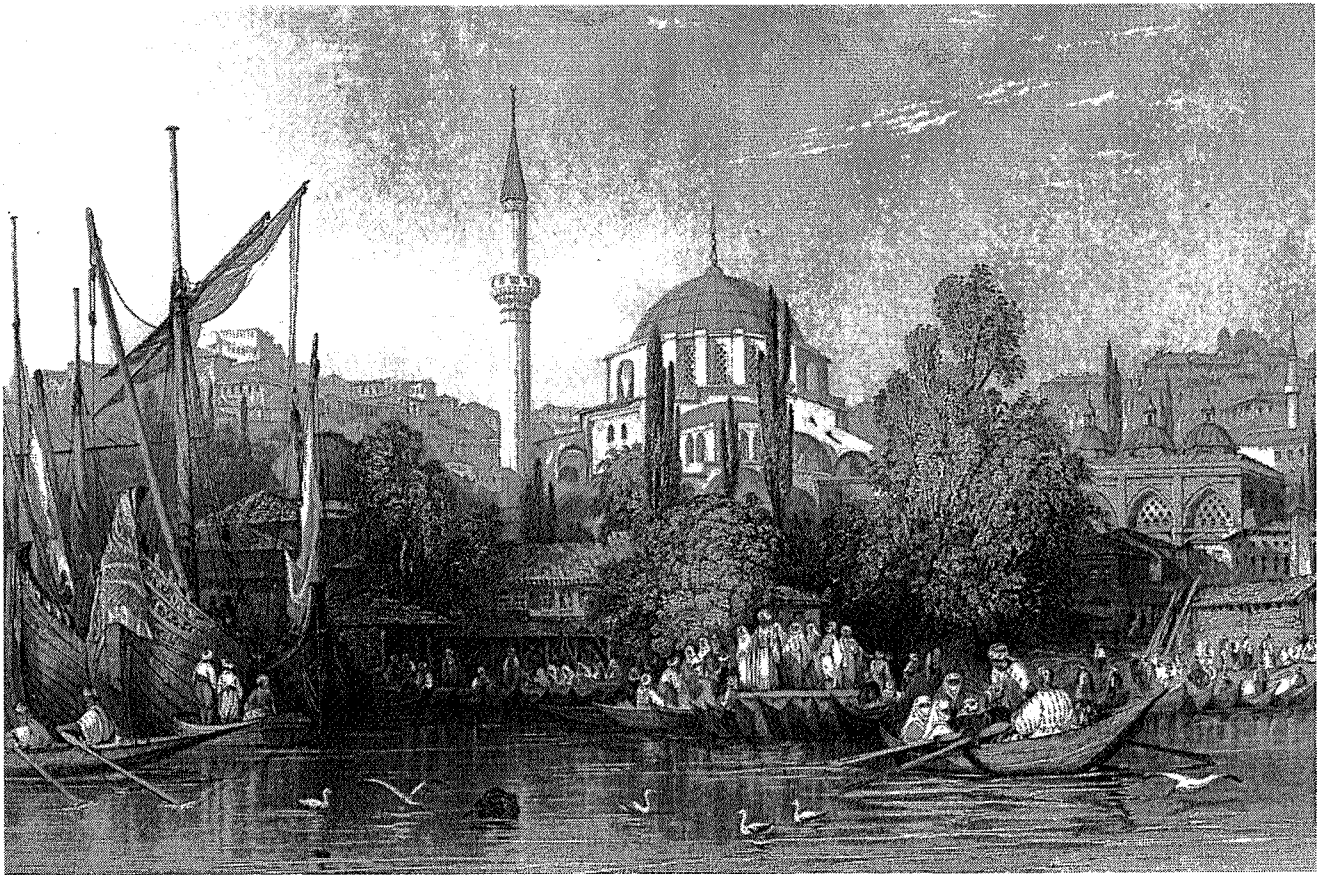


ASTENE

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF TRAVEL
IN EGYPT AND THE NEAR EAST

BULLETIN



Pera, Constantinople



NOTES AND QUERIES

Number 39 : Spring 2009

Bulletin : Notes and Queries

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Bulletin 39 : Spring 2009

Submissions for the next *Bulletin* must be received by **15 June**. We welcome articles, queries, replies and other related matters from members and interested readers. Please send contributions to the Editor.

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Please send all membership correspondence to ASTENE, 5 Kenmare Mansions, Gondar Gardens, London NW6 1ET or by email to astene@dsl.pipex.com.

ASTENE NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ASTENE Biennial Conference at Durham University, 10–13 July 2009

A number of interesting papers have already been accepted for the VIII Biennial ASTENE Conference, as we return to Durham University, site of the original, pre-ASTENE conference that launched the Association, nearly a dozen years ago.

Early papers already accepted include such titles as 'Depictions of Islam in 17th-century English Travel Accounts'; 'Sources for the English Factory at Aleppo, 1650–1700'; 'Vitaliano Donati's Expedition to Egypt, 1759'; 'Lord Byron and the English Minister at Ioannina in 1809'; 'A Tour of the Holy Land in 1819'; 'French Women Artists in North Africa and the Near East'; 'No Place for a Lady: Victorians at the Great Pyramid'; 'Czech Scientists in the Near East'; 'Travels in the Mediterranean, 1933–1950'; 'The Orient in Photographs and Film, 1900–1943'. The papers come, so far, from members in the United States, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Eire, and the United Kingdom. They include a wide range of topics, from the Levant Company to Napoleon in the desert; from Western travellers' accounts of the 'harim', to Herodotus, to the Holy Land; from artists to photographers to scientists. The range will develop as your abstracts come in ...

Please send paper title and abstract (no more than 100 words) as soon as possible to the conference co-ordinator: Felicity Wood, 93 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HL (or email to felicity.wood@tesco.net). The final submission date for papers is 1 June, but it is extremely helpful to the conference organizers to receive paper abstracts much earlier.

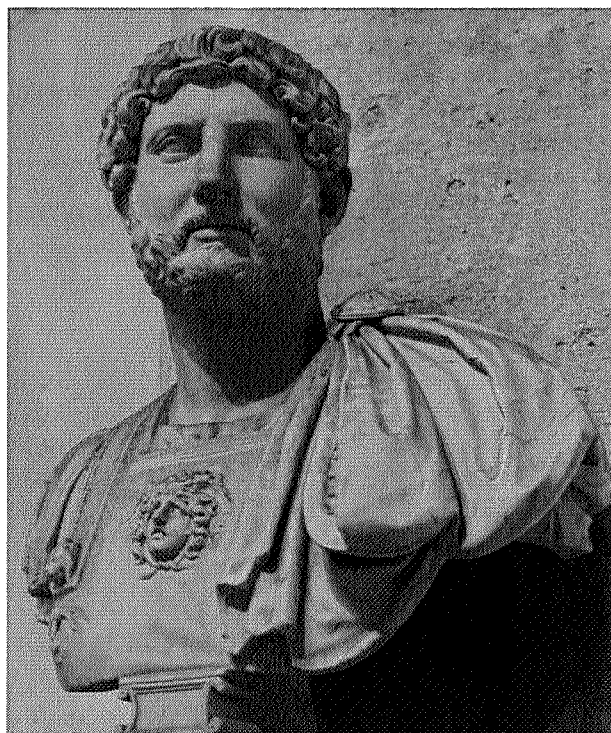
The Oriental Museum, Durham University

Collingwood College, where the ASTENE Conference will be held, is not far from Durham University's Oriental Museum, known for its extensive Egyptological collection based on the collection of the Fourth Duke of Northumberland, who acquired it during the mid-nineteenth century. Also of interest to ASTENE members is the representative material from the Ancient Near East, and the Islamic and Middle Eastern collection. During the conference we will hold a reception at the museum

to launch ASTENE's new book, *Saddling the Dogs: Journeys through Egypt and the Near East*.

ASTENE Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Sunday, 12 July at Collingwood College, Durham. The Agenda is enclosed with this Bulletin. There will be a vacancy on the Committee for 2009/10; if you are interested in serving on the Committee, or know someone who would like to do so, please inform the Secretary, Angela Reid.



Hadrian – an ASTENE Traveller

Not far from Durham is Hadrian's Wall, which participants will have the opportunity to visit on the last day of the ASTENE Conference. Hadrian's Wall is one of the great historic sites of Britain, stretching as it does across northern Britain and marking the edge of the Roman Empire. It is a wonderful place to discover or to re-visit, but it also has resonance for ASTENE.

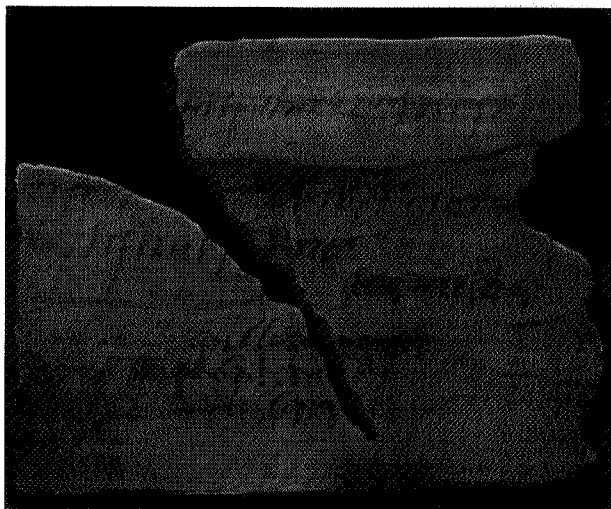
The note on Emperor Hadrian in Wallis Budge's *The Nile; Notes for Travellers in Egypt* (10th edition, 1906) is slightly curt:

Hadrian. He founded the city of Antinopolis in memory of his favourite, Antinous, and made a road from it to Berenice on the Red Sea. He visited Egypt twice.

Nineteenth-century travellers were knowledgeable about the Roman Empire and Classical history, and many of them paused on their Nile journey to remember Hadrian and his young favourite – as did Mrs Sarah Lushington in 1827, en route home from India (*Narrative of a Journey from Calcutta to Europe by Way of Egypt in the Years 1827 and 1828*, John Murray, 1829):

On the night of the 18th we were off Antinoe, named after Antinous, who was supposed to have been drowned in the Nile near this spot. Its ruins, described by Hamilton, induced some of the gentlemen of our party, though it was so late as eleven o'clock, to visit them. After a good deal of trouble, they procured a guide from the village; and, at the end of a desolate walk, they were disappointed by finding every relic of value removed, it was said, for materials for the new buildings at Siout, and to embellish the Dufturdar's palace at Cairo. It would have been gratifying to have seen these ruins, and thus been enabled to compare the architecture of Hadrian's city on the banks of the Nile, with Hadrian's magnificent villa near Rome.

And Hadrian today ... If I were to elect a new member for ASTENE from the ancient world, my choice would be Hadrian – a diplomat, a reformer, a builder and, first and foremost, a traveller – never mind an emperor. Before his peaceful accession to the throne in AD 117 he was the commander in Syria – a position that must have inspired his lifelong interest in travel. He spent his first two years making peace with the Parthians, the Roxolani and Mauretians, and then in AD 119 he began his



Tablet from Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall, dating to AD 91–103. The handwriting in the last four lines is that of Claudia Severa, who writes to invite Sulpicia Lepidina to her birthday party.

travels throughout the Roman Empire. He visited Gaul, Germany, Britain, Spain, Mauretania and Egypt. In Egypt, he travelled on the Nile with his beloved Antinous, who died there. All this he accomplished in ten years – without the benefit of trains and planes.

Wherever he went, Hadrian left his mark with glorious buildings as well as walls: the Pantheon (with pillars from the quarries of Egypt's Eastern Desert) and the Athenaeum in Rome and a magnificent villa at Tibur, as well as his city of Adrianapolis (Turkish Edirne), to name only a few. The closest we in Britain can get to him now is the Wall across the neck of England, built in AD 122 to mark the extent of Roman power and to protect Roman Britain from the incursions of the northern tribes. Let us celebrate our fore-runner with a trip to his Wall.

Ann Revell

Other Forthcoming ASTENE Events

ASTENE is beginning to plan events for the next year or two. Details will appear in the Summer *Bulletin* in July.

Activities planned include:

- a visit to the Palestine Exploration Fund in London this autumn;
- a study day called 'Travellers to Monasteries of the Levant' at Oxford University's Department of Continuing Education, on Saturday, 3 July 2010;
- a tour to Greece and Albania in the autumn of 2010;
- a study day in Oxford following Byron's travels in Greece and Albania, scheduled for winter 2010;
- the IX Biennial ASTENE Conference, to be held in Oxford in 2011.

Future Activities

At the January meeting of the ASTENE Committee, it was agreed that we should ask members to suggest future activities that they would be interested in attending and/or helping to organise.

At present we try to have a Study Day each year, plus one or two 'behind the scenes' visits related to ASTENE's areas of interest. As noted above, the next Study Day will be in Oxford in July 2010, on the subject 'Travellers to the Monasteries of the Levant'. In the past we have been 'behind the scenes' in the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the library at All Souls College and the Griffith Institute, both in Oxford, and to the Royal Geographical Society. We have also looked at Orientalist art in Birmingham, at Nile travel in Manchester, and at a range of subjects and travellers (including Irby and Mangles) in Exeter. Biennial conferences have been held in Durham, Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Manchester and Southampton.

ASTENE also organises a tour abroad every two years. So far we have travelled to Islamic and early Christian Cairo; to Cyprus, both north and south; through Syria; and last year up the Nile on a *dahabeeyah*. On each tour we hold a short conference of some half-dozen papers by the ASTENE participants and local members. The Greece-Albania-Byron tour for 2010 has already been eagerly taken up, and a study day will follow it. One idea for the future is a tour to Alexandria, with a visit to Siwa and the Eastern Desert.

We would like to consider proposals for activities in other areas and welcome all ideas. Please send suggestions to the Bulletin Editor, who will pass them on appropriately.

ASTENE Tour to Greece and Albania, Spring 2010

If you are interested in joining this tour, please contact the Events Organiser, Elisabeth Woodthorpe; her details can be found inside the back cover of the Bulletin.

Looking ahead to the ASTENE tour to Greece and Albania, try to find *The Selected Letters of Edward Lear*, edited by Vivien Noakes (OUP, 1990). Lear visited Albania in 1848 and wrote to his former employer, the Thirteenth Earl of Derby:

Tortoises (*Testuda graeca*) run across your path by twos and threes. Geese are in countless numbers on every plain and in all the streets of the towns and villages, and make a horrible clamour ...

Bulletin 40, Summer 2009

The next *Bulletin* – our summer number, due in July – will be edited by Robert Morkot of Exeter University, an ASTENE Committee member. This summer issue, unlike the usual *Bulletin*, will include some longer articles, up to about 500 words. Accompanying illustrations, particularly portraits, are very welcome. The closing date for such material is 15 June, and should be sent to Dr Morkot at Wysteria Cottage, Nadderwater, Exeter EX4 2JQ (email: rgmorkot@ex.ac.uk). We also always welcome reviews of books from members, but please check first with the Reviews Editor.

The Peninsula and Orient (P&O) Steam Navigation Company

At the ASTENE Southampton conference in 2007 we had a most interesting presentation on the history of the P&O line and its connection with Egypt and the Near East. A copy of the booklet on this history was offered at the

time, but a resume of this might be of interest and use to readers. To visit the P&O Company Archive contact the Curator at DP World, 16 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JQ (tel. 0207 901 4341).

In early 1833 Lieutenant Waghorn RN became enthused by the idea of making quicker communication – of people and post – between Egypt and India. Earlier travellers had either gone around the Cape or had sailed up the Red Sea to Kosseir and crossed the intervening desert by camel, donkey or horse to the Nile at Keneh, and from there sailed north to Cairo and Alexandria. This is a journey described well by John Hanson, Anne Katherine Elwood and Sarah Lushington a decade earlier. Others sailed north as far as Suez, from where the overland route was shorter, faster but less exciting.

Waghorn's ideas for an improved overland route via Suez were taken up, and by 1837 the Peninsula and Orient Company came into existence; it 'soon applied itself to perfecting the overland route.' In 1840 it opened regular communication with Egypt 'in terms of the Royal Charter granted in that year.'



Previous to this there had been a complex process by which mail moved between Bombay and Suez, was forwarded to Gibraltar, and then transferred to a British Admiralty Packet for England. From 1839 the British and French governments agreed a convention for sending mail through France and onward to Malta, and then by P&O steamer to Egypt. Eventually there would be a regular steamer service between Southampton and Alexandria, and from Suez to India.

Travellers and mail still had to get across the desert to and from Suez, however. In 1840 agreement was reached with Mehemet Ali that two steamers should start plying to Cairo, and 'a light iron packet, airy and comfortable', was sent out to Egypt for passenger accommodation on the Mahmoudieh Canal between Alexandria and Cairo. In 1841, Mehemet Ali – 'in the most high minded and liberal spirit' – offered to make the route between Cairo and Suez and 'Cosseir and Ghenneh' practicable for carriage travelling, and 'to furnish escorts as might be necessary to afford perfect security.'

There were, inevitably, teething problems, followed by improvements: 'the official working of resting stations across the desert, with stables and other conveniences necessary.' Success led to further developments and co-operation between Mehemet Ali and P&O: wharfs and a coal yard at Alexandria; farms near Cairo and Zagazid to provide a supply of vegetables, fruit, poultry etc. for the steamers at Alexandria and Suez; a sheep farm for fresh meat; a hotel at Suez (accounts of which appear in several travellers' books); stores and workshops at various points for ship repairs; washing machines, ice-making machines etc.

In 1851, plans for an Egyptian railway – the first to be built outside Europe – were being made under the direction of the Stephenson family. A railway was soon completed between Alexandria and Cairo.

There were problems between the ordinary passengers hurrying to India or home and the gentry come to Egypt for culture. To overcome this, a large Transit Hotel was built by the Shoubra Gate for passengers to and from India. 'This was found to remedy much of the discomfort hitherto complained of.'

Thus life continued until the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 – and it was the P & O steamer Delta which conveyed guest to the formal opening.

Deborah Manley

Joseph Bonomi Building Collapses

ASTENE Committee member Neil Cooke drew this incident in Leeds to our attention; Private Eye (no. 1228, 23 January–5 February 2009) gave more information.

In the early hours of 8 December 2008, part of a 270-year-old mill building in Holbeck, Leeds, crumbled. One of the ornate stone pillars of Temple Mill (below), a former flax mill, partially collapsed, and a large slab of stone from the arch fell to the pavement below.

What does this have to do with ASTENE? As Neil Cooke explained, Temple Mill was modelled on the Egyptian Temple of Horus at Edfu, and the traveller-draughtsman Joseph Bonomi (1796–1878), who had spent a decade in Egypt measuring and drawing temples, had been involved in its design, as he was in the design of the Egyptian Court of the Crystal Palace, before becoming Curator of Sir John Soane's Museum in London.

The original building was erected in 1839–41, and the adjacent 'temple' offices in 1843. The original factory chimney, according to *Private Eye*, was 'in the shape of Cleopatra's Needle'. Now a listed building, Temple Mill is internationally known and (officially) protected from demolition. It is a tribute to the original design that no more of the building fell.

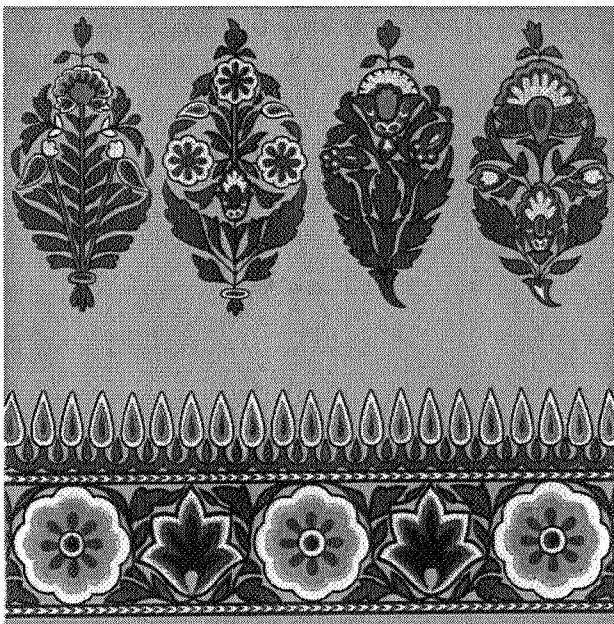


OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Exhibitions

A Higher Ambition: Owen Jones (1809–74), London, Victoria & Albert Museum, 28 March–22 November 2009. This year the V&A is celebrating the centenary of one of the most influential, but lesser known, decorative artists of the Victorian period. Owen Jones was born in 1809 and following a student tour through Europe, Egypt, Turkey and Spain, became a pioneering advocate of Islamic design. Trained as an architect, Jones rose to fame with his controversial scheme to paint the interior of the 1851 Great Exhibition building in the primary colours, based on his observation of ancient Egyptian tomb paintings and the interiors of the Alhambra.

Jones' reputation now rests on a book, *The Grammar of Ornament*, continuously in print since 1856. Considered a classic of its type, the *Grammar* also betrays Jones' unusual bias in favour of Islamic ornament. This and other elements of his busy career at the subject of the V&A exhibition, which runs until November; admission is free. In recognition of his role in the founding of the museum, there will be a Study Day on Saturday, 12 June, at which ASTENE members Charles Newton and Kathryn Ferry will be speaking. The fee is £45, and bookings can be made online at http://www.vam.ac.uk/activ_events/courses/courses/study_days_seminars/study_days/ or by phone on +44 (0)20 7942 2211.



Owen Jones, *The Grammar of Ornament* ('Indian No. 4'), example 11.

Unearthing the Truth: Egypt's Pagan and Coptic Sculpture, Brooklyn Museum, New York, until 10 May. The Brooklyn Museum boasts the second largest North American collection of Coptic art – but is it? The Museum suspects that about one-third of its pieces (dated from the fourth to seventh century AD) may be forgeries, with other pieces recarved and repainted. The genuine and the fakes are shown together in this intriguing exhibition.

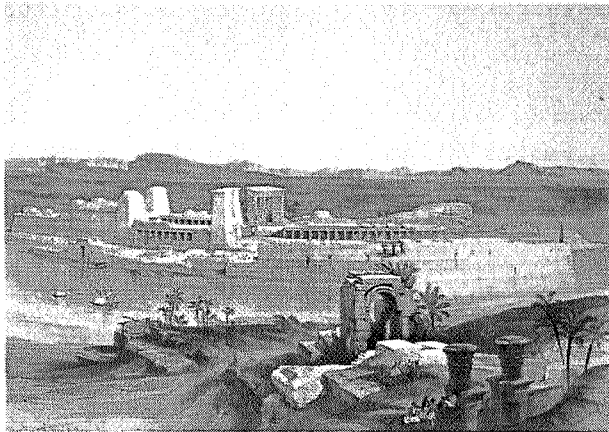
Those who have read *A Thousand Miles up the Nile* will remember Amelia Edwards' visit to the forgers at Luxor. By a curious coincidence it is suggested that the fakes seem to have originated near Sheik Ibada (ancient Antinopolis), founded by the Emperor Hadrian in AD 117. This all brings Coptic art into the arena of exciting new research – and many of the dealers were, of course, travellers.

Shah 'Abbas: The Remaking of Iran, London, British Museum, until 14 June. The third in the British Museum's series of four major exhibitions on great rulers of the past opened in mid-February and continues until 14 June. The exhibition is in partnership with the National Museum of Iran and the Iran Heritage Foundation. Although strictly outside the ASTENE area, it will be of interest to many of us. The exhibition is open daily from 10 am to 5:30 pm, and until 8 pm on Thursdays and Fridays. Admission is £12, and the museum recommends advance booking: see www.britishmuseum.org/whats_on/all_current_exhibitions/shah_abbas.aspx, telephone +44 (0)20 7323 8181.

Constantinople: Views of Nineteenth-century Istanbul and Russian Orientalism: Central Asia and the Caucasus, both London, Sphinx Fine Art Gallery, until 25 June. Both exhibitions of Orientalist paintings are being held at the gallery premises at 125 Kensington Church Street, London W8 7LP. Online catalogues may be viewed at www.sphinxfindart.com, or ordered from the gallery (tel. +44 (0)20 7313 8040).

David Roberts: Lithographs of Egypt and the Holy Land, London, Mathaf Gallery, 15 April–1 May 2009. This exhibition of Roberts' lithographs (which range in price from £250 to £1250) will be of great interest to ASTENE members, as Roberts ranged across so much of the area covered by the Association. Who among us has not recognised where we stood at Sinai or Baalbec or in Cairo and known that Roberts had stood there before us? The gallery is located at 24 Motcomb Street, London SW1X 8JU, and is open weekdays and Saturdays

by appointment (tel. +44 (0)20 7823 1378; www.mathafgallery.com).



David Roberts, 'General View of the Island of Philae, Nubia', Egypt and the Holy Land, plate 151.

Conferences and Study Opportunities

Britain and the Muslim World Conference, University of Exeter, 17–19 April 2009. Sponsored by the British Academy, this conference aims to explore the historical impact of cross-cultural encounters between the Muslim world and Britain by bringing together writers, scholars, public intellectuals and younger researchers, and members of the media to present and discuss cutting-edge research on the question of how past relations have brought us to our current situation, and to propose directions for further consideration and research. The conference aims to broaden understanding of how cultural life both in the Muslim world and in Britain has been shaped and enriched by centuries of cross-cultural interaction.

Day one of the conference will be open to the public and will feature 'conversations' on cultural interactions, including literature, film and music. The two further days will highlight keynote papers and panels on the conference topics. Speakers include many well-known names, including several members of ASTENE. For full details see <http://www.sall.ex.ac.uk/conferences/britain-and-the-muslim-world.html>.

Bloomsbury Summer School, University College London. During the summer a number of five-day courses (mainly focused on Egyptology) are held at University College in Bloomsbury. Courses of interest to ASTENE members this summer include:

- 13–17 July Hieroglyphics for Beginners
- 20–24 July Ancient Egypt and Nubia: A Dynamic Relationship (led by Robert Morkot, of ASTENE)
- 27–31 July Flinders Petrie and His Heritage: Exploring the Petrie Museum.

For further information and booking, telephone 0207 679 3622 or visit bloomsbury@egyptology-uk.com.

Study Courses in Cambridge. The Institute of Continuing Public Education has a new programme of residential courses at Madingley Hall near Cambridge. Residential weekends cost about £350; non-residential, about £215. Courses of interest to ASTENE members include:

- 18–20 September Egypt from Alexander the Great to Cleopatra (332–30 BC)
- 5–7 February 2010 The Architecture of Islam: The First 1000 Years
- 19–21 February 2010 Cities of the Eastern Adriatic.

For further details visit www.cont-ed.cam.ac.uk.

Book Fairs

ASTENE members tend to collect books on their subject, and many may know of the Provincial Booksellers Fairs Association (PBFA) Calendar of Book Fairs. This is an annual list of book fairs throughout the country, which you can receive free from the PBFA, The Old Coach House, 16 Melbourn Street, Royston, Herts SG8 7BZ; tel. 01763 248921, email info@pbfa.org. The PBFA website (www.pbfa.org) carries up-to-date information on fairs, plus lists of exhibitors and an online directory of members. Some of the book fairs this year will be:

- 26 April Travel and Exploration, Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7, from 11 am to 5 pm
- 17 May Natural History and Gardening, Capel Manor Gardens, Bullsmoor Lane, Enfield, from 10 am to 4 pm
- 31 May Summer International Fair, Hotel Russell, Russell Square, London WC1, from noon to 6 pm
- 5 and 6 June Summer International Fair, Novotel London West, 1 Shortlands, Hammersmith W6, from 2–7 pm on the 5th and 10 am to 4 pm on the 6th.

A new fair site this year is at the traveller W.J. Bankes' home, Kingston Lacy House near Wimborne in Dorset, to be held from 10:30 to 4 on Sunday, 5 June. Normal fee for National Trust entry, fair free.

The largest book fair of the year is on Friday and Saturday, 11–12 September, in the Knavesmire Suite, York Racecourse. Hours are Friday from noon to 7 pm, and Saturday from 10 to 5. For details see www.yorkbookfair.com.

Of interest to Scottish members will be the book fair in the Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh, on Saturday 13 June, from 10 am to 5 pm. For Irish members there is the Dublin Book Fair at Freemasons Hall, Molesworth Street, on Friday and Saturday, 18–19 September, noon to 7 (Friday) and 10–5 (Saturday).

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

The new Bulletin Reviews Editor is Myra Green, who can be reached at m.g.@myragreen.f9.co.uk. We welcome reviews of books which may be of interest to members, as well as reviews of travellers' books that reveal the reactions of contemporary readers.

Mapping Jordan through Two Millennia, by John R. Bartlett. London, Maney/Palestine Exploration Fund, ISBN 978 190 598140 3, h/b, 176 pp. £48/\$96 (£31/\$62 for PEF members).

For centuries Western Europe knew little of the lands that lie East of the River Jordan. This book tells part of the story of how this surprising lacuna in geographical knowledge was cartographically filled. With the aid of many full-page illustrations of excerpts from maps – a good number of them in colour – John Bartlett tells the fascinating story of how the lands surrounding the River Jordan have been represented in maps for the past two thousand years. The tale which forms this handsomely produced volume is part of the revived Palestine Exploration Fund Annual series. After a break of nearly half a century, the PEF are making a welcome return to the presses.

The work is divided into eleven chapters arranged chronologically, each covering either a period or an important cartographer or two. Each chapter has a well researched and fluently written text, which is copiously

illustrated and resourced with tabular data where appropriate. The rich fund of knowledge presented is clearly the fruit of much labour on the foundation of an erudition established over a lifetime. The list of cartographers and explorers treated by Bartlett is impressive: more than 400 names are listed in the index, which, for those of us who study the historical geography of the region, quickly assumes the character of a list of old friends.

In addition to producing a book beautiful enough for even the most discerning coffee table, Bartlett is to be commended on an excellent and scholarly work which will lay the foundations for much creative research in years to come.

Edwin Aiken

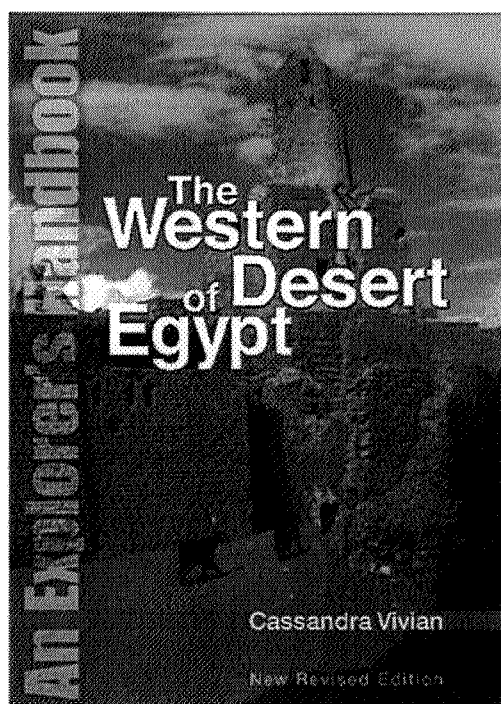
The Western Desert of Egypt: An Explorer's Handbook, revised edition by Cassandra Vivian. American University in Cairo Press, ISBN 978 977 416 090 5, p/b, 470 pages, 276 maps and plans, b/w illustrations, colour insert. £E150, \$29.95.

ASTENE member Cassandra Vivian has revised and updated her guide to Egypt's Western Desert. The book covers both the natural and human history of the desert and oases, and the caravan route to the south. Rightly, she puts the people of the deserts in prime position, preceded only by geography and history.

Vivian provides descriptions of routes, sites, people and places alongside practical information on such matters as where to stay, to eat, and – most importantly – to fill your tank, and how to navigate in the desert. There are several maps and sketch maps, and drawings in the text of places and people and things. Some, like that of the church of St George at Bahafiya Oasis, are based on sketches by Frederic Cailliaud in 1820; others, like the pottery and basketwork, are by Leila Pinch-Brock. The section of colour photographs of sites and people brings the desert and its life very close.

Many of the travellers and explorers of the deserts will be familiar to ASTENE members. The Islamic scholar-travellers Ibn Battuta, Ibn Hawqal and Al-Idrisi were followed by the Italian Giacomo di Castaldi, who provided a north-south desert map from Alexandria to Nubia, and the American John Ledyard, who measured days travelled to the caravan routes.

Other names include Archibald Edmonstone; Charles Poncet (c.1665–1705), who travelled through the deserts



to Abyssinia; Frederick Horneman; Jean-Jacques Rifaud; Giovanni Finati; the Prussian Baron Minutoli (1722–1846); botanist Georg Schweinfurth; and Paul Friedrich Ascherson, who collected 400 types of insect, aided by the children of the oases. Here too are explorers in their own land, the Egyptians who took their place in desert history: Ahmed Hassanein in 1923 and Ahmed Fakhry in the 1950s.

This is a book that almost obliges the traveller in us to set off very soon...

Deborah Manley

***Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations*, by Georgina Howell. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, ISBN 10:0-374-53135-8, p/b, 512 pp., \$15.**

Cambridge Central Library has been closed for over a year as it gets rebuilt into our new Grand Arcade. We were all devastated at first, but the mobile library van that visits west Cambridge – home of so many elderly academics – once a fortnight has proved a great joy as we swap recommendations. This is where I encountered this brilliant biography of Gertrude Bell, and I pass on the recommendation to one and all. ASTENE has known of her for some time. We saw photographs from the Bell Archive when we met in Edinburgh, we heard about her in London some years ago and again when we learned of Holy Mountains in Oxford. I, of course, knew of her

– along with that other patron of archaeology in Iraq, Agatha Christie – from the conversation of my many friends and colleagues who used to work there.

