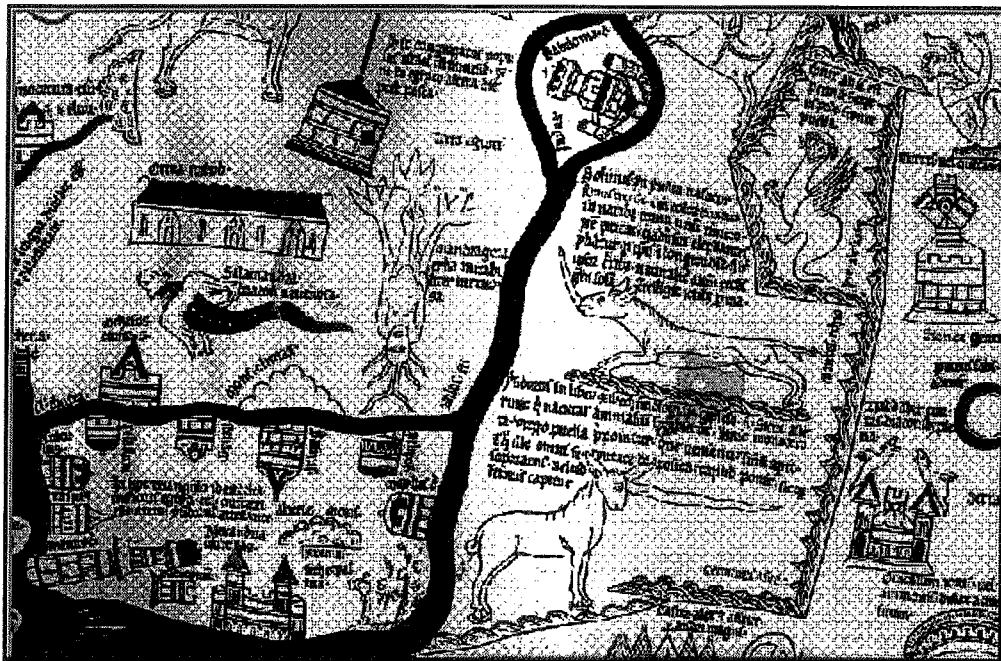


Bulletin of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East: Notes and Queries

No. 11

April 2001

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ISSN 1461-4316



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The Aims of the Association

The Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE), established in 1997, brings together people from many disciplines and interests: historians and geographers; anthropologists and ethnographers; archaeologists and Egyptologists; craftsmen and musicians; classicists and theologians ... Some travellers in the region explored the cultures and the countries over several years; many stayed only a few weeks, but their records stand in archives, photographs, film and books. Artists and novelists were influenced by the Orient and their works have coloured impressions. ASTENE encourages and promotes education and learning with particular reference to the history of travel and travellers. It brings together all those interested, whether professional academics or not, across a wide spectrum of subjects. The main areas include travel and travellers in Egypt and the Nile Valley, and travel and travellers in other parts of the Near East.

ASTENE MEMBERS' PAGE

ASTENE Office,
26 Millington Rd, Cambridge CB3 9HP.
Fax: 00 44 1223 462 749.
E-mail: <LISACAMB@AOL.COM>

ASTENE Website

This is now at <<http://www.dur.ac.uk/astene.association/>> and has been completely redesigned and seems to be well received worldwide. Here you will find some extracts from the *Bulletin*, a membership form and a standing order form, information about the Association, a calendar of events etc. If anyone has the relevant expertise and interest and would like to take on the management of the Website, please contact the committee. Information about the publications and the relevant contents pages are now on line. In addition, details about the Edinburgh conference programme will be added early May and will be periodically updated so please get on-line and let us have your comments, input and ideas about our Website! Many thanks to Peter McConnochie for designing the Website, advertising material, and covers for the three ASTENE publications.

Members' Supplement

Neil Cooke has taken over the responsibility of the Yellow Pages, the next volume to be produced in December 2001, to be available to members only. A questionnaire to be circulated at the conference and in *Bulletin 12*. Please do not hesitate to contact the ASTENE Office with any corrections and amendments you might wish to make for your entry in the members' interests list. A new list will be available early 2002. E-mail addresses, in particular, often change, so please keep us posted!

Poster

A new poster for ASTENE is now available and members can request it from Dr Patricia Usick (32 Carlton Hill, London NW8 0JY) if needed for display.

ASTENE Bulletin

The ASTENE *Bulletin* is published twice a year and aims to keep members informed of research interests and queries in the field of travel in Egypt and the Near East. Members are encouraged to submit information and material for the *Bulletin* relating to on-going research and interests, conferences etc. There is also a focus on useful subject-related bibliographies and biographies. The *Bulletin* contains the following regular or semi-regular features: articles — perhaps on work in progress, which should be no more than 2,000 words; select bibliographies; features on research resources; ASTENE news (publications, conferences, seminars, exhibitions etc.); other exhibitions, conferences etc. of interest;

announcements of relevant books/articles — in preparation, forthcoming, recently published; members' notes and queries.

The First Ten Bulletins: Binders

With this *Bulletin* we are including binding strips and a cover page with the ASTENE Logo so that you can bind the first 10 ASTENE *Bulletins*. If you wish to order back copies of the *Bulletin*, the details are as follows:

Subscriptions & Back Issues of ASTENE Bulletin

The levels of subscription are *Members A*: from the EU, USA & Canada £20 per annum. *Members B*: from elsewhere, all students £12 per annum. Libraries £12 per annum. Each subscription covers TWO issues of *ASTENE Bulletin* (with all the information it contains), as well as access to the database of members' interests. The Treasurer sent a notice to all current members in November 1999 to up-date them on their subscription status. Full details of methods of payment were included. Please contact her at the ASTENE Office if you have any queries about membership. All back issues of *ASTENE Bulletin* are available and may be ordered from the Treasurer for £5 each (inc. postage).

Members of the Committee

Honorary President	T.G.H. James
Honorary Vice-President	Derek Hopwood
Chairman:	Malcolm Wagstaff
Secretary:	Patricia Usick
Treasurer:	Elizabeth French
Events organiser:	Deborah Manley
Editor of Newsletter:	Janet Starkey
Assistant Editor:	Peta Rée
<i>Other members:</i> Morris Bierbrier, Neil Cooke, Okasha El-Daly, Ashley Jones, Brenda Moon, Jennifer Scarce.	
<i>Foreign correspondents:</i> Professors John Rodenbeck and Jason Thompson, American University in Cairo, POB 2511, 113 Sharia Qasr al-Aini, Cairo, Egypt; Dr Caroline Williams, 6 Coventry Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23188, USA; Dr Aviva Klein-Franke, 467 Luxemburger St, D-50939 Cologne, Germany.	

Deadline

for submission of copy for *Bulletin* No. 12:
1 September 2001

ASTENE FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ASTENE Event: Book Launch 18.00 to 20.00, 10 May 2001

Ashley Jones has kindly offered to hold a book launch for ASTENE members and friends at his shop, The Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell Street, London (opposite the British Museum) for *Desert Travellers: from Herodotus to T.E. Lawrence* and *Travellers in the Levant: from Voyagers to Visionaries* (see ASTENE Publications, below). We will also be promoting the two Ithaca publications, *Unfolding the Orient* and *Interpreting the Orient* and I.B. Tauris's *Travellers in Egypt*.

Any ASTENE members who have recently published relevant books and wish to display their work at the Launch should contact Ashley Jones to make arrangements at the Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell St, London WC1B 3QB, Tel: 020 7580 4086, Fax: 020 7436 4364; e-mail: <mbooks@btconnect.com>. Please let Ashley know if you and your friends plan to join us (see form on back page). Others may have books in the pipeline and might like to use the book launch as an opportunity to inform members of their forthcoming work. Members will be invited to sign copies of their books.



EDINBURGH CONFERENCE

The Fourth Biennial Conference on Travel in Egypt and the Near East will be held at Edinburgh First, Pollock Halls, Edinburgh, from Wednesday 11 July to Sunday 15 July 2001

It is a happy coincidence that we are holding the conference in Edinburgh at a time when the University of Edinburgh will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of teaching Arabic and Islamic Studies in Scotland.

Programme Plans

Papers offered so far from the UK, Egypt, USA, Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Argentina and Israel give a flavour of the variety to come. Topics include Egypt in the Late Roman Empire; John Wild, a German Slave; an Italian 18th-century priest's journey; Captain Caviglia; Comte de Forbin; Osman Effendi; Shelly's *Ozamandius*; Exploring Palestine; the impact of hotels; Missionary travellers; Robert Murdoch Smith at Halicarnassus; The First Mummy to reach Scotland; Travellers to Sinai and Petra; Politics and Travel of Gertrude Bell; Railway Engineers in Ottoman Yemen; a Highland Officer up the Nile; session on James Bruce ...

As offers of papers come in, certain themes are emerging: Pilgrims and Missionaries travelling through the ages; Environments of travel; Travellers as archaeologists and archaeologists as travellers; Scientific studies of the Morea; Artists as Travellers; The Poetry of

Photographing Travel; Travellers from the Near East; and one session — 'Beyond ASTENE' — on Travel in North Africa. There will be a special session on Resources for the Study of Travel, in which members can share their experience.

Apart from perhaps 80 papers with a wide range of themes, the keynote speakers this year are Professor Jason Thompson (American University in Cairo), 'An Aspect of Edward Lane' on the evening of Wednesday 11 July; and Professor Carole Hillenbrand (Edinburgh University) on "Seek ye knowledge even unto China": the literature of travel in the land of Islam' on the evening of Thursday 12 July.

On Friday 13 July, following the Conference Reception at the University Library and Buffet Dinner in the Playfair Library, there will be Scottish music with an Oriental theme performed by Heather McCracken, and travellers' Oriental poems presented by the ASTENE players. On Saturday 14 July, the Descendant's Evening will include Egyptian Dancing and will have been preceded by a special session on the 'Egyptian Dancer through Travellers' Eyes'. ASTENE's Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday morning, 15 July, chaired by our President, Harry James.

We are still keen to welcome papers on Scottish travellers. So far there have been few offers north of the Border, so please use your contacts to expand the Scottish contribution. Among the many Scottish travellers in the region were: Lord Lindsay, Robert Wilson, David Roberts, Sir William Alexander, Sir William Burrell, Robert Hay, William Lithgow, Alexander Rhind, Dr Robert Richardson, James Traill, and William Holt Yates ... to name but a few.

Exhibitions and Libraries

There will be the possibility of visits — before, during and after the conference — to see Scottish travellers at the National Portrait Gallery of Scotland; memorabilia of Highland regiments in the Near East at the Army Museum in Edinburgh Castle; interpretations of travel in the National Gallery of Scotland; artefacts in the National Museum of Scotland, and manuscripts in both the National Library and Edinburgh University Library. [Anyone wishing to use these libraries should bring an appropriate letter of recommendation.]

Programme Information

Draft details of the conference programme will begin to appear from 1 May on the ASTENE Website <<http://www.dur.ac.uk/astene.association/>>

Abstracts will be published for the Conference. If you have not yet sent in your abstract (not more than 100 words) for papers (20-25 minutes duration) please could you send it as soon as possible to Deborah Manley, 57 Plantation Road, Oxford OX2 6JE, Fax: 01865 310284 or Janet Starkey on <j.c.m.starkey@durham.ac.uk>

Registration

The Conference Booking Form is enclosed with this *Bulletin* and is also on the Website. (If you have already registered, why not recruit a friend or colleague?) Please return by 1 June in order to guarantee accommodation.

Books for Sale

There will be a bookstall and we hope ASTENE members and participants will make their books available. Please send any relevant information as soon as possible to Deborah Manley if you wish your books to be available at the Conference. Provide full title, publisher and ISBN and we will pass these onto the person organising the stall. She will pass it to the person organising the book sales. You may bring relevant books to the conference and sell them yourself or through the bookstall.

Books and Publication of Conference Papers

In principle we will select papers for a single volume. Any volunteers interested in editing this volume? Are there any publishers interested in taking this on, so that it can be available before the next international conference in 2003? If you are interested, please contact Professor Malcolm Wagstaff, 16 Oakmount Avenue, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1DR. Tel: 02380 557672 or by e-mail at <jm_wagstaff@yahoo.co.uk>.

Accommodation

Edinburgh First, University of Edinburgh, 18 Holyrood Park Road, Edinburgh EH16 5AY, Scotland. Further information 0800 028 7118 (freephone, UK); Tel: +44 131 651 2055 (overseas); Fax: +44 (0)131 667 7271; e-mail: <Edinburgh.First@ed.ac.uk>; Website: <http://www.edinburghfirst.com>. Anyone wishing to stay at Edinburgh First before or after the ASTENE Conference should book direct, not through ASTENE, please.

At Edinburgh First (known to many as Pollock Halls) you can choose single standard, single en-suite (with private bathroom) and double en-suite (double bed and private bathroom). Linen, toiletries and tea and coffee-making facilities are provided. All rooms non-smoking. On the day of your arrival please book in between 14.00 and 16.00, if possible. When you leave please vacate your room by 9.30 and return keys to the reception desk. There is provision for your luggage while you are attending final sessions.

How to get there

By Train: The Great North Eastern Railway line links the main railway station, Edinburgh (Waverley), with London (King's Cross) in 4-5 hours. The overnight Caledonian Sleeper service, operated by ScotRail, runs 6 nights a week from London (Euston) to Edinburgh. York, Newcastle, Inverness and Aberdeen are 2-3 hrs by train and Glasgow is c.50 minutes on a shuttle service

operating every 15 minutes. National Rail Enquiries 08457 48 49 50. Web: <<http://www.railtrack.co.uk>>.

By Air: For services departing Edinburgh International Airport contact Airport Information Desk on 0131 333 1000. British Airways 345 222111, British Midland Airways 534 3302; KLM UK 334 3375; EasyJet 0870 6000 000. The airport is 8 miles (12 km) west of city centre with over 40 flights a day from London's airports, over 20 to other UK airports and Transatlantic and European destinations. Excellent coach and taxi connections from airport to city centre, approx 20 minutes. Open 24 hours, all year. Additional international flights arrive at Glasgow International Airport, one hour drive west of Edinburgh. Regular coach services operate between Glasgow Airport and Edinburgh city centre, with a journey time of about 1 hr 45 minutes.

By Road: First-class road network. Continental ferry ports of Hull, Newcastle, the Irish ferry terminals at Stranraer and Cairnryan linked to Edinburgh by fast, scenic roads. Black cabs can be hailed anywhere within Edinburgh and can be found at designated ranks. Central Radio Taxis 0131 229 2468.

Bus: Good, inexpensive and frequent local bus service. Regular, inexpensive coach services to London and rest of UK. National Express Tel: 08705 80 80 80, Website: <<http://www.nationalexpress.co.uk>>. Information on local buses on <<http://www.lothianbuses.co.uk>> for airport and local transfers, Tel: +44 (0) 131 555 6363; also First Edinburgh, Tel: +44 (0) 131 663 9233, Web: <<http://www.firstedinburgh.co.uk>>.

Local Bus nos: 2, 2A, 7N 12A, 14, 21, 29, 30, 33, 82, 85, 86, 95, 134, C3, C11, C33 all stop near Edinburgh First (Pollock Halls)

Edinburgh & Scotland Information Centre, 3 Princes St, Edinburgh. Tel: +44 (0) 131 473 3800. Website: <<http://www.edinburgh.org>>. It will be Edinburgh Trades Fortnight local holiday from 1 July 2001. Scottish Tourist Board 0131 332 2433.



BRISMES CONFERENCE

The ASTENE Conference precedes the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies' (BRISMES) Annual Conference, 'The View from the Top: state and people in the Middle East'. in the same location from 15 to 18 July 2001, so we welcome BRISMES members to the ASTENE conference. Sessions at the BRISMES conference of particular relevance to ASTENE members may well be 'Europe and the Middle East'; 'History', 'Popular Culture'. Contact: Christine Laidlaw, BRISMES Conference Organiser, Edinburgh Institute for the Advanced Study of Islam and the Middle East (EIASIME), University of Edinburgh, 7 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LW, Scotland.

Tel: 00 44 (0) 131 650 4183; Fax: 00 44 (0) 131 650 6804; <c.m.laidlaw@ed.ac.uk>

OTHER ASTENE EVENTS

Agatha Christie Exhibition at the British Museum: 8 November 2001 to 24 March 2002

We are planning a special visit to this exhibition — probably in January 2002. Agatha Christie was inspired by the Orient to produce her famous novels, *Death on the Nile* and *Murder in Mesopotamia*. When she visited archaeological digs in Syria and Iraq in the 1930s and 1950s, she shot a 40-minute film each time, some of it in colour. They include scenes of Tell Brak and Chagar Bazar in Syria in 1938. These films were discovered by Charlotte Trumpler, curator of archaeology at the Ruhrland Museum in Essen, Germany, and will form part of the exhibition at the British Museum after they have been on show in Essen, Vienna, Basle and Berlin.

The exhibition, which opens on 8 November 2001 at the British Museum, will also include about 200 related archaeological objects reflecting the life and part played by Agatha Christie in helping her husband, the archaeologist Sir Max Mallowan, in Iraq. The exhibition will also include detective stories with archaeological connections, and the historical background of the English in the Orient in the 19th and 20th centuries.

To accompany the exhibition there is an excellent catalogue, now being translated from German, and ASTENE member, Henrietta McCall's book, *Max Mallowan: Archeology and Agatha Christie*, published by the British Museum Press, will be available in October.

In January we are arranging an evening visit to the exhibition, with a lecture and refreshments at the British Museum (probable cost about £15.). If you are interested, please send a stamped addressed envelope (marked 'Christie') to Deborah Manley at 57 Plantation Rd, Oxford OX2 6JE and she will send details when they are available.



Cairo Conference and Medieval Cairo Tour, March 2002

ASTENE is planning a second, more ambitious, occasion in Cairo in March 2002.

The British Council have kindly offered to host a two-day conference on travellers in Egypt, possibly 21–22 March 2002. Through Soliman Tours, London, and with contributions from ASTENE members, we plan a 5-day medieval Cairo tour.

The proposed dates are probably 17–25 March 2002. The cost, including return flights, transfers, bed and breakfast at the Windsor Hotel and some internal transport, will be about £700. The tour is likely to embrace visits to the great mosques such as Ibn Tulun, al-Aqmar and Sultan Hasan; the Gayer Anderson House and museum; the Coptic Museum with exhibits of

Egyptian Christian era, AD 300–1000; the Islamic Museum; the Khan al-Khalili bazaar; the Northern Cemetery and complexes of the Sultans; Mamluk Cairo, and much else.

To arrange this we need a minimum of 10 travellers. Will anyone seriously interested please contact Deborah Manley, 57 Plantation Rd, Oxford OX2 6JE, Tel./Fax: 01865 310284, or e-mail Janet Starkey at <j.c.m.starkey@durham.ac.uk> as soon as possible. Non-UK and non-Egyptian members wishing to join can make their own travel arrangements but stay at the Windsor Hotel with UK members. Egyptian-based members are, of course, welcome to the conference and/or the tour.

Updated details will be on the ASTENE Website: <<http://www.dur.ac.uk/astene.association>>. A final decision on whether to go ahead will be made at the time of the Edinburgh Conference in July.



Travellers in Ancient Lands

Autumn 2002

The next study day in cooperation with Oxford University Department of Continuing Education will be in Autumn 2002. The papers will range through Dr Elizabeth French, 'What travellers tell us about Mycenae'; Professor Peter Warren, 'Travellers in Crete'; Professor Malcolm Wagstaff on 'William Martin Leake: topographer in the Morea'; and Claude Doumet-Serhal (editor of the *National Museum News* of Lebanon) on 'Venus de Milo in Transit, 1820'. Further details available in future *Bulletins*.



PAST ASTENE EVENTS

Art and Artefact in Birmingham

On 4 November 2000, and despite everything floods and transport disruption could throw at them, several members gathered at Birmingham Art Gallery and Museum. In the morning, with an informative commentary by Briony Llewellyn, we looked at paintings of the East by William Muller, David Roberts, William Holman Hunt, William Dyce, Ford Madox Brown (of whom the last two never actually went there) and Henry Wallis who may also never have travelled so far eastwards. Speculation as to whether such painters as Holman Hunt brought back trunks full of local costumes and fabrics to lend verisimilitude to paintings done later in their studios led very appositely, after lunch, to Diana Wardle's exposition of her gorgeously embroidered Balkan costumes brought back from their holidays by the Cadbury family (of chocolate fame), presumably to be used in the 'dressing-up' so popular with their generation. Our thanks are very much due to both Briony and Diana.

Travellers in the Levant and Palestine
 Day school in conjunction with the Oxford
 University Department of Continuing Education, at
 Oxford's Oriental Institute, 3 March 2001

Introducing the day, Dr Sebastian Brock of the Oriental Institute, Oxford, set the travel scene. He reminded us of the variety of political situations during the Levant-Ottoman Empire and the differences in speed and expectations of travellers in antiquity, and the significance of encountering borders. This was nothing new, for Egeria, the travelling *Religiuse*, crossed seven political borders in the fourth-century journey to Egypt and the Holy Land.

We embarked on our journey as Professor Martin Biddle directed us on 'The Way of the Pilgrims', exploring the 'archaeology of the minds' of medieval travellers who had recorded their impressions following their pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

The construction of the Holy City of Jerusalem had been started in the fourth century AD by the Emperor Constantine. Before the days of picture postcards, travellers drew or acquired models and plans of the Tomb to take back to Europe. Pilgrims felt it was their responsibility to share their knowledge of Jerusalem, some recreating it in their own lands. Replicas of Constantine's buildings can still be found in Tuscany, France and Germany, and provide concrete (well, stone) evidence about the original Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

From 'Jerusalem' we moved to the 'The Cedars of Lebanon'. Nigel Hepper traced the history of these magnificent trees, which to many European minds are evocative symbols of the Near East. There are many references to Cedars of Lebanon in the Bible and Near Eastern documents and they were also a valuable trading commodity and noted by the Crusaders. From the sixteenth to the nineteenth century, cedars were brought back to Europe by travellers, for their own estates, for those of their friends, and as specimens for Botanical Gardens. William John Bankes, for example, sent home seeds, with planting instructions for his mother at Kingston Lacy in Dorset. Cedars became majestic features of picturesque landscapes on estates and in paintings.

Briony Llewellyn directed our attention to artists' perception of ruins according to the intellectual climate of the time in which they were observed, and the tastes of the general public. Impressions of Petra and Baalbek in sketches, watercolours or oils, were distinctly different depending upon when they were made. In the early 18th century there was a scientific approach, with an accuracy of detail in order to depict a true portrayal of the scenes. By the middle of the 19th century there was a trend towards the romantic and dramatic interpretation, influenced no doubt by David Roberts, who began his career as a theatrical scene designer. At this time scenes from the Bible were depicted in order to evoke a variety

of emotional responses from the people of the Victorian Empire.

Derek Hopwood took us on a biographical tour of British women who had travelled in the East and spent some time there, in the 18th and 19th centuries. Because of their individual circumstances, they were able to break the mould of the conventions of their class and background and escape, normally without the approbation of those left at home. They were able to prove that living in the desert among indigenous people or becoming part of the political scene was not beyond the capabilities of women who had the financial means and social status necessary. Some accompanied their husbands, like Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and Isobel Burton; others made it on their own, like Gertrude Bell and Freya Stark. Lady Jane Digby was more of a 'wild card', who flouted many British taboos - possibly, had she been a man, her life would now have been celebrated in a blockbuster film. These women make a fascinating study, not only for what they achieved, but for how they were seen by their contemporaries and how their activities are being interpreted today.

We experienced a wonderful day of travel and discovery, from the relative comfort of the Ashmolean Museum Lecture Theatre. I would like to thank the organisers, particularly Maggie Herdman of OUDCE and Deborah Manley and her 'caravan' for making everything so successful.

Megan Price



La Description de l'Égypte at All Souls, Oxford

On the eve of the day school, several of us, through the kindness of the Librarian of All Souls College, Dr Norma Potter, had the privilege of viewing a first edition of the great early nineteenth-century *Description de l'Égypte* prepared by Napoleon's *savants*. Dr Jaromir Malek, who was going to talk to us, was sadly laid low by flu, but Professor John Baines, gallantly stepping in at short notice, spoke most interestingly about the work. It was not only the huge volumes of maps and drawings laid out for us that were a treat to behold, but also the sombre elegance of the library itself.

The evening ended in a local Lebanese restaurant, with a delicious Near Eastern meal and plenty of chatter, though some of us left before the belly dancer made her obligatory appearance. Our thanks are very much due to Dr Norma Potter and Gay, her assistant, to Professor John Baines, and to Deborah for making it all happen.



ASTENE PUBLICATIONS

Several publications sponsored by ASTENE or which have developed from papers originally presented at the ASTENE Biennial conferences are now available from the Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell St, London WC1B 3QB, Tel: 020 780 4086; Fax: 020 7436 4364; e-mail: <Mbooks@btconnect.com>. Further details, order forms and contents lists are on the ASTENE Website.

We need you to promote these books further so we can sell them to libraries in Europe, the States and the Middle East. They need to be reviewed in suitable journals in the near future: any ideas and offers welcome! Any advice on relevant mailings to Ashley Jones. A flier and order form are enclosed with this *Bulletin*. For further copies, please contact Ashley Jones at the Museum Bookshop.

From the 1995 Durham Conference:

Travellers in Egypt, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey (London and New York: I.B. Tauris), first published in hardback by I.B. Tauris in 1998 is now reissued in paperback with a new introduction. ISBN 1-86064-324-8. £25.00 (hb); ISBN 1-86064-674-3. £14.95 (pb.), Tel: 020 7831 9060; Fax: 020 7831 9061; e-mail: <mail@ibtauris.com>.

From the 1997 Oxford Conference:

The following two volumes of essays that developed from the conference papers are now available. Contributors will be sent offprints of their articles, once we receive these from Ithaca.

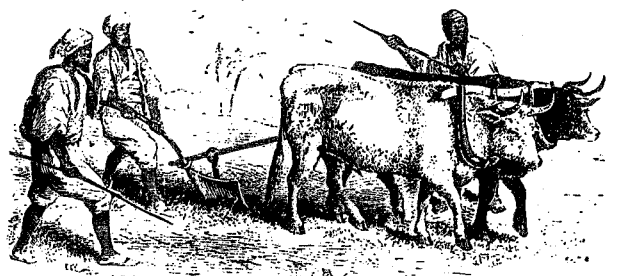


Unfolding the Orient: Travellers in Egypt and the Near East, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey (Reading: Ithaca, 2001) 328 pp. Illustrated. ISBN 0 86372 257 1. £35 (hb).. A fascinating miscellany, with papers on pilgrims, Middle Eastern dress worn by travellers, the Grand Tour, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and others from the period before Middle Eastern travel became commonplace. This contains the following essays:

Introduction - *Paul and Janet Starkey*

- 1 A Textual Landscape: The Mapping of a Holy Land in the Fourth-Century Itinerary of the Bordeaux Pilgrim, *Glenn Bowman*
 - 2 The Grand Tour in the Ottoman Empire, 1699-1826, *Philip Mansel*
 - 3 Dressing Native, *John Rodenbeck*
 - 4 English Pleasure Travel in the Near East 1580-1645, *John Ghazvinian*
 - 5 Egypt in 1615-1616 as seen through the Eyes of the Armenian Simeon of Poland, *Angèle Kapoian*
 - 6 Adam Olearius's Travels to Persia, 1633-1639, *Elio Brancaforte*
 - 7 The British in Oman since 1645, *Sir Terence Clark*
 - 8 Ruins and Landscapes from Sardis to Stowe: The Work of Giovanni Battista Borra, *Jane Ayer Scott*
 - 9 Ottoman Women through the Eyes of Mary Wortley Montagu, *Mary Ann Fay*
 - 10 James Silk Buckingham (1786-1855): An Anecdotal Traveller, *Peta Rée*
 - 11 Lord Belmore proceeds up the Nile in 1817-1818, *Deborah Manley*
 - 12 From Cairo to Petra: Léon de Laborde and L.M.A. Linant de Bellefonds, 1828, *Pascale Linant de Bellefonds*
 - 13 James Burton and Slave Girls, *Neil Cooke*
 - 14 The Reverend Jolliffe's Advice to Travellers, *Patricia Usick*
 - 15 Italian Travellers in Egypt, *Marta Petricoli and Barbara Codacci*
 - 16 Nile Notes of a Howadji: American Travellers in Egypt, 1837-1903, *Martin R. Kalfatovic*
 - 17 Romances and Realities of Travellers, *Nadia El Kholy*
- Select Bibliography and Index

Interpreting the Orient: Travellers in Egypt and the Near East, edited by Paul and Janet Starkey (Reading: Ithaca, 2001) 284 pp. Illustrated. ISBN 0 86372 258 X. March 2001. £35 (hb). This book continues the sequence of travellers and develops a number of themes, with an emphasis on nineteenth-century travellers: painters, writers, adventurers and others. Ithaca Press, 8 Southern Court, South St, Reading RG1 4QS, UK. Tel: +44 (0)118 959 7847; Fax: (0)118 959 7356; e-mail: <orders@garnet-ithaca.co.uk>. The contents are as follows:



Introduction – *Paul and Janet Starkey*

- 1 About Face: Sir David Wilkie's portrait of 'Mehemet Ali', *Emily Weeks*
- 2 Carl Haag 1820–1915: facts or fantasy?, *Cornelia Oelwein*
- 3 John Frederick Lewis: 'in knowledge of the Orientals quite one of themselves', *Briony Llewellyn and Charles Newton*
- 4 William Holman Hunt's visits to Egypt: passion, prejudice and truth to nature, *Judith Bronkhorst*
- 5 David Urquhart and the Role of Travel Literature in the Introduction of Turkish Baths to Victorian England, *Nebahat Avioğlu*
- 6 J. Wolff and H. Stern: missionaries in the Yemen, *Aviva Klein-Franke*
- 7 The Copts of Egypt: neither Christian nor Egyptian?, *Hoda Gindi*
- 8 Gender Politics in a colonial context: Victorian women's writing of Egypt, *Sahar Sobhi Abdel-Hakim*
- 9 The Image of Nineteenth-Century Cairo as a Medieval City in Kinglake's *Eothen*, *Loubna A Youssef*
- 10 'While I was in Egypt, I finished Dr. Thorne', *Nadia Gindy*
- 11 On translating *The Englishwoman in Egypt* into Arabic, *Azza Kararah*
- 12 Amelia Edwards: from novelist to Egyptologist, *Patricia O'Neill*
- 13 Amelia Edwards, Jenny Lane and Egypt, *Brenda E. Moon*
- 14 Oriental Motifs in the poetry of Nikolay Gumilev, *Marianna Taymanova*
- 15 'Ah! That the Desert were my Dwelling Place': the romance of Persia in the early writings of Gertrude Bell, *Katharine Chubbuck*
- 16 Orientalism and Gender: the condition and status of women in Morocco, *Amy J. Johnson*

Select Bibliography and Index

Travellers in the deserts of the Middle East left a wealth of information on everything that caught their eye. From Herodotus, through medieval Arabic and European sources, to daredevil travellers of the last 150 years, including James Bruce, William Eaton, Ameen Rihani and T.E. Lawrence, this book shows that close encounters in deserts can produce vivid images of an Oriental environment. Yet some travellers perhaps reveal more about themselves than about the surrounding environment. Contents include:

Preface, *Paul Starkey* Series EditorIntroduction, *Janet Starkey and Okasha El-Daly*I. *Crocodiles, Pilgrims and Isolated Villages*

The Zoology of Herodotus and his Greek Descendants, *Charles Foster*

Egyptian Deserts in Early Medieval Arabic Travel Writing, *Okasha El-Daly*

Two Pilgrims at Saint Catherine's Monastery, Niccolò di Poggibonsi and Christopher Harant, *Anne Wolff*

Travellers at Tayyibah: the northern desert of Syria, 1600–1980, *Norman Lewis*

II. *Gold, Ruins and Journeys into the Unknown*

The Double Voice of James Bruce, Abyssinian Traveller, *Carl Thompson*

William Eaton: a forgotten American Voice, *Cassandra Vivian*

Giovanni Battista Brocchi, an Italian Scientist in the Near East, *Paolo Branca*

A la découverte des mines d'or du désert nubien: L.M.A. Linant de Bellefonds en Etbaye, 1831–1832
Marcel Kurz et Pascale Linant de Bellefonds

Gold, Emeralds and the Unknown Ababda, *Janet Starkey*
Ancient Egypt and the Gordon Relief Expedition, *David Dixon*

III. *A Search for Identity?*

'In a position to fathom the Arabs': Ameen Rihani, traveller to the Arab Near East, *Geoffrey Nash*

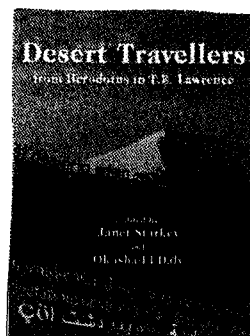
Deraa Revisited, *John Rodenbeck*

Bibliography, List of Contributors, Index

From the 1999 Cambridge Conference:

ASTENE have published the following three volumes themselves: whilst aiming to maintain the high standard of previous volumes, these books have been produced far more swiftly than those from past conferences!

The first ASTENE publication, *Desert Travellers: from Herodotus to T.E. Lawrence* was published in December 2000, edited by Janet Starkey and Okasha El-Daly. Illustrated. ISBN 0–9539700–0–0. pp £17.50 for ASTENE members and £19.95 for non-members, plus £2 p and p.



The second ASTENE Publication, *Travellers in the Levant: from Voyagers to Visionaries* is due in May 2001, edited by Sarah Searight and Malcolm Wagstaff. Illustrated. ISBN 0–9539700–1–9 pp £17.50 for ASTENE members and £19.95 for non-members. Orientalists came to the Middle East with their own ideas and agendas. As we try to disentangle fact from fiction, the Middle East is explored from many perspectives, among them those of artists, novelists, archaeologists, tourists — and spies.

Preface, *Paul Starkey* Series Editor

Introduction, *Sarah Searight and Malcolm Wagstaff*

I. Colonel Leake and Associates

Introduction

Colonel Leake: traveller and scholar, *Malcolm Wagstaff*

William Martin Leake and the Greek Revival, *Hugh Ferguson*

Leake in Kythera, *Davina Huxley*

Straddling the Aegean: William Gell, 1811-1813, *Charles Plowiez*

The Anger of Lady Hester Stanhope: some letters of Lady Hester, John Lewis Burckhardt and William John Bankes, *Norman N. Lewis*

Jacob Jonas Björnsthål and his Travels in Thessaly, *Berit Wells*

II. From Pilgrimage to Tourism

Introduction

Levels of Contact between East and West: pilgrims and visitors to Jerusalem and Constantinople from the ninth to the twelfth centuries, *Peter Frankopan*

Muslim Travellers to Bilad al-Sham (Syria and Palestine) from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries: Maghribi travel accounts *Yehoshu'a Frenkel*

Italian Travellers to the Levant: retracing the Bible in a world of Muslim and Jews, 1815-1914, *Barbara Codacci*

The Norths in Syria, Egypt and Palestine, 1865-1866, *Brenda Moon*

The Pilgrimage to Budding Tourism: the role of Thomas Cook in the rediscovery of the Holy Land, *Ruth Kark*

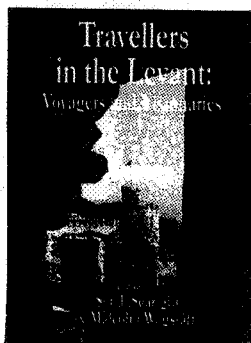
III. Fact and Fantasy

Introduction

J.F. Lewis 1805-1876: mythology as biography, *Emily Weeks*

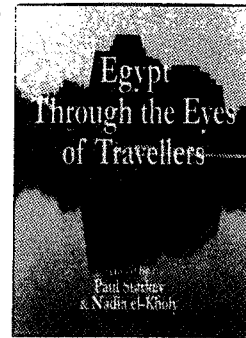
Edward Lear's Travels to the Holy Land: visits to Mount Sinai, Petra and Jerusalem, *Hisham Khatib*

'Oriental novellas' in the works of Gerard de Nerval, 1840s, *Marianna Taymanova*



The third volume, *Egypt through the Eyes of Travellers*, edited by Paul Starkey and Nadia El Kholy (Illustrated, ISBN 0-9539700-2-7) will be published this summer, we hope in time for the Edinburgh Conference. £17.50 for ASTENE members and £19.95 for non-members. This volume presents a further fascinating array of images of Egypt, as seen through the eyes of Western travellers,

from the Enlightenment onwards. Missionaries, Egyptologists, novelists and painters all offer their own perspectives.



All three ASTENE titles will also be available from the American University in Cairo Bookshop, Cairo.

Note on the *Desert Travellers*

I received a note from Hisham Khatib about the painting on page 181 of the *Desert Travellers*. Hisham bought a watercolour of this picture, one of a set of nine, from Sotheby's in 1984 as by Hector Horeau. Those watercolours were supposed to have appeared in his book, *Panorama d'Égypte et de Nubie, avec un portrait de Mehemet-Ali*, half-title, engraved vignette on title, 53 finely hand-coloured aquatint views and other subjects on 32 plates by Himely after Horeau including a folding panorama of Cairo, with upwards of 120 vignettes in the text, and a list of subscribers. (Hisham is at present working on a fascinating book about his own collections which is hoped to be published by the American University in Cairo press in the near future.) Pascale Linant de Bellefonds confirms that the picture on page 181 of *Desert Travellers* is not a painting but a lithograph plate, published in the atlas accompanying Linant's book, *L'Égypte, pays habité par les Arabes Bicharieh* (pl. 11). Like the other illustrations, this lithograph was engraved after an original drawing made by Linant on the spot. Linant was an excellent camel connoisseur, and a whole chapter of his book is devoted to the various species found in Sudanese Nubia. Pascale also has an oil painting in his hand showing a desert scene: camels and people on this painting look very much like the ones on the lithograph. Apparently Linant used to give copies of his drawings to people who met him in Egypt, including Cailliaud, Champollion, etc. Indeed, Prisse d'Avennes published a very similar camel picture in his *Oriental Album* with the caption: 'Groupe d'Ababdehs dans le désert oriental'.

Neil Cooke has also commented that the same camel picture is to be found twice in 'an album of bits and pieces that is now in the Searight Collection at the V&A Museum. The album had been purchased from Christie's auctioneers where it was described as having belonged to Joseph Bonomi and it was catalogued as such.' Neil believes the two pictures are lithographs made by Joseph Bonomi. Pascale Linant de Bellefonds thinks Bonomi may have made them after the original drawing by Linant. We hope we can puzzle out the mystery!

