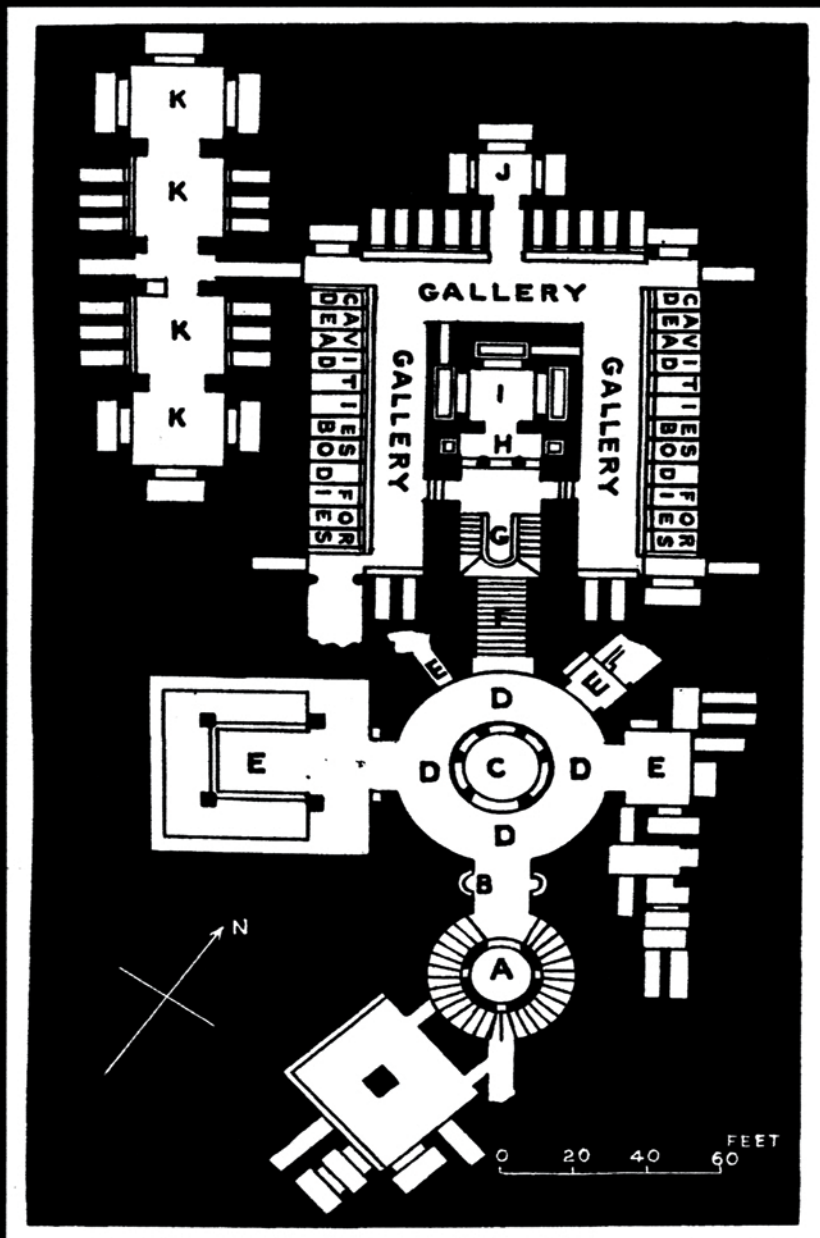


NOTES FOR TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT

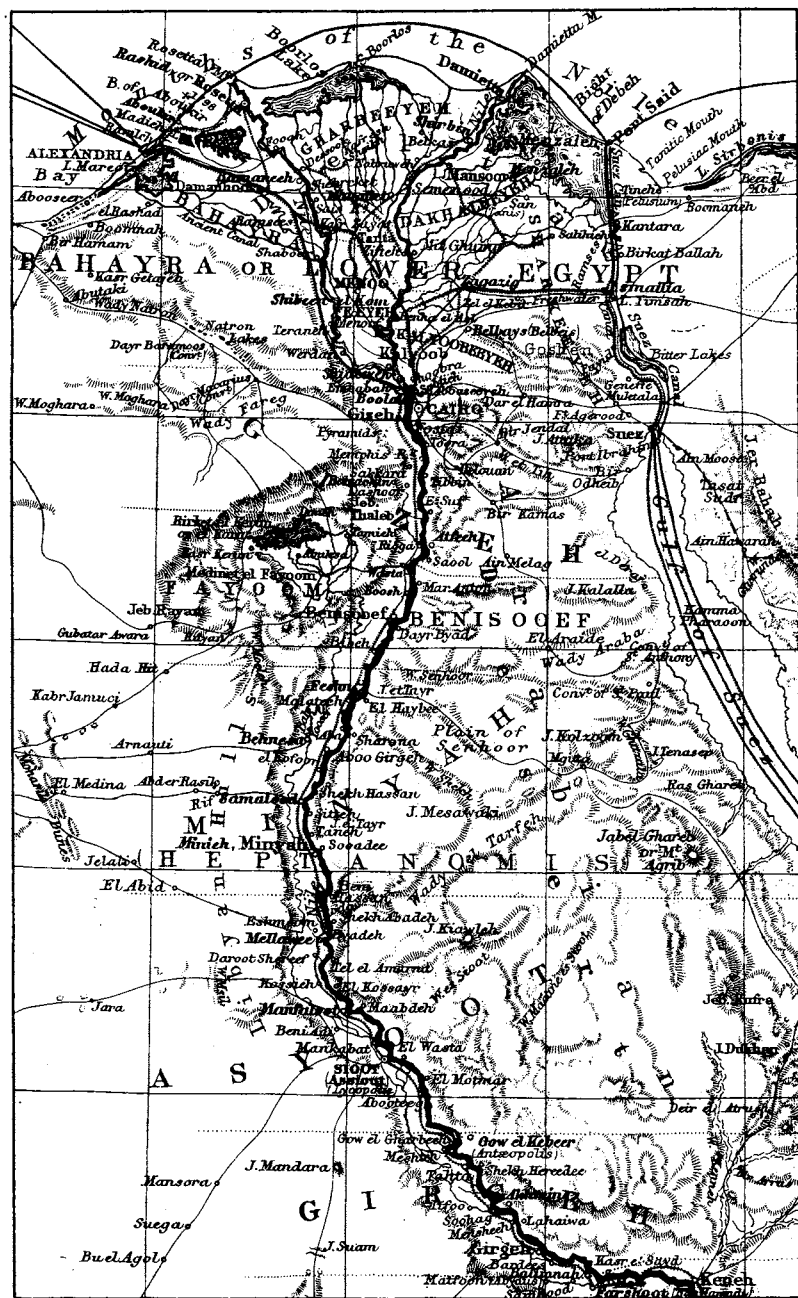


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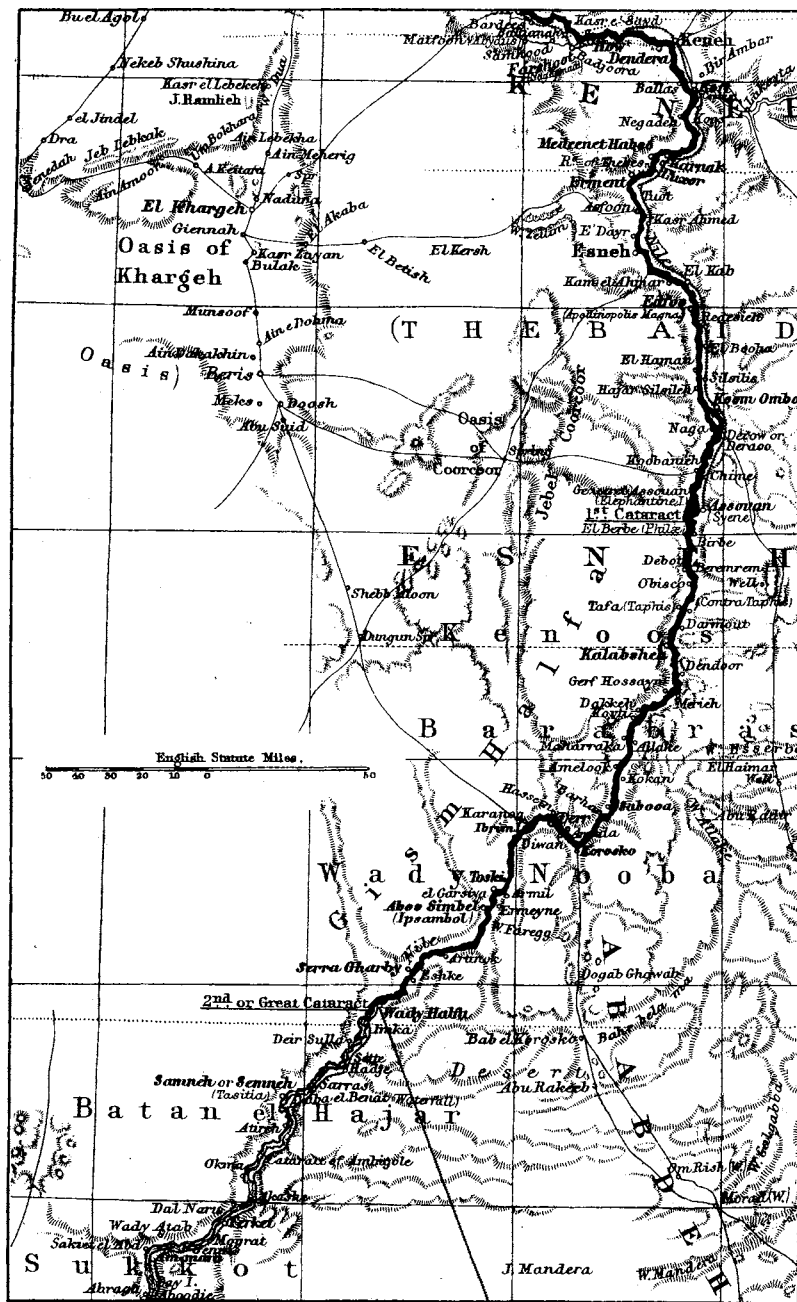
NOTES FOR TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT

This encyclopaedic work on ancient Egypt was specially commissioned by Thomas Cook for their Egyptian tours. Today, it is unrivalled as a reliable general source for those interested in any aspect of Egypt, including early excavations, the Nile, Egyptian writing, ancient buildings, cities and kings.

E. A. Wallis Budge, author of many books on Egyptology, was once Keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities in the British Museum.



MAP OF COOK'S STEAMER ANI



ABEAM SERVICE ON THE NILE

NOTES FOR TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE

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INTRODUCTION.

Having for some years felt the insufficiency of the information given by Dragomans to travellers on the Nile, and finding with one or two striking exceptions how limited is their knowledge of facts relating to the history of the antiquities in Upper Egypt, Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son have arranged with Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge to compile the following pages, which they have much pleasure in presenting to every passenger under their Nile arrangements on their Tourist Steamers and Dhahabiyyahs. In this way passengers will no longer be liable to be misled (unintentionally) by Dragomans, but will be able at their leisure to prepare themselves for what they have to see, and thus by an agreeable study add to the interest with which their visits to the various places are made.

PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION.