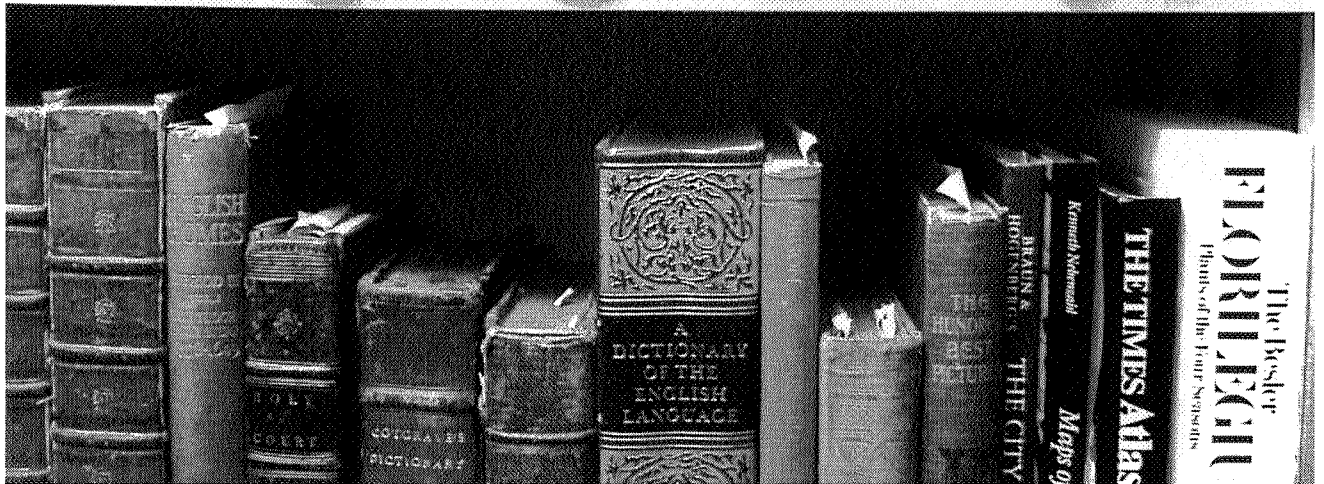
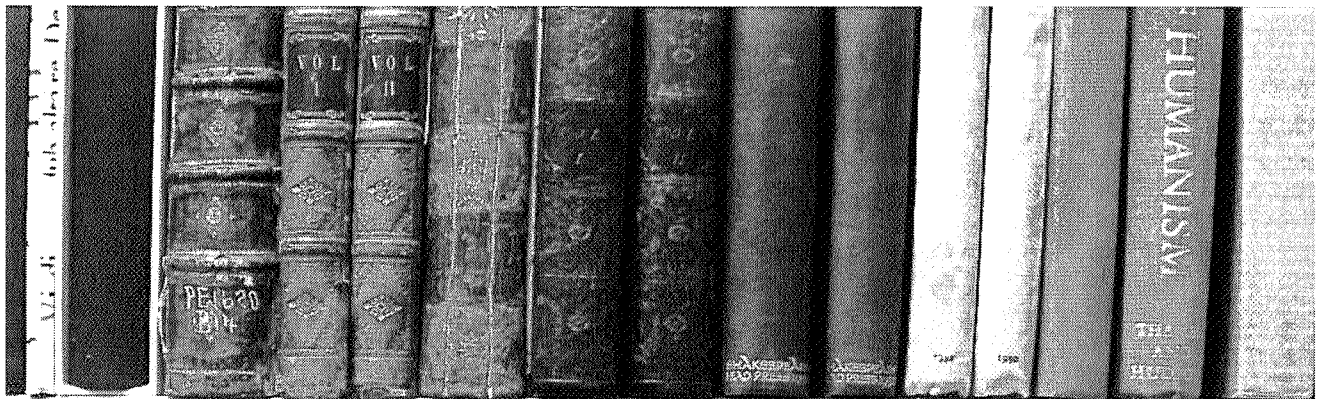
I have seldom read such a revealing biography. It is not only beautifully laid out, with the many direct quotations from her copious letters printed clearly in a different font, but the background research into a very complex period and area is impeccable. The person who emerges from the book is not the stereotype, but a woman who loves, who enjoys clothes, and who had a mind that could encompass a culture vastly different from that in which she had been brought up and work tirelessly for its future.

It is a shame this book was not published until 2006; it might have brought much greater understanding. History has not just repeated itself, it has turned itself inside out: we should and could have known better.

Lisa French

***Napoleon and Egyptomania in Tennessee*, by Elaine Altman Evans. Frank H. McClung Museum, University of Tennessee in Knoxville, 66 pp., 129 full colour illustrations. \$21.85 plus \$3.50 postage.**

ASTENE member Elaine Evans' book, linked to the exhibition reported in Bulletin 37, outlines how Napoleon's invasion of Egypt created an interest in,



and craze for, all things Egyptian, and shows how this fascination found its way to Tennessee. The book can be ordered through v.bremsel@utk.edu.

***Noble Brutes: How Eastern Horses Transformed English Culture*, by Donna Landry. John Hopkins University Press, ISBN 978-0-8018-9028-4, h/b, 248 pp. £26.00.**

In this first 'cultural biography' of the horse, Professor Landry, an ASTENE member, tells how the Arab and Barbary horse travelled from the East to England and changed riding styles, saddlery, racing and animal art. As the blurb for the book says, 'Behind every English gentleman riding his Thoroughbred horse in the hunting field there lurked a spectral Arab or Turk.' A full review will be published in the July issue of the *Bulletin*.

Past Reviews

Quarterly Review, vol. III, January & April 1863

Dr Edwin Aiken drew our attention to a review of The Invasion of the Crimea: Its Origin, and an Account of Its Progress down to the Death of Lord Raglan, by Alexander William Kinglake (Edinburgh and London, 1863). The first paragraphs of this review considered instead the author's account of his travels, Eothen. Since its publication in 1844 Eothen has seldom been out of print, and in the 1950s was a set book for Higher Certificate. It was not this review that kept it so popular.

It is now twenty years since Mr Kinglake published *Eothen*. The book was original, startled the public and was successful. Its style was fresh and vigorous; its descriptions vivid and picturesque. A lively banter and polished irony gave zest to the narrative. A biting sarcasm levelled against things usually held sacred offended certain tastes, and jarred upon the feelings of most English readers. Yet as men like to see the true imprint of other men's minds, they were willing to forget the offence in the undoubted ability and originality of the work. Mr Kinglake renounced – as we are accustomed to renounce the Evil One and all his works – 'all details of geographical discovery or antiquarian research, all display of sound learning and religious knowledge, and historical and scientific illustrations, all useful statistics, all political disquisitions, and all good moral reflections ...'

He has been taken at his word. *Eothen* is read as an amusing record – of what the French term 'impressions of travel'. It has never been seriously quoted as an authority upon any one subject connected with the country it describes. After a rest of a quarter of a century Mr Kinglake comes before the public in a more serious character than the writer of a romance founded upon travel.

Blackwood's *Edinburgh Magazine*, vol. CXLIX, January–June 1891, pp. 429–44

A few years ago, when ASTENE visited the Florence Nightingale Museum and then the Houses of Parliament (as guests of Josephine Eldred), we heard in the evening papers on travellers who became Members of Parliament. Edwin Aiken introduced us to a most extraordinary man – Arthur Macmourger Kavanah. A review of his biography by his cousin, Sarah L. Steele, appeared in 1891. The opening sentences of that review read as true now as they did over a century ago: '... he was one of the most extraordinary men of his own generation ... We should doubt if the history of the world has many such to show ...'

Kavanah was born in 1831 to a distinguished old family in the Irish country of Carlow. He was born with multiple physical disabilities which would then – and now – have greatly restricted his life. His mother, Lady Kavanah, saw that they did not. He could not go to a public school or university, so she took the whole family and a tutor 'to follow the track of the Israelites to the Holy Land' – including Egypt and the Nile. Hardly a year after their return, he and his elder brother set off for Russia and Persia and on to Bombay. The reviewer gives fair detail of this journey, which included much shooting of birds, as Kavanah was an excellent shot. They seem to have carried ample provisions, and one cold night were comforted by two bottles of port.

His two older brothers died young, and Kavanah inherited the title and estate. His achievements locally and nationally would have been significant even for a healthy man – Kavanah triumphed over adversity. Here is a traveller who demands modern attention – a hero indeed!

Deborah Manley

ASTENE Ten-Year Bibliography

Diane Bergman, of the Griffiths Institute, Oxford University, has compiled a bibliography of ASTENE members' publications in the first decade since its foundation – from 1997 to 2007. This bibliography will be placed on the ASTENE website. It covers an immense range of published material, and we are very grateful to Diane Bergman for her work on this profile of ASTENE.

ASTENE Backlist and Forthcoming Books

Ever since our foundation, ASTENE has published collections of papers selected from our biennial conferences, study days and papers given at conferences held during our overseas tours. These books have been published by academic publishers or by ASTENE. We

now have a working agreement with Oxbow Books of Oxford, who have published our last two titles and the new title to be published this year.

Our backlist of books, named below, can be ordered direct from Oxbow and will be available at the Durham conference. In the UK, Europe and the rest of the world, contact Oxbow Books, 10 Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford OX1 2EW.

In North America, Oxbow's books are distributed through the David Brown Book Company in Oakville, Connecticut. The website for either is www.oxbowbooks.com.

***Desert Travellers: From Herodotus to T.E. Lawrence*, edited by Janet Starkey and Okasha El Daly (ASTENE 2000)**

A fascinating collection of 12 papers on topics as diverse as the zoology of Herodotus (by Charles Foster), ancient Egypt and the Gordon Relief Expedition (by David Dixon), and the Lebanese traveller Amin Rihani (by Geoffrey Nash).

***Travellers in the Levant: Voyagers and Visionaries*, edited by Sarah Searight and Malcolm Wagstaff (ASTENE 2001)**

This title contains 14 papers, including several on Colonel Leake and others on his associates, among them William Gell (by Charles Plouviez) and Lady Hester Stanhope (by Norman Lewis). The role of Thomas Cook in tourism to the Holy Land is discussed by Professor Ruth Kark.

***Egypt through the Eyes of Travellers*, edited by Paul Starkey and Nadia El Kholi (ASTENE 2002)**

The nine papers in this book include such titles as 'Florence Nightingale's Letters from Egypt: An Imperialist Discourse', by Loubna Youssef, and 'Preparing to be an Egyptologist: Amelia Edwards before 1873', by Professor Joan Rees.

***Travellers in the Near East*, edited by Charles Foster (Stacey International, 2004)**

Contains 12 papers, including 'The Journey of the Comte de Forbin in the Near East' by Pascale Linant de Bellefonds, and 'The Mission Scientifique de Moree: Capt Peytier's Contribution' by Elizabeth French.

***Women Travellers in the Near East*, edited by Sarah Searight (Oxbow Books, 2005)**

The ten papers published here include discussions of Princess Caroline and Lady Craven, Miss Muir Mackenzie and Miss Irby in the Slavonic Provinces of Turkey-in-Europe, Sarah Belzoni, Amelia Edwards and Margaret Benson, Lucie Duff Gordon, Emmeline Lott, Isabella Bird. There are papers on missionaries, the women of the Eastern Desert of Egypt, and archaeologists' Wives.

***Who Travels Sees More: Artists, Architects and Archaeologists Discover Egypt and the Near East*, edited by Diane Fortenberry (Oxbow Books 2007)**

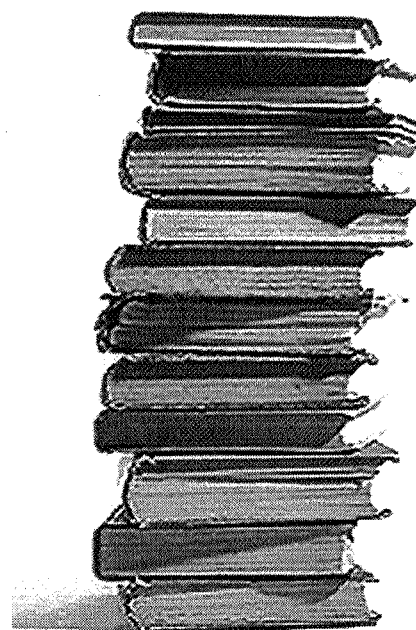
The 14 essays in this book, published to mark ASTENE's tenth anniversary, focus on the presence of artists, architects and archaeologists as travellers in the ASTENE area. Topics include Sir Charles Fellows and the Xanthian marbles (by Enid Slatter), 19th-century American artists (by Caroline Williams), Charles Barry's Egyptian travels (by Patricia Usick), and James Henry Breasted's championing of the stereoscope (by Elaine Evans).

***Saddling the Dogs: Journeys through Egypt and the Near East*, edited by Diane Fortenberry (Oxbow Books 2009)**

ASTENE will launch its next book at the Durham conference in July, comprising a selection of papers from the 2007 Southampton conference on the topic of the physical experience of travel in Egypt and the Near East. Copies will be available at the conference.

Some Fictional Travels

Many of us enjoy a good thriller or detective story, and those with a setting in ASTENE lands give added attraction. Many will know of Michael Pearce's books following the Mamur Zapt through early 20th-century Egypt. Pearce has since turned his attention to a second group of novels: *A Dead Man in ...*, published by Constable. His man in Istanbul learned about the seamier side of nightlife; the Dead Man in Athens was involved in poisoning. Pearce has written too about Trieste and Tangier. Another novel, *Land of Marvels* by Barry Unsworth (Hutchinson, 18.99 h/b), is set in Mesopotamia in 1914, with an archaeologist as protagonist.



RESEARCH RESOURCES

Resources for Sudanese Studies, Durham University

We have reviewed the Sudan Archive at Durham University Library before, but realise that members may want now to take the opportunity to visit it, perhaps arriving early in Durham for the biennial conference in July, or staying on in order to work there. Here Jane Grogan has described this treasure. We hope that she will be able to join us during the conference.

The range of material in Durham University Library provides a first-class research resource for scholars in all disciplines of Sudanese studies, and much that is of interest to ASTENE members.

Archives

The Sudan Archive, a collection of the private papers of former officials, soldiers, missionaries, businessmen and individuals who served or lived in the Sudan during the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Period (1899–1955), was begun in 1957. The Archive contains official, semi-official and private papers which document the Sudan under Mahdist and Condominium rule for the period 1883–1956. The Archive holds some 300 Mahdist documents in Arabic, and there are also substantial numbers of papers relating to Egypt, Arabia, Palestine, Transjordan, Syria and the African states bordering on the Sudan. It contains over 320 individual collections, many of which are the papers of former Sudan Political

Service officials. The Archive currently comprises approximately 800 boxes of papers, 50,000 photographs, 1000 maps, cinefilms, museum objects and a large amount of related printed material. New material is still being added.

For full information about access and facilities, see <http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/> or contact the Assistant Keeper, Sudan Archive, Durham University Library, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3RN (Tel: 0191 3341218).

Detailed catalogues for the collections are available in Durham, and a growing number are also accessible via the internet at <http://flambard.dur.ac.uk/dynaweb/handlist/sad/>. A searchable database of the Archive's photographic images can be accessed at Durham.

Printed Collections

The main loan and reference collection on the Sudan, which has substantial holdings of Sudanese imprints and Arabic material, is held in the Main University Library in Stockton Road. The Middle Eastern Documentation Unit (MEDU), at the same location, covers modern official publications and other serials relating to the Sudan since independence in 1956.

At Palace Green Library the early printed books collection comprises material published up to 1850 (including early travel accounts), and rare, sensitive and fragile material of later date, as well as Sudanese newspapers. The Condominium 'grey' literature collection is an extensive body of published and semi-published titles, issued mainly between 1890 and 1955 in the Sudan. For details of all printed collections, see <http://library.dur.ac.uk>.

Jane Grogan



From Travellers Grafitti from Egypt and the Sudan, by Roger de Keersmaecker (www.egypt-sudan-graffiti.be).

The Skilliter Centre for Ottoman Studies, Newnham College, Cambridge

It is some time since we have referred to this centre devoted to Turkish historical studies and language. The most important recent work of the Centre has been the cataloguing of the growing library collection. The library was bequeathed Dr Skilliter's 3000 books – focused primarily on the Ottoman Empire – in 1985. Since then, donations, bequests and purchases have added a further 5000 books and other items.

The Centre says of itself that 'it is an excellent place to meet linguists of all shapes and sizes, and help is never far away.' This year two publications are due from Cambridge University Press: *A Social History of Ottoman Istanbul* by Kate Fleet and Ebru Boyar, and *The Cambridge History of Turkey*, vol. 1: *Byzantium to Turkey, 1071–1453*, edited by Kate Fleet.

For further information and updates see www.newn.cam.ac.uk/skilliter.

The Silk Road Online

The ancient Silk Road stretched well beyond the boundaries of ASTENE, but it both started and on its return ended within the area. Little was known of the remarkable heritage of the Silk Road until the last century. Since then amazing finds of manuscripts, paintings and even printed books have been discovered in desert caves along the great trade route.

Only in the last two decades has it been possible to bring this deep well of knowledge to the public by the highest quality digital photography, preservation and cataloguing. This work has been undertaken by the International Dunhuang Project (IDP), and on their multilingual website – <http://idp.bl.uk> – one can see 130,000 images of manuscripts, paintings, textiles and artefacts, historical photographs and much more.

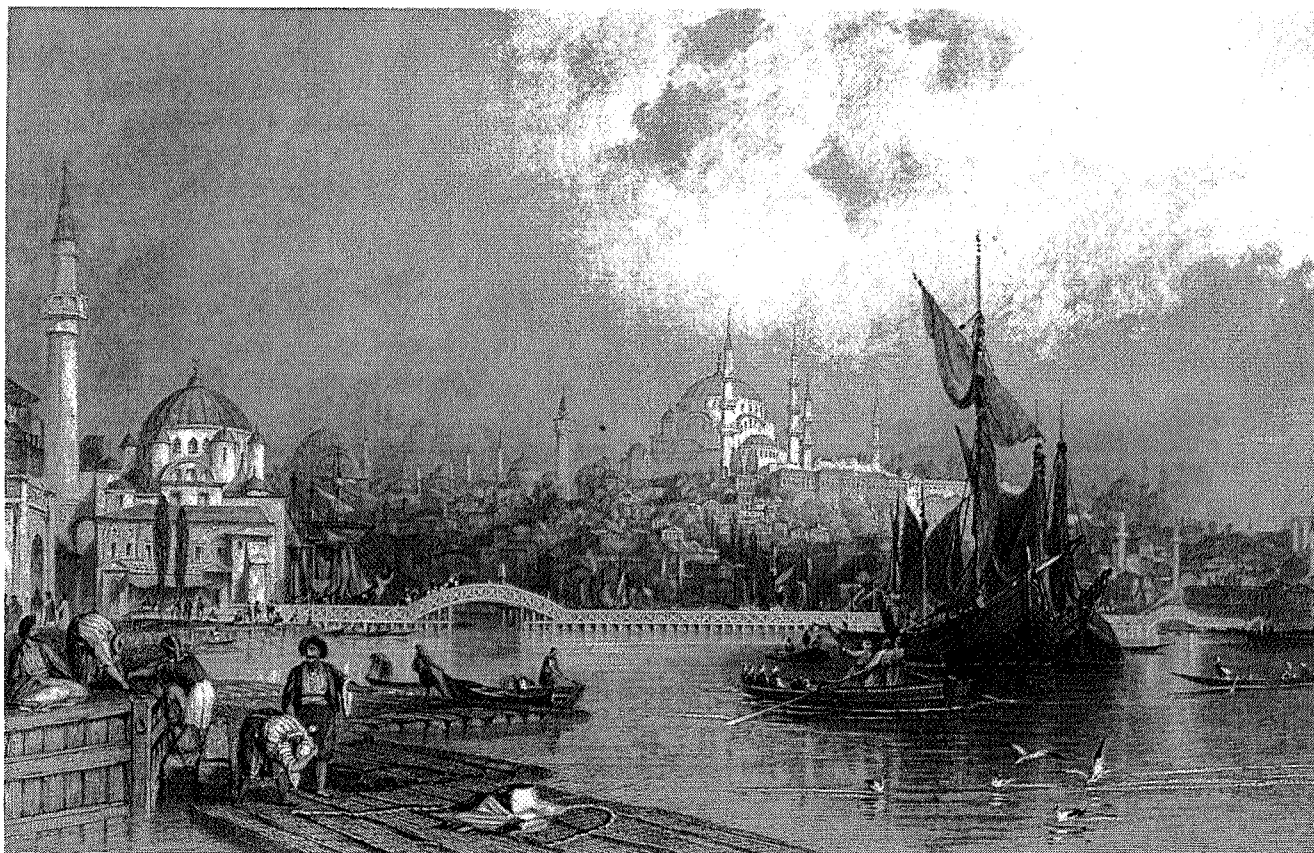


EASTERN LADY WITH PAINTED EYES.

Understanding British Portraits

The National Portrait Gallery, in partnership with the National Trust and South Museum Hubs, and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, is co-ordinating a Subject Specialist Network. The network will map public and private collections throughout the UK, and facilitate sharing of knowledge between experts in the field.

If you would like to register your own expertise or collection, or for information, see their website: www.portraits.specialistnetwork.org.uk.



Constantinople, terminus of the Silk Road, from Cassim Pasha. Fisher, Son & Co., London and Quai de l'Ecole, Paris

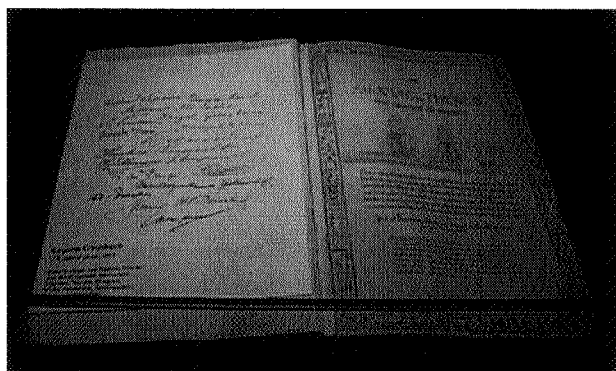
QUERIES AND REPLIES

Very important to the concept of ASTENE is the sharing of information and the accumulation of knowledge. If you have a query about people or places in the ASTENE region, send it for publication. Answers to queries sometimes take months or even a year to come in, but when they do we share them here. The following is a very good example of how a question asked through the Bulletin brings fascinating information to other members and can provide new and unexpected knowledge.

Salamat von Thebes – Richard Lepsius’ Travellers’ Book

A query in the last *Bulletin* (no. 38, p. 15), about a visitors’ book kept by Dr Lepsius during his time in Egypt in the 1840s, has elicited a response from Isolde Lehnert of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in Cairo. She writes:

The ‘strangers’ book initiated by Richard Lepsius (1810–84) in 1843 in Thebes has survived! Its title is *Salamat von Thebes – Salutations from Thebes*.



When Lepsius left Thebes he gave the book to a guide there by the name of Anad or Awad. After this man’s death in 1853 the book came into the possession of Todrous Bulos and his son, Mohareb. Both were Prussian (after 1871, German) consular agents in Luxor, dealing with antiquities. Both kept the book carefully. After Mohareb’s death, the book was held in private German hands. Then on 2 May 2002 the Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung Staatliche Museum in Berlin bought the book at auction.

It has 205 pages and some vignettes, and contains more than 2600 entries by travellers from 32 countries, beginning on 1 January 1845 and ending on 16 January 1873. There is a mixture of travellers to Egypt, comprising different social classes and professions.

There is an online German text at http://www.gittawarnemuende.de/kuns10_2.htm.

Then Isolde did further research and discovered a 36-page book by Rudolph Said Ruete, published in 1900, entitled *Ein Fremdenbuch aus Thebes*, by Carl Richard Lepsius and others. Copyright libraries in Britain have copies of this book.

A founder member of ASTENE, Michel Azim, has added yet more fascinating information about this document. He recalls that when he was working at Karnak at the end of the 1980s, the ‘Fremdenbuch’ could be consulted in Luxor – somewhere near the Rue de la Gare. Sadly, he never saw it, but he knew that the cover had been designed by a member of the Lepsius expedition, Ernst Weidenbech. Mr Azim refers us to an article by L. Keimer in *Glanures* iii (23 December 1955): ‘Une livre des voyageurs institue a Thebes par Karl Richard Lepsius’, pp. 300–314, with some reproductions. For further information he recommends contacting polz@soficom.com.eg or polz@kairo.dainst.org.

Ein Fremdenbuch aus Thebes

It was with a real thrill that I sat down at the Sackler Library of Oxford University with a small grey folder, labelled 20740 d 31(2), called in by ASTENE member and Sackler librarian Diane Bergman. Inside the folder is a dull yellow pamphlet with a paper cover and 36 pages of text. A small corner of the cover is torn off, and the pamphlet is worn at the spine. The title page tells us that it was published in Berlin in 1890. The verso says: ‘Nachdruck verboten’.

My German was never good, and I learned it a long time ago, so I could not, at this time, interpret the introduction, which explains the history of the pamphlet. From the pages rose up such names as Poncet, Norden, Pococke, Bruce, Light, Bankes – but I knew these were travellers long before the Prussian Expedition led by Dr Richard Lepsius.

Later the pamphlet mentioned Drovetti and Salt, Belzoni, Cailliaud and Linant de Bellefonds, Gau, Felix and Hay, Champolion, Puckler Muskau – with ‘seine eleganten Reisseleizzen’ – Passalqua taking antiquities to Berlin, Dr Young struggling with the hieroglyphs, Wilkinson preparing his *Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians* and *The Topography of Thebes*, Edward Lane telling of the modern Egyptians.



INTERIOR OF A HOUSE

Next came Colonel Vyse and his architect Perring, at the Pyramids of Giza. Throughout Europe and on across the Atlantic the discoveries of these pioneers were proclaimed, and the British-born American Consul in Egypt, George Gliddon, wrote of the threats to the evidence of Egypt's ancient history.

Then came plans for another expedition and with those plans the names of the Prussian expedition of 1842–45 led by Dr Richard Lepsius – soon they were at Aswan and beyond with '53 Kameelen' to carry them to Khartoum. There follows pages of the expedition's travels and researches, with dates for places they visited.

At this point the very speciality of the subject-matter barred me from reading further. 'This,' I thought, 'needs – and will have – a proper translation.' Then came the words which had started ASTENE on this search: 'HEUTE IN DER NEUJAHRS NACHT DIE UNTERZEICHNETEN'. And below that begins about a dozen quotes from the entries in the Fremdenbuch.

We give here only a taste of that taste: there are just 15 quotes in the pamphlet, each representing from one to half-a-dozen travellers. Many of these men are long forgotten, but many are not.