PAST EVENTS

A Day devoted to North Africa Travel held at Southside House, 2-3 Woodhayes Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 on 10 October 2000

A fascinating day devoted to North Africa travel, organised by Barnaby Rogerson, the author of guides to Morocco, Tunisia, and North Africa, was almost upstaged by its setting: an unspoilt gem of a 17th-century house which must rank as one of London's secret delights. Behind a high wall the front door opened onto a double-height painted hall with a massive fireplace in which logs were blazing. Southside House is beautiful and dilapidated with peeling paint and broken furniture, walls crammed with paintings and curiosities, and clusters of crystal chandeliers bearing candles. The house had belonged to Axel Munthe, whose wife had inherited it, and it was here that he wrote *The Story of San Michele* about the magical house and garden he created in Capri. The one-day conference was held by kind permission of the Pennington-Mellor-Munthe charitable trust. After a welcoming coffee in a room hung with *trompe l'œil* tapestry, we made our way into the dimly lit 'Musik Room' and took our seats where Emma Hamilton had once performed her 'Attitudes'.

The movements of the 19th-century slaves who crossed the ancient Saharan trade routes, less well-known than the Atlantic trade but comparable in numbers, were explained by Dr John Wright. Raided from deep into Africa, they were marched across the caravan routes from the interior to the great *entrepôts* such as Murquz and shipped out of the Mediterranean ports such as Tripoli, mainly for the Turkish market. Some went to the slave-market of Cairo. The slow progress of the caravans caused delays for travellers and explorers who waited to join them in order to cross the inhospitable Sahara. One trip a year was normal for merchants who followed a timetable based on the seasons to avoid the extremes of heat and cold and catch the sailing season. Survival rates depended more on their treatment by the caravan-drivers than on the harsh conditions of the route. Two-thirds were women: some not unwilling to seek a new life in the domestic security of an Islamic household. Unlike the situation in America, the slaves did not reproduce themselves as a separate group. In all 10-15 million people were involved. Europe was slow to condemn the trade and it continued in some areas until the 1930s.

A video film jolted us into the 21st century as we followed an Englishwoman's successful attempt to set up a festival devoted to Gnawa music in Essaouira. Jane Lovelace had travelled in Morocco for many years but this project marked a mid-life crisis and was presented in very personal terms. I would have liked to hear more about the history of the music and its place in Moroccan culture. We learned, during the discussion afterwards, that it was a type of voodoo: black magic originating in

Ghana. Jane embraced the feverishly whirling music where the dancers, unscarred by their encounter with either fire or knives, induced a trance in the participants. I waited for her to say how much more therapeutic she found it than psychotherapy. She did.

Jamie Bruce Lockhart has edited the travel journals of the explorer Hugh Clapperton who searched for the course of the Niger in the 1820s; a wildly romantic figure with an astonishing story. The emphasis of this talk was on the re-discovery of Clapperton's original manuscripts. One was found buried in a miscellaneous file about ships' logs at the Public Records Office; the other lay unrecognised in South Africa having been purchased from John Murray. Bruce Lockhart's discussion of the variety of information which can be gleaned from such manuscripts was immensely interesting. Literary ability, the conditions of travel, illness, lack of space and paper, alterations to the copy, unprintable comments, companions, the languages used for conversations, expenses, informal sketches and observations, even lists of medicines; all were potentially revealing compared to the published work.

The dim light and lingering smoke from the fire made reading extracts from the unpublished diaries of Ellen and Emily Hall from Kent, quite difficult. The sisters wintered in Algiers in the second half of the 19th-century, revelling in the luxuriant flowers. The diaries were presented by Elizabeth Silverthorne, the archivist of the Bromley Library.

In contrast to the comfortable world of the Halls, the North African poems of Keith Douglas, written during the Second World War, were movingly read and discussed by Barry Cole. The community of Moroccan merchants who lived in Manchester from the 1830s is being researched by Dr Peter Clark. (Most left in the 1930s.) He is translating the memoirs of a well-known Moroccan diplomat who spent his childhood in Manchester. The work has become a textbook in Moroccan schools for its fine Arabic. The trade of Manchester attracted many foreign communities and commercial houses which traded in commodities including beeswax, dates, canary-grass (for whisky), textiles, and gunpowder from Morocco. Tea had arrived in Morocco through the British trade. Katy Hounsell-Robert, a journalist, spoke of the delights, adventures and personalities met on her travels in Tunisia.

Those of us unable to speak Arabic were reminded of the importance of the work of the great traveller Ibn Battuta, from Tangiers. The paper, written by Dr Abdelhadi Tazi, was read in his absence by the Moroccan Ambassador Mohammed Belmahi. Ibn Battuta travelled in the 14th century and gathered a mass of information on many subjects. He was a contemporary of Marco Polo but remains less well-known in the west. He covered a far greater area than Marco Polo and since he dictated his own story it is a more reliable document. Tazi is

particularly interested in his reporting of geographical names.

There was time to mingle and meet the participants at lunch, over delicious Middle Eastern pastries, and around a wonderful display of Maghrebi textiles, the collection of Clive Lovelace. A glass of wine, and then a reluctant return to the real world in the shape of rush-hour traffic in Wimbledon. Southside House is still in family ownership and open to the public by appointment between New Year's Day and Mid-Summer's day. Tel: 0208 94 7643. *Patricia Usick*

Note: A further conference on North African travellers may take place this autumn. Barnaby Rogerson will also be chairing the North African session at the ASTENE Edinburgh conference. For further information contact Sickle Moon Books, 3 Inglebert St, Clerkenwell, London EC1 1XR.



Jason Thompson on Edward Lane

On 19 October 2000 Jason Thompson gave a fascinating talk at the Royal Museum of Scotland, splendidly illustrated with slides, on Edward Lane's *Description of Egypt*, which he has recently edited. Lane, a nephew of Gainsborough, was trained as an engraver. He never practised this profession but his training helped him in illustrating his two books on Egypt. When he sailed to Egypt in 1825 his aim was to illustrate any object of interest, making full use of the camera lucida. He did not visit as a traveller, but adopted an entirely new persona, wearing Egyptian dress, hiring a servant, buying a donkey and praying in the mosques. He later recalled his days living in a tomb at Giza as 'the happiest days of my life'.

On his return he began writing his *Description of Egypt*, including a section on 'The Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians'. John Murray, the publisher, suggested that this section would be better as a separate book, and Lane therefore planned on this basis. Murray declined to print it, however, when it was finished, because of the political situation. Eventually Henry Brougham agreed to publish it on behalf of the Society for Promoting Useful Knowledge, and it appeared in 1836. It was an instant success and copies were sold out in ten days. Lane returned to Egypt and continued to work on the other sections of his *Description of Egypt* but other tasks and publications took priority and the *Description* has never been published until now, with Jason Thompson's edition. *Brenda Moon*

Description of Egypt by Edward Lane (Cairo: AUC Press, 2000), £37.50. Lane was one of the pre-eminent 19th-century Arabists who travelled in Egypt in the 1820s 'to examine the antiquities of the most interesting country', just after hieroglyphs were deciphered by Champollion. Yet this, his first book, was never published. Packed with British understatement and amazing details: a reminder

that it may take some time for the world to appreciate what travellers recorded on their journeys. (Ed.)



Frederick Arthur Bridgman 1847-1928

The young American artist Frederick Bridgman set off on a voyage up the Nile in 1873, at the age of twenty-six. An exhibition of some of the watercolours from that voyage was held by Agnew's in London in the autumn of 2000, demonstrating how this direct encounter with Africa and the Near East — with its light, imagery, people, customs — was such an inspiration as to lead to Bridgman's developing into America's foremost 'orientalist' artist.

In a catalogue accompanying the exhibition Agnew's noted how the Alabama-born Bridgman embarked on his artistic career as a teenager; he served an apprenticeship as a draughtsman at the American Bank Note Company in New York at the same time as studying with the Brooklyn Art Association and taking antique life classes at the National Academy of Design. Moving to Paris by 1866, he studied for two years under Jean-Léon Gérôme (other American students of Gérôme's included Edwin Lord Weeks and H.H. Moore both of whom also followed the Orientalist tradition), a milieu that no doubt encouraged Bridgman to explore the Orient for himself. The Nile journey gave him the impetus to venture into unexplored artistic realms, the watercolours and drawings on show at Agnew's supplying him, as by this stage with so many other professional artists, with the subject matter for the ambitious oil paintings on which his reputation is based. The Orientalist tradition still has its devotees, demonstrated in Bridgman's case by the recent sale in London of his *Nubian Storyteller* painted in 1873 — depicting an imaginary harem and its drowsy inhabitants — for £450,000! *Sarah Searight*



Pioneers of Exploration in the Levant

On 27 October 2000 a Levant Study Day entitled 'Pioneers of Exploration in the Levant' was held at the British Museum, in conjunction with the Palestine Exploration Fund. Since the subject coincides with the aims and objects of ASTENE, members and readers may be interested to know about the lectures and who gave them. 'The Wilderness of Zin', by Sam Moorhead. He recalled the survey and the resulting publication which is soon to be reprinted by the Palestine Exploration Fund. 'Discovering the Landscape: early natural historians in the Holy Land', by Caroline Cartwright. What we can learn from their published illustrations, especially changes to the landscape. 'Sir Flinders Petrie at Tell el-Hesi', by Rupert Chapman. How Petrie's results have stood the test of time having been based on his archeological experience in Egypt. 'Wood at Baalbec and Palmyra', by Julian Bowsher. How Robert Wood's studies influenced the architecture and ornamentation of eighteenth-century England. 'Mapping the Holy Land',

by Yolande Hodgson. The build-up to the Palestine Exploration Fund's Survey and the 1880 Map of Western Palestine. 'Duncan Mackenzie at Beth Shemeth', by Felicity Cobbing. A lesser known archaeologist who was ahead of his time in methodology having benefited from his Aegean experience with Evans. 'A forgotten stratigrapher — Joseph-Étienne Gautier at Tell et-Tin', by Jonathan Tubb. An early French archaeologist who applied scientific methods to an interesting and overlooked site in the Lake of Homs, Syria. 'Marissa: the centenary of Bliss and Macalister at Tell Sandahanna', by David Jacobson. 'The Hellenistic art and architecture and the animal frieze.' 'Woolley and Laurence at Carchemish', by David Hawkins. Many of the objects are in the British Museum but others were lost owing to the interruption of excavations by the Great War. 'De Vogue and the dead cities of Syria', by Konstantine Politis. How he showed good judgment for some of the buildings he restored.

F. Nigel Hepper

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

The British Museum at the Bowers Museum. 7 October 2000–24 January 2001 at the Bowers Museum of Cultural Art, 2002 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, California 92706, USA.

The exhibition 'Egyptian Treasures', organised by John Taylor of the British Museum, included many items never previously lent out. With only about 120 objects, thematically arranged within five spacious areas, the mainly small to miniature artefacts could be displayed so that the individual quality of each could be appreciated without distraction. I came out of the exhibition with the good feeling that I had seen 'an elegant sufficiency'.

Peta Rée

Voyages and Visions: early photographs from the Wilson Family Collection, 24 October 2000–February 18 2001. J. Paul Getty Museum, 1200 Getty Centre Drive, Los Angeles, California 90049.

Within a few years of the invention of photography, improved equipment enabled its practitioners to travel to remote places, to make 'sun-tinted reproductions of rare scenes, to which even language does imperfect justice', wrote an early photographer-traveller.

Jane and Michael Wilson, travelling widely to find interesting locations for their films, became aware of the rarity, outside the European capitals, of photographs made before 1860, and began to acquire the best examples they could find. The photographs in this exhibition featured some of the earliest ever made in each location, each one experimental in some way. Works made in Egypt and the Near East in the exhibition included some by John Beasley Green, Ernest Benecke, Roger Fenton and Pierre Trémeaux. Also included, was a photograph of Edward William Lane, taken in 1843 in Edinburgh by either David Octavius Hill or his partner Robert

Adamson.

The photographs in the exhibition were from the Wilson Centre for Photography, LLC. Sorry, no further address, but anyone interested could approach the Getty Museum, at the address above; the only e-mail address we have is for the Research Library, but might produce at least an idea of whom to approach next. e-mail: <reference@getty.edu>

FUTURE EVENTS

Court and Conquest: Ottoman Origins and the design for Handel's 1724 opera, "Tamerlano", at the Glimmerglass Opera, and on 27, 28 and 30 June 2001 at Sadler's Wells in London, Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh St, Russell Square, London WC1H. The lavish costumes, designed by Judy Levin, were juxtaposed alongside works of art which inspired them – European prints by artists such as Vanmour, Liotard etc., together with Oriental miniatures, Timurid manuscripts, armoury and textiles of the period of the opera (many from the Khalili collection) rather than of Timur Lang's period.

Ms Levin's research led her to look at travellers' accounts of the Ottoman sultans in the 17th and 18th centuries, for example, the letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, who reflected exotic and extravagant scenes, and helped to start the 'Turcomania' of the 18th century. Judy Levin used the Ottoman idea of varying the style of garment to indicate social status, though the colour schemes reflected the music of the various scenes. The costumes are sumptuous: gold brocade, stripped silks, coloured satins ... layered costumes of coats and kaftans and wide trousers, crowns, helmets and turbans. The combination of Handel's music, Jonathan Miller's ideas of 18th-century Orientalism and the costumes led the audience 'to participate in a world that can be known only through the imagination.' Illustrated catalogue from the Gallery Bookshop, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh St, London: Details from Sadler's Wells 0207 863 8000.

Replicas of Tutankhamun's clothing on show. From 31 March to 1 July 2001 the Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, will display replicas of the garments found in Tutankhamun's tomb. They have been made by the Stitching Textile Research Centre in Leiden, in co-operation with the Egyptian Museum, Cairo. This promises to be a stunning exhibition, with replicas of loincloths, tunics, sashes, footwear and the ceremonial robes worn by the king on display. The original garments are too fragile for display; the replicas have taken years to make.

Princess Salme, Behind the Veil: writer and teacher (11 April–22 June 2001), Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet St, London. An exhibition presented by the Princess Salme Institute as part of a

commitment to bring the life and accomplishments of this remarkable Zanzibar woman, Sayyida Salme (1844-1924) to a wider audience. As Emily Ruete she wrote her autobiography in 1886: 'tired out in body and mind I did not then expect to live to be able to tell them, when they had grown up, of the many changes in my life [this included eloping with a German whom she subsequently married] and of the recollections of my youth.' The exhibition offers a collection of her personal possessions and writings in Arabic, Swahili, English and German, particularly on the importance of women's education. This exhibition may be of particular interest to ASTENE members, especially as Lisl Graz is to speak at the Edinburgh Conference on Princess Salme in her paper 'A Zanzibar-Omani Princess travels to Germany'.

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'I want to be great too! The Romans and Alexander', lecture on 26 April 2001, to accompany the exhibition *From Alexander to Mark Antony: Images of power on ancient coins* (11 January to 6 May 2001), the Townley Group of The British Museum Friends is sponsoring a prestigious series of four lectures on the image and impact of Alexander the Great, the last is given by a renowned expert, Christopher Pelling, at the BP Lecture Theatre, 18.30. Cost £6, BM Friends £5 (Concessions £3). Contact: Public Events Office, The British Museum, Gt Russell St, London WC1B 3DG, Tel: 020 7323 8566, e-mail: <events@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk>.

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Bloomsbury Academy (University College, London) Study Day on Saturday 12 May 2001 on *Pyramids and Power: architecture and society in Old Kingdom Egypt* from 10-17.30 in The Bloomsbury Theatre, University College, London. Speakers include Dr Toby Wilkinson, Dina Faltings, Jaromir Malek and Kate Spense. Tickets £28 obtainable from The Ticket Office, Bloomsbury Theatre, 15 Gordon St, London WC1H 0AH, Tel: 020 7388 8822. Buffet lunch for an additional £6.00. Details of the Petrie Museum reception for which an extra ticket is necessary, will be sent only to those who purchase a ticket for the Study Day.

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'Where can we find two better hemispheres?': Interface between Old and New Worlds, 14-16 May 2001. University of Haifa, Mt. Carmel, Israel

Our theme will be the interaction between the eastern and western hemispheres and we welcome papers from a variety of disciplines including literature, history and geography. The following questions spell out the kinds of issues and problems we anticipate that papers will engage. How have the forces of literature, language, culture and history negotiated interactions between the Near East and/or Europe and the New World? How can we read the texts that account for and exemplify these connections including but not necessarily employing the traditional tropes of empire and colonialism? Are there other tropes that can serve to re-present these forces in

such a way as to reveal new perspectives on the ties between the hemispheres? Contact: Dr Noam Flinker, Chair, Dept. of English, University of Haifa, Mt. Carmel, 31905 Haifa, ISRAEL. E-mail: <flinker@research.haifa.ac.il>; Fax: 972 4 824 9711.

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The Society for American Travel Writing at the 2001 American Literature Association conference in Boston, MA, May 24-27, 2001. Contact: Beth L. Lueck, Department of Languages and Literatures, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater WI 53190-1790. <lueckbl@cs.com> or <jmelton@mickey.aum.edu>.

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Travel, Missions, Empire. An Interdisciplinary Conference hosted by the Research Institute of Irish & Scottish Studies, University of Aberdeen, 1-2 June 2001.

19th-century missionary work has prompted several recent studies, some of which have discussed the complicit nature of Christian mission in the development of Empire, and others of which have produced evidence of well intentioned, charitable efforts. Whatever the reality, missionary work has been rarely associated with anything other than controversy, particularly in recent years. Bible translators in Latin America, Church Missions in Central China, The Society of Friends in Ireland, Scots Presbyterianism in Malawi, these groups form a part of the history of those regions, whatever their intentions and outcome. Many who journeyed in these countries wrote accounts, linking missionary and travel literature together, and sometimes establishing both within the colonial experience. In the light of these connections, proposals are sought from researchers working in any appropriate area, although geographers, anthropologists and church historians are particularly encouraged. Papers on a broad front are sought, irrespective of religious, cultural or historical trends. Contact: Glenn Hooper, Institute of Irish & Scottish Studies, Humanity Manse, U of Aberdeen, 19 College Bounds, Aberdeen AB24 3UG, Scotland. Tel: 01224-272730 or Fax: 01224-273677. <g.hooper@abdn.ac.uk>.

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27-29 June 2001, School of Oriental and African Studies' (SOAS) *Conference on the Middle East in London*, under the patronage of HRH the Prince of Wales. The conference will focus on London as the world's leading centre for the Middle East outside the region. Much of the current interest in the region stems from longstanding cultural, commercial and political links, as evidenced by the travellers studied by ASTENE members. For that reason, find out more about the conference from the Centre of Near and Middle Eastern Studies at SOAS 0207 898 4330.

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Maritime Empires, 2-3 July 2001, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London. This two-day international conference will explore Britain's imperial

maritime trade during the long nineteenth century. The growth of British commerce in this period was accompanied by increased territorial expansion overseas and the creation of an enlarged formal and informal Empire. Maritime Empires will highlight the significance of the relationship between Britain, imperial enterprise and the sea through an interdisciplinary focus on issues of control, technology, commerce, culture and communication. For further details contact: Helen Jones, Research Administrator, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF. Tel: 020 8312 6716. Fax: 020 8312 6722. E-mail: <research@nmm.ac.uk>.

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9 July to 3 August 2001. *Bloomsbury Summer School* (University College, London) on 'Ancient Egypt and the Wider World: from the Nile to the Tigris'. One-week courses taught by experts with a range of specific topics each week to choose from over the four-week period. The courses also include gallery talks in the British Museum, privilege-access classes in the Petrie Museum, social events. Accommodation, if required, in nearby halls of residence. Course fee from £250 per course; accommodation from c.£19 a night (self catering) or c.£20 (B&B). Further details from The Director, Bloomsbury Summer School, Dept of History, University College, London, Gower St, London WC1E 6BT; Tel: 020 7679 3622; Fax: 020 7413 8394. Book early to avoid disappointment.

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17-20 November 2001. *Middle East Studies Association* (MESA), 35th Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California. Contact: MESA 2001, Middle East Studies Association, The University of Arizona, 1643 East Helen St, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA. We will list relevant sessions in *Bulletin* 12. Website: <www.mesa.arizona.edu>.

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9-12 September 2002. *First World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies*, Centre for Research on the Arab World (CERAW), University of Mainz, Germany. Initiated by MESA, this will be a joint congress with the European Association for Middle Eastern Studies (EURAMES), Association Française pour l'Étude du Monde Arabe et Musulman (AFEMAM), BRISMES and the German Middle East Studies Association (DAVO). It will be supported by many other associations. Many sessions on a wide range of disciplines, specialised panels, high-ranking statesmen, book exhibitions, film festival, oriental dance, theatre performances, sightseeing tours etc. ASTENE will investigate links with this event. Deadline for abstracts 15 February 2002. Contact: Prof Günter Meyer, CERAW, University of Mainz, Institute of Geography, 55099 Mainz, Germany. Tel: +49 6131 3922701; Fax: +49 6131 3924736; e-mail <eurames@geo.uni-mainz.de>. Website: <http://www.davo-online.de>

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NEWS

Robert Hay's Panoramas of Qurna, a permanent exhibition for the Omda's House, Qurna/Thebes
 Caroline Simpson has just returned from Qurna, where she gave talks on the Hay panoramas to Inspector Ibrahim Solomon and friends, to the French Mission at the Malkata House and at the Sheikh Ali Hotel. In Cairo she gave an evening lecture at the American Research Centre in Egypt. She reports that the project is welcomed by the Director General of Antiquities for the West Bank and his staff. Over the next few months the exhibition text is being prepared in time for the project opening in April 2001. She is still fund raising: in December she needed another E£ 17,500 (£3,500), but she has received donations from the travel firm 'The Imaginative Traveller', the Southampton Ancient Egypt Society and many personal donations (cheques payable to 'Hay's Theban Panoramas'). For further information contact Caroline Simpson, 9 Whittington Rd, Bounds Green, London N22 8YS; Tel/Fax: 00 44 (0)20 8881 9386; e-mail: <Caroline@forbury.demon.co.uk>, Website <www.sepcom.demon.co.uk/Hay/main.html>.

Courses

Several members have mentioned that they have recently developed courses on travel literature or travels in the Middle East and it would be useful to be able to list them in the *Bulletin*. Please send us further details of any relevant courses in time for *Bulletin* 12. Carol Rhoades at The University of Texas at Austin <rhoades@io.com>, has sent her syllabus for her course 'Introduction to Literature: Women's Journey Literature'. This Women's Studies/English course explores how women writers have used journey narratives as a means of discovering, composing, and expanding knowledge of both their interior and exterior lives.

The journeys themselves were moves for independence for the women travellers (especially those of the nineteenth century) and the writing of observations made during and after the journeys allowed the women a means of entry into the literary world via a 'side path'. The readings for the course are a means for discovering some lesser known writings by women and also provide material for examining several critical problems. The course examines how women travellers mediated between their own sense of 'cultural superiority' and their 'otherness' as they attempted to understand and critique other cultures, as well as their own. Texts include Dorothy Middleton, *Victorian Lady Travellers*; Amelia Edwards, *A Thousand Miles Up the Nile*; Lucie Duff Gordon, *Letters from Egypt*.

Obituary

Geoffrey Bibby, born 14 October 1917 in Westmorland and died 6 February 2001, aged 83. An archaeologist who showed that Arabia had an ancient history no less than

the Levant, he searched for the lost land of Dilman, a trading entrepôt supplying ancient Mesopotamia from the 3rd millennium BC. He read Classics and Oriental Studies at Cambridge, served with the Royal Artillery and then M16 in the Second World War. He first met the resistance fighter and archaeologist, P.V. Glob, at a dinner party in Denmark, and from this contact began his archaeological career. He set out from Denmark in 1953 carrying a royal gerfalcon for the ruler of Bahrain. Equally at home on a desert camp or a ruler's palace as in Europe, he established a base at the medieval fortress of Qala'at al-Bahrain, later found to be the capital of Dilman (see his *Looking for Dilman* published in 1969). Later he worked at Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus and officially retired in 1987. In 1993 he was invited back to Bahrain and he continued to travel there with enthusiasm to visit his many old friends.

National Museum News

In *Bulletin* 9, Dr Claude Doumet-Serhal, editor of the *National Museum News* of Lebanon, appealed for suggestions for articles on travellers in the area. Andrea Resek, of The Lebanese British Friends of the Beirut National Museum has asked us to include the following news item and further appeal:

Having grown beyond our original archaeological foundations and in order to describe more accurately the nature of our publication, the *National Museum News*, as of Issue 12, is being published as *Archaeology & History in Lebanon* or *AHL*. The editorial spirit of the journal remains unchanged. On the same note, Issue 12 of *AHL* proved to be such a success that we have decided to pursue the 'Travellers to the Lebanon' theme. Thus Issue 16 will also concentrate on travellers to the area. Any suggestions for articles on this subject would be welcome. The deadline for any submitted article is 4 September 2002 and articles can be sent to our editor, Dr C Doumet-Serhal, at: 11 Canning Place, London W8 5AD, or e-mail to <claude.lbfm@btinternet.com> Tel/Fax: 020 7591 0875.

The Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, University College London

University College, London (UCL) is to build a new centre for arts and humanities, with a new lecture theatre, a library to house UCL's collection of rare books and manuscripts, a series of galleries for rolling exhibitions and a new permanent site for the Petrie Museum, near the Institute of Archaeology. Fund-raising is in progress, for further information contact The Development Office, Gower St, London WC1E 6BT, Tel: 020 7679 7670, or e-mail <tim-johnson@ucl.ac.uk>

Development Office, Gower St, London WC1E 6BT,
Tel: 020 7679 7670, or e-mail <tim-johnson@ucl.ac.uk>

Islamic Monuments in Cairo

The future of the Islamic monuments in Cairo is threatened today in a new and quite alarming way. The Ministry of Culture in its enthusiasm to turn medieval Cairo into an open-air museum has allowed many and various contracting firms to 'restore' this unique architectural and urban heritage. These firms, among them the Arab Contracting Co., the Tenth of Ramadan Co., builders of bridges, tunnels, dams, and parking-lots, are now engaged in the fine work of restoration. These companies are 're-doing' prime buildings on main avenues, such as the Mosque of Ibn Tulun, the

complexes of Qalawun and Qaytbay, as well as important monuments on less travelled arteries. The restoring practices of these companies do not include the Resolutions from the Venice Charter of 1964 wherein the use of Portland Cement was banned, and the principles of minimal intervention, reversibility, compatibility, and documentation were upheld. These companies have little regard for the original, old fabric of the building; everywhere it seemed materials stripped from walls or ceilings or windows were piled up to be carted off, to be replaced with new versions. With the sanction of the Egyptian authorities, the Fatimid heritage was lost to make-overs by the Shi'i Bohra sect. Now the rest of Umm ad-Dunya seems about to follow suit.

Caroline Williams was in Cairo in February and visited over 200 monuments. She will participate in the Roundtable discussion, 'Forces of Change in Contemporary Cairo' at MESA.

Caroline Williams

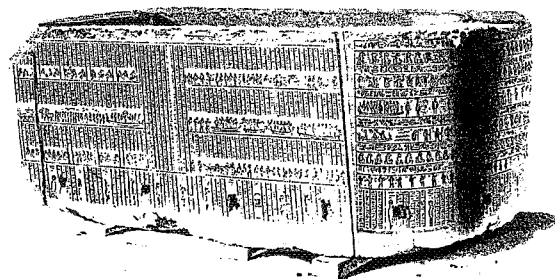
The Sarcophagus of Alexander?: Archaeology and Travellers' Rumours

In *The Times* on 14 August 2000 there was a piece entitled 'Scholar claims to find secret of Alexander's tomb' in which the work of Nicola Bonacasa,¹ editing the notes of Dr Adriani about his excavations in Alexandria, was described. Much of the recent topographical work in Alexandria (as often seen on TV) has suggested that the Soma may well have lain in the Eastern Cemetery at Chatby where the handsome marble tomb excavated by Adriani lies.² In fact, Michael Wood showed the Cambridge ASTENE conference some excellent slides of it in 1999. But if this proves to be the tomb or even the royal cemetery, it does not answer the question of the location of the sarcophagus which would have been inside the tomb.

Edward Daniel Clarke's account of the handsome breccia sarcophagus which he rescued from the lunatic asylum ship in Alexandria Harbour, where the French had hidden it, is vivid and undisputable.³ Clarke was greatly incensed that the authorities of the British Museum to whom George III had presented the sarcophagus in 1802 were leaving it casually in the open courtyard as 'a curious but unimportant monument of Egyptian art'. Cambridge are lucky to have Leake's copy of the monograph he then wrote and the lithograph of the sarcophagus as he first learned of it. The way it was revered in the courtyard of the Attarin Mosque, once the Church of St Athanasius in central Alexandria, is particularly striking in Leake's account.

From the earliest account (that of Leo Africanus in the early sixteenth century) the sarcophagus had been associated with the name of Alexander and been the subject of particular veneration by Muslims who alone were allowed to visit it. Clarke is particularly puzzled that Vivant Denon, the first non-Muslim to see it, did not

Drawing of hieroglyphs round 'Alexander's' tomb



Engraving from Clarke of the 'Interior of the Ruin of the Soma in Alexandria ...'

Clarke

recount its associations or its veneration by Muslim pilgrims, though he thought the sarcophagus 'Qu'il peut être regardé comme un des morceaux les plus précieux de l'antiquité'. This silence by Denon is indeed odd: apart from its associations, the sarcophagus is a handsome piece — but hardly unique. Was he saving its history for a great denouement?

Clarke's hope that the sarcophagus would be accepted as that of Alexander was blighted when the hieroglyphs with which it was inscribed were eventually read, assigning it to Nekht-har-heb then thought to be Nectanebo I (380–362 BC) who reigned in the second quarter of the fourth century. Only later was it realized that this Pharaoh was Nectanebo II⁴ who was ousted by the Persians in 343/2 BC. He fled to Aswan but disappears from history a year later. Nothing is certain about his death or burial, except that he could not have used this sarcophagus. After the decipherment the legends about the sarcophagus remain largely dormant and no mention of its history is given in the current caption in the British Museum.

In March 1947 my father, Alan Wace, gave a lecture to the Faculty of Arts at Alexandria University entitled 'The Sarcophagus of Alexander the Great' *Bulletin of the Faculty of Arts, Farouk I University*, 4 (1948). Unfortunately, I do not know the background to his choice of subject as I was at school in England at that time. What is clear is that he did not have access to Clarke's monograph though he refers to it in a footnote. Alexandria in the 1940s, both in the Museum and the new University, was desperately short of reference works. But, interestingly, he came to the same conclusion as Clarke.

He emphasized the increasing archaeological information about Pharaonic Rhakotis which was fast dispelling the description of D.G. Hogarth, the excavator of Naucratis (in the western Delta), as a 'wretched village' and the dismissive summation of E.M. Forster in his *Guide to Alexandria*: 'Rhakotis was never important in itself.' He suggested that Nectanebo II might have planned to be buried there — for we know that important officials of the XXXth Dynasty were buried therein and no site for the royal cemetery of that dynasty had been identified. The wealth and character of early Ptolemaic Alexandria is shown by several monuments, not least by the tombs at Anfushi and had been very strikingly underlined by the exciting find of the foundation plaques of the Serapeum in August 1943.

In addition to the archaeological evidence, my father called attention to the link between Alexander and Nectanebo II that we know from the *Alexander Romance*. Indeed, Alexander was popularly believed either to be Nectanebo miraculously restored, or his son. There would have been good political reasons for Alexander to emphasize a link with the last Pharaoh and to make use of a sarcophagus that was ready and unused.

The last fifty years have seen much new archaeological evidence, both in Macedon and in Alexandria, but

nothing which contributes to solving this puzzle. We now know much more about the burial customs of the Macedonians in their homeland and their willingness to innovate when required. We know of other monuments that have been wrongly assigned when the inscriptions on them could no longer be read. If this was Alexander's sarcophagus from a tomb at Chatby, how and when did it reach the Church of St Athanasius in the centre of the city? Was it perhaps from the presence of this sarcophagus that the Soma was thought to be in this spot? It was apparently a standard rhetorical question in the fourth century AD (as we learn from St John Chrysostom) to say: 'Tell me where the Sema of Alexander is.'

At the moment we cannot reconcile fact and tradition but Alexandria may well spring more surprises on us before the new excavations are completed. Meanwhile I urge one and all to visit the sarcophagus in the British Museum and think on Alexander and on Edward Daniel Clarke.

Elizabeth French

Notes

1. Archaeological Institute of the University of Palermo.
2. Soma (Sema), royal mausoleum. Ptolemy I (305–310 BC) said that the body of Alexander the Great (352–323 BC) was placed in a golden coffin in Alexandria. His tomb was traditionally believed to be beneath the Mosque of Nabi Daniel in central Alexandria.
3. Edward Daniel Clarke, *A Dissertation on the Sarcophagus brought from Alexandria and now in the British Museum* (London, 1805).
4. 360–343 BC. Last native Egyptian king until modern times.

For further information on the wealth of Alexander's birthplace in Ancient Macedonia, see <www.culture.gr> and <www.beazely.ox.ac.uk/ecc>. 'Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Greece', conference held in March 2001 by Professor R.R.R. Smith, at Department of Ancient History and Classical Archaeology, Somerville College, Oxford (Ed.).



Hajji or Bega Begum

ASTENE tries to restrict its geographical remit to the boundaries of the Ottoman Empire. Its emphasis often tends to a European bias; it is particularly interested, however, in extending knowledge of Arab travellers, notable amongst whom must be those inveterate migrants, the Hadhramis. The following historical note is concerned with a group of Hadhrami migrants to India.

The chief Iranian wife of the Mughal Emperor Humayun, known as Hajji Begum or Bega Begum, undertook the *hajj* in the sixteenth century. According to the nineteenth-century Urdu historian, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, she returned with a number of Hadhramis from the Haram al-Sharif in Mecca, including a hundred *sayyids* and religious scholars, at least some of whom were descended from the great Basra sufi, Ahmad bin Isa, who made such an impact on the religious life of the Hadhramaut in the sixteenth century and whose tomb is just outside the Hadhrami town of Saiyun. The newcomers were granted space for a well-fortified building and date garden on the edge of Delhi that became known as the 'Arab Sarai'. The structure, located near Humayun's tomb, is today a government protected monument, although now in ruins. The Begum is also credited with supervising the construction of Humayun's magnificent tomb.

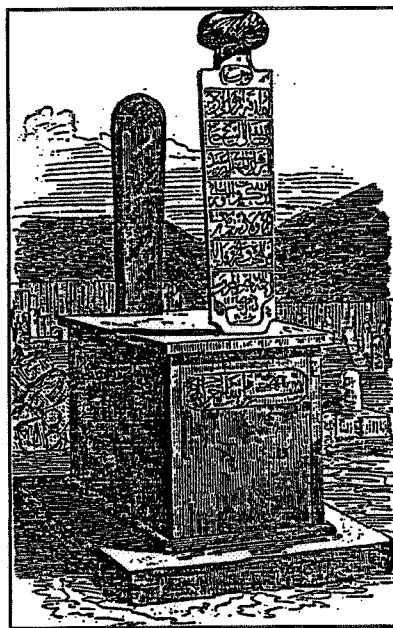
According to family records women of the Mughal court used to visit Arab Sarai to seek spiritual guidance. It is possible some were buried in the grounds, their tombs marked with distinctive head stones. The Sarai was also used as a refuge by the last Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah, after the failure of the Indian uprising in 1857. In the aftermath of the uprising and the demise of the Mughal Empire some members of the community moved to Simla. Others stayed in Delhi where the present writer's father Syed Abdul Mohie Jaffri became involved in the struggle for independence as a member of the Muslim League. In 1947 the family moved to Karachi. Present-day links with the Hadhramaut are non-existent but who knows what may emerge from the ASTENE network.

Wasim Ghani of Ryerson Polytechnic University,
Toronto, Canada



A Pilgrimage to a Tomb

During research into back numbers of *The Illustrated London News*, I discovered by some lucky chance, on page 397 of the issue of 25 April 1874, a small article and a drawing of the tomb of the famous explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt.



During my next journey to Egypt, my foremost desire was to trace Burckhardt's tomb. Having the accurate drawing from the *Illustrated London News* at my disposal, I considered this the perfect means, above all confusion of tongues, to try my luck at last. And on that memorable day, Wednesday 25 January 1984, after returning from the south, I went forth in the company of my Egyptian friend, Desouky Fahmy, to the Islamic cemetery near one of the old town gates of Cairo, the Bab al-Nasr. My friend was rather sceptical, and his expectations of finding the tomb, with nothing more than a 120-year-old drawing in hand, were definitely smaller than mine. Nevertheless, I could not be talked out of it. Right in front of Bab el-Nasr's gate, we were halted for a while by a funeral procession, one of many we were to see that morning. Immediately afterwards, with the drawing firmly in my hand, I accosted everyone I met. The first victims were two women, dressed all in black, who lived in the neighbourhood. The two women carefully studied our drawing, listened with attention, and then said they knew nothing about the grave, but pointed out a man who was passing by, the grave-digger, who was born and bred here, and who certainly would be able to help us. That man at once dashed all our hopes by telling us about road-works between Bab al-Futūh and Bab al-Nasr some years ago, when dozen of tombs had been cleared away. Only the tombs of a few holy men

had been relocated a bit further on in the cemetery grounds. All other graves had disappeared for good. Though he examined the tomb of Shaykh Ibrahim on the drawing, he could not place it anywhere. It was probably among the vanished ones. He was sure to know, for he knew every nook and cranny of the burial place.

While wandering about, I suddenly began to see a light. Taking a good look at the drawing once more, I saw a mountain range outlined on the background. If mountains really figured in the background of the tomb, it could not have been located near or on that widened road, but would have to be much further into the cemetery. On the other hand, one could argue that the mountains had been artificially added by the artist to serve as a more decorative background. In spite of this possibility, I refused to lose courage so soon.

After meditating a while, the grave-digger took us to someone else who would probably be more useful. He introduced us to Muhammad 'Ali Amin. Once again, I explained the whole story with the drawing in hand, as if it were the key to the grave. Yes, indeed, he knew that tomb! He even knew a story about it, and he told us about Shaykh Ibrahim's son. I hesitated. Burckhardt had never been married, and no source mentioned any son! But I decided to listen anyway, one never knew. And Muhammad 'Ali Amin began:

Once upon a time, many years ago, a young man came to that part of the cemetery where the poor are buried. He went to the local caretaker and said: 'I have come to erect a stone on my father's tomb.' 'Fine,' the caretaker replied, 'this is indeed a noble gesture on your part for your late father. But where is his grave? In this area, where the poor are buried without epitaph and the tombs remain nameless, you will never find it.' 'We will find it,' said the son. 'My dead father appeared to me in a dream and told me he had shown the way to his grave with white pebbles.' Both men actually found the white pebbles, which thus led them to the tomb.

While telling his story with conviction, in accordance with Arab tradition Muhammad 'Ali Amin picked up some pebbles and threw them one after another behind his back, as if to illustrate his words. In the meantime we had walked quite a way between the graves, and our guide stopped at a small hut. 'That's it,' he said. And suddenly it all became clear to me. If the tomb really lay hidden behind that door, nobody would ever recognize my drawing, of course. This hut had probably been added much later, out of respect for the grave, which was not exceptional. Muhammad 'Ali Amin shouted something to someone who was digging a hole a bit further. After a while, this man reappeared with a bunch of keys. A minute later, the door was flung open ... a sunbeam illuminated the white headstone with the beautifully elegant Arab characters. With a large gesture, Muhammad 'Ali Amin pointed at the stone and said:

'This is the grave you came for from so far.'

My happiness was complete. Moved, I walked a few times around the monument, touched it, and little by little regained my composure so I could start taking pictures. Thanks to the hut, the tomb is still fully intact, completely in marble. Everything corresponded with the text and the drawing on the *Illustrated London News* of 1874. Only a thick layer of sand was covering it.

EPILOGUE

In 1990 there was a 'Sheikh Ibrahim' exhibition in the Ghouri Palace, with an opening on 20 February. I visited the tomb once more. The hut above the tomb was freshly painted as were the nearby tombs. The hut received a marble tablet, mentioned that Shaykh Ibrahim (Johann Ludwig Burckhardt) was buried here. Now you just ask for the tomb and somebody conducts you to the right place.

Roger O. De Keersmaecker

Anthony Sattin also gives an account of his discovery of Burckhardt's tomb in *The Pharaoh's Shadow* (London: Victor Gollancz, 2000), 76-81. This book is now published in paperback by Phoenix 1 February 2001 at £7.99. Contact Sophie Mackrell on 0207 520 4429 or e-mail: <som@orionbooks.co.uk>. (Ed.)

BOOK NEWS

Access to Useful Sources

ASTENE has received a very kind offer from one of its members, Judge Christopher Young. He is happy to welcome members to peruse his interesting collection of travel books, some from the 18th century, for their research purposes. Any members who are interested to hear more about this kind offer and the range of books which can be consulted, please contact the editors, for further information.

The ancient library of Alexandria was created in 292 BC and at its peak was said to have contained 490,000 scrolls. It was destroyed in the fifth century AD. This year sees the inauguration of a new library of Alexandria on the city's *corniche*; it is due to be opened this summer. To mark the occasion the British Library has produced 275 copies of *The Arabic Treasures of the British Library*. Bound in chamois leather it will cost you a mere £250.00; bound in goatskin, however, will set you back £2,000 or \$3,200. The British Library's 14,000 Arabic manuscripts have also been reproduced on microfiche, in collaboration with the King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies in Riyadh.

The Editors of the new *Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature*, volume 2 (1500-1700) are seeking a scholar who could complete the Travel section by writing or

revising the section on Africa and Asia. Details can be obtained from: <Catherine.Alexander @shakes-peare.org.uk>



The Pilgrimage of Ahmad: son of the little bird of paradise. An account of a nineteenth-century pilgrimage from Mauritania to Mecca, translated and edited by H.T. Norris, published Aris and Phillips Ltd., Warminster, England, 1977. The memoirs of the Mauritanian scholar and pilgrim to Mecca, Ahmad b. Tuwayr al-Janna are probably the most popular of all surviving Mauritanian records of the pilgrimage. A kind of continuous colloquial adaptation of Classical Arabic narrative, interspersed with poems, pious thoughts, anecdotes and observations of the Mediterranean world in the 1830s, it reveals, says H.T. Norris, 'an unusual personality, now gentle, now crude, now intolerant, now self-effacing, now proud of his traditions and his faith. It affords a striking contrast with the pilgrimage of Sir Richard Burton some twenty years later.'

Although much of the journey lies outside ASTENE's geographical boundaries, chapters 3 to 5 cover Ahmad's passage through Egypt to Mecca and back. Hugh Vernon Jackson has photocopied this rare book, and would like to pass the copy to someone who would take an interest in this intriguing character. Hugh's address is P.O. Box 415, El Maadi, Cairo, Egypt, and he hopes to be at the conference in Edinburgh in July.



AUC Press have a new distributor in England through European Book Service in London. That means most AUC publications will be available in the UK. Those that the press owns exclusive rights for Egypt only will not be available. Contact: Eurospan University Press group, 3 Henrietta St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8LU, Tel: +44 (0)20 7845 0810; Fax: +44 (0)20 7379 3313; e-mail: <info@eurospan.co.uk>



Karen Dabrowska <kdabrowska@hotmail.com> is a freelance journalist based in London and currently writing for The Yemen Times, the only English language newspaper published in Yemen. She would like to know if ASTENE members 'have any material dealing specifically with travels in Yemen? If so I would be very interested in basing a feature on this material and mentioning the work and activities of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East.' Her telephone number is 0208-319-4641 Fax: 0208-856-8342.



Jane Reeve notes that Charles W.J. Withers, Professor of Geography, University of Edinburgh, e-mail: <CWJW@geo.ed.ac.uk> has recently published two interesting articles: 'Travel and Trust in the Eighteenth Century', in *L'Invitation au Voyage*, edited by J. Renwick (Oxford: Voltaire Fundaloni, 2000?); and 'Voyages et Crédibilité: vers une géographie de la confiance', *Geographies et Cultures*, 33:1 (2000?).



Dr Wendy James, Convenor of the North East Africa Seminar, holds illuminating weekly seminars at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford, 51 Banbury Rd, Oxford OX2 6PE, Tel: 01865 274 677. Jane Reeve suggests that two of her articles may also be of interest to ASTENE readers: 'The Funj Mystique: approaches to a Problem of Sudan History', *Text and Context: the Social Anthropology of Tradition*, edited by Ravindra K. Jain (Philadelphia: Institute for the Study of Human Issues, 1977); and 'Kings, Commoners, and the Ethnographic Imagination in Sudan and Ethiopia', *Localizing Strategies: regional traditions of ethnographic writing*, edited Richard Fardon (Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, and Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990).



Vice-Versa: A Traveller from Egypt

Only very occasionally does one glimpse an English account of an ordinary Egyptians' experience of travel abroad before the mid-nineteenth century. The Egyptians who travelled to Europe, like Ismael Gibraltar in the 1810s, or 'Hippopotamus Johnny' who accompanied a baby hippo thither in the 1840s, are seen through European eyes. I was lucky enough to chance upon, in Sir Richard Phillips' *New Voyages and Travels*, no. 11 vol. LX, 'The Narrative of a Journey from Egypt to the west coast of Africa' by Muhammad Misrah in about 1820. His account was collected in several interviews by an unknown officer serving at Fort Thornton, Sierra Leone and written up in April 1821.

Muhammad Misrah was an imam, born in Alexandria in about 1776. As a young man he remembered an army of 'white' people taking possession of his country, i.e. the French invasion of 1798. He noted that about three years afterwards these people were beaten in a battle with other white people, who spoke a different language, i.e. the English, at the Battle of Aboukir [Abu Qir] Bay in 1801. Muhammad had heard the guns but did not see the engagement.

A few years later, 'feeling himself conscientiously impelled to propagate his belief', he set out westwards along the shores of the Mediterranean. He travelled as far as Fez where, 'finding an insurmountable barrier in the great desert of the Sahara ... he turned his face towards the rising sun and returned to Alexandria.' To use his own expression, he 'sat down there for some time, uncertain as to his future intentions'.

At length, but still not following any fixed or determinate plan, he travelled south. He reached Sennār in twenty-three days, finding it 'a low sandy country, abounding with camels, horses and cattle'. The Nile here he described as about a mile in breadth, 'and slow and majestic in its progress'. Turning west to the frontier of Kordofan, he had to wait for a caravan to make the eleven-day journey across the desert as it was the wet season. Fifteen days later he reached Warra, a war-like

kingdom whose troops 'maintain desperate conflicts with the spear, an instrument which they direct with much precision and handle with great dexterity'. Many were great travellers and traded 'to countries far distant'. Two days further he reached Lake Belala, which is fed by a large river rising in small mountains on the confines of Kordofan. In 1820, when the true courses of both the Nile and the Niger were as yet unknown in the west, such information was of great significance. The anonymous officer recording Muhammad Misrah's adventures commented on its implications for the area.

A further three days' travel brought Misrah to Bournu Brinee, principal town of 'the extensive kingdom of that name'. He found it large and populous with merchandise conveyed thither by camel and horse, 'there being no river of consequence within ten days' march'. Much of the land was more fertile than any he had met on the journey: 'with an abundance of vegetable provision and plenty of fine corn, and extensive pasturage crowned with cattle.' Ten days further and he reached Kano (in what is now northern Nigeria), whose people were 'amazingly adventurous and persevering', trading as far as Timbuktu and along the banks of the Niger. It took Misrah 25 more days to reach the Niger, further from its source than Boussa where Mungo Park has met his death in 1806. He passed on for 16 days through a bad and barren country where he understood people ate one another. Along the road to Degemba, following the line of the mountains of Kong, numbers of women and booths 'in which the travellers may repose, and be regaled with milk, fruit and other refreshments, in exchange for kolas and cowries.' Misrah described the produce of the country, the much-prized kola nut, the corn 'which grows luxuriantly in most of the interior regions'.

A further three weeks and Misrah reached Segou (Segou) in Mali, the capital of the kingdom of the Bambarans in the country well-known to European travellers, so his record confirmed the facts of Misrah's journey rather than detailing them.

Misrah supposed his day's journey might average about 20 miles, so the whole made 2,720 miles to Segou. As Segou is about 700 miles from Sierra Leone, his total journey was about 3,020 miles as the crow flies. The straight measurement on a map of that time was, very satisfactorily, 2925 miles. 'He could hardly have accounted for his ground more correctly had he instruments and knowledge to do so.'

Misrah's other evidence too was that the Nile is a continuation of the Niger, and that Bahr al-Abyad (the White Nile) is the link of connection. His recorder was not convinced: 'if there does exist one objection, let it be ever so trifling, the hypothesis cannot be valid.' I wonder whether any reader from Egypt has heard about this traveller through their family traditions. Did he eventually return to Egypt?

Deborah Manley



A Delightful Dinner Guest

Who's who in Egyptology and the *DNB* introduce one to John Davidson (1797–1839). Serendipity led me to a very personal insight. Davidson read medicine in Edinburgh and London, but poor health led him to Naples in 1832, from whence he travelled extensively in Morocco and the Near East. He took up Egyptology and the study of mummies and wrote a valued account. In the summer of 1835 Charlotte Wynn (1807–1869) met him in London and recorded the event in her diary. She was a cousin of William John Bankes, her father was a correspondent of Lady Hester Stanhope, and she was a traveller in her own right. Her diaries were published in 1877. Four years after their meeting Davidson was dead, murdered on his way to Timbuktu. His travel notes were published in 1839.

July 14, 1835 — How I wish I could fix here one quarter of the amusement and information which I have derived from the conversation of Mr Davidson, the eastern traveller; he seems to me like a man walked out of the 'Arabian Nights' bodily. When, just after dinner, he began a story in which oriental salutation formed a feature, he to our great surprise jumped from his chair, repeated a few Arabic words, which he translated. 'I devote myself to you in thought' (he struck his forehead); 'in love' (striking his heart); 'indeed' (showing his hands); 'from the crown of my head to the sole of my foot' — so saying, he prostrated his length (full six feet) on the floor at Charlotte's feet. Then, from under his neckcloth, he pulled a beard full twelve inches long, told us of a Frenchman very recently dead, whose beard showed the ointment flowing from Aaron's beard 'even to the hem of his garment' to be no figure. This man's was so long as to sweep the ground when he sat down, coal black and very fine; it was regularly anointed and incensed, the fumigation passing between the throat and beard held out.

Deborah Manley



What the Traveller Needs (1)

George Gliddon (1809–1857), American Consul in Egypt 1832–1840, had grown up there, and had a hearty disdain for the travellers, and often for the rulers of Egypt too. Here he describes the needs of official travellers, in the form in this case of a 'scientific corps', as seen by 'His Highness', Muhammad Ali Pasha.

Off they go to the Upper Country, His Highness furnishing boats, men, camels, guards, and supplies of every possible variety; not omitting hampers of champagne, hogshead of India pale ale, and hams of every kind; nor brandy in capacious demijohns, without which it is in the East, believed Englishmen are incapacitated from mental or bodily exertion, as, we must confess, some of them very frequently are with it. Of all these things, depots will have been established at eligible points, all along the route from Alexandria to

Khartoum; and the scientific corps will know no bounds in their gratitude for such unexpected and delicate attentions. The Mehmendar will have been ordered to accompany them; and, perhaps, one of His Highness's own Doctors, whose duty it will be to show them the lions, and the *alme*, at every village, all the way up; taking with him an ample supply of medicines, adapted to the peculiar diseases of such deadly climates.

Gliddon's remarks upon what the scientific gentlemen will see and do in Khartoum are even more sarcastic than the above passage! [Gliddon, George Robins, *An Appeal to the Antiquaries of Europe on the Destruction of the Monuments of Egypt* (1849), p.34.]

What the Traveller Needs (2): Lady Hester's Budget

Lady Hester Stanhope (1776–1839) explains to Crauford Bruce, father of her lover, Michael Bruce, how they would spend the one thousand pounds drawn on their way to Cairo and now to be used for the onward journey to Syria.

An attendant servant each, one interpreter each & one man to take charge of the baggage, one cook, two grooms, & two ferages or tent men. These men's wages for four months will be £72, the Mamelukes either for 4 or 8 months £150, the food for all these people about £300, the keep of 5 horses, one a piece, one for an Interpreter & one for each Mameluke, £32, price of 3 horses good enough to travel £60, the Mamelukes to find their own. Hire of horses and camels £50, sundries £100, a guard of 20 or 30 Soldiers when occasion requires, & Turkish officers to pay £100, passage to Jaffa, £30, £20 to Captain and crew (£50). This is as accurate a calculation as I can make. I may not have put enough for sundries (for accident & presents) for cloth & pistols are very dear & and that will depend upon how many Arab Chiefs we meet with. Dated 'On board my boat upon the Nile, May the 2d 1812.'

[From *The Nun of Lebanon: The Love Affair of Lady Hester Stanhope and Michael Bruce; letters*, edited by Ian Bruce (London, 1951).]

A Long Way to Sinai

Staying at the Convent of St Catherine at Sinai, E.H. Palmer (1840–1882) observed the Russian pilgrims with sympathy:

I was present on several occasions when Russian pilgrims attended the convent church. After the levity and indolence of the monks, it was quite refreshing to witness the devotion of these poor, unkempt, anxious serfs. They gaze with rapturous veneration upon all around them, kiss the pictures and the priests, and rap their heads upon the marble floor with wild and resonant enthusiasm.

With many of them this pilgrimage is the realisation of a long life's dream, and to accomplish it they undergo unheard-of toils and privations. Aided by small contributions from a public fund, they set off, frequently from the remotest parts of Russia, and proceed on foot to Odessa, stopping for rest and food at the various convents which line the road. Thence long weary journeys by ships, rail and camels bring them to Sinai; and, after being trotted up and down the mountain, and taken round to all the sacred spots, they are sent back to Alexandria, to be again shipped to Jaffa, en route for Jerusalem. Arrived at the holy city, they proceed to wash off their sins by dipping, clothes and all, into the Jordan; and this is most instances their first wash since leaving the land of the Czar. [E.H. Palmer, *The Desert of the Exodus* (1871)]

The Ambassador's Household

When Sir Robert Liston (1742–1836), the new ambassador to Constantinople, arrived in a man-of-war off the Golden Horn in the summer of 1812, he wrote to his predecessor, Sir Stratford Canning:

It seems proper that I should mention to you the number of persons that compose or accompany the Embassy that you may judge how many of us you can accommodate in the Palace and have the goodness by the assistance of my old friend Mr Pisani¹ to whom I have written upon the subject or by any other means you may think proper to make some temporary arrangement for the rest. Besides Mrs Liston and myself there are Mr B Frere,² Secretary of Embassy, Sir Robert Wilson,³ Mr Turner,⁴ of the Secretary of State's Office, and Mr Elliot a very young man a godson and protege of my own whom I wish to breed as a Turkish secretary, Mr N. Rose who is travelling for his health, besides Captain Warren of the *Argo* who will naturally wish to spend some days in Constantinople and possibly carry with him part of his officers. I have two servants, Mrs Liston has two maids, Mr Frere a servant, Sir Robert Wilson one, besides five soldiers, Mr Rose one. There is one belonging to Mr Terrick Hamilton⁵ who has himself taken a different route.

[Foreign Office papers, FO 352/3, 13 June 1812]

Notes

1. Pisani was Dragoman to the Embassy, and known to Liston from his first stint as Ambassador to Constantinople, 1793–1796. His second appointment lasted from 1811–1821.
2. Bartholomew Frere (1778–1851), served at Constantinople as secretary and interim minister 1812, 1815–1817, 1820–1821.
3. Sir Robert Wilson (1777–1849), served in Egypt 1799–1801 and published *History of the British Expedition to Egypt* (1802). Fought in many other campaigns and ended his career as governor of Gibraltar.
4. William Turner (1792–1867), at Constantinople 1812–1816. He travelled in Greece, Egypt, etc, and published *Journals of a Tour in the Levant* in 1820. When he went to Cairo in

1815, he travelled up from Alexandria with Mr and Mrs Belzoni.

5. Terrick Hamilton (1781–1876), Scottish linguist and Orientalist, served in the East India Company before becoming secretary of the British embassy at Constantinople; translated the first four volumes of *Sirat Antarab*, narrative of the poet Antar. Here we come on a mystery. The Revd Anthony Hamilton married a Miss Terrick, and their eldest surviving son was the William Richard (1777–1859) who was secretary to Lord Elgin when he was ambassador in Constantinople, and supervised the transportation of the Elgin Marbles. It would seem more than likely that Terrick was William's younger brother. Terrick's details above come from Chambers' *Biographical Dictionary*, reprinted 1990. The *Dictionary of National Biography*, however, has no entry for this seemingly distinguished and scholarly man, and Burkes' *Peerage* says that William's elder brother, Terrick, died in infancy.

Does anyone have any further information?



QUERIES

Suez

A specific and rather unusual focus of study by Nikos Kokkinos has been the accounts of visitors to the town of Suez. He has published a couple of notes (not in English) but hopes to complete a substantial study one day. Meanwhile, does anyone know whether anybody else in the Association (or out of it) has a similar interest?

E-mail: <nikos@kokkinos.freemove.co.uk>;

Website: <http://www.centuries.co.uk>.

Homepage: <http://members.tripod.co.uk/kokkinos_nikos/index.html>.



Marco Zatterin asks about an artist called Powell, who seems to have travelled in Egypt in about 1810. There was more than one Powell, artist, around at that time; the only one in the *Dictionary of National Biography* working at the right date is John Powell (born c.1780), watercolour landscape painter and etcher of Old Masters — but there is no hint he was ever out of England. Other Powells of the right period are C.M., who exhibited seascapes and S., also a landscape painter. Does anyone have more certain information?