The short descriptions of the principal Egyptian monuments on each side of the Nile between Cairo and Khartûm, printed in the following pages, are not in any way intended to form a "Guide to Egypt." They are drawn up for the use of those travellers who have a very few weeks to spend in Egypt, and who wish to carry away from that country some of the more important facts connected with the fast-perishing remains of one of the most interesting and ancient civilizations that has been developed on the face of the earth. The existing guide books are too full, and they contain too many details for such travellers. Experience has shown that the greater number of travellers in Egypt are more interested in the remains and civilization of the ancient Egyptians than in the history of Egypt under the rule of the Persians, Ptolemies, Romans, Arabs, and Turks. It is for this reason that no attempt has been made to describe, otherwise than in the briefest manner possible, its history under these foreign rulers, and only such facts connected with them as are absolutely necessary for a right understanding of its monuments have been inserted.

In addition to such descriptions, a few chapters have been added on the history of the country during the rule of the Pharaohs, and on its people, and their buildings, their religion, and their methods of writing. The lists of hieroglyphic characters and their phonetic values, printed on pp. 133-139, will, it is hoped, be useful to those who may wish to spell out the royal names on tombs, and temples, and the commoner words which occur in the inscriptions.

In transcribing Arabic names of places, the system in general use throughout Europe has been employed, but well-known names like "Cairo," "Luxor," etc., have not been altered. Similarly, the ordinary well-known forms of Egyptian proper names such as "Rameses," "Amenophis," "Hophra," etc., have been used in preference to the more correct transcriptions, "Rā-messu," "Āmen-ḥetep," and "Uaḥ-āb-Rā."

The dates assigned to the Egyptian kings are those of the late Dr. Heinrich Brugsch, who based his calculations on the assumption that the average duration of a generation was thirty-three years. Hence it will be readily understood that the date assigned to Rameses II. (B.C. 1333), for instance, is only approximately correct. In recent years many attempts have been made to reduce the length of the historic period of Egypt, and to prove that the reigns of the historic kings of Egypt were considerably antedated by the early Egyptologists. Recent excavations, however, have shown that the historical Egyptians and their immediate ancestors have occupied the Nile Valley

for many thousands of years, and even if Manetho's list of kings were to be proved incorrect in every particular, and the total years of the reigns of the historical kings be reduced by 1500 years, the great antiquity of Egyptian civilization cannot be doubted.

In the last two editions of "Nile Notes," considerable alterations and additions have been made. As a result of recent excavations many of the articles have been entirely re-written, and a brief description of the antiquities between Wâdî Ḥalfah and Khartûm has been included. So much general interest has been aroused in the Copts and Muḥammadans, that additional chapters on the religious history of these peoples have been added. In deference to many suggestions, the summary of the events which have taken place in Egypt under British influence has been considerably amplified, and the short chapter on "Progress in Egypt" will prove to what excellent purpose Lord Cromer has toiled in that land. The notes on the history and development of the idea of the Mahdi among the Muḥammadans, will, it is hoped, explain to the reader, who has not found time to examine into the Arabic sources, how religious fanaticism, acting on the minds of people who have been the victims of a long course of systematic misgovernment and oppression, has overthrown kings and deluged whole countries with blood. In compiling certain sections of this work for facts and figures I have drawn frequently from Lord Cromer's official Despatches, and from the reports and works

of Sir William Garstin, K.C.M.G., Major H. G. Lyons, R.E., Major Willcocks, C.M.G., and other officials in the service of the Egyptian Government. The works of Sir F. R. Wingate, K.C.B., etc., Sir Rudolf von Slatin Pasha, K.C.B., Father Ohrwalder, and Mr. Royle have supplied many facts concerning Mahdiism and the reconquest of the Sûdân, and from Edward Lane's "Modern Egyptians" I have derived much information concerning phases of modern Egyptian life which have now passed away.

During recent years the positions of many of the antiquities exhibited in the Gîzeh Museum have been changed frequently, and no Guide, not even that issued by the officials of the institution, correctly described the places where all the objects could be found for more than a few months at a time. It is understood that at the present moment a number of the antiquities are packed up awaiting removal to the new Museum at Cairo, and as it is, therefore, impossible to make a complete description of the contents of the Gîzeh Museum, Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son have decided to reprint the description which appeared in the sixth edition of "Nile Notes." When the antiquities have been re-arranged in their new home, a new and full account of them will, it is hoped, be included in the future editions of this work.

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

June 16, 1902.

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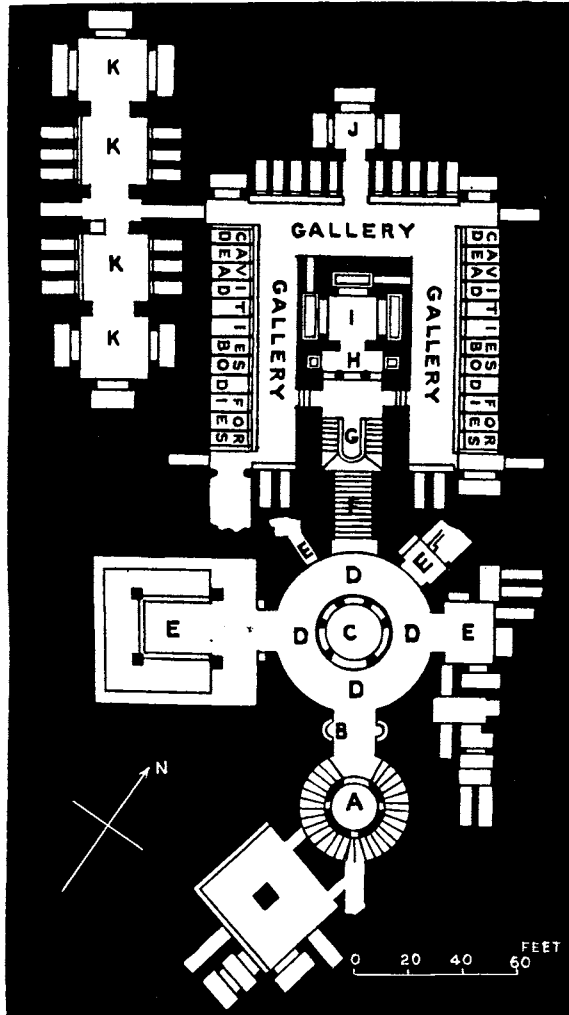
EXCAVATIONS IN 1901-02.

The principal excavations carried on in Upper Egypt during the winter of 1900-01 are those of Mr. Garstang at Bêt Khallâf, Messrs. Reisner, Mace, and Lithgow, on a site opposite the town of Girgeh, and of Professor Petrie at Abydos. The village of Bêt Khallâf lies about nine miles west of Girgeh, on the skirt of the desert, and some distance to the north of it Mr. Garstang began to work ; in the course of his excavations he discovered several maṣṭaba tombs of the Early Empire. Three miles south-west of Bêt Khallâf, in the desert, he discovered in 1900-01 the two large maṣṭaba tombs of KHET-NETER and ḤEN NEKHT, kings of the IIIrd Dynasty. The first of these names is the Horus name of the well-known king Tcheser, who built a pyramid at Saḳḳâra, and is famous as the king who reigned over Egypt during a famine which lasted seven years. The skeleton of ḤEN-NEKHT was discovered in his tomb at Bêt Khallâf, and it is evident that the king was a man of extraordinary stature ; Egyptian tradition has preserved many stories of kings of gigantic height, *e.g.*, Osiris and Sesostri were said to be 8 cubits 6 palms and 3 fingers in height, and Sesochris was said to be 5 cubits high, and 3 cubits broad. The maṣṭaba of Tcheser is a very imposing building, and the labour expended in constructing it was enormous, for the interior is hewn out of the limestone to a depth which is almost equal to the height of the brick building above ground ; it is well worth visiting and should be ascended : the descent into the interior, however, is unsafe, and without suitable tackle should not be attempted. Between the royal maṣṭabas and the neighbouring village of Bêt Da'ūd lies an interesting tomb of an early ḥā prince ; it is approached by means of an inclined plane and is worth a visit.

Mr. Reisner excavated on sites of the predynastic period, and of the IVth Dynasty, and of the period following the VIth Dynasty. His works have been carried out with great care, and when his results are published, it will probably be found necessary to revise some of the existing ideas on the subject of the development of Egyptian civilization in the light of his discoveries. Professor Petrie, it is understood, has been excavating within the area of the Temple of Osiris at Arâbat al-Madfûnah, north of the Temple of Rameses II. at Abydos, and is said to have discovered predynastic tombs on the slope of Kôm es-Sultân. In Lower Egypt excavations have been carried out by the German Archaeological Mission, under the direction of Dr. Borchardt, at Abuşîr, near Gîzeh, with successful results.

THE RECENTLY DISCOVERED CATACOMB AT ALEXANDRIA.


In the year 1900 a magnificent tomb of the Roman period was discovered at Kôm esh-Shukâfa, near Pompey's Pillar, in the quarry at this place, by some workmen, and thanks to the exertions of Dr. Botti, the Director of the Museum at Alexandria, this extremely interesting monument has been preserved in the state in which it was found. The tomb is divided into three stages, which descend into the living rock. It is entered by means of a circular staircase (A), which has been more or less restored, and when the visitor has passed through a narrow way with a semicircular recess (B) on each side, he arrives at a large rotunda (C) with a circular gallery (D D D D), out of which open a series of chambers (E E E E) which appear to have been dedicated to the worship of the dead. On the right the two chambers contain niches and sarcophagi; on the left is a large rectangular chamber, the roof of which is supported by four pillars, and it contains three tables hewn out of the solid rock,





A Circular staircase (entrance). B Corridor with semicircular recesses.
C Rotunda. D Circular gallery. F Staircase to second stage. G Entrance to
third stage. H Ante-chamber. I Funeral chamber. J Sarcophagus chamber.
K Funeral chambers with cavities for dead bodies.



THE PRONAOS AND ENTRANCE TO THE FUNERAL CHAMBER.

which were used for festival purposes by the relatives and friends of the dead who assembled there at certain times during the year. From the circular gallery a staircase leads to the second stage of the tomb, which contains the chief sarcophagus chamber; but a little way down it forks, and passes round the entrance (G) to the third or lowest stage of the tomb. The ante-chamber (H) of the tomb, or pronaos, contains two Egyptian columns which support a cornice ornamented with the winged solar disk, hawks, etc., in relief. In each of the side walls of the chamber is a niche, in the form of an Egyptian pylon; that on the right contains the statue of a man, that on the left the statue of a woman. It has been thought that these niches are ancient openings in the walls which were closed up for the purpose of receiving the statues. The door of the actual funeral chamber (I) is ornamented with the winged solar disk, and a cornice of uræi; on each side of the door, on a pylon-shaped pedestal, is a large serpent wearing the double crown , and with each are the caduceus of Hermes, and the thyrsus of Dionysos. These serpents are probably intended to represent the goddesses Uatchet and Nekhebet. Above each serpent is a circular shield with a Gorgon's head. The roof of the funeral chamber is vaulted, and the stone is of the colour of old gold; at each corner is a pilaster with a composite capital. In each of the three sides is a niche containing a sarcophagus, which is hewn out of the solid rock; the fronts of the three sarcophagi are ornamented with festoons of vine leaves and bunches of grapes, the heads of bulls, heads of Medusa, etc. Curiously enough no one seems to have been laid in them. In the principal relief of the right niche we see the figure of a king, or prince, wearing the crowns of the South and North, making an offering of a deep collar or breastplate to the Apis Bu'l, which stands on a pylon-shaped pedestal,

and has a disk between its horns; behind Apis stands Isis with a solar disk encircled by a uræus upon her head, and holding in her right hand the feather of Maât. The walls of the niches are ornamented with figures of Egyptian gods, and in the central niche is a scene in which the mummy of the deceased is represented lying upon its bier. The bier has the usual form , but above the lion's head is the Atef crown of Osiris, and at the feet is the feather of Maât. By the side of the bier stands Anubis, with the solar disk and uræi  on his head; at the head of the bier stands Thoth, and at the feet is Horus, and under the bier are vases containing the intestines of the deceased dedicated to Qebhsennuf (hawk-headed), Mesthâ (human-headed), and Hâpi (ape-headed). To the right and left of the door are figures of:—1. Anubis, standing upright, in human form, jackal-headed, with a solar disk on his head; his right hand rests upon the edge of a shield which stands on the ground by his side, and in his left he clasps a spear. Round his neck and shoulder hangs a belt from which is suspended a short sword. 2. Set (?), in the form of a human body with arms and hands of a man, and the head and tail of a crocodile; in his right hand he clasps a spear, and in the left the end of a cloak.