Jean-Jacques Ampere signed in on 28 January 1840. Ampere (1800–1864) was a French scholar and Professor of French Literature who published *Voyage en Egypte et en Nubie* in 1867.

S. Wells Williams, of Utica, New York, was returning from Canton to the United States and wrote on 26 March 1845: 'Many thanks to Wilkinson, Lepsius and all who have assisted the passing traveler [sic] to understand better the ruins around him so worthy of a visit.'

On 14 December 1846 the book included a most inappropriate and, indeed, offensive entry by three aristocratic British travellers, urging such men as Lepsius

'to commit their devastations at home'. A German entry soon retaliated with a comment on Lord Elgin. Samuel Lyde of Jesus College, Cambridge, was more sympathetic on 20 January 1851, and there followed a great debate.

The Times correspondent, William Howard Russell, famed for his reporting of the Crimea War, signed the book while accompanying the Prince and Princess of Wales in Egypt in 1869. So did one Henrik Ibsen 'aus Norwegen', who wrote of his appreciation of Lepsius' work.

In 1881 Emil Brugsch, Conservateur of the Museum at Boulaq, signed in. And so the list goes on, amounting in its original form to over 2000 entries, including Henry M. Stanley of the New York *Herald* on the steamer *Venus* in 1869 and Dr Georg Ebers (1837–1898), who had studied Egyptology under Lepsius and was there in 1873.

Said Ruete's pamphlet ends at Luxor (Theban) in November 1899, but for ASTENE we hope this is a new co-operative beginning in which more of us might join. We already have eager volunteers, about which more news in the next Bulletin.

Deborah Manley

Does anyone know of Middlemass Bey?

Russell McGuirk (rmcquirk@ihu.edu) asks if anyone has information about the Egyptologist/artist/Head of the Egyptian Coastguard, Middlemass Bey (Arthur Charles Middlemass, 1850–1906). Russell is especially interested in finding a photograph of him. He is researching the history of the Egyptian Coastguard Administration (1876–1916), and a photograph of Middlemass is conspicuously missing from the material he has collected.

Can anyone help? Please reply to Russell McGuirk and to the Bulletin Editor.

Who was Mr Slowman?

Anyone who has read Giovanni Belzoni's *Narrative of the Operation and Recent Discoveries ... in Egypt and Nubia* (John Murray, 1820) will have wondered about the Rev. Mr Slowman, whom he met while travelling in and near the Fayoum. Here he is, from page 364 of the 1830 edition:

Early on the morning of the 18th I was awoken by the Moorish Hadge, who told me, with an air of surprise, that a strange person was coming towards us. ... I saw a European, who turned out to be

Mr Slowman [this could be Belzoni's version of 'Sloman'], a gentleman sixty-two years of age, who for a walk had alighted from his canjiar [boat], and in spite of his age followed the tracks of celebrated travellers ... This old reverend divine had the courage to go through all the lands of Syria, which travellers fancy wonderful difficult. He never had an interpreter, nor did he know a single word of Arabic. He encountered and overcame every difficulty. He suffered much but never complained, except of the ill treatment he received from other travellers, ... nor did he care whether any one ever knew anything about his journey.

He was then on his way to the second cataract; and some time afterwards I had the pleasure of seeing him, safe and well on his return from that place.

We have asked before, but without success, so we try again: has any reader tracked down who Mr Slowman was? If so, please let the Editor know.

Finding a Travelling Companion

Adam Steinmetz Kennard published his *Eastern Experiences from Egypt and the Holy Land* in London in 1855. He describes how travellers might find a companion with whom to travel. Kennard had travelled previously with an officer 'in Her Majesty's Service' met at Shepherd's Hotel in Cairo.

I was now again anxious to meet with another 'party' with whom I could swear eternal friendship, at any rate so long as we might be travelling together, having been previously informed that there was a 'party' at the hotel who was making up a caravan for Jerusalem. I was standing in front of Shepherd's, chatting with one of my Cairene acquaintances as to what arrangements were necessary for crossing the Desert, the best time for starting, etc., when a third 'party' joined us; and from a remark that he made, I was induced to ask if he was the 'party' I had heard speak of as about to start for Jerusalem. After replying in the affirmative, he asked whether I was the 'other party' that he had heard speak of as endeavouring to make up a caravan.

Coming to the conclusion that we were both 'the parties' that each had heard of, we introduced ourselves to each other, and proposed that we should join forces, and face the perils of desert and Syrian travelling together.

Does any reader have other examples of how travellers paired up to travel together in Egypt and the Near East, and how these pairings survived the journey?



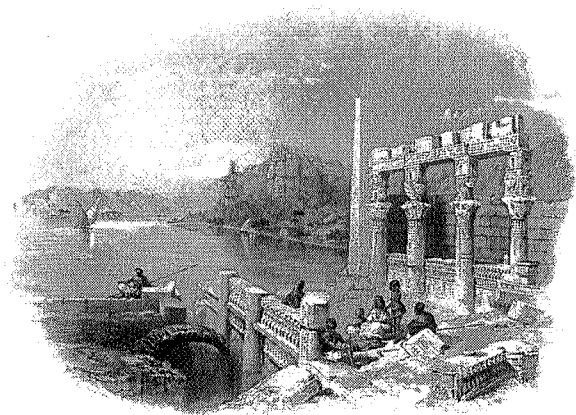
View of the Hall of the Shepherd's Hotel, Cairo (destroyed). Brooklyn Museum, Lantern Slide Collection.

Mr Bayley's Photographs

On 16 January 1862 the Reverend John Burgon wrote to a friend – one Mr Rose - from the Nile between the island of Philae and the First Cataract. He told Rose that Miss Webb (to whom he was chaplain on this journey) 'is bent only on making us all happy'. She stopped the boat while he drew and 'Mr Bayley will have made far more than a hundred photographs – some exquisite ones.'

Burgon wrote that he intended to send home from Cairo (before going on to Sinai and Jerusalem) 'all my journals and sketches and purchases, which are very numerous – all three of them. No pyramids as yet, and Thebes only cursorily, have we seen in short – three months is not enough – nor six months either – for Egypt.'

Does any reader know where these drawings or photographs are now? Please let the Editor know.



FOOTPRINTS

How to Discover

Introduction to Frederick Horneman's Travels from Cairo to Mourzouk in the Years 1702-8, published in London, 1802.

The [Africa] Society, instituted in the year 1788 for the purpose of exploring the interior of Africa, in pursuing their great design, adopted wise and certain principles and procedures. They inquired and then examined; they sought intelligence, and then directed research; their progress has been answerable to the just system of their pursuits and perseverance; and the Society, from the epoch of 1798, have been enabled to divert their efforts for further discovery, on data from actual visitations and experiment.

Expensive Water

G.A. Hoskins went to Egypt twice, once in 1832 and again, near the end of his life, in 1860. Here on his first journey he buys treatment for the dreaded ophthalmia from which many travellers – and a great part of the population – suffered.

Knowing that I purposed going into Ethiopia, the hakim had the kindness to sell me, for about its weight in gold, a small bottle of this water (with which he had treated Hoskins); but under the express conditions, that I would neither directly nor indirectly allow it to be analysed. He said it was his intention to return again to Egypt, and that he expected to be able to make his fortune: but whether he does or not, I feel most grateful to him for having saved me from much torture, as I have often been obliged to have recourse to the water, and have kept my promise in not allowing it to be analysed. As this person has now left the country, and no further supply is to be obtained, I prize the water most highly, and cannot use it for the relief of mere strangers.

Words Useful for Desert Travellers

A scan through Murray's *Guide to Egypt* for 1873 provides us with an interesting vocabulary for use when travelling through Egypt and the Near East. Here are some English words from the list, which should prove useful in the desert.

The journey: A day's journey hence – camp –

caravan – compass – dawn – desert – Good morning – gust of wind – midday – monastery – sunset – evening – night – moon – a guide – sand – shade – tent – traveller – valley.

Wild life: ass – beetle – camel – saddle of camel – saddle bags – What is his name? – crow or raven – flea – fox – gazelle – dromedary – eagle – hyena – jackal – lizard – quail – scorpion – snake.

Food etc: bitter – bone – breakfast – bread – candle – coffee – coop for poultry – dates – date palm – drink – water (a torrent) – water (well) – water skin.

And two useful sentences:

An extraordinary thing!

I am afraid.



A TRIP TO THE PYRAMIDS—OLD STYLE.

A Last Thought

Caroline Simpson, whose work we know at Qurna on the West Bank at Luxor (see *Bulletin* 37, p. 4), has asked us to pass on this information.

If you have any old or broken jewellery or watches, including costume jewellery, single earrings or cufflinks etc. that you no longer need, please send post free to:

Alzheimer's Society
FREEPOST RRUL-HZKT-YHIKG
58 St Katherine's Way
London E1W 1LB.

Last year the Society raised £370,000 for research into the causes of dementia in this way.

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