Cassandra Baldwin is currently a student at the London School of Economics and is helping a friend research the painter Spiridon Scarvelli and came across his name on the ASTENE web page. She is asking for suggestions as to where she should begin her research. Scarvelli is her friend's distant relative and they are both lost as to where to really begin. Any help that you can give her would be greatly appreciated. Please reply direct to Cassandra Baldwin <C.Baldwin@lse.ac.uk>.



Emma Roberts, in her *Asiatic Journal* (1840), II, 160, noted meeting a young Scotsman at Suez in October 1839, who proposed to travel to Aden by steamer, on his way to Abyssinia, 'trusting that a residence of some months in Egypt would enable him to pass as a Turk. He had no very precise object in view, but intended to make an attempt to explore the sources of the Nile.'

He was accompanied by two priests from Cairo who had promised him protection and assistance in their country. He dressed very beautifully, but talked of spending years in a wild and wandering career and then settling down quietly in his paternal halls to introduce as many of the Egyptian customs as would be tolerated in a Christian country. 'A short residence in Cairo,' observed Miss Roberts crisply, 'proves very captivating to many Englishmen.' He sounds far too naive to have survived the adventures he craved; does anyone know who he was and what happened to him?



Mr Chahine

An exhibition was held in Beirut in October last year, mounted by the Chahine Gallery and entitled 'Lebanon and Levantine Yesteryears, Engravings from the XVIIIth and XIXth Centuries'. It apparently consisted of images of 'Costumes, Professions, Music and Dance, Official Dignitaries, Traditions, Orientalist Travellers and People of the Levant', assembled by a Mr Chahine. Does anyone know anything about this collection and its collector?



Help appreciated!

Having heard about ASTENE from John Ruffle and Peta Rée, both of whom having presented talks to our group, I wonder if any of your members could shed light on a little travel-cum-history book I picked up in Oxfam the other day? Its spine claims it to be *Early Egyptian History* by a 'Miss Keary'. Its title page leaf expands: *Early Egyptian History for the young, with descriptions of the tombs and monuments by the author of 'Sidney Grey' etc and her sister*. The publisher is Macmillan and the date 1861. Its fly leaf has the inscription 'Miss Keary, Orwell Lodge, Grafton Road, Torquay', presumably a relative as the handwriting looks early twentieth century. Above, however, is the scratchy nineteenth-century inscription, 'Lucy (something faded)-burne (possibly) Keary — the author'. The 430-odd pages are a charming mixture of travel narrative and interspersed tales from Herodotus, Diodorus etc., in the form of literary letters addressed, generally, 'My dear boys' and signed 'Aunt A'. I wonder if the authoress might be Annie Keary? My Cassells' biographical dictionary, dated 1893, gives a single-line entry for an Annie Keary as a novelist, who died in 1879. I would be very grateful if anyone could tell me more about 'Miss Keary' as I'm planning to include extracts in this month's *Seshen*, our group's journal.

Jo Hirons, Secretary North Yorks AEG,
<jo@seshen.fsnet.co.uk>

ANSWERS

Thomas Graves

Concerning Charles Fellows, I am sure that Jennifer Speake (*ASTENE Bulletin*, 10 (October 2000), 18) is correct when she states that Thomas Graves wanted only to return to his survey work, interrupted as it was by Fellows' demands that he and his crew should labour at Xanthus, removing and packing a large number of sculptures. The *Beacon* sailed from Xanthus on 3 March 1842, leaving the crated marbles behind. On its arrival in Malta on 14 March, Admiral Sir Edward Owen directly asked Graves whether he wanted to be involved further with the Xanthus material or to return to Francis Beaufort's Eastern Mediterranean Survey, and he chose the latter. Fellows continued on to England, arriving early in May 1842, not to return to Xanthus until eighteen months later. The *Medea* was sent from Malta, reaching Xanthus on 13 May 1842, and together with the *Monarch*, loaded most of the crates; they left in June.¹

Fellows² mentions the unhealthy state of the country in the summer months, and the effects of fever on the crews of the *Medea* and *Monarch* are described by E. Slatter.³ In the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities of the British Museum are the Notebooks of the antiquary Charles Roach Smith (1807-1980). Pasted into Notes 1842-1851, etc., p. 73, is a newspaper cutting, from *Il Mediterraneo* (a Maltese gazette) of 25 January 1843, which throws further light on the infected sailors:

Mr Editor

Athenaeum contains a most elaborated 'classical' account of the arrival of the Xanthus Marbles at the British Museum. After describing largely, upon the beauties of the sculptures, etc. it speaks of the 'drapery lying in "plaits" rather than "folds", clinging to the body, "like wet cloths" — the "eyes" as having a "vacant stare" the "face" without "expression" — the "hair" being in "rolls like macaroni"!!' with a great deal of other nonsense, written most probably by Mr. Fellowes (sic), or one of his friends, to bring his so much vaunted zeal before the public. Had Mr. Fellowes and his friends visited H.M. ships *Monarch* and *Medea*, in June 1842, they would have seen a *fac simile* of these old statues, in the 'wet clothes of 80 men, which did in reality cling to their bodies, though not in graceful festoons'; the effect of that violent fever, they contracted in removing these 'precious' valueless blocks of marble; they would have seen too, the 'vacant stare' spoken of, actually existing on the 'faces' of those poor fellows, 'when in a state of delirium'. Many officers and men of those vessels have died from the effects of that fever, and many, very many, are still labouring under its baneful influence, and had it not been for the clear sighted judgment of Captain Chambers of the *Monarch*, the results would have been more disastrous than the Niger expedition.

Mr. Fellowes was not, as the Athenaeum asserts, at 'Xanthus', when the marbles were removed, he was there when they were packed, some months previous, by the officers and crew of H.M.S. *Beacon*, and when the place was quite healthy; Mr. Fellowes had too great a knowledge of the locality of 'Xanthus', and too much regard for his own *corpus* to venture there, when the land is in a state of irrigation, for the natives at that period, all leave the plains, and go to the mountains to escape from the 'Malaria', arising from 'miasmatic' matter, exhaled by a burning sun, from these pestilential marshes. If Mr. Fellowes wishes to do an act of justice and humanity, let him petition the Trustees of the British Museum, to make some allowances to the orphans and widows of those men, whose lives were sacrificed to procure these marbles, I trust, on the score of humanity, he will.

I am, Mr. Editor,
Sincerely yours,

A Mutilated Statue

All in all I am very much inclined to believe that the person to whom Burgon wrote in 1839 was Charles Fellows, who, having seen the sculptures lying at Xanthus in 1838, may have approached Burgon for advice on their removal.

David Bailey

Notes

1. Charles Fellows, *The Xanthian Marbles: their acquisition, and transmission to England* (London: 1843), 41-43.
2. *Ibid.*, 42.
3. *Xanthus, Travels of Discovery in Turkey* (London: 1994), 233-4.

As a postscript to the exchanges in *Bulletins* 9 and 10 about Captain Graves and the antiquities of Xanthus, the Getty Research Library holds a collection of the correspondence of Sir Charles Fellows (1799-1860) which includes descriptions of his archaeological expeditions to Lycia and in particular to Xanthus. Letters, notes and inventories, many written from Asia Minor, detail the efforts to gain permission to remove artefacts to England, and list workmen, tools and the artefacts themselves. After 1842 there are letters recording Fellows' battle with the Trustees of the British Museum over how the objects were to be displayed; Fellows favoured an 'archeological' approach, while the sculptor Sir Richard Westmacott presumably wished to make a more artistic arrangement.

Correspondents include Josiah Forshall (1795-1863), Secretary of the Trustees, Edward Hawkins (1780-1867), Keeper of Antiquities at the Museum (either may have been Burgon's correspondent), Thomas Graves, William Martin Leake, Samuel Birch, William Henry Fox Talbot and several others. The Getty purchased the collection at

Christies on 27 November 1996. A microfilmed copy is in the British Museum.

Peta Rée

J.B.S. Morrith & the Epidavros theatre

The French artist whom Morrith met can only have been J.B. Hilaire or Louis Fauvel, both of whom worked for Choiseul-Gouffier. But I think, if he had 'some acquaintance with antiquities', it must have been the notorious Fauvel. I have sat through a number of plays at the theatre of Epidavros (please, *not* the Roman spelling!), without any noticeable damage to my derriere or that of the person in front — and far more comfortably than in the seats of the pre-lottery Royal Opera House. The stepped seats are deep enough to take my legs, and at five foot eleven I'm bigger than most Ancient Greeks.

The theatre had not been excavated when Morrith was there, and although the seats were visible, they seemed a lot shallower than they do now, possibly because they were still partly covered in earth — see Gell's drawing in his 1810 Itinerary of Greece.

Charles Plowiez

Pascale Linant de Bellefonds also writes, 'The French artist whom Morrith became acquainted with in Athens in 1795 (see queries, *ASTENE Bulletin* 10, p. 16) is probably Fauvel, who was the host of Chateaubriand in Athens in 1806. Forbin met him in Athens in 1817 and bought for the Louvre a great part of his collection of antiquities.' If you want additional information, get in touch with Pascale. Nikos Kokkinos also confirms that the French artist in Athens is almost certainly Louis-François-Sébastien Fauvel and informs us that a biography of Fauvel can be found in *RA* 30 (1897), 41-66 & *RA*, 31 (1897), 185-223.



RESEARCH RESOURCES

National Trust

The two great Egyptian travellers connected with National Trust properties are William Bankes of Kingston Lacy and Thomas Legh of Lyme. The Bankes papers contain a great mass of valuable material relating to Bankes' Egyptian expeditions. Sadly no personal papers survive relating to Thomas Legh, except Lewis Wyatt's drawings and one or two snippets. These are in the Manchester Record Office. Lyme does have Thomas Legh's account of his travels, *Narrative of a Journey in Egypt and the Country beyond the Cataracts; map and facsimile of Thebaic MSS*, published in London in 1816. They also have a German edition, published in Weimar in 1816 in the library at Lyme. Contact Nick Ralls at Lyme to make arrangements to consult these books. There may also possibly be a folder at Lyme showing Legh's graffiti at the various sites he visited on his travels.

One of the few other National Trust houses which has Egyptian connections is Castle Coole in Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland. This was home to the first Earl of

Belmore who travelled extensively in Egypt and formed an important collection of antiquities. There are also a number of Egyptian curiosities at Penrhyn Castle, a statuette and a group of papyri, so members of the Douglas-Pennant family seem to have been there too. Bradley Manor, Somerset, was restored by Cecil Frith, who was Inspector of the Egyptian Antiquities service in the early 1900s, and Curator of the Cairo Museum. There are a series of handsome watercolours of Egyptian scenes in the house and one small bronze statuette (all owned by present members of the Woolner family, not the National Trust), but Tim Knox does not know what papers survive and he will explore further.

Finally, at The Vyne in Hampshire there was once a statue of Rameses IV, acquired in mysterious circumstances before 1745. Tim Knox has written a paper on the statue and its possible origins for a recent conference run by the National Trust at the house, which he is going to pass on *ASTENE*, for our information. Our thanks to Tim Knox, the Architectural Historian for the National Trust, for his interest.

[Sir Gardner Wilkinson was a relative of the Harpur Crewe of Calke Abbey and the room he used as a study, complete with books, is still to be seen.

Pete Rée]



Somerset and Juliana Earl and Countess of Belmore Journey to Egypt

Patricia Usick has sent us an e-mail from "peter.marson3" <peter.marson3@eggconnect.net>, the Belmore family archivist. He has sent a draft list of correspondence and other material at Castle Coole relating to the second Earl's journey with his family in company with a Dr Richardson and others to Egypt and Syria, see below. The second Earl fitted out *The Ospray* for the journey. Some of you may already know about this enterprise. The exchange of letters with Lady Hester Stanhope is interesting.

The following list is a draft only as Lord Belmore has recently had the correspondence 'rescued' from a Victorian binding and properly archived. Peter Marson has to check the list against the originals at Castle Coole, but it gives us a good indication of what there is. The Belmore collection of Egyptian antiquities is in the British Museum. Peter Marson has written a small book (£3) about the Belmore family which describes the Earl's journey and he has other accounts of it so please contact him if you would like to purchase a copy.

Schedule of Correspondence and Documents

No.	Date/Description	Place	Parties
1	18 April 1818	Cairo	Belzoni-Belmore
3	nd: cover only	Jerusalem or Sida	Belmore
5/5a	nd: plan and legend	pyramid at Geza	Belzoni?
6/6a/7/8	20 May 1818	Thebes	Belzoni-Belmore
9	nd: sketches	?	Belzoni?
10	nd: sketch of boat	?	Belzoni?
11-13	27 October 1818	Beban Ell Malook	Belzoni-Belmore
14-16a	nd	Hotel de Rivoli	Belzoni?
17-18a	nd	?	Belzoni-Sir C. Stuart
19/22a	11 October 1818	Cairo	Henry Salt-Belmore
23-25	28 November 1820	Cairo	Henry Salt-Belmore
27-30	8 March 1818	Tiberias	Mangles and Irby - Belmore
31-32	26 March 1812	Damascus	Sheikh Ibrahim-John Barker
34-36	extract from Journal 1813	Santa Maura?	Dr Bronstead
37-39a	28 March 1818	Aleppo	John Barker -Belmore
40-42	8 April 1812	Aleppo	?= John Barker
44/45	passport nd?	Eden Mt Lebanon	Shaik Latouf-Belmore
46-47a	9 December 1818	Malta	Calvert-Belmore
48-50	5 June 1819	Damascus	Dr Chaboceau-his son
53/53a	22 August 1817	Osprey	Belmore-Lady Stanhope
55-58a	Saturday 12 O'Clock	from my tent	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
59-65a	25 August (1817)	Mt Lebanon	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
66/67	Wednesday I believe ...	Garden of the Aga	Belmore-Lady Stanhope
68-69	23 August 1817	Osprey inside Bay	Belmore-Lady Stanhope
72/73/74	missed? 1 September	Osprey Saida	Belmore-Lady Stanhope
75-80	25 September 1817	Caste of Gibba	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
81-83	8 December 1817	The Convent of ?Elia	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
84-85a missing first page perhaps fits in to 81-83?	9 December 1817	The Convent	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
87-88	11 April 1818	Jaffa	Belmore-Lady Stanhope, with a note undated of Lady S and Belmore appended
90-91a	25 May 1818	?	Lady Stanhope-Belmore
93-102a	Notebook: various dates throughout journey		Belmore
97 missing			
no number	12 March 1819	Naples	official order permitting Belmore to leave ?Naples
no number	1999 <i>Graffito Graffiti</i> of the various carvings and marks made by the Belmore family and others during their journey along the Nile		
	Diary, contracts, laissez-passers and documents relating to the 4 th Earl's visit to Egypt in 1859		

References

- Irby, C.L. and J. Mangles, Captains, *Travels in Egypt, Nubia and Syria* f/o map inscribed by the authors (London: privately printed, 1823); a ms version in the hand of the authors inscribed 'Lord Belmore with Capt Mangle's best compliments'.
- Richardson MD, Robert, *Travels along the Mediterranean (in company with the Earl of Belmore)*, 2 vols (London, 1822).

Church Missionary Society Archive, Special Collections, University of Birmingham Library

Opening hours: Monday-Friday, 9.00–17.00, all year, excepting one week, usually in late July. This archive is obviously of interest to anyone specifically concerned with missionaries, but also, because of individual missionaries' interaction with native populations and Europeans, including Consuls, can produce some surprising bits of information. In their correspondence, some missionaries were very frank in their comments (the most acerbic often concerning their fellow missionaries!).

The Church Missionary Society was founded in 1799 as an independent voluntary society within the Church of England, with the aim of sending missionaries to Africa and 'other parts of the heathen world'. The archives of interest to us are those of the Mediterranean Mission.

The Society's work in the countries bordering the Mediterranean extended to Malta, Greece, Turkey, Asia Minor, Egypt, Palestine and Abyssinia. The mission in Malta lasted from 1815–1843; in the Greek Islands, 1830–1877; in Turkey, 1819–1821 and 1858–1877; in Asia Minor (Smyrna) 1830–1877; in Egypt, 1826–1861 (in 1882 revived as a separate mission in the Africa Group of missions); in Abyssinia, 1830–1842.

The archive includes, among much else, the Register of Missionaries and Native Clergy 1804–1904, containing short biographies of both clerical and lay missionaries; Original Papers, which are mss. letters and reports from individual missionaries — and thankfully for the researcher, the Mediterranean missionaries, though mainly Swiss and German by birth, were fluent and legible writers in English; the Mission Books, comprising copies of letters between missionaries and the 'head offices' in Malta and London.

To gain access to the archive, it is necessary to write in advance, stating your area of interest, and to provide a formal letter of introduction from an appropriate person (Supervisor, Head of Academic Department, etc.). This can be brought with you at the time of your visit.

The University of Birmingham Information Services issues a leaflet for users of the Special Collections; this is well worth requesting when you write, for it gives much useful information, from opening hours, admission procedures, using the archives, catalogues, reprographic services, to how to get there, where to stay nearby, and even where to get something to eat on campus, when your strength fails you.

Special Collections, Main Library, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT ; Tel: 0121 414 5838; Fax: 0121 471 4691; E-mail: <special-collections@bham.ac.uk>

Another set of archives in these Special Collections are letters to Harriet Martineau from a wide range of

correspondents, including: 1847–1848 Documents and correspondence related to her book, *Eastern Life*; 1860 Letters from Emily Beaufort from Jerusalem, Egypt and Syria, about her travels with Rosamund E Beaufort, and about Consul and Mrs Finn in Jerusalem. She also discusses her plans for her book *Egyptian Sepulchres and Syrian Shrines* (pub.1861); 1862 Correspondence with Consul and Mrs Finn in Jerusalem. *Peta Réé*



A Bibliography of History Writing

Even librarians do not always seem to be familiar with the Royal Historical Society's bibliography on CD-Rom: *The History of Britain, Ireland and British Overseas* (Oxford University Press, 1998) including publications down to 1992. It is based upon the Society's annual bibliography, published since 1976 (Harvester Press in UK and America; now Oxford University Press).

The 1976 preface is warmly frank: published for 'the urgent needs of scholars', coverage and refinements are subordinated to speed of production. The editor welcomed additions and corrections to include in later volumes. The 1999 volume is twice as long and dense - but still has basically the same preface.

The Contents are divided into periods (eg. England 450-1066) with each period divided by topic (e.g. population and environment, social structure, technology, religion, military, foreign affairs, etc). Possibly of most interest to ASTENE members are the Empire to 1783 and Empire and Commonwealth post 1783, which are arranged under the same subheads. The 158-page, closely typed indices cover journals consulted, authors, personal names, places and subjects.

There are few books I enjoy more than a good bibliography — so I dived in. For exemplars, I extracted: *Personal Names*: Sir Moses Montefiore: Cecil Bloom's 'Samuel Montagu's and Sir Moses Montefiori's (sic) visits to Palestine in 1875, *Journal of Israeli History*, 17.3 (1996), 263–28/.

Places: Egypt had seven entries; Greece, six; Syria, two. Under Egypt, the entries are 'British amphibious warfare 1793–1815'; Colonel P.A. Clayton's biography; the British in the Middle East 1918–1939, and four political titles.

Subjects: 'Travel', surprisingly, had only three under 'travel overseas', but 'travel literature' had 25. The bibliography is so simply arranged that it took only minutes to find: Brennan's *Travel Diary of Robert Bargrave: Levant merchant* (1647–1656); Lack and Maberley's *The Flora Graeca: Sibthorp, Bauer and Hawkins in the Levant*; Gibson's *How the Codex was found - Mrs Lewis's journals in Sinai*. A glance back to the bibliography of 1975 produced Richardson's 'Sir Richard and Lady Burton: Victorian travellers', in *History Today*; Adelson's *Mark Sykes: portrait of an amateur*, and Schein's *Women's Jerusalem pilgrimages in the Middle Ages*. I had pushed aside the distractions of the Great Auk in the New World, English rowers on the Mosel, and travel writers in Argentina.

The CD-Rom is, of course, a marvel (turning up no less than eight references on Robert and Henrietta Liston for a *New Dictionary of National Biography* article), but the serendipity of browsing through the annual bibliography volumes is a special - and useful - pleasure. In 1999 it included 2229 books and 4850 articles by 6493 authors searched from 700 journals. Make sure your next article or book gets in! Send additions or corrections to: The Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, University of London, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU or to <rhsbib@ihinfo.ac.uk> *Deborah Manley*

The Getty Research Library, 1200 Getty Centre Drive, Suite 1100, Los Angeles, California 90049-1688, U.S.A.

I approached my few hours at the Getty Research Library with double trepidation — first, that I would not be able to find anything in the indexes because of my inability to use a computer, and second, that there would be little or nothing to find. On the first score, the staff were extremely kind and patient as I, fumbling, clutched the 'mouse', both in dealing with an incompetent technophobe ('try holding it with both hands' and 'there is nothing you can do which will actually break the computer'), and in suggesting ways forward. As for the second — the only adequate response is WOW!

I limited my search under two heads, 'Egypt' and 'Orient', and both only in 'Special Collections'. Here are a few samples of what I found— a mere taste of what is there, and I must stress I did not actually look at any material, only at the indexes.

1. Single letters and collections of letters
 - a. Gaston Maspero, dated 1884–1887.
 - b. Richard Lepsius, one, dated 23.9.1837, from Rome.
 - c. GB Belzoni, four, dated 1820–1921, to his Italian publisher, Galignani.
 - d. William Holman Hunt, personal and family papers c.1833–1930. Some letters contain information on his travels in the East, and include comments in 1860 on popular contemporary attitudes towards art and orientalism.
2. Pictorial works, not photographic
 - a. H. Pilleau of the 16th Lancers, 12 plates of sketches in Egypt, published London 1845.
 - b. John Stuart-Wortley, Baron Wharnecliffe (1801–1855), sketches taken in Egypt and the Holy Land, 1855, 17 leaves of plates published for private circulation, 1855.
 - c. Professor Sattler's Panoramas — an extensive collection of landscapes and sea views, made during many years of travel in Europe, Greece, Turkey, Asia Minor, Syria, the Holy Land, Egypt, Nubia and Arabia, 8 pages, 23 cm., exhibited in Boston, Massachusetts in 1842.
 - d. A miniature theatre or peepshow, in the form of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, London, made c.1859, 16 hand-coloured lithographs depicting Albert Smith's journey to Egypt and China. Five show: the deck of the Peninsula and Orient steamer; Shepherds Hotel; a Cairo street; sphinx and pyramids; the Dessert (sic) Railway. The rest are of China.
3. Miscellaneous
 - a. Kate Kraft, The nilometer and the sacred soil: a diary of a

tour through Egypt, Palestine and Syria, published New York 1869.

b. Paul Fleury, travel albums of his trips. Albums 3 and 4 deal with Lower and Upper Egypt — no date, nor indication whether photographs or artworks.

c. *Memoirs relative to Egypt, written in that country during the campaigns of General Bonaparte in the years 1798 and 1799, by the learned and scientific men who accompanied the French expedition* (London, 1800), 2 Finding maps.

d. Comte de Forbin, *Portefeuille du comte de Forbin, directeur général des musées de France, contenant ses tableaux, dessins et esquisses les plus remarquables, avec une texte rédigé par M. le comte de Marcellus* (Paris. 1843). Lithographs after Forbin by various lithographic artists.

4. Photographic material
 - a. Gary Edwards collection of Greece 1839–1859, 878 photos, 108 slides.
 - b. Mid East and African portraits and views by Felix Bonfils and his family, and by Zangaki. The Bonfils family had a photographic studio in Beirut 1867–1918.
 - c. Francis Frith's albums on Upper and Lower Egypt and Ethiopia, mostly signed and dated on the negative.
 - d. Un-authored cities and sites, 1854–1880, 1855–c.1939.
 - e. Postcard collection 1870–1979.

To quote from the brochure provided by the Getty Research Library, 'Special Collections houses rare and unique materials, supported by the secondary resources of the library, that enable scholars and other advanced researchers to conduct primary research in all fields relevant to the visual arts... (it) contains rare books and archival materials as well as rare photographs, prints and drawings. Included are artists' journals and sketchbooks, albums, architectural drawings, art and architectural treatises, early guidebooks, prints, and drawings.

In keeping with the Research Library's goals of encouraging scrutiny of the traditional practices, institutions, and philosophies of art history, efforts have been made to collect the libraries and papers of notable art historians and critics. In addition, the collections include archives of artists, photographers, designers, collectors, dealers, and public institutions...Specialised photographic resources focus on festivals, travel, international expositions, colonialism, architecture, and urban development.'

Access

Online catalogue records for all the Special Collections are available on IRIS, which may be accessed via the Research Institute's Website at: <<http://www.getty.edu/gri>> (click on Research Library).

Copies of The Inventory of Manuscripts, Archives, Prints & Drawings; Rare Photographs; & Photo Study Collections are available in the Library's Reading Rooms, as are a small group of subject guides, collection box lists, inventories and finding aids. Special Collections is open for use by researchers needing to access primary and rare materials, and may be consulted in the Special Collections Reading Room, Monday through Saturday, 11–1 and 2–6. Appointments are strongly encouraged.

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Peta Rée

Jean-François Champollion

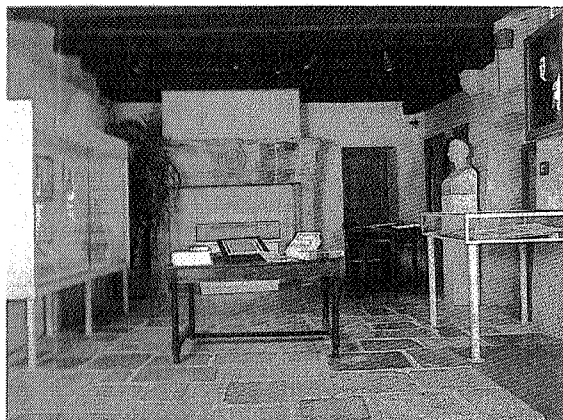
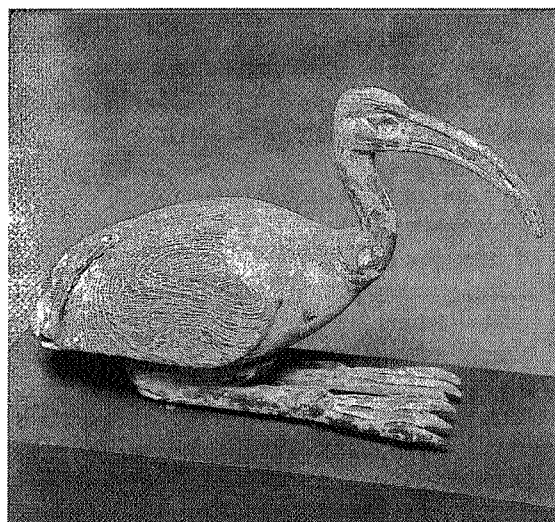


Musée Champollion, Figeac, Rue des Frères Champollion, 46100 Figeac, France. Tel: 05 65 50 31 08.

Jean-François Champollion was born in Figeac in 1790, where his father owned the town's first bookshop. The Museum is in the family home. His expedition to Egypt figures as one of the happiest and richest periods of his life. The Museum contains documents, displays of objects carrying hieroglyphs, a mummy, two sarcophagi and funerary objects, as well as Coptic material. There is an immense replica of the Rosetta stone in the Place des écritures and in the nearby terraced garden grow the same species of papyri from which the Egyptians first made paper.

The Museum is open daily July-August 10-12.00, 14.30-18.30; March-June, September, October: daily except Mondays 10-12.00, 14.30-18.30; November - February daily, except Mondays, 14.00-18.00. Closed 1 January, 1 May, 25 December. Group visits by arrangement.

The Association des Amies du musée Champollion has a programme of meetings that recently included 'Le Trésor de Douch' by Christian Braun and 'Les Voyageurs littéraires des écrivains français au XIX^e siècle en Orient' by Jacques Ravaud



BOOKS

Americans and the Levant

Review of *American Literature and Orientalism*, Marwan M. Obeidat (Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 1998).

'The books, the books not all have told'

Herman Melville's verse line from *Clavel: A Poem and Pilgrimage in the Holy Land*, privileges the lived encounter with the Orient over the second-hand experience provided by books. Marwan Obeidat's account of American encounters with the Orient suggests that both came up with more or less the same product. Of the Americans who travelled to the Levant in the nineteenth century, he writes: 'the fact that they had no actual knowledge both of the people they encountered and [...] the region they traveled in made it even easier for them to form stereotypes and more or less preconceived images of the extrinsic nature of the Muslim Orient.' Although he refers in passing to Said, Obeidat's study is structured by no more strident a theoretical framework than the observations made concerning the western image of the Muslim Orient by scholars like Richard Southern, Norman Daniel, and Dorothy Metlitzki Finkelstein, aided by his own knowledge of Islam.

What Obeidat's painstaking articulation of his sources tells us, unsurprisingly, is that nineteenth-century American Orientalism was largely mediated by British Orientalism: by the Romantics Byron, Southey and Moore, the scholars Gibbon and Ockley, the controversialist Carlyle, with the 'Arabian Nights' thrown in for good measure. The first chapter follows a similar course to Maxime Rodinson's article 'The Western Image and Western Studies of Islam,' in Oxford University Press's *The Legacy of Islam*. We are reminded again of how the polemicists of the Christian Middle Ages calumniated and produced 'a reductionist picture of Islam and its Prophet, one of a totally incoherent nature.' By the eighteenth century, with the appearance of Galland's *Arabian Nights*, the Muslim world was 'no longer regarded as [...] a distant threatening foe, rather it was picturesque, something to delight a receptive audience.'

The formative American encounter with the Muslim world came from the Barbary wars, and Obeidat quotes from several examples of the literature of the 1840s, Richard Penn Smith's play *The Bombardment of Algiers* and Joseph Stevens Jones' *The Usurper: or, Americans in Tripoli*. Both portray the Day of Algiers as a tyrannical, womanising barbarian, and could be considered as models for a literature that 'continue[s] and reiterate[s] the idea of a Muslim Barbary Orient up to our own day.' (Vide Mailer's *The Barbary Shore* [1951] and Violet Winspear's *The Sheik's Captive* [1979]).

When researching the early-twentieth-century Arab-American traveller Ameen Rihani, I was interested to read how his initial enthusiasm for the Arabs was fuelled

in part by Washington Irving's *Alhambra*. Obeidat's chapter on the American traveller and diplomat to Spain characterises his influential writings, which also included the *Chronicle of the Conquest of Granada* (1829) and *Mahomet and His Successors* (1849–1850) as 'fictionalized history with little alloy of truth and much romance.' But one can see what might have attracted the Arab emigrant in this description:

We turned a promontory of the arid mountains of Elvira, and Granada, with its towers, its Alhambra, and its snowy mountains, burst upon our sight. The evening sun shone gloriously upon its red towers as we approached it, and gave a mellow tone to the rich scenery of the vega. It was like the magic glow which poetry and romance have shed over this enchanting place.

If Irving perpetuated many of the western stereotypes of Islam — notably its 'sensual paradise' and sensual Moors — Emerson was attracted by the mystical poetry and, as he believed, the intellectual freedom of the Persian Sufi poets. He built 'numerous quotations from the Qur'an and other Islamic literature' into his personal Oriental mythology. Emerson saw the Orient 'not as a place — but a cultural idea', and much as it solaced and contributed to his transcendentalism, his fascination for the Muslim Orient embodied 'a mixture of condescension and admiration.' He wrote: 'if it comes back to the question of final superiority it is too plain that there is no question that the star of empires rolls West.'

Perhaps Obeidat's most original chapter is his discussion of American travel writing ('An Observant Eye on the Muslim Orient: American Travelers in the Levant'). 'Their eyes were fixed on the Holy Land, led partly by love of adventure, but chiefly by a pious curiosity, by an ineradicable desire to know more about the land that witnessed the birth of Jesus Christ.' Visits to the holy places associated with the birth and death of Jesus consistently resulted in disillusionment and disdain for the sectaries who controlled them. As for the Muslim Orient, 'what [the travellers] saw was a preconceived picture which had long persisted in their imagination. In their accounts, the emphasis was on the romance and glamour of the East, but it was also on the wretchedness of the people they came to see.' Thus Nathaniel Parker Willis in *Pencilings by the Way* (1836):

The women of Constantinople, I am told, almost live on confectionery. They eat incredible quantities. The Sultan's eight hundred wives and women employ five hundred cooks, and consume *two thousand five hundred pounds of sugar daily!* It is probably the most expensive item of the Seraglio kitchen.

And John Lloyd Stephens (*Incidents of Travel in Egypt, Arabia Petraea, and the Holy Land* [1837]):

I had still clung to the primitive simplicity and purity of the

children of the desert, their temperance and abstinence, their contented poverty and contempt for luxuries as approaching the true nobility of man's nature, and sustaining the poetry of the 'land of the East.' But my last dream was broken; and I never saw among the wanderers of the desert any traits of character or any habits which did not make me prize and value more the privileges of civilization.

Marwan Obeidat's study is readable and informative and illuminates an area of western contact with the Muslim Orient that would certainly interest many ASTENE members.

Geoffrey Nash



Katie Hickman, *Daughters of Britannia, The Lives and Times of Diplomatic Wives* (London: HarperCollins, 1999; Paperback Flamingo 2000) ISBN 0-00-638780-2 £7.99.

This is a perfect holiday book for ASTENE members. An excellent read, it affords vivid background and a very useful perspective. The diplomatic wives whose lives and journals Katie Hickman (herself a diplomatic daughter) highlights were and are travellers in their own right but also they are background figures in the journeys of many others who visited embassies and made use of consular facilities. The earliest wife featured is Lady Winchilsea whose husband went as ambassador to the Porte in 1661. Amid much lavish detail, she is noted by a single reference in her husband's secretary's account. Others provide their own accounts, among them our old friend Isabel Burton, and from these Katie Hickman has put together a structured account of their activities. Much is more recent than our usual fields of study but this serves to point out how little things change. Some of you will find passages that are particularly nostalgic, evoking moments and events of our own varied past. When the book first appeared, delightful extracts were featured on Radio 4 but the whole should be savoured in detail.

Lisa French



Travellers to the Lebanon, National Museum News, November 2000

National Museum News is the twice yearly journal of the Lebanese British Friends of the National Museum, Beirut. It is usually devoted to articles on a archeology and antiquity, but, in November, the *News* turned attention to its wider remit of 'history' – and particularly to travellers in the Lebanon. (See 'News' for further information.)

There are nine articles in this beautifully produced issue, presented chronologically, in French or in English, depending on authorship. Unsurprisingly, a number of articles are by ASTENE members. Régine Goutalier wrote about Le Chevalier d'Arvieux (1658); Malcolm Wagstaff, ASTENE's chairman, wrote about the journey through Lebanon of John Squire, William Martin Leake and William Richard Hamilton in 1802; Claude Doume-Sahel wrote under the enticing title 'Rencountre à Sidon avec Lady Hester Stanhope, le comte de Marcellus et la

Venus de Milo'; Nadim Shehadi wrote about the many-faceted French man of science and medicine, photographer, diplomat and businessman, Charles Gaillardot, in Lebanon between 1839 and 1840. He was in Lebanon during the same period as the Scottish painter, David Roberts, as recounted by Briony Llewellyn. Mary Lovell, Burton's biographer, wrote about the Burtons' stay in Syria and Lebanon between 1869 and 1870.

Other articles (by others who have not yet joined ASTENE) looked at archaeology and photography 1840–1918, the 1860 scientific expedition to the cedars, Ernest Renan (founder of Phoenician archaeology) and the scholar-novelist, Maurice Barres.

Single copies of this issue of the *News* are available for £9 (post free) from the Lebanese British Friends of the National Museum, at 11 Canning Place, London W8 5AD. Membership of the Friends is £18 (or £8 student's membership rate).



Scott Wilcox, *Edward Lear and the Art of Travel. Catalogue of an exhibition at the Yale Center for British Art, 20 September 2000–14 January 2001*. With contributions by Eva Bowerman, Clay Dean, Morna O'Neill, Stephen Velle and Emily Weeks (New Haven, Conn.: Center for British Art, 2000). ISBN 0-930606-92-2. 192 pp, 25 colour and 180 b/w illustrations, \$24.95 (pb).

An exhibition at the Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, 20 September 2000–14 January 2001, entitled *Edward Lear and the Art of Travel* and its accompanying catalogue are of particular interest to ASTENE. Imagine yourself in the Second World War in the uniform of a U.S. army officer walking down Museum Street in Bloomsbury when your eye is caught by some watercolour sketches in the window of the print seller F.R. Meatyrd (now disappeared). In a flash you have acquired a life-long passion. It could happen to any of us 'Asteneans'. And it is what happened to the real officer, Donald Gallup, later a distinguished scholar of twentieth-century English literature, who alighted on a remarkable cache of drawings by an artist better known as the author of 'The Owl and the Pussy Cat' – Edward Lear.

Gallup already knew of Lear as an artist, thanks to Angus Davidson's 1939 biography, and over the next few years he built up a collection of over 350 watercolours and drawings, nine oils and twenty-eight prints. In 1997 he gave his Lear collection to the Yale Center for British Art which already had several of Lear's works as well as many by other notable travelling artists. The aim of the exhibition was both to display the Lear collection and to place it within several specific contexts: watercolour technique, lithography, nineteenth-century coffee-table books, even photography, all concerned with the art of travel.

Lear was not only everyone's favourite nonsense writer (Ruskin in 1883 noted rather rudely in the margin of a letter from Lear: 'Is this the nonsense man?'); he was

also a marvellous letter writer quoted repeatedly in the catalogue. What joy, what vividness leap out at one from the quantities he wrote to friends and patrons — at least, mostly joy: there's also the melancholy as, for instance, when he describes working at a large oil canvas — 'sitting motionless like a petrified gorilla as to my body and limbs hour after hour, peck, peck, pecking at billions of little dots and lines.' Lear was schooled in oil painting by a rather grudging Holman Hunt, and not very successfully. Even when of wild Indian terrain — Kanchenjunga for instance, — or craggy Greece; they appear stultified, almost canvas bound, though rather better, I think, in the little reproductions in Wilcox's catalogue.

But what a wonderful airy world Lear created in his pen and wash sketches. From ASTENE's point of view the prime interest of the display and the catalogue are over sixty watercolours from his Nile tour of 1867. Lear first went to the Near East in 1849 ('the contemplation of Egypt must fill the mind — the Artistic mind I mean — with great food for the rumination of long years'), when he visited Cairo ('so remarkable I cannot describe it') and Suez ('a most stupid place') and did not fall in love with camels (unlike his contemporary Elijah Walton, also represented in the exhibition): they 'seem the most odious beasts except when they are moving.' He visited Palestine in 1858 and in 1867 voyaged up the Nile as far as the Second Cataract, revelling particularly in Nubia's 'sad, stern, uncompromising landscape — dark ashy purple lines of hills [...] and ever and anon astonishing ruins of oldest Temples. At Abu Simbel, 'forth suddenly came the Ramses heads! I was absolutely too astonished & affected to draw — so I lost any sketch and must go back for it.' These sketches are particularly interesting since Lear never published his Egyptian pictures.

Scott Wilcox, the exhibition's curator, decided to focus on topographical art and in so doing highlights certain developments in this field. He draws attention to the sort of tourist art that developed in lithographic form in the nineteenth century that would have influenced Lear — the magnificent volumes of David Roberts, the prolific illustrated books of the Finden brothers, the landscape annuals published in the 1830s. He also traces the development of that peculiarly British taste for watercolour (and its acceptance by the picture-buying cognoscenti) into representation not merely of 'the tame delineation of a given spot' (so Fuseli described it) as capturing the light, the atmosphere of the exotic world to which by mid-century the European artist was increasingly attracted.

In this respect it is interesting to compare the young Lear's neatly schooled landscapes of the 1830s with the magical world of the Upper Nile of his later years, revealed in his distinctive 'penned-out sketches'. And it is also stimulating to view him, as the excellent catalogue enables us to do despite the end of the exhibition itself, in the context of his contemporaries, in particular the rich genre paintings of J.F. Lewis. Lear was much less

interested in the *life* around him than in the broad unpopulated view. How lucky he was to see it thus, compared with these days of mass tourism.

Sarah Searight

Two other publications of the Yale Center for British Art may be of interest to ASTENE members:

Pieter B.F.J. Broucke, *The Archaeology of Architecture: Charles Robert Cockerell in Southern Europe and the Levant* (1993). ISBN 0-930606-69-8. 23 pp. 9 b/w illustrations, \$4.95 (pb). This was also an exhibition catalogue, documenting the archaeological investigations of the architect who became nineteenth-century Britain's foremost specialist in classical Greek architecture; and

Valerie Lloyd, *Roger Fenton: Photographer of the 1850s* (South Bank Board, 1988). ISBN 1-853320-16-1. 184 pp. 145 b/w illustrations, \$29.95 (pb). Fenton travelled in the Near East and took many photographs of serving soldiers in the Crimea.

Orders from outside America should be placed with the European distributor for the Yale Center for British Art: Premier Book Marketing, 1 Gower Street, London WC1E 6HA, England. Tel: 0207 580 3994, Fax: 0207 580 3995.



Book for Review

Many thanks to P.A. Clayton for a review copy of his book, *Desert Explorer: a biography of Colonel P.E. Clayton* (Ipswich: Zervura Press, 1998) ISBN 0953135004 £12.75 (hb), about his father's adventures in Sinai, the Eastern and Western Deserts (1920 to 1937). It is fascinating and brings together so many strands of which one only knows a part. The work of the Survey is impressive, with many famous names, including John Ball and George Murray. A review will be included in *Bulletin 12*.



RECENT TITLES

Agius, Dionisius A. *In the Wake of the Dhow: the Arabian Gulf and Oman*. A product of over 200 interviews with shipwrights and seamen in the Arabian Gulf and Oman over 9 years. It compares information given first-hand with the literature already written on the dhow and on Arab seafaring on the past 70 years. Ithaca Press, 8 Southern Court, South St, Reading RG1 4QS, UK. Tel: +44 (0)118 959 7847; Fax: +44 (0)118 959 7356; e-mail: <orders@garnet-ithaca.Co.uk>.

Bonfils. *In Arab Lands: the Bonfils Collection of the University of Pennsylvania Museum* (Feb 2000) 96 pp. £33.50 (hb). ISBN 977-424-569-5. Collection of photographs of Ottoman Syria, Palestine and Egypt. The American University in Cairo Press.

Bruce-Lockhart, Jamie and John Wright (eds), *Difficult and Dangerous Roads*, Hugh Clapperton's Travels in

- Sahara and Fezzan (London: Sickle Moon, 2000) ISBN 1-900209-06-3, 320 pp. Sickle Moon Books., 3 Inglebert St, Clerkenwell, London EC1R 1XR; Tel: and Fax: 020 7837 3854, e-mail: <barnaby@inglebert.demon.co.uk>.
- Busbecq, O.G. de. *Busbecq's Turkish Letters*, trans from Latin by Edward Foster with introduction by Philip Mansel (London: Sickle Moon, 2000) ISBN 1-900209-05-5, 304 pp.
- Douglas, Norman, *Fountains in the Sand* (London: Sickle Moon, 2001) ISBN 1-900209-11-X, 208 pp.
- Ebanoidze, Mzia, and John Wilkinson, *The Pilgrimage of Timothy Gabashvili*, to be published by Curzon Press August 2001. We hope that this book, along with others written by our members and conference participants, will be available at the Edinburgh Conference.
- Evans, Elaine Altman, *Scholars, Scoundrels and the Sphinx: a photographic and archaeological adventure up the Nile* (Knoxville, University of Tennessee: Frank H. McClung Museum August 2000), ISBN 1-880174-04-9; \$18.50, US orders add \$3.50 postage to first book and \$0.75 for each additional book. International orders, add \$4.00 for the first book and \$1.00 for each additional book. The book covers the period 1850 to 1930 when important Egyptologists were excavating major sites and photographers struggled to overcome technological and physical difficulties. Over 80 original images of 40 often-visited and less well-known sites along the Nile from the Frank H. McClung Museum Collection.
- Goldschmidt, Arthur, *Historical Dictionary of Egypt, African Historical Dictionaries 67* (Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press, 1996). This takes the history of modern Egypt from 1760 almost to the present day, 'a detailed but concise summary of the major individuals, organisations, countries, trends and events that have shaped Egypt's path through colonialism and emergence as an independent nation state' (*BJMES*, 27 January 2000).
- Hawley, Donald, *Desert Wind and Tropic Storm: An Autobiography* (Norwich: Michael Russell Ltd, May 2000), £24. This autobiography tells of Sir Donald's career in government, as a *bimbashi* and then DC in Kosti and Gedaref in the Sudan in the 1940s-1955; with the Foreign Office serving in Cairo, Arabia, Lagos in 1960s, Iraq and as the first ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman in 1971, London, in both parts of Cyprus and Malaysia, until his retirement in 1981. Sir Donald Hawley's archives are now being catalogued as part of the Sudan Archive, University of Durham. For further information contact Michael Russell (Publishing) Ltd, Wilby Hall, Wilby, Norwich NR16 2JP.
- Lindqvist, Sven, *Desert Divers* (Granta, 2000?), £8.99. Translated from Swedish, a book about the men who cleaned out wells in the North African desert. A mixture of travelogue and the story of French colonialism of North Africa, includes Saint Exupéry, André Gide, Isabelle Eberhardt.
- Manley, Deborah and Peta Rée, *Henry Salt, Artist, Traveller, Diplomat and Egyptologist*, published by Libri Publications, 2001. ISBN 1-901965-03-1. 314 pp, 18 b/w illustrations, hardback £29.50 (hb), £18.50 (pb). Contact Anna Lethbridge, Suite 281, 37 Store St, Bloomsbury, London WC1E 7BS, Tel: 0207 627 3748; Fax: 0207 627 3748; e-mail: <libri@annal.dircon.co.uk>. Henry Salt was a key figure in early nineteenth-century travel, Egyptology and diplomacy. Trained as an artist, Salt's paintings of India, Abyssinia, and Egypt have been favourably compared with those of Thomas and William Daniell. Celebrated for his expeditions to Abyssinia which rivalled those of James Bruce, Salt became the British Consul-General to Egypt during a fascinating period of its recent history. He employed Giovanni Belzoni to excavate at Thebes and Abu Simbel and aided Giovanni Caviglia in his researches on the Pyramids and the Sphinx. Both the British Museum and the Louvre own treasures from his collections. His circle included Burckhardt, Bankes, Wilkinson, and Lane.
- Aviva Klein-Franke has drawn Frédéric Bauden's attention to the existence of ASTENE and he would like to announce the forthcoming publication: *Le Voyage à Smyrne. Un manuscrit d'Antoine Galland (1678)*. Avant-propos d'André Miquel. Introduction, transcription et notes de Frédéric Bauden (Paris: Editions Chandeigne (Collection Magellane), Septembre 2000), 352 pp., plus de 40 illustrations. Prix: 180 FF. He writes: 'Le traducteur des Mille et une nuits, Antoine Galland (1646-1715), fut un voyageur invétéré qui arpenta pendant presque quinze ans, et à de multiples reprises, les échelles levantines : Istamboul, Smyrne, Alep, Alexandrie ... Son second voyage, entrepris en 1678, le conduisit à Smyrne où il réside quelques mois. Smyrne est à cette époque une ville cosmopolite et fourmillante où les Occidentaux ont parfois l'impression de se sentir plus chez eux qu'en Orient. Curieux de tout, notre jeune savant y écrit une relation de son séjour qu'il intitule *Smyrne ancienne et moderne*, restée inédite jusqu'à ce jour. Il dresse de cette ville un tableau tout à la fois vivant et scientifique, étudiant aussi bien les ruines antiques que les moeurs des autochtones, les résidents étrangers que les institutions locales et leurs représentants officiels. Aucun aspect de la vie sociale, culturelle, politique ne lui échappe. Les ingrédients classiques des récits de voyages - rencontres avec les corsaires, tempêtes ... — ponctuent également la première partie de la relation. Enfin, Galland clôture son ouvrage par une comparaison des moeurs

françaises et turques, véritable enquête ethnologique avant la lettre où il fait montre de perspicacité et de clairvoyance et prouve que pour mieux comprendre les autres, il est d'abord requis de bien connaître les siens. Tous ces éléments font de cette relation inédite, à laquelle sont également joints des extraits de son troisième voyage au Levant (1679-1680), la description la plus complète qui soit pour la ville de Smyrne au XVII^e siècle.'

For further information contact Editions Chandeigne, 10 rue Tournefort, 75005 Paris, Fax: 00-33-(0)1 43 36 78 47 and/or Frédéric Bauden, President of Melcom International, Maître de conférences - Chef d'U.D. Université de Liege, Langues et littératures orientales, Place du 20 Aout, 7 Bat. A 1, B-4000 LIEGE, Belgique/Belgium, e-mail : F.Bauden@ulg.ac.be, Tél: (0032) 04/366.53.32; Fax: (0032) 04/366.56.55.

Sweet Waters: an Istanbul thriller, with introduction by Nigel Nicolson (London: Sickle Moon, 2000) ISBN 1-900209-08 X, 304 pp.

O'Brien, Gertrude Bell, *The Arabian Diaries, 1913-1914*, edited by Rosemary O'Brien (Nov 2000), £22.50 (hb) ISBN 0-8156-0672-9. Syracuse University Press.

Roper, Geoffrey, 'The Beginnings of Arabic Printing by the ABCFM', *Harvard Library Bulletin* (1999). The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) sent missionaries to the Mediterranean and Near East from 1818 onwards, and this is an account of their early efforts to print and publish Arabic books for distribution in Arab countries. Their first efforts in Malta (1822-1834) were a failure, and they produced no Arabic books at their press there. Then they moved to Beirut where, after a very slow start, they eventually became, in the second half of the 19th century, major Arabic publishers and printers. The story involves some notable travellers and travel-writers: Levi Parsons, Pliny Fisk, Daniel Temple, Homan Hallock, Jonas King, Isaac Bird, Eli Smith and the Englishmen George Percy Badger and George Hurter who, by travelling to Lebanon in the 1830s and 1840s, played a vital role in establishing a viable Arabic printing operation.

Severis, Rita, *Travelling Artists in Cyprus, 1700-1960* (London, Philip Wilson Publishers, 2000). This reflects the remarkable Severis collection (due to form the core of a museum of visual arts in Nicosia) of watercolours and drawings by foreigners visiting Cyprus for a variety of reasons from the eighteenth century.

Sonbol, Amaira (ed. and trs), *The Last Khedive of Egypt: Memoirs of Abbas Hilmi II* (Reading: Ithaca, 1998).

Youngs, Tim (ed.). Pickering and Chatto Publishers have published two sets of 4 volumes each entitled *Travels, Explorations and Empires, 1770-1835*. Tim

Youngs is the advisory editor, and the general editors are Tim Fulford and Peter Kitson. The first set, at 1,600 pages of facsimiles and introductory material, gives travel writings on North America, the Far East, North and South Poles, and the Middle East. A year later, the second set will be on Africa, India, the Caribbean, South Seas, and Australia. Each set is \$570 or £350.

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CERAW, < eurames@geo.uni-mainz.de >. Website: Historical DNB < <http://ihr.sas.ac.uk/rhs> > and annual printed bibliography, also on CD-Rom

I.B. Tauris, e-mail: < mail@ibtauris.com > Website: <http://www.ibtauris.com>

Michael J. Irlam, Mikes Railway History Guestbook < mjirlam@btinternet.com >; website: <http://mikes.railhistory.railfan.net>

Middle East Studies Association (MESA), The University of Arizona, 1643 East Helen St, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA.
 Website: < www.mesa.arizona.edu >

The British Museum, Gt Russell St, London WC1B 3DG. website: www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES) Administrative Office, c/o CMEIS, University of Durham, South Rd, Durham DH1 3TG. Tel: 0191 374 7989; Fax: 0191 374 2830; e-mail: < a.l.hayesy@durham.ac.uk >, Website: <http://www.durham.ac.uk/brismes>

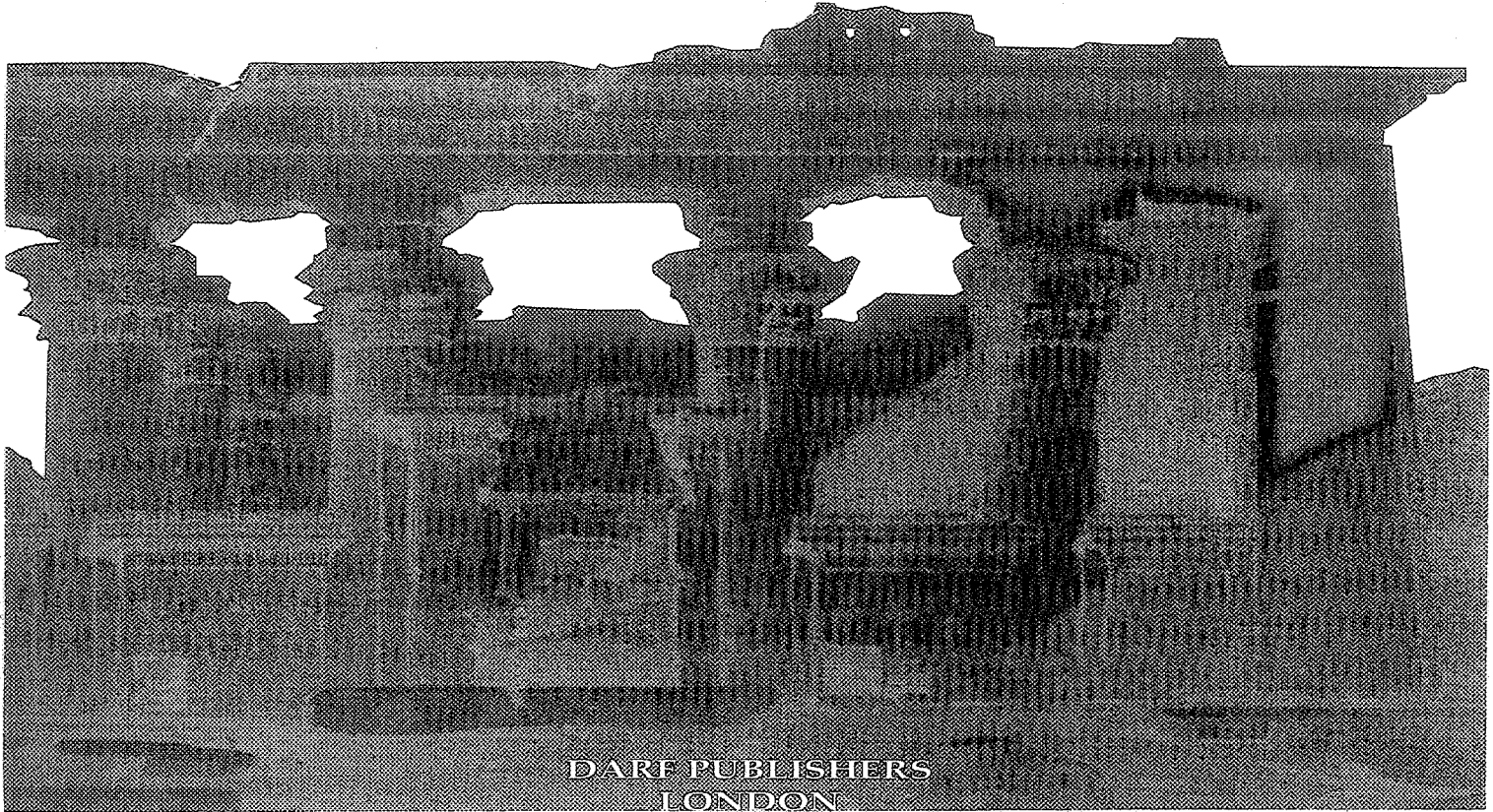
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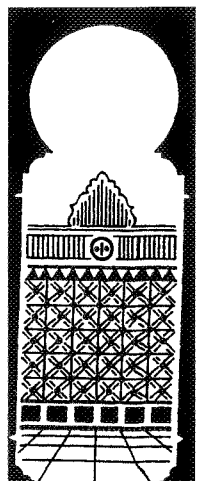
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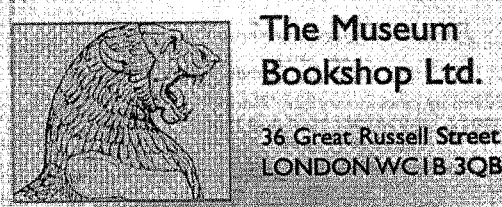
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ASTENE Event: Book Launch

18.00 to 20.00, 10 May 2001

Ashley Jones has kindly offered to hold a book launch for ASTENE members and friends at his shop, The Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3QB(opposite the British Museum), Tel: 020 7580 4086, Fax: 020 7436 4364; e-mail: <mbooks@btconnect.com> for the new ASTENE Publications: *Desert Travellers: from Herodotus to T.E. Lawrence* and *Travellers in the Levant: from Voyagers to Visionaries*. We will also be promoting the two Ithaca publications, *Unfolding the Orient* and *Interpreting the Orient* and I.B. Tauris's *Travellers in Egypt*.



Members may have books which have just been published or are in the pipeline and might like to use the book launch to inform members of their present and forthcoming work. Members will be invited to sign copies of their books. Any ASTENE members who have recently published relevant books and wish to display their work at the Launch should contact Ashley Jones to make the necessary arrangements.

Please let Ashley know if you and your friends plan to join us by completing the form below and posting it to Ashley Jones, Museum Bookshop, 36 Great Russell St, London WC1B 3QB, Tel: 020 7580 4086, Fax: 020 7436 4364. Thank you.

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I plan to attend to Book Launch with _____ guest(s)

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.....