Round the funeral chamber in which these reliefs occur, on three sides, is a comparatively spacious gallery, in the walls of which are hollowed-out cavities, each large enough to hold three dead bodies; there are traces of names of those who were buried in them. At the north-west corner of this gallery is a corridor which leads into four other chambers, two of which have in them niches for sarcophagi, and two are provided with cavities wherein bodies might be laid on stone slabs at intervals, one above the other. We have already mentioned a third stage of the tomb, which was approached by an entrance situated just below the place where the staircase leading from the first to the second

stage forked ; this is now filled with water, and cannot be investigated. The tomb is the most interesting of all the tombs of the Roman period which have been found in Alexandria, and is very instructive. It is, unfortunately, impossible to assign an exact date to it, but it was probably built in the first century B.C. or the first century A.D. The name of the man for whom it was built is unknown, but it is clear that he was of high rank, and there is no doubt that his religion was *au fond* Egyptian. The artistic treatment of the figures of the gods, and of the walls, pillars, etc., exhibits strong Roman influence, and the mixture of the two styles of funereal art is better illustrated in this tomb than in any other of the period to which it belongs. It is hard to explain why the sarcophagi in the niches of the main funeral chamber have not been occupied by the people for whom they were intended, and it is difficult to understand why others were made in other chambers of the tomb whilst these remained empty. It would appear that the tomb was made for the head of a large and powerful family, the members of which respected the places that had been left for certain members of it, and judging from the amount of space for burial which was actually occupied, we are justified in thinking that the tomb was used as a private mausoleum for about 150 or 200 years.

THE SÛDÂN IN 1901.

The revenue of the Sûdân was £E238,500, and the expenditure £E403,000 ; the revenue for the past three years was :—

	£E.
1899	126,500
1900	157,000
1901	238,500
In 1881 the amount of gum exported was 150,861	

kantars (the *kantars* = 99·05 lbs.); in 1901 it was 170,781 *kantars*; the amount exported in 1900 was 60,912 *kantars*, and in 1899 41,963 *kantars*. The military charge on the Sûdân has been reduced from £E222,000 to £E122,000, and the general contribution of the Egyptian treasury to make good the Sûdân deficit, both civil and military, has been reduced from about £E417,000 in 1901 to about £E390,000 in 1902. The total receipts of the Sûdân railways were £E165,000, the working expenses being £E124,000; 6,703 passengers were carried in 1900, and 8,265 in 1901; 27,555 tons of goods were carried in 1900, and 63,874 in 1901. The imports are valued at £E370,852, and consist of:—

	Tons.	Value (£E).
Cotton stuffs	1,387	217,482
Flour	431	6,034
Rice	76	760
Spirits	250	8,400
Provisions	163	6,520
Sugar	1,733	19,687
Perfumes	7	2,800
Soap	117	3,217
Oil	98	2,352
Tallow	7	230
Dates	851	6,195
Tea	26	2,912
Petroleum	90	583
Tobacco	115	31,280
Miscellaneous	1,950	62,400
	<u>7,301</u>	<u>370,852</u>

On telegraphs the estimated revenue was £E4,500, and the expenditure £E15,000; had the Government telegrams been charged at the ordinary rates, the deficit of £E10,500 would have been turned into a surplus of about £E6,000. A new telegraph line from Suakin to Erkourt, a distance of 40 miles, has been constructed. The net revenue of the Post Office was rather less than £E5,000.

A tract of country about 300 miles long, and from 100 to 150 miles broad, has been made into a game preserve; it lies between the Blue and White Niles, the Sobat River, and the Abyssinian frontier. The wild animals killed under license in 1901 numbered 842. Small civil hospitals have been established at Omdurmân, Kharţûm, Halfa, Berber, Dongola, Suakin, and Kassala. On Military and Civil Works £E68,000 were spent, exclusive of £25,000 for barracks to house a British battalion at Kharţûm, a charge which is borne by the British Government. The Gordon College will be finished in the present year (1902), and a primary school of 170 boys will be established in it. The material condition of the people has greatly improved. The population of Dongola in 1901 showed an increase of 14,046 over 1900; of this increase, 12,899 are children. "The point of chief importance in connexion with the government of the Súdân since its reoccupation has been to avoid serious fiscal and administrative errors at starting, which it might possibly have been difficult to rectify later. I think it may be said that no such errors have been committed. The form of government is suitable to the present very backward condition of the country. It is not a military government, if I understand the use of that very vague and indefinite expression. It is a government which endeavours to carry out the ordinary principles of civil administration through the agency of a number of carefully selected officials, most of whom are military officers. It is only necessary to read the reports . . . to be convinced that . . . the spirit which inspires the whole administration is, in its essence, not military, but civil. . . . Under all the circumstances of the case, the existing machine of government, taken as a whole, is probably as good as any that could be devised. Save in some few very remote localities, life and property may be said to be everywhere secure. The ordinary principles of civil and criminal justice are

applied throughout by far the greater part of the country. In the second place, so far as I can gather, the people seem contented. Their contentment rests, I believe, on two main grounds. First, there has been no interference with their religion or religious customs ; secondly, they are not overtaxed. . . . A somewhat long experience of the East has led me to attach more importance to low taxation than to reforms, however necessary these may, from the European point of view, appear. As the revenue grows, and as funds become available, these various reforms will be accomplished in the Soudan, as they have for the most part been already accomplished in Egypt, though I do not doubt that the process of reformation will be relatively slow. . . . The main requirement of the Soudan, for the moment, is, as I have already mentioned, the improvement of its communications, and notably the establishment of connexion by rail between the Nile Valley and the Red Sea. When the Engineer officers can report with confidence as to the best method of attaining this latter object, the funds necessary for the execution of the work shall be forthcoming, and the very important question of the labour, through the agency of which the railway shall be constructed, will be fully considered." See the Earl of Cromer in his Report on *Egypt and the Soudan* in 1901, Egypt, No. 1 (1902), pp. 75, 76.

NOTES FOR TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT.

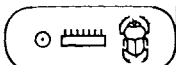
EGYPTIAN HISTORY.


THE history of Egypt is the oldest history known to us. It is true that the earliest of the Babylonian kings whose names are known lived very little later than the earliest kings of Egypt, nevertheless our knowledge of the early Egyptian is greater than of the early Babylonian kings. A large portion of Egyptian history can be constructed from the native records of the Egyptians, and it is now possible to correct and modify many of the statements upon this subject made by Herodotus, Diodorus Siculus and other classical authors. The native and other documents from which Egyptian history is obtained are:—

I. Lists of Kings found in the **Turin Papyrus**, the **Tablet of Abydos**, the **Tablet of Sakkāra**, and the **Tablet of Karnak**. The Turin papyrus contained a complete list of kings, beginning with the god-kings and continuing down to the end of the rule of the Hyksos, about B.C. 1700. The name of each king during this period, together with the length of his reign in years, months and days, was given, and it would have been, beyond all doubt, the most valuable of all documents for the chronology of the oldest period of Egyptian history, if scholars had been able to make use of it in the perfect condition in which it was


discovered. When it arrived in Turin, however, it was found to be broken into more than one hundred and fifty fragments. So far back as 1824, Champollion recognized the true value of the fragments, and placed some of them in their chronological order. Its evidence is of the greatest importance for the history of the XIIIth and XIVth dynasties, because in this section the papyrus is tolerably perfect; for the earlier dynasties it is of very little use.


On the monuments each Egyptian king has usually two names, the prenomen and the nomen; each of these is contained in a cartouche.* Thus the prenomen of

Thothmes III. is  Rā-men-Kheper, and his


nomen is  Teḥuti-mes. Rā-men-Kheper means




something like "Rā (the Sun-god) establishes becoming or existence"; Teḥuti-mes means "born of Thoth," or "Thoth's son." These names are quite distinct from

his titles. Before the prenomen comes the title  *suten net* (or *bāt*), † "King of the North and South," and after

it comes  *sa Rā*, "son of the Sun," preceding the

nomen. Each prenomen has a meaning, but it is at times difficult to render it exactly in English. Every king styled himself king of "the North and South," and "son of the Sun." The first title is sometimes varied by "Beautiful


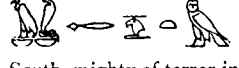
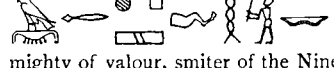
* Cartouche is the name which is usually given to the oval , in which the name of a royal person is enclosed.

† The ordinary word for "king" is  *suten*. The word Pharaoh, פֶּרֹעַה, which the Hebrews called the kings of Egypt, is derived from the Egyptian  *per āa*, otherwise written 

or 

god, lord of the two earths.”* In the earliest times the kings were named after some attribute possessed by them; thus Menâ, the first king of Egypt, is the “firm” or “established.” In the Turin Papyrus only the prenomens of the kings are given, but its statements are confirmed and amplified by the other lists.

The **Tablet of Abydos**† was discovered by Dümichen in the temple of Osiris at Abydos, during M. Mariette's excavations there in 1864. This list gives us the names of seventy-five kings, beginning with Menâ or Menes, and ending with Seti I., the father of Rameses II.; it is not a complete list, and it would seem as if the scribe who drew up the list only inserted such names as he considered worthy of living for ever. The **Tablet of Şakḫâra** ‡ was discovered at Şakḫâra by Mariette, in the grave of a dignitary who lived during the reign of Rameses II. In spite of a break in it, and some orthographical errors, it is a valuable list; it gives the names of forty-seven kings, and it agrees very closely with the Abydos list. It is a curious fact that it begins with the name of Mer-ba-pen, the sixth king of the Ist dynasty. The **Tablet of Karnak** was discovered at Karnak by Burton, and was taken to Paris by Prisse. It

* Some kings had a large number of titles. Thus Thothmes III. is styled “Horus, mighty bull, diademed with law, the lord, maker of things, Râ-men-kheper,” etc., etc. He is also called :
 “King of the North and South, mighty of terror in all lands”;
 “Horus, exalted one of the white crown, beloved of Râ”;
 “Golden Horus, mighty of valour, smiter of the Nine Bows,” etc.
 † See pp. 626, 627. There is a duplicate in the British Museum (Northern Egyptian Gallery, No. 117).
 ‡ See page 587.

was drawn up in the time of Thothmes III., and contains the names of sixty-one of his ancestors. They are not arranged in any chronological order, but the tablet is of the highest historical importance, for it records the names of some of the rulers from the XIIIth to the XVIIth dynasties, and gives the names of those of the XIth dynasty more completely than any other list.

II. Annals of Egyptian Kings inscribed upon the walls of temples, obelisks, and buildings. The narrative of such inscriptions is very simple, and practically these records merely represent itineraries in which the names of conquered and tributary lands and people are given ; incidentally facts of interest are noted down. As the day and month and regnal years of the king by whom these expeditions were undertaken are generally given, these inscriptions throw much light on history. The lists of tribute are also useful, for they show what the products of the various countries were. The poetical version* of the history of the famous battle of Rameses II. against the Kheta by the poet Pen-ta-urt is a pleasant variety of historical narrative. The inscription on the Stele† of Piānkhi, the Ethiopian conqueror of Egypt, is decidedly remarkable for the minute details of his fights, the speeches made by himself and his conquered foes, and the mention of many facts‡ which are not commonly noticed by Egyptian annalists. The vigour and poetical nature of the narrative are also very striking.

* See the notice of the official Egyptian account on page 478.

† Preserved at Gizeh. See page 583.

‡ For example, it is stated that when Piānkhi had taken possession of the storehouses and treasury of Nemart (Nimrod) his foe, he went afterwards into the stables, and found that the horses there had been kept short of food. Bursting into a rage, he turned to Nimrod and said, "By my life, by my darling Rā, who revives my nostrils with life, to have kept my horses hungry is more heinous in my sight than any other offence which thou hast committed against me." Mariette, *Monuments Divers*, pl. 3, ll. 65, 66.

III. Historical Stelæ and Papyri, which briefly relate in chronological order the various expeditions undertaken by the king for whom they were made. Egyptian kings occasionally caused summaries of their principal conquests and of the chief events of their reign to be drawn up; examples of these are (*a*) the stele of Thothmes III.,* and (*b*) the last section of the great **Harris Papyrus**, in which Rameses III. reviews all the good works which he has brought to a successful issue to the glory of the gods of Egypt and for the benefit of her inhabitants. This wonderful papyrus measures 135 feet by 17 inches, and was found in a box in the temple at Medinet Habû, built by Rameses III.; it is now in the British Museum.


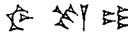



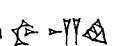
IV. Decrees, Scarabs, Statues of Kings and Private Persons are fruitful sources of information about historical, religious, and chronological subjects.

V. Biblical notices about Egypt and allusions to events of Egyptian history.

VI. The Cuneiform Inscriptions. In 1887 about 310 tablets† inscribed in cuneiform were found at Tell el-Amarna. The inscriptions relate to a period of Egyptian history which falls in the fifteenth century B.C., and they are letters from the kings of Babylon, and cities of Mesopotamia and Phœnicia relating to marriages, offensive and defensive alliances, military matters, etc., etc., and reports on the rebellions and wars which took place at that time, addressed to Amenophis III. and to his son Khut-en-âten or Amenophis IV. The Babylonian king who writes is called Kurigalzu. Thothmes III. had carried his victorious arms into Mesopotamia, and one of his successors, Amenophis III., delighted to go there and shoot the lions

* Preserved at Gizeh; see page 587.

† See the description of the Gizeh Museum, pp. 592-595.

with which the country abounded. During one of these hunting expeditions he fell in love with the lady  Thi (in cuneiform  Ti-i-e), the daughter of Iuāa  and Thuāa , and married her, and he brought her to Egypt, with another wife named  Kilkipa (in cuneiform  Gi-lu-khi-pa), accompanied by 317 of her attendants. It will require time to settle the historical and philological difficulties which are raised by these tablets, but the examination of them already made has thrown most valuable light upon the social condition of Egypt and of other countries. One of the tablets is written in the language of Mitani, and others are inscribed with cuneiform characters in a language which is at present unknown ; and some of them have dockets in hieratic which state from what country they were brought. The discovery of these tablets shows that there must have been people at the court of Amenophis III. who understood the cuneiform characters, and that the officers in command over towns in Phœnicia subject to the rule of Egypt could, when occasion required, write their despatches in cuneiform. The greater part of these tablets are now in the Museums of London and Berlin, some are at the Gizeh Museum, and a few are in private hands. Summaries of the contents of those preserved in the British Museum are given in the *Tell el-Amarna Tablets* (Bezold—Budge), London, 1892 ; and for translations of most of the tablets of the “find,” see the *Tell el-Amarna Letters*, by H. Winckler, London and Berlin, 1894.

The Assyrian kings Sennacherib, Esarhaddon, and Assurbanipal marched against Egypt ; Tirhakah defeated Sennacherib at Eltekeh, but was defeated by Esarhaddon, the son of Sennacherib, who drove him back into Ethiopia. Esarhaddon's son, Assurbanipal, also attacked Tirhakah and

defeated him. Thebes was captured, and Egypt was divided into twenty-two provinces, over some of which Assyrian viceroys were placed. A fragment of a Babylonian tablet states that Nebuchadnezzar II. marched into Egypt.

VII. The Greek and Roman writers upon Egypt are many; and of these the best known are Herodotus, Manetho, and Diodorus Siculus. **Herodotus** devotes the whole of the second and the beginning of the third book of his work to a history of Egypt and the Egyptians, and his is the oldest Greek treatise on the subject known to us. In spite of the attacks made upon his work during the last few years, the evidence of the hieroglyphic inscriptions which are being deciphered year after year shows that on the whole his work is trustworthy. A work more valuable than that of Herodotus is the Egyptian history of **Manetho** (still living in B.C. 271) of Sebennytus, who is said by Plutarch to have been a contemporary of Ptolemy I.; his work, however, was written during the reign of Ptolemy II. Philadelphus (B.C. 286–247). According to words put into his mouth, he was chief priest and scribe in one of the temples of Egypt, and he appears to have been perfectly acquainted with the ancient Egyptian language and literature. He had also had the benefit of a Greek education, and was therefore peculiarly fitted to draw up in Greek for Ptolemy Philadelphus a history of Egypt and her religion. The remains of the great Egyptian history of Manetho are preserved in the polemical treatise of Josephus against Apion, in which a series of passages of Egyptian history from the XVth to the XIXth dynasties is given, and in the list of the dynasties, together with the number of years of the reign of each king, given by Africanus and Eusebius on his authority. At the beginning of his work Manetho gives a list of gods and demi-gods who ruled over Egypt before Menes, the first human king of Egypt; the thirty

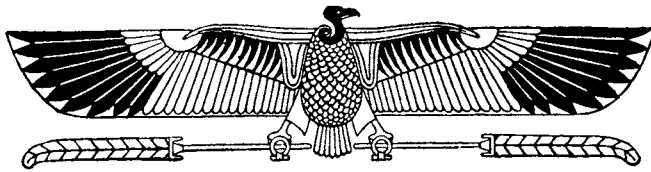
dynasties known to us he divides into three sections:—I–XI, XII–XIX, and XX–XXX. **Diodorus Siculus**, who visited Egypt about B.C. 57, wrote a history of the country, its people and its religion, based chiefly upon the works of Herodotus and Hekataëus. He was not so able a writer nor so accurate an observer as Herodotus, and his work contains many blunders. Other important ancient writers on Egypt are Strabo,* Chaeremon,† Josephus,‡ Plutarch§ and Horapollo.||

According to Manetho, there reigned over Egypt before Menâ, or Menes, the first mortal king of that country, a number of beings who may be identified with the Shesu Heru, or “followers of Horus”; of their deeds and history nothing is known. Some have believed that during their rule Egypt was divided into two parts, each ruled by its own king; and others have thought that the whole of Upper and Lower Egypt was divided into a large series of small, independent principalities, which were united under one head in the person of Menes. There is, however, no support to be obtained from the inscriptions for either of these theories. The kings of Egypt following after the mythical period are divided into thirty dynasties. For the sake of convenience, Egyptian history is divided into three periods:—I, the **Ancient Empire**, which includes the first eleven dynasties; II, the **Middle Empire**, which includes the next nine dynasties (XIIth–XXth); and, III, the **New Empire**, which includes the remaining ten dynasties, XXIst–XXXth, one being Persian. The rule of the Saïte kings was followed by that of the **Persians, Macedonians, Ptolemies** and **Romans**. The rule of the **Arabs** which began A.D. 641, ended A.D. 1517, when the country was conquered by the **Turks**; since this time Egypt has been nominally a pashalik of Turkey.

* About A.D. 15. † About A.D. 50. ‡ About A.D. 75.

§ About A.D. 100. || About A.D. 400.

The date assigned to the first dynasty is variously given by different scholars : by Champollion-Figeac it is B.C. 5867, by Böckh 5702, by Bunsen 3623, by Lepsius 3892, by Lieblein 3893, by Mariette 5004, and by Brugsch 4400. As far as can be seen, there is much to be said in favour of that given by Brugsch, and his dates are adopted throughout in this book.

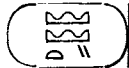


HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

ANCIENT EMPIRE.

Dynasty I, from This.

B.C.

4400. **Menà**,* the first human king of Egypt, founded Memphis, having turned aside the course of the Nile, and established a temple service there.
4366. **Tetà**, wrote a book on anatomy, and continued buildings at Memphis.
4266. **Semti** . Some papyri say that the 64th Chapter of the Book of the Dead was "found" in his time.

Dynasty II, from This.

4133. **Neter-baiu**,† in whose reign an earthquake swallowed up many people at Bubastis.
4100. **Kakau**, in whose days the worship of Apis at Memphis, and that of Mnevis at Heliopolis, was continued.
4066. **Ba-en-neter**, in whose reign, according to John of Antioch, the Nile flowed with honey for eleven days. During the reign of this king the succession of females to the throne of Egypt was declared valid.
4000. **Sent**. Sepulchral stelæ of this king's priests are preserved at Oxford and at Gizeh; see page 572.
- **Nefer-ka-Seker**, in whose reign an eclipse appears to be mentioned.

Dynasty III, from Memphis.

3900. **Tcheser**, the builder of the famous "Step Pyramid" at Sakḳâra.

* See under Abydos, page 356.

† Or



Dynasty IV, from Memphis.

- ^{B.C.}
 3766. **Seneferu**. Important contemporaneous monuments of this king exist. During his reign the copper mines of Wādī Ma'ārah were worked. He built the pyramid of Mēdūm.
3733. **Khufu** (Cheops), who fought with the people of Sinai; he built the first pyramid of Gīzeh.
3666. **Khā-f-Rā** (Chephren), the builder of the second pyramid at Gīzeh.
3633. **Men-kau-Rā** (Mycerinus), the builder of the third pyramid at Gīzeh. The fragments of his coffin are in the British Museum. Some copies of the Book of the Dead say that the 64th chapter of that work was compiled during the reign of this king.

Dynasty V, from Elephantine.

3533. **Saḥu-Rā**, the builder of a pyramid at Abuṣīr.
3443. **Rā-en-user**, the builder of a pyramid at Abuṣīr.
3366. **Ṭet-ka-Rā**. The Precepts of Ptah-ḥetep were written during the reign of this king.
3333. **Unās**, whose pyramid at Saḳḳāra was explored in 1881.

Dynasty VI, from Memphis.

3266. **Tetā**, the builder of a pyramid at Saḳḳāra.
3233. **Pepi-meri-Rā**, the builder of a pyramid at Saḳḳāra.
3200. **Mer-en-Rā**.
3166. **Nefer-ka-Rā**.
- 3133 (?). **Nit-āqert** (Nitocris), "the beautiful woman with rosy cheeks."

Dynasties VII and X, from Memphis.

Nefer-ka.
 Nefer-Seḥ
 Āb.
 Nefer-kau-Rā.
 Kharthi.

B.C.

3033. Nefer-ka-Rā.
 3000. Nefer-ka-Rā-Nebi.
 2966. Tēṭ-ka-Rā-. . . .
 2933. Nefer-ka-Rā-Khenṭu.
 2900. Mer-en-Ḥeru.
 2866. Se-nefer-ka-Rā.
 2833. Ka-en-Rā.
 2800. Nefer-ka-Rā-Tererl.
 2766. Nefer-ka-Rā-Ḥeru.
 2733. Nefer-ka-Rā Pepi Seneb.
 2700. Nefer-ka-Rā-Ānnu.
 2633. Nefer-kau-Rā.
 2600. Nefer-kau-Ḥeru.
 2533. Nefer-āri-ka-Rā.*

Dynasty XI, from Diospolis, or Thebes.

It is not at present possible to arrange in chronological order the names of the kings of this dynasty, although several of them are well known. Names common to several of them are **Antef** and **Menthu-ḥetep**. Some of the kings appear to have ruled for long periods, but their reigns were on the whole uneventful; the burial place of the kings of this dynasty is at Drah abu'l-Neḡḡah.

2500. **Se-ānkh-ka-Rā**. This king is known to us through an inscription at Ḥamāmât, which states that he sent an expedition to the land of Punt; this shows that at that early date an active trade must have been carried on across the Arabian desert between Egypt and Arabia. The other kings of the XIth dynasty bore the names of Āntef-āa, Ān-āntef, Āmentuf, Ān-āa, and Mentu-ḥetep. Se-ānkh-ka-Rā appears to have been the immediate predecessor of the XIIth dynasty.

* These names are obtained from the TABLET OF ABYDOS; see page 3.

MIDDLE EMPIRE.

B.C. *Dynasty XII, from Diospolis, or Thebes.*

2466. **Āmenemhāt I.** ascended the throne of Egypt after hard fighting; he conquered the Uaua, a Libyan tribe that lived near Korosko in Nubia, and wrote a series of instructions for his son Usertsen I. The story of Senehet was written during this reign.
2433. **Usertsen I.** made war against the tribes of Ethiopia; he erected granite obelisks and built largely at Helio-
polis. He and his father built pyramids at Lisht, a necropolis situated about 30 miles south of Cairo.
2400. **Āmenemhāt II.** Khnemu-hetep, son of Neherā, whose tomb is at Beni-hasān, lived during the reign of this king.
2366. **Usertsen II.** He built a pyramid at Illahūn.
2333. **Usertsen III.**
2300. **Āmenemhāt III.** During this king's reign special attention was paid to the rise of the Nile, and canals were dug and sluices made for irrigating the country; in this reign the famous Lake Moeris, in the district called by the Arabs El-Fayyūm,* was built. The rise of the Nile was marked on the rocks at Semneh, about thirty-five miles above the second cataract, and the inscriptions are visible to this day. He built a pyramid at Ḥawāra and the Labyrinth.
2266. **Āmenemhāt IV.**

2233. *Dynasties XIII–XVII. The so-called Hyksos Period.*

According to Manetho these dynasties were as follows:—

Dynasty XIII, from Thebes, 60 kings in 453 years.

„	XIV,	„	Xoïs,†	76	„	„	484	„
„	XV,	Hyksos,	6	„	„	260	„	„
„	XVI,	„	10	„	„	251	„	„
„	XVII, from Thebes,	10	„	„	10	„	„	„

* In Arabic الفيوم, from the Coptic Ⲫⲓⲟⲙⲙ, “the lake.”

† A town in the Delta.

Unfortunately there are no monuments whereby we can correct or modify these figures. The number of years assigned to the rule of the XIIIth and XIVth dynasties seems excessive. The Hyksos appear to have made their way from the countries in and to the west of Mesopotamia into Egypt. They joined with their countrymen, who had already settled in the Delta, and were able to defeat the native kings; it is thought that their rule lasted 500 years, and that Joseph arrived in Egypt towards the end of this period. The name Hyksos is derived from the Egyptian



Hequ Shaasu, i.e., "princes of the Shasu," or nomad tribes on the east and north-east of Egypt. The principal Hyksos kings of the XVIth dynasty are *Āpepā I.* and *Āpepā II.*; Nubti and the native Egyptian princes ruled under them. Under *Se-qenen-Rā*, a Theban ruler of the XVIIth dynasty, a war broke out between the Egyptians and the Hyksos, which continued for many years, and resulted in the expulsion of the foreign rulers.

Dynasty XVIII, from Thebes.

B.C.

1700. **Āāhmes I.**, who re-established the independence of Egypt.
1666. **Āmen-ḥetep** (Amenophis) I.
1633. **Tehuti-mes** (Thothmes) I.
1600. " " II.
1600. { **Hāt-shepset**, sister of Thothmes II. She sent an expedition to Punt.
1600. { **Tehuti-mes** (Thothmes) III. made victorious expeditions into Mesopotamia. He was one of the greatest kings that ever ruled over Egypt.
1566. **Āmen-ḥetep II.**
1533. **Tehuti-mes IV.**

1500. **Amen-hetep III.** warred successfully in the lands to the south of Egypt and in Asia. He made it a custom to go into Mesopotamia to shoot lions, and, while there he married a sister and daughter of Tushratta, the king of Mitani, and a sister and a daughter of Kadashman-Bêl (?), king of Karduniyash; he afterwards made proposals of marriage for another daughter of this latter king called Sukharti. The correspondence and despatches from kings of Babylon, Mesopotamia, and Phœnicia were found in 1887 at Tell el-Amarna, and large portions of them are now preserved in the Museums of London, Berlin, and Gizeh.

Amen-hetep IV. or Khu-en-Âten ("brilliance, or glory of the solar disk"), the founder of the city Khu-âten, the ruins of which are called Tell el-Amarna, and of the heresy of the disk-worshippers. He was succeeded by a few kings who held the same religious opinions as himself.

Dynasty XIX, from Thebes.

B. C.

1400. **Rameses I.**

1366. **Seti I.** conquered the rebellious tribes in Western Asia, and built the Memnonium at Abydos. He was famous as a builder, and attended with great care to the material welfare of his kingdom. He is said to have built a canal from the Nile to the Red Sea.

1333. **Rameses II.** subjugated Nubia and Mesopotamia. He was a great builder, and a liberal patron of the arts and sciences; learned men like Pentaurt were attached to his court. He is famous as one of the oppressors of the Israelites.

1300. **Seti Meneptah I.** is thought to have been the Pharaoh of the Exodus; his mummy was found in the tomb of Amenophis II. at Thebes.

NEW EMPIRE.

Dynasty XX, from Thebes.

1200. **Rameses III.** was famous for his buildings, and for the splendid gifts which he made to the temples of Thebes, Abydos and Heliopolis. His reign represented an era of great commercial prosperity.

1166-1133. **Rameses IV.-XII.***Dynasty XXI, from Tanis and Thebes.*

	I. Tanis.	II. Thebes.
B. C.		
1100-	Sa-Mentu.	Her-Heru , the first
1000.	Pasebkhānu I.	priest-king.
	Āmen-em-āpt.	Pi-ānkhi.
	Pasebkhānu II.	Pai-net'em I-III.

Dynasty XXII, Libyans who ruled the country from Bubastis (Tell-Basta).

966. **Shashanq** (Shishak) I. (see 1 Kings, xiv. 25-28 ; 2 Chron., xii. 2-13) besieged Jerusalem, and having conquered it, pillaged the Temple and carried away much spoil.

933. Uasarken I.	} Under the rule of these kings Egypt finally lost most of her foreign possessions, and the feebleness of their rule made her an easy prey for the warlike.
900. Takeleth I.	
866. Uasarken II.	
833. Shashanq II.	
Takeleth II.	
Shashanq III.	
800. Pamai	}
Shashanq IV.	

Dynasty XXIII, from Tanis.

766. Peṭā-Bast.
Uasarken III.

Dynasty XXIV, from Saïs (Sâ el-Hagar).

733. **Bak-en-ren-f** (Bocchoris).

Dynasty XXV, from Ethiopia.

B.C.

700. **Shabaka (Sabaco)**. See 2 Kings, xvii. 4.

Shabataka.

693. Taharqa (Tirhakah, 2 Kings, xix. 9) is famous for having conquered Sennacherib and delivered Hezekiah; he was, however, defeated by Esarhaddon and Assurbanipal, the son and grandson of Sennacherib. Tirhakah's son-in-law, Urdamanah, was also defeated by the Assyrians.

Dynasty XXVI, from Sais.

666. **Psemthek I.** (Psammetichus) allowed Greeks to settle in the Delta, and employed Greek soldiers to fight for him.

612. **Nekau II. (Necho)** defeated Josiah, king of Judah, and was defeated by Nebuchadnezzar II. son of Nabopolassar, king of Babylon. See 2 Kings, xxiii. 29 ff; Jeremiah xlv. 2.

596. **Psammetichus II.**

591. **Uah-âb-Râ, Apries (Hophra** of the Bible, Gr. Apries) marched to the help of Zedekiah, king of Judah, who was defeated by Nebuchadnezzar II. His army rebelled against him, and he was dethroned; Amâsis, a general in his army, then succeeded to the throne. See Jeremiah, xlv. 30.

572. **Ââhmes** or **Amâsis II.** favoured the Greeks, and granted them many privileges; in his reign Naucratis became a great city.

528. **Psammetichus III.** was defeated at Pelusium by Cambyses the Persian, and taken prisoner; he was afterwards slain for rebellion against the Persians.

Dynasty XXVII, from Persia.

527. **Cambyes** marched against the Ethiopians and the inhabitants of the Oases.

NOTES FOR TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT.

B.C.

521. **Darius I. (Hystaspes)** endeavoured to open up the ancient routes of commerce ; he established a coinage, and adopted a conciliatory and tolerant system of government, and favoured all attempts to promote the welfare of Egypt.
486. **Xerxes I.**
465. **Artaxerxes I.**, during whose reign the Egyptians revolted, headed by Amyrtæus.
425. **Darius II. (Nothus)**, during whose reign the Egyptians revolted successfully, and a second Amyrtæus became king of Egypt.
405. **Artaxerxes II.**

Dynasty XXVIII, from Saïs.

Âmen-rut (Amyrtæus), reigned six years.

Dynasty XXIX, from Mendes.

399. Naifāaurut I.
393. Haḳar.
380. P-se-mut.
379. Naifāaurut II.

Dynasty XXX, from Sebennytus.

378. **Nekht-Ḥeru-ḥeb (Nectanebus I.)** defeated the Persians at Mendes.
360. **T'e-her** surrendered to the Persians.
358. **Nekht-neb-f (Nectanebus II.)** devoted himself to the pursuit of magic, and neglected his empire ; when Artaxerxes III. (Ochus) marched against him, he fled from his kingdom, and the Persians again ruled Egypt.

