

At the closing session of the conference on Travellers in Egypt, arranged by Durham University Oriental Museum it was agreed to distribute a report on the conference, a list of those attending and of those who wished to attend, and a summary of the discussion of how the conference might proceed. The Museum undertook to prepare and distribute this first issue of the Newsletter. The question of further issues is discussed below.

Conference on Travellers in Egypt, Durham 1995

The conference was held from the evening of the 16th to the 19th July — and was preceded by a concert entitled *Orientalism in French Song* given by Sandra Porter and Gustáv Fenyő held at St Mary's College on 15th July and an Open Day on Sunday 16th July on the same theme, arranged by The Friends of the Oriental Museum. A number of delegates arrived in time to attend this and were able to hear a two part lecture by Peter A. Clayton on the *Rediscovery of Egypt* and to see two exhibitions, one on travel books ranging from a 15th-century Ptolemy *Geographia* to a 20th-century *Budge Handbook* and the other on the history of *Thomas Cook and Son in Egypt*, loaned by the firm's archive. In the evening delegates were given a most elegant introduction to the theme of the conference through a series of readings prepared by Deborah Manley and Peta Rée covering *Two Thousand Years and One Thousand Miles Up the Nile*.

The working sessions of the conference were as follows:

Monday 17th July 1995

1: EARLY TRAVELLERS

Chaired by Jason Thompson

Peter Holt: *Pietro della Valle in Ottoman Egypt*.

2.1: THE 1820s

Chaired by John Ruffle

Ian Shaw: *John Gardner Wilkinson and the Harrow School Egyptian Collection*.

Neil Cooke: *James Burton*.

Joachim S. Karig: *Heinrich von Minutoli — Eine Preussische Expedition nach Aegypten 1820*.

2.2: TRAVELLERS' ARCHITECTURAL PERCEPTIONS 1

Chaired by Sarah Searight

Charles Newton: *Prisse d'Avennes, polymath*.

Briony Llewellyn: *J.F. Lewis and Frank Dillon: Two Interpretations of Islamic Domestic Interiors in Cairo*.

3.1: FRENCH CONNECTIONS

Chaired by Derek Hopwood

Marcel Kurz (presented by Pascale Linant de Bellefonds): *Linant de Bellefonds*.

Pascale Linant de Bellefonds: *account of her own research on Linant de Bellefonds*.

Jean Yoyotte & Jean-Jacques Siechter: *Jean-Jacques Rifaud "état de la recherche"*.

3.2: LITERARY INTERACTION 1

Chaired by Peter Whyte

Jan Weryho: *Julius Stowacki, a Polish poet who visited Egypt 1836-37*

Marianne Taymanova: *Alexandre Dumas' travel to Egypt: Mystification or Truth*

4.1: EGYPTIAN INFLUENCE ON EUROPEAN LITERATURE

Chaired by Marianne Taymanova

Mary Orr: *Flaubert's Egypt: crucible or crux for textual identity*.

Jennifer Scarce: *On Pierre Loti and Egypt*.

Peter Whyte: *Théophile Gautier: Egypt imagined, Egypt visited*.

4.2: ANTHROPOLOGICAL TRAVELLERS

Chaired by A.J. Mills

Hussein Fahim: *Travel Literature: an ethnographic perspective.*

Arita Baaijens: *Adventurers and explorers in the western desert of Egypt.*

EVENING LECTURE

Peter A. Clayton: *Giovanni Belzoni, 1778–1823: A Pioneer Egyptologist and his work.*

Tuesday 18th July

5.1: THE ARTISTIC DIMENSION 1

Chaired by Charles Newton

Patricia Usick: *William John Bankes and his Collection of Drawings of Egypt and Nubia.*

Angela Thompson: *Frederick Catherwood: between Two Lost Worlds.*

5.2: LITERARY INTERACTION 2

Chaired by John Rodenbeck

Paul Starkey: *Some Egyptian travellers in Europe.*

Philip Sadgrove: *European literary associations in Egypt during the nineteenth century.*

Michael J. Reimer: *Comparative Views of al-Azhar: Ali Mubarak Pasha and the Europeans.*

6.1: THE ARTISTIC DIMENSION 2

Chaired by Briony Llewellyn

Diane Harlé: *Unknown Nestor l'Hôte (Nestor l'Hôte inconnu).*

Sarah Searight: *Capt Henry Byam Martin: a naval officer on holiday in Egypt and the Levant, 1834–40.*

7: PHOTOGRAPHIC IMPRESSIONS

Chaired by Lesley Forbes

Caroline Williams: *Francis Frith: nineteenth-century Photographer in Egypt.*

Agnes Rammant: *Nineteenth-century photography of Egypt as a field of action.*

8: E.W. LANE

Chaired by Paul Starkey

Jason Thompson: *Edward William Lane in Egypt.*

Geoffrey Roper: *Texts from nineteenth-century Egypt: the role of E.W. Lane.*

John Rodenbeck: *Edward Said and Edward Lane.*

Conference Dinner with Guest Speaker, Dr Piers Brendon, Keeper, Churchill Archives Centre, Churchill College, Cambridge.

Wednesday 19th July 1995

9.1: WOMEN IN EGYPT

Chaired by Jennifer Scarce

Deborah Manley and Peta Rée: *Two brides in Egypt: Baroness von Minutoli and Mrs Colonel Elwood.*

Peter and John Rowley-Conwy: *A honeymoon in Egypt: Charlotte and Richard Rowley, 1836.*

John Ragan (in absentia): *French women travellers in Egypt during the nineteenth century.*

9.2: TRAVELS OF EARLY EGYPTOLOGISTS

Chaired by Ian Shaw

Hossam M. Mahdy: *Travellers, colonisers and conservationists in Egypt. European impact on attitudes towards the conservation of Islamic architectural heritage.*

John Ruffle: *On Lord Prudhoe and Major Orlando Felix.*

Lisa Manniche (in absentia): *Early epigraphers in the private tombs at Thebes.*

10: CONCLUDING FORUM

Chaired by John Ruffle, Janet Starkey and Jason Thompson.

A book display was on show at the Conference, organised by Lisa Harris and Kathleen Stokes, volunteers at the Oriental Museum. A major stall was held by Arthur Probsthain's, and John Kettle provided many titles from BMP, Thames and Hudson and other publishers.

There were various receptions and a private view of exhibitions at The Oriental Museum including *Thomas Cook in Egypt, Exhibition of Early Travel Books on Egypt and Palestine: the Symbolic Environment in Poetry and Dress* for participants at the conference.

The conference concluded with a visit to Alnwick Castle, home of the Dukes of Northumberland, where the Archivist, Dr Colin Shrimpton, had kindly arranged for delegates to see and handle the note-books of Lord Prudhoe (later the IVth Duke) and the albums of Orlando Felix relating to their journeys in Egypt and the Levant together with E W Lane's manuscript notes for his Arabic *Lexicon* which was published under the Duke's patronage.