salt. The two volumes had never been completely published, although partial versions had appeared during the Nineteenth Century in three publications, most notably the *Ouarterly Review* of July 1818.

The Memoir is actually written in several different hands, expertly identified by the present authors, with Salt's marginal notes referring to the Atlas. It contains what Usick and Manley aptly refer to as the "dramatic account" of the excavations at Giza by Captain Giovanni Caviglia (1770-1845) in 1817, including the first clearance of the Sphinx in modern times. We encounter, for example, "Capt. C." negotiating his selfmade rope ladder to enter the room directly above the King's Gallery in the Great Pyramid, the floor of which was "covered"

eighteen inches deep with the faeces of bats".

The Atlas contains Salt's competent drawings, including plans, and copies of reliefs and inscriptions. Most famous is his careful copy of the famous 'Dream Stela' of Tuthmosis IV where, as the authors acknowledge, Salt's inability to read the hieroglyphic inscriptions became "both their strength and their weakness".

Usick and Manley relate how these papers, after long delays, reached London in 1821, and became the property of Salt's patron Lord Mountnorris. After his death they were sold and acquired by the British Museum. The authors go on to discuss some objects described and drawn by Salt, before presenting a list of the 68 drawings and sketches in the Atlas. It is significant that 40 are here published – the reproduction quality is excellent – for the very first time.

Following the plates, on pp. 56-69, there is a transcription of Salt's *Memoir*; finally, on pp. 70-71, a copy and a transcription of Burckhardt's manuscript extract from al Idrissi's history of the pyramids.

The book concludes with indexes — including a valuable biographical list of persons mentioned in the text, an identification of mausoleums and tombs mentioned by Salt, a list of objects from Caviglia's excavations now in the British Museum and a bibliography.

the aforementioned Significantly, Ouarterly Review had made an editorial cut Salt's acknowledgement "Mussulman" predecessors at Giza. We can now read this paragraph in full: "The Arab authors of best repute, have recounted even the details of their discovery, and every circumstance, under the present aspect of the pyramid, serves as a confirmation of their veracity". These are heartening words to the present reviewer who is now attempting to redress the blatant Euro-centric approach to the rediscovery of Egyptology within her own teaching.

While the present publication is clearly a valuable addition to our knowledge of the history of Egyptology, it also adds some essential details to our understanding of the

Sphinx and the pyramids. Moreover, the authors' intimate grasp of characters and events provides a scholarly 'Sitz in Leben', enabling us to flesh out the bare bones of an earlier pioneering era.

Rosalind Janssen

Egypt through Writers' Eyes by Deborah Manley and Sahar Abdel-Hakim, London: Eland, 2007, ISBN 978-09550 1056-9, £12.99

Ah, but which writers? Do we want to share their experiences? Never fear! This collection provides the sideways glance, the unexpected view of the traveller in Egypt. Even arrival in Alexandria is seen in a different way - not as the usual dockside melee. And it is not all travellers, and not all Europeans. We are taken through the souks of Cairo by a blind Egyptian boy, who sniffs and feels his way, through an alarming world.

We start with the mythological beginnings of Egypt, admit terror at being handed up a pyramid, hardly daring to look at the view from the top. We experience the small joys on an excavation, and pride in useful building works. The impact of modern political problems on families and friends are revealed. Each extract is provided with an explanatory heading, which leads the reader on, with the feeling "I must read this one" ... and on you go, unable to stop.

Sometimes a familiar name comes up, but that person often appears in an unexpected light. Several of the extracts are from Egyptian writers such as Amin Malouf, Taha Hussein, Ahdaf Soueif, and Ahmed Hassanein - whose concerns are so different from those of the fleeting traveller. That the travellers are long-time residents, such as E.M Forster and Penelope Lively, are British, reflects the interests of the authors, and reduces the need for translation, - other than from Arabic, Pierre Loti is the one exception.

Our guides range from the medieval geographers, Ibn Jubayr and Ibn Battuta, to the modern historian Max Rodenbeck. All the extracts chosen add something to our experience of Egypt. divisions are geographical: Alexandria, Cairo, Sinai, Upper Egypt etc, but this is not a travelogue. It is a mosaic of impressions from different times and from people of varied background and expectations: a revealing and thoroughly enjoyable Alix Wilkinson and informative read.

The views expressed in reviews are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Book Review Editor or



Other books etc

Holy Land Explorers

Dr Jacke Phillips drew our attention to this book by Erik Olaf Eriksen published in 1989 by the Franciscan Printing Press, Jerusalem. It relates the travels of Christopher Costigin: Explorer of the Dead Sea; John Nicolayson: Man of Unity and rescuer of Costigin; Lt. Molyneux: British Explorers of the Dead Sea; Lt William Lynch: American Explorer of the Dead Sea; Henry Tristram: The Canon's Expedition to the Dead Sea; Robert Boggis: Jordan Rover Pilgrim; Lt. James Ferguson: Jordan River Canoeist; Lawrence Oliphant: Journey East of the Jordan River; Elizabeth Butler: Holy Land Artist; Prayer of an Explorer in the Holy Land; Land Travellers Observations on the Jordan River and Dead Sea, 1850; The French Exploration of the Holy Land; The Dead Sea Today.

This sounds a fascinating starting point for ASTENE researchers.

Joseph Banks: Man of the Enlightenment At £585 Neil Chambers The Scientific Correspondence of Joseph Banks (6 volumes, Pickering and Chatto) may be a snip if Banks is your man. For ASTENE members his main interesting correspondence will be on his work with the African Association - and here this book - if your research library buys it - could be very

Travellers in fiction

rewarding.

Ann Revell has been re-reading Charles Dickens' Little Dorrit and discovered two surprising references to travellers to Egypt. e welcome such unexpected findings from other books.

Ann writes: At the beginning of the book the scene is set in Marseilles where an ill-assorted group of travellers is presented. Among them is the Meagles family. He is a retired bank-man with a weak daughter on whose behalf he has undertaken two trips.

Chapter One: Then her mother and I were not young when we married and Pet has always had a grown up sort of life with us, though we have tried to adapt ourselves to her. We have been advised more than once when she has been a little ailing, to change climate and air for her as often as we could ... This is how you found us staring at the Nile, and the Pyramids, and the Sphinxes, and the Desert, and all the rest of it; and this is how Tattycoram will be a greater traveller in course of time than Captain Cook.

Chapter Two: He crossed by St Paul's and went down at a long angle almost to the water's edge. ... Passing now the mouldy hall of some Worshipful

Company, and now the illuminated window of a Congregational Church, that seemed to be waiting for some adventurous Belzoni to dig it out and discover its history.

Footprints

Memphis is no more

George Sandys (1578-1644), son of an Archbishop of York, was like John Smith (see Bulletin 32) a traveller both in America and the Ottoman empire.

A city, great and populous, adorned with a world of antiquities! But why spend time about that that is not, the very ruins now almost ruinated? Yet some new impressions are left, and diverse thrown down statues of monstrous resemblances; a scarce sufficient testimony to show unto the curious seeker that there it hath been, Why then deplore our human frailty?

"When stones as well as breath And names do suffer breath."

A Rainy Day in Athens, 1841

Hans Christian Anderson, the beloved Danish teller of tales, visited the Mediterranean and Black Sea. Here, from his book, A Poet's Bazaar, re-issued by Michael Kessend, New York in 1987, is an intriguing tale from a day in Athens.

The rain was falling in large drops and soon there was a downpour. Three different flocks of sheep stood in the narrow square in front of the church, they huddled together, closer and closer. The shepherds lent on their long staffs. Closely wrapped in thick brown smocks, with their shapeless hats pulled over their heads, they looked more like Greenlanders than what we think of as Greeks. They stood bare-legged in the mud. The rain poured down and eased off only towards evening, when the wind broke up the clouds and scattered them away like mist.

I ventured out. Creeping out from their low mudhuts were a couple of Negro families, who had been slaves under the Turks. The woman's entire costume consisted of a sort of gown and a soiled skirt. She lay and scooped out water over the doorstep, while small black children, one wearing nothing but a red wool shirt, danced in the mud

The Egyptian Transit Administration

At the ASTENE Conference we were introduced to the P & O archives. Here is an excerpt from a pamphlet entitled History of the P. & O. Company's Connection with Egypt – with no author or date. This excerpt is dated 1854.

The P & O Company found there was a deficiency of hotel accommodation at Cairo for passengers in transit circumstance, that during the season which the India passengers selected for travelling by the "Overland Route", Cairo was frequented by a large number of Tourists, etc, travelling in Egypt. The latter class took apartments and lodged at the hotels for weeks or months, and were consequently more profitable customers to the hotel-keepers than the India passengers, who seldom required more than a night's lodging and a meal. Hence the hotelkeepers naturally gave a preference to the most profitable customers, and the India passengers found difficulty in obtaining comfortable accommodation.

In order to provide a remedy for this inconvenience, the Directors made an arrangement for fitting up a large house, near the Shoubra Gate, and close to the junction of the Cairo and Alexandria Railway with the road to Boulac. This house was called the "Transit' Hotel", and was almost exclusively devoted to the accommodation of passengers to and from India, etc., and this was found to remedy much of the discomfort hitherto complained of.

Does any reader know of travellers' experiences of the Transit Hotel? – or perhaps know the later history of this large house?

HÔTEL CONTINENTAL,

CAIRO, EGYPT.

This first-class Hotel, newly built and most comfortably and handsomely furnished, is situated in the finest and healthiest part of the Ismailieh quarter, near the English and Catholic Churches.

PERFECT ENGLISH SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

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MODERATE TERMS.

GEORGE NUNGOVICH, Proprietor,

Same Proprietor of the HOTEL D'ANGLETERRE.

A. ANLICH, Manager.