B.C.

PERSIANS.

340. **Artaxerxes III.** (Ochus).
 338. Arses.
 336. **Darius III.** (Codomannus) conquered by Alexander the Great at Issus.

MACEDONIANS.

332. **Alexander the Great** founded Alexandria. He showed his toleration of the Egyptian religion by sacrificing to the god Amen of Libya.

PTOLEMIES.*

323. **Ptolemy I. Soter**, son of Lagus, became king of Egypt after Alexander's death. He founded the famous Alexandrian Library, and encouraged learned Greeks to make Alexandria their home; he died B.C. 284.
 285. **Ptolemy II. Philadelphus** built the Pharos, founded Berenice and Arsinoë, caused Manetho's Egyptian history to be compiled, and the Greek version of the Old Testament (Septuagint) to be made.
 247. **Ptolemy III. Euergetes I.** The stele of Canopus † was set up in the ninth year of his reign; he obtained possession of all Syria, and was a patron of the arts and sciences.

* For the chronology of the Ptolemies, see Lepsius, *Königsbuch*, Synoptische Tafeln 9.

† This important stele, preserved at Glzeh, see page 590, is inscribed in hieroglyphics, Greek and demotic with a decree made at Canopus by the priesthood, assembled there from all parts of Egypt, in honour of Ptolemy III. It mentions the great benefits which he had conferred upon Egypt, and states what festivals are to be celebrated in his honour and in that of Berenice, etc., and concludes with a resolution ordering that a copy of this inscription in hieroglyphics, Greek and demotic shall be placed in every large temple of Egypt. Two other copies of this work are known.

- B.C.
222. **Ptolemy IV. Philopator** defeated Antiochus, and founded the temple at Edfû.
205. **Ptolemy V. Epiphanes.** During his reign the help of the Romans against Antiochus was asked for by the Egyptians. Coelesyria and Palestine were lost to Egypt. He was poisoned B.C. 182, and his son Ptolemy VI. Philometor, died in that same year. The Rosetta Stone was set up in the eighth year of the reign of this king.
- **Ptolemy VI. Philometor** did not reign a full year.
181. **Ptolemy VII. Eupator** was taken prisoner at Pelusium by Antiochus IV., B.C. 171, and died B.C. 146. He reigned alone at first, then conjointly (B.C. 170—165) with Ptolemy IX. Euergetes II. (also called Physcon), and finally having gone to Rome on account of his quarrel with Physcon, he reigned as sole monarch of Egypt (B.C. 165). Physcon was overthrown B.C. 132, reigned again B.C. 125, and died B.C. 117.
170. **Ptolemy VIII. Neos Philopator** is murdered by Physcon.
146. **Ptolemy IX. Euergetes II. (Physcon).**
117. **Ptolemy X. Soter II.** Philometor II. (Lathyrus), reigns jointly with Cleopatra III. Ptolemy X. is banished (B.C. 106), his brother Ptolemy XI. Alexander I. is made co-regent, but afterwards banished (B.C. 89) and slain (B.C. 87); Ptolemy X. is recalled, and dies B.C. 81.
88. **Ptolemy XI. Alexander I.** is killed.
81. Ptolemy XII. Alexander II. is slain.
81. **Ptolemy XIII. Neos Dionysos (Auletes),** ascends the throne; dies B.C. 52.

B. C.

52. **Ptolemy XIV.** Dionysos II. and Cleopatra VII. are, according to the will of Ptolemy XIII., to marry each other; the Roman senate to be their guardian. Ptolemy XIV. banishes Cleopatra, and is a party to the murder of Pompey, their guardian, who visits Egypt after his defeat at Pharsalia. Cæsar arrives in Egypt to support Cleopatra (B.C. 48); Ptolemy XIV. is drowned; **Ptolemy XV.**, brother of Cleopatra VII., is appointed her co-regent by Cæsar (B.C. 47); he is murdered at her wish, and her son by Cæsar, **Ptolemy XVI.** Cæsarion, is named co-regent (B.C. 45).
42. **Antony** orders **Cleopatra** to appear before him, and is seduced by her charms; he kills himself, and Cleopatra dies by the bite of an asp. Egypt becomes a Roman province B.C. 30.

ROMANS.

Cæsar Augustus becomes master of the Roman Empire. Cornelius Gallus is the first prefect of Egypt. Under the third prefect, Aelius Gallus, Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, invades Egypt, but is defeated.

In the consulship of Marcus Silanus and Lucius Norbanus, Germanicus set out (A.D. 19) for Egypt to study its antiquities. His ostensible motive, however, was solicitude for the province. He sailed up the Nile from the city of Canopus, which was founded by the Spartans because Canopus, pilot of one of their ships, had been buried there, when Menelaus on his return to Greece was driven into a distant sea and to the shores of Libya. "Next he visited the vast ruins of ancient Thebes. There yet remained on the towering piles Egyptian inscriptions, with a complete account of the city's past grandeur.

One of the aged priests, who was desired to interpret the language of his country, related how once there had dwelt in Thebes 700,000 men of military age, and how with such an army Rhamses conquered Libya, Ethiopia, Media, Persia, Bactria, and Scythia, and held under his sway the countries inhabited by the Syrians, Armenians, and their neighbours, the Cappadocians, from the Bithynian to the Lycian Sea. There was also to be read what tributes were imposed on these nations, the weight of silver and gold, the tale of arms and horses, the gifts of ivory and of perfumes to the temples, and the amount of grain and supplies furnished by each people, a revenue as magnificent as is now exacted by the might of Parthia or the power of Rome. But Germanicus also bestowed attention on other wonders. Chief of these were the stone image of Memnon, which, when struck by the sun's rays, gives out the sound of a human voice; the pyramids, rising up like mountains amid almost impassable wastes of shifting sand; raised by the emulation and vast wealth of kings; the lake (*i.e.*, Moeris) hollowed out of the earth to be a receptacle for the Nile's overflow; and elsewhere the river's narrow channel and profound depth which no line of the explorer can penetrate. He then came to Elephantine and Syene, formerly the limits of the Roman empire, which now extends to the Red Sea."—*Tacitus*, book ii., §§ 59–61 (Church and Brodribb).

A. D.

- 14. **Tiberius.** In his reign Germanicus visited Egypt.
- 37. **Caligula.** In his reign a persecution of the Jews took place.
- 41. **Claudius.**
- 55. **Nero.** In his reign Christianity was first preached in Egypt by Saint Mark. The Blemmyes made raids upon the southern frontier of Egypt.
- 69. **Vespasian.** Jerusalem destroyed A.D. 70.

- A.D.
82. **Domitian** causes temples to Isis and Serapis to be built at Rome.
98. **Trajan.** The Nile and Red Sea Canal (Amnis Trajânus) re-opened.
117. **Hadrian.** Visited Egypt twice.
138. **Antoninus Pius.**
161. **Marcus Aurelius** caused the famous *Itinerary* to be made.
180. **Commodus.**
193. **Septimius Severus.**
211. Caracalla visited Egypt, and caused a large number of young men to be massacred at Alexandria.
217. **Macrinus.**
218. **Elagabalus.**
249. **Decius.** Christians persecuted.
253. **Valerianus.** Christians persecuted.
260. **Gallienus.** Persecution of Christians stayed. Zenobia, Queen of Palmyra, invades Egypt A.D. 268.
270. **Aurelian.** Zenobia becomes Queen of Egypt for a short time, but is dethroned A.D. 273.
276. **Probus.**
284. **Diocletian.** "Pompey's Pillar" erected A.D. 302, persecution of Christians A.D. 304. The Copts date the era of the Martyrs from the day of Diocletian's accession to the throne (August 29).
324. **Constantine the Great,** the Christian Emperor, in whose reign, A.D. 325, the Council of Nicæa was held. At this council it was decided that Christ and His Father were of one and the *same* nature, as taught by Athanasius; and the doctrine of

- A.D. **Arius**,* that Christ and God were only *similar* in nature, was decreed heretical.
337. **Constantius**. George of Cappadocia, an Arian, is made Bishop of Alexandria.
361. **Julian**, the Apostate.
379. **Theodosius I.**, the Great, proclaims Christianity the religion of his empire. The Arians and followers of the ancient Egyptian religion were persecuted.

THE BYZANTINES.

395. **Arcadius**, Emperor of the East. The Anthropomorphites,† who affirmed that God was of human form, destroyed the greater number of their opponents.
408. **Theodosius II.** In his reign the doctrines of Nestorius were condemned by Cyril of Alexandria. Nestorius, because of the two natures of Christ, inferred also two persons, a human and a divine. "In the Syrian school, Nestorius had been taught (A.D. 429-431) to abhor the confusion of the two natures, and nicely to discriminate the humanity of his *master* Christ from the Divinity of the *Lord* Jesus. The Blessed Virgin he revered as the mother of Christ, but his ears were offended with the rash

* "He was a most expert logician, but perverted his talents to evil purposes, and had the audacity to preach what no one before him had ever suggested, namely, that the Son of God was made out of that which had no prior existence; that there was a period of time in which He existed not; that, as possessing free will, He was capable of virtue, or of vice; and that He was created and made."—Sozomen, *Eccles. Hist.*, Bk. I., ch. 15. For the statement of the views of Arius by his opponent Alexander, Bishop of Alexandria, see his letter addressed to the Catholic Church generally, in Socrates, *Eccles. Hist.*, Bk. I., chap. vi.

† The leader of this persecution was Theophilus, Bishop of Alexandria, who, before he discovered that the majority of the Egyptian monks were Anthropomorphites, was himself opposed to this body.

A.D.

and recent title of mother of God, which had been insensibly adopted since the origin of the Arian controversy. From the pulpit of Constantinople, a friend of the patriarch,* and afterwards the patriarch himself, repeatedly preached against the use, or the abuse, of a word unknown to the apostles, unauthorized by the church, and which could only tend to alarm the timorous, to mislead the simple, to amuse the profane, and to justify, by a seeming resemblance, the old genealogy of Olympus. In his calmer moments Nestorius confessed, that it might be tolerated or excused by the union of the two natures, and the communication of their *idioms* (*i.e.*, a transfer of properties of each nature to the other—of infinity to man, passibility to God, etc.): but he was exasperated, by contradiction, to disclaim the worship of a newborn, an infant Deity, to draw his inadequate similes from the conjugal or civil partnerships of life, and to describe the manhood of Christ, as the robe, the instrument, the tabernacle of his Godhead.”—Gibbon, *Decline and Fall*, chap. 47.

450. **Marcianus.** The Monophysite doctrine of Eutyches was condemned at the Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451. Eutyches, from the one person of Christ, inferred also one nature, viz., the Divine—the human having been absorbed into it. Silko invaded Egypt with his Nubian followers.
474. **Zeno.** He issued the *Henoticon*, an edict which, while affirming the Incarnation, made no attempt to decide the difficult question whether Christ possessed a single or a double nature.

* Anastasius of Antioch, who said, “Let no one call Mary *Theotokos*; for Mary was but a woman; and it is impossible that God should be born of a woman.”—Socrates, *Eccles. Hist.*, Bk. VII., chap. xxxii.

A.D.

491. **Anastasius.**

527. **Justinian.** The Monophysites separated from the Melkites, or "Royalists," and chose their own patriarch; they were afterwards called Copts, القبط.*

610. **Heraclius.** The Persians under Chosroes held Egypt for ten years; they were expelled by Heraclius A.D. 629.

MUHAMMADANS.

640. **'Amr ibn al-'Aṣi** conquers Egypt. 'Amr began his expedition against Egypt with about 4,000 men, but the Khalifa Omar sent him reinforcements, and by the time the famous general arrived at 'Arish his army numbered 16,000 men. Having vanquished the garrison at Pelusium, he marched along the Pelusiac branch of the Nile, and passed by way of Bubastis to Heliopolis. A truce of four days was obtained for George, the Maḳawḳas, the governor of Upper Egypt, by the Coptic Patriarch Benjamin, and it seems that the Egyptian official, who was a Jacobite Copt, and a hater of the ruling class in Egypt, greatly aided the Arab general. The Arabs moved on towards Memphis, and soon after, under Zubêr, 'Amr's colleague, made a general assault upon the fortress of Babylon, scaled the walls, and so became masters of the capital of Upper Egypt. George, the Maḳawḳas, arranged the details of the capitulation, and a capitation tax of two dînârs for every male adult, besides other payments. 'Amr then marched on Alexandria, and as the Greeks took to their

* The name given to the native Christians of Egypt by the Arabs, from كُتَّانِيُوت for Αἰγύπτιος.

ships and fled, George, the Maḳawḳas, who had gone to Alexandria after the fall of Babylon, offered to capitulate on the same terms as he had made for that city. 'Amr returned to Memphis, and made the head-quarters of the army at Foṣṭāṭ, near which the modern town of Cairo has grown up. 'Amr refused to possess himself of any land, and he was not even given a site whereon to build a house. One of his most useful works was to reopen the old canal which ran from Belbês through the Wâdî Ṭûmilât to the Bitter Lakes, and thence to the Red Sea; by this means it was possible to convey corn which had been loaded into ships at Memphis from that city into Yenbô, the port of Medîna in Arabia, without transhipment. This canal was in use for about eighty years, when it became silted up. After the second siege of Alexandria (A.D. 646) the Arabs made Foṣṭāṭ the capital of Egypt.

A. D.

644. 'Othmân.

750. Merwân II., the last of the 'Omayyade dynasty, was put to death in Egypt.

750-870. The 'Abbasides rule over Egypt.

786. Harûn ar-Rashîd.

813. Mâmûn visited Egypt, and opened the Great Pyramid.

870. Aḥmad ibn-Ṭulûn governs Egypt.

884. Khamârûyeh enlarges Foṣṭāṭ.

969-1171. The Fâṭimîtes govern Egypt, with Maṣr el-Ḳâhira * (Cairo) as their residence.

975. Al-'Azîz, son of Mu'izz, great grandson of 'Obêdallâh.

996. Ḥâkim, son of 'Azîz, founder of the Druses. This remarkable prince wished to be considered God incarnate.

* الْقَاهِرَة

A.D.

- 1020. Zâhir, son of Hâkim.
- 1036. Abu Tamîm el-Mustanşir.
- 1094. Musta'li, son of el-Mustanşir, captured Jerusalem (A.D. 1096), but was defeated by the Crusaders under Godfrey de Bouillon.
- 1160. 'Aḍîd Ledînallâh, the last of the Fâtimites.
- 1171. Şalâheddîn (Saladin) defeated the Crusaders at Hittin, and recaptured Jerusalem.
- 1193. Melik al-'Adîl.
- 1218. Melik al-Kâmil, the builder of Manşûrah.
- 1240. Melik aş-Şâleḥ, the usurper, captured Jerusalem, Damascus, and Ascalon. Louis IX. of France, attacked and captured Damietta, but was made prisoner at Manşûrah, with all his army.
- 1250-1380. The Baḥrite Mamelukes.
- 1260. Bêbars.
- 1277. Kâlâûn.
- 1291. Al-Ashraf Khalîl captured Acre.
- 1346. Ḥasan.
- 1382-1517. Burgite or Circassian Mamelukes.
- 1382. Barḳûḳ.
- 1422. Bursbey.
- 1468. Kâit Bey.
- 1501. Al-Ghûri.
- 1517. Ṭûmân Bey is deposed by Selim I. of Constantinople, and Egypt becomes a Turkish Pashalik. Soon after his conquest of Egypt, Selim divided the country into twenty-four provinces, over each of which he appointed a local governor; these governors were placed in subjection to a Pâsha, who, with the help of a council of seven Turkish officials, ruled the country. One of the twenty-four governors was elected to the important office of "Shêkh al-balad," or governor of the metropolis, a post which was greatly coveted by his colleagues

- A.D. when they saw what frequent opportunities were enjoyed by him of "squeezing" the natives, and of making himself a rich man. This system worked well for a time, but as the power of Turkey declined, so the power of her nominees the Pâshas of Egypt declined, and at length the twenty-four local governors became the actual rulers of Egypt, for the revenues of the country were in their hands, and they paid the Turkish Pâsha his salary.
1771. 'Ali Bey, a slave, obtains great power in Egypt. He was accused of entering into a conspiracy against the Sultân at Constantinople, and a messenger was sent to Egypt to bring back 'Ali Bey's head. 'Ali caught and slew the messenger, and having called his colleagues together, drove out the Pâsha and declared Egypt independent. He was poisoned by Muḥammad abu-Dhabad, a man on whom he had showered favours.
1773. Ismâ'il, Ibrâhîm, and Murâd strive for the mastery over Egypt. When Murâd became ruler, a Turkish army invaded Egypt and seized Cairo, and attempted to follow the rebel (Murâd) into Upper Egypt.
- 1790.
1798. **Napoleon Bonaparte** lands near Alexandria with an army of 36,000 men (July 1); storming of Alexandria (July 5); Murâd meets the French in battle at Embâbeh, opposite Cairo, with 60,000 men, but is beaten, and about 15,000 of his men are killed. This fight is commonly called the **Battle of the Pyramids**. A few days later Nelson destroyed the French fleet in Abuḳîr Bay.
1799. Destruction of the Turkish army by the French at Abuḳîr.
1800. Sir Sydney Smith signs a treaty at Al-'Arish granting General Kléber's army permission to leave Egypt.

- A.D. (February 24), but as he had to admit later that he had exceeded his powers, and that the British Government demanded the surrender of the whole French army as prisoners of war, Gen. Kléber attacked the Turks at the village of Maṭariyeh and is said to have routed 70,000 men, an army six times as large as his own. A few months later Kléber was assassinated, and General Menou became commander-in-chief of the French army in Egypt.
1801. Sir Ralph Abercromby lands at Abuḳîr Bay with 17,000 men (March 8); battle of Alexandria and defeat of the French (March 21); the French capitulate at Cairo (June 27); the French capitulate at Alexandria (August 30); evacuation of Egypt by the French (September).
1803. England restores Egypt to the Turks. As soon as the English left Egypt, severe conflicts took place between two Turkish parties in the country, the Albanians and the Ghuzz; to the former belonged Muḥammad 'Ali.
1805. **Muḥammad Ali** is elected Pâsha of Egypt by the people. His election was afterwards confirmed by the Porte. He was born at Cavalla, a small town on the sea-coast of Albania, in 1769, and he served in the Turkish army at an early age. He was sent with a body of troops to fight against the French, and enjoyed at that time the rank of major (*bimbashi*); he married the daughter of the governor of his native town, and by her had three sons, Ibrâhîm, Tûsûn, and Ismâ'îl.
1807. General Fraser arrives at Alexandria with 5,000 British troops (March 17), but being unsuccessful in his mission, he evacuated Alexandria on September 14.

- A.D.
1811. Assassination of the Mamelukes by Muḥammad 'Ali. These unfortunate men were invited by Muḥammad Ali to attend the investiture of his son Ṭusūn with a garment of state at the Citadel on March 1. When they arrived they were graciously received and led into the Citadel, but as soon as they were inside the gates were closed and Muḥammad 'Ali's soldiers opened fire upon them; about 470 of the Beys and their followers were murdered, and of all who entered only one is said to have escaped.
1820. Expedition to the Sūdān led by Ismā'il, who was burned to death by an Arab shēkh called Nimr (1822).
1821. Muḥammad 'Ali sends about 8,000 troops to assist the Turks against the Greeks. In 1824 a false Mahdi appeared near Thebes, with about 25,000 followers, but nearly all of them were massacred by the Government troops.
1831. Invasion of Syria by Ibrāhīm, son of Muḥammad 'Ali. Acre was invested on November 29, but was not captured until May 27, 1832. Ibrāhīm was victorious at Emesa on July 8, he defeated Rashid Pāsha, and destroyed the Turkish fleet so completely that Constantinople was in imminent danger of capture. In 1833 the whole of Syria was ceded to Muḥammad 'Ali, and the rule of his son Ibrāhīm was firm but just. In 1839 war again broke out between the 'Turks and Egyptians, and two years later Syria was given back to the former. In 1847 Muhammad 'Ali visited Constantinople, and soon after his reasoning powers became impaired.
1848. **Ibrāhīm** is appointed to rule Egypt on account of his father's failing health. He died after the reign of a few months, but Muḥammad did not

- A.D. die until August 3, 1849. Muḥammad 'Ali was
 1849. an able ruler, and one who had the interest of his country at heart. He created an army and a navy, and established equitable laws for collecting the revenues; he founded colleges of various kinds, and also the famous Bûlâk printing press. There is no doubt that but for the obstacles placed in his way by the British Government, and its interference, he would have freed Egypt entirely from Turkish misrule. His health and spirits were broken by England when she reduced his army to 18,000 men and forbade him to employ his fleet, which rotted away as it lay inactive at Alexandria.
1849. **'Abbâs** Pâsha, the son of Ṭusûn, the son of Muḥammad 'Ali, succeeds Ibrâhîm. He was an incapable ruler, and is said to have been strangled at Benha in July, 1854.
1854. **Sa'id** Pâsha, the fourth son of Muḥammad 'Ali, becomes ruler of Egypt. Though not a strong ruler, he was a just man, and he will be chiefly remembered for having abolished a number of cruel monopolies. In many particulars he sought to carry out his father's plans, and first and foremost among these must be mentioned the building of railways in the Delta, and the enlarging of the canals with the view of improving irrigation and of facilitating communication. He it was who supported the project of making the Suez Canal, and he gave M. de Lesseps the concession for it. He founded the Bûlâk Museum, and encouraged excavations on the sites of the ancient cities of Egypt.
1863. **Ismâ'il**, son of Ibrâhîm Pâsha, and grandson of Muḥammad 'Ali, becomes the ruler of Egypt; he was born in 1830, and by a decree of the Sulṭân,

- A.D.
1863. dated May 14, 1867, was made "Khēdive"* of Egypt. In the early years of the rule of this remarkable man everything seemed to go well, and the material welfare of the country of Egypt appeared to be secured. Apparently Ismā'il was straining every nerve to rule his country according to Western ideas of justice and progress. Railways were built, schools were opened, trade of every kind was fostered, and agriculture, upon which the prosperity of Egypt depends, was encouraged to a remarkable degree. The making of the Suez Canal, which was begun in 1859, was carried on with great zeal under his auspices (as well as the Fresh Water Canal, which was begun in 1858 and finished in 1863), and the work was successfully accomplished in 1869. But the various enterprises in which he embarked cost
1875. large sums of money, and towards the end of 1875 his liabilities amounted to £77,667,569 sterling. The salaries of the officials were in arrear, and the Treasury bills were shunned by all. In this year he sold 176,602 Suez Canal shares to the British Government for £3,976,582 sterling; these shares
1878. are now worth over 25 millions sterling. In 1878 M. Waddington, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, urged Lord Derby to co-operate with France in an attempt to put the finances of Egypt on a sounder base, and a Commission of Inquiry was instituted by the Decree of March 30, under the presidency of Mr. Rivers Wilson. In April Ismā'il was obliged to find the sum of £1,200,000 to pay the May coupon of the Unified Debt, and

* The Arabic form of the title is *خديوي* *Khudūwī*.

A.D.
1878.

it is said that he did so by the familiar process of "squeezing" the native. The labours of the Commission proved that "the land tenures were so arranged that the wealthier proprietors evaded a great portion of the land tax, and the system of forced labour was applied in a way which was ruinous to the country." (Royle, *Egyptian Campaigns*, p. 6.) Ismâ'il had built himself palaces everywhere, and he and his family had become possessed of one-fifth of the best of the land of Egypt. The taxes were collected with great cruelty and injury to the native, and speculation and bribery were rampant everywhere. In August of this year a Cabinet was formed with Nubar Pâsha at the head, with Rivers Wilson as Minister of Finance, and M. de Blignières as Minister of Public Works. At this time Ismâ'il announced that he was, in future, determined to rule the country through a Council of Ministers. It must be remembered that the debt of Egypt at this time was about £90,000,000. On February 18th, 1879, Nubar Pâsha and his Cabinet were, owing to the machinations of Ismâ'il, mobbed by about 2,500 officers and men at the Ministry of Finance, but at the critical moment Ismâ'il himself appeared, and the uproar ceased. At the same time, however, he told the European Consuls-General that unless more power were given to him he would not be answerable for what might happen. Soon after this he issued a Decree to raise the number of men in the army to 60,000, and in April he reduced the interest on the Debt. When Nubar Pâsha resigned his office, Ismâ'il appointed his own son Tawfiq as Prime Minister, but soon after this he dismissed the whole Cabinet and appointed

- A.D.
1879. a set of native Ministers with Sherif Pâsha as Prime Minister. As the result of this truly Oriental proceeding England and France, after much hesitation, demanded the deposition of Ismâ'il from the Sultân. About this time Ismâ'il sent large bribes to the Sultân, but these availed him nothing, and on June 25th Mr. Lascelles, the British Consul-General, and M. Tricon, the French Consul-General, together with Sherif Pâsha, waited upon Ismâ'il to inform him that he must at once abdicate in obedience to the orders of his sovereign master, the Sultân, which had been received from Constantinople. Ismâ'il of course refused to do this, but about 10.30 a.m. a telegram addressed to Ismâ'il Pâsha, late Khedive of Egypt, was received at the Abdîn Palace, and it was taken to him by Sherif Pâsha, who called upon his master to resign in favour of **Tawfîk** Pâsha. Almost at the same hour Tawfîk received at the Isma'iliyyeh Palace a telegram addressed to Muḥammad Tawfîk, Khedive of Egypt, and when he went to the Abdîn Palace with Sherif Pâsha, who had come from there to tell him about the telegram to Ismâ'il, he found his father ready to salute and to wish him better fortune than he himself had enjoyed. On Monday, the 30th of June, Ismâ'il left Egypt in the Khedivial yacht for Smyrna, taking with him a large sum of money and about 300 women; in 1887 he settled in Constantinople, where he died in 1895. Under Tawfîk's rule the Control was restored, and on September 4 Rîaz Pâsha became Prime Minister.
1880. Commission of Liquidation appointed, and a number of reforms, including a reduction of the taxes, are made.

A.D.

1881. A rebellion headed by Aḥmad Arabi or "**Arabi Pâsha**" and others breaks out. Arabi was born in the year 1840 in Lower Egypt, and was the son of a peasant farmer. He offended Ismâ'îl, and was accused of malpractices and misappropriation of army stores, but this the despot forgave him, and promoted him to the rank of colonel, and gave him a royal slave to wife. Arabi was the leader of a secret society, the aim of which was to free Egypt from foreign interference and control, and to increase the army, and make Tawfiḳ appoint an Egyptian to the office of Minister of War in the place of Osman Rifki. These facts coming to the notice of the authorities, Arabi and two of his colleagues were ordered to be arrested, and when this had been done, and they had been taken to the barracks in Cairo for examination, the soldiers who were in their companies rushed into the rooms and rescued them. The rebel officers and men next went to the palace where Tawfiḳ was, and compelled him to grant their requests, and to do away with the cause of their dissatisfaction.
1881. On February 2 of this year Tawfiḳ was called upon to form a new Cabinet, and Arabi became Minister of War, and Maḥmûd Sami was appointed President of the Council; Arabi was created a Pâsha by the Sultân and his power became paramount. In May a serious dispute arose between Arabi and his colleagues and the Khedive; and on the 19th and 20th three British and three French vessels arrived at Alexandria. On May 25th the Consuls-General of England and France demanded the resignation of Maḥmûd Sami's Cabinet, and the retirement of Arabi from the

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country. These demands were conceded on the following day, but shortly after Tawfîk reinstated Arabi, with the view of maintaining order and the tranquillity of the country. "On June 3 three more British and three more French warships arrived at Alexandria. On June 11 a serious riot broke out at Alexandria; and the British Consul was stoned and nearly beaten to death, and Mr. Ribton, a missionary, and a British naval officer and two seamen were actually killed." The massacre had been threatened by Maḥmûd Sami, and the riot was pre-arranged, and the native police and soldiery were parties to the murders of the Europeans which took place on that day; Mr. Royle (*Egyptian Campaigns*, p. 54) estimates the number of Europeans killed at 150. On June 25 the Sultân decorated Arabi with the Grand Order of the Medjidieh! On July 11 at 7 a.m. the **bombardment of Alexandria** was begun by H.M.S. "Alexandra" firing a shell into the newly made fortifications of the city, and the other British ships, "Inflexible," "Superb," "Sultan," "Téméraire," "Invincible," "Monarch," and "Penelope," soon after opened fire. After the bombardment was over the city was plundered and set on fire by the natives, and an idea of the damage done may be gained from the fact that the Commission of Indemnities awarded the claimants the sum of £4,341,011 sterling (Royle, *op. cit.*, p. 102). On July 14th British seamen were landed to protect the city, and on the 15th many forts were occupied by them. Early in August Arabi was removed from his post, and he at once began to prepare to resist the English soldiers who were known to be on their way to

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Egypt; on August 15 Sir Garnet Wolseley arrived in Egypt; on the 18th the British fleet arrived at Port Sa'id; on the 20th the British seized the Suez Canal, and the British Government was declared by M. de Lesseps to have paid to him £100,000 for loss of business! (Royle, *op. cit.*, p. 152). On September 13 Sir Garnet Wolseley was victorious at Tell el-Kebîr, at a cost of about 460 British officers and men; the Egyptians lost about 2,000, and several hundreds were wounded. On the 15th Cairo was occupied by the British, and the 10,000 Egyptian soldiers there submitted without fighting. On December 26th Arabi left Egypt for exile in Ceylon.

1883. A rebellion led by the **Mahdi** breaks out in the Sûdân. The Mahdi was one Muḥammad Aḥmad, a carpenter, who was born between 1840 and 1850; his native village was situated near the Island of Argo, in the province of Donḡola, and though poor, his parents declared that they belonged to the *Ashraf*, or "nobility," and claimed to be descendants of Muḥammad the Prophet. His father was a religious teacher, and had taught him to read and write. He studied at Berber under Muḥammad al-Khên, and later at Kharṭûm under the famous Shêkh Muḥammad Sherîf, and when he became a man he led a life of great asceticism on the Island of Abba in the White Nile. His piety and learning secured for him a great reputation in the Sûdân, and the greater number of the inhabitants sided with him in a serious quarrel which he had with Muḥammad Sherîf. He wandered about preaching against the Christians, and he declared that the decay in the Muḥammadan religion was due to the contact of Arabs

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with Christians, that true faith was dead, and that he was deputed by God to restore it. He then attached a number of important people to himself, and having retired to Abba Island, he declared himself to be the "Mahdi," or the being whose advent had been foretold by Muḥammadan writers, who would restore the religion of the Arabs to its former purity. In July, 1881, Rauf Pâsha, the Governor-General of the Sûdân, sent for him to come to Kharṭûm, but the Mahdi refused, and six weeks later he and his followers defeated the Government troops which had been sent to bring him, and slew half of them. In December he defeated Rashîd Bey, the Governor of Fashôda, and slew nearly all the 400 soldiers which he had with him at Geddîn. In April, 1882, Giegler Pâsha, the temporary Governor-General, next attacked the Mahdi, and under his able generalship considerable loss was inflicted on the rebels; but on June 7 the Mahdi and his Dervishes massacred the combined forces of 'Abd-Allah and Yussuf Pâsha, and in September he besieged El-Obêd, which capitulated on January 17, 1883. In the same month Colonel **W. Hicks**, a retired Indian officer, was appointed head of the Army in the Sûdân, and on February 7 he left Cairo for Kharṭûm *via* Berber, which he reached on March 1; in April he set out against the Dervishes, and on the last day of the month he defeated about 4,000 of them and killed about 500. On September 9 he set out with reinforcements for Duêm, intending to recapture El-Obêd, but early in November the Mahdi attacked his force of about 10,000 men with some thousands of soldiers from the old Egyptian Army, near Lake Rahad, it is said, and

the gallant Englishman and his officers and men, who were suffering greatly from want of water, having been led into an ambush, were cut to pieces.

A.D. Thus the Mahdi became master of the Sûdân.

1884. In February Baker Pâsha set out with about 3,800 men to relieve Sinkat, but his motley troops were defeated at Tokar, and about 2,400 of them slain, and thousands of rifles and much ammunition fell into the hands of the Dervishés. In January of this year **Charles George Gordon** (born January 28, 1833, murdered at Kharţûm on the night of January 26, 1885) was sent to Kharţûm to arrange for the evacuation of the Sûdân; he left Cairo on January 26 and arrived there on February 18. On February 28, General Graham defeated the Dervishes at **El-teb**, and nearly 1,000 of them were slain. On March 13 he defeated **Osman Dikna's*** army at **Tamaai** and killed about 2,500 of his men; Osman's camp was burnt, and several hundred thousand of the cartridges which had been taken from Baker Pâsha were destroyed. On the 27th, Tamanib was occupied by Graham and then burnt. About the middle of April the Mahdi began to besiege Gordon in Kharţûm, and preparations for a relief expedition were begun in England in May; this expedition was placed (August 26) under Sir Garnet Wolseley, who decided to attempt to reach Kharţûm by ascending the Nile. This route made it necessary to travel 1,700 miles against the stream, and six cataracts, and other natural barriers, made the progress extremely slow; General Sir F. Stephenson, the highest authority on the subject,

* *i.e.*, "Osman of the beard"; he is the son of a Turkish merchant and slave dealer who settled in the Eastern Sûdân early in the XIXth century.