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No 7

"Wer reisen will  
Der schweig fein still  
Beh steten Schritt  
Nehm nicht viel mit  
Trot an am frühen Morgen  
Und lasse heim die Sorgen.  
Philander von Sittewald  
1650

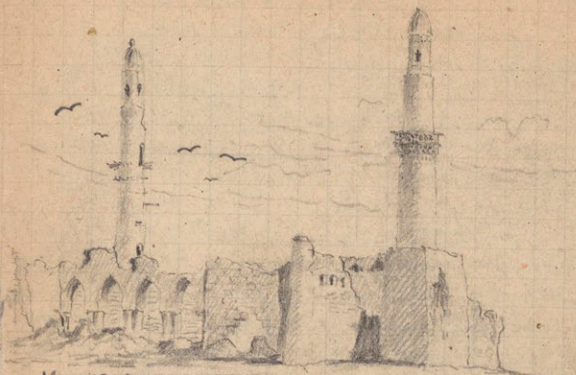


Am. Exp. Co. 100

APRIL 5TH 1894

BAHEREIN

Thursday notes



MOSQUE AT  
SUK-EL-KHAMIS

BAHEREIN ISD'S. (NWS)

The Mosque is built of small rubble for the most part laid in coarse mortar although at one place - a middle wall is built of square blocks of sandstone. The east part is supported (or was) on pointed arches and coupled round columns built of small blocks. It is possible that this east part was once an open court and the part enclosed by the cut stone wall the original mosque chamber. So it is now the columned hall is extended north and south of this chamber and seems to have formed a large covered apartment like the Cordova Mosque. Strangely enough the minarets rise from the south side, while the Kibla wall faces exactly west, not south west. The back of the Kibla wall resembles the Kalim Mosque at Delhi round corner buttresses and square projection in the centre. Color a yellowish gray plainly, mud color.



Apr 5<sup>th</sup> These notes con

BAHEREIN.



SEPULCHRAL  
TUMULI

ALI (Baherein)

These Tumuli are located about four (4) miles from Merameh the port, and lie a little South of the village of Ali. There are great numbers of them. Mr Zwenner has counted 150, which were not all. They are not placed with any regularity, but are approximately of one size and shape. Apparently they were originally a low wide cone perhaps 40 feet high and 100 feet in diameter but now all have a flat top, due no doubt to the washing down of the earth, and are about 30 feet high - some are smaller and others, perhaps, larger. He examined one which had been opened by Theo Bent in 1889. This one consisted of a central tomb-chamber of stone covered by a mound of earth containing many small fragments of broken stone - the soil there seems to be the same - that is thickly scattered in a clay. The chambers are in the shape of a passage reaching nearly to the surface of the hill and perhaps half way to the top. The upper chamber

A upper chamber  
B lower "  
C niches

PLANS  
OF  
TOMBS  
CHAMBERS



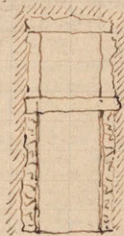
or passage was about 28 or 30 feet long 4 ft 6 in wide, and 4 ft 8 in high. At the extreme end are niches



Apr 5th (The notes (con)) BAKERIEIN

on each side 3 ft wide, 3 feet deep, and the height of the passage (4 ft 8 in) This part was built up of blocks of stone (if I remember correctly the sides were of large blocks, but I am not certain on this point), those forming the ceiling of great size and laid flat across the side walls.

To a square no attempt. The blocks of ceiling of the ~~had~~ as the about 18 in. small round in diameter



SECTION.

depths from 6 perhaps where pins were inserted to support shelves for placing the vases & which the Arabs say were found on the floor when the tomb was opened. (vases, incense and bones). The lower chamber was enclosed by side walls of irregular shaped stones built up as a wall and plastered with a thick (1 in. or more) coat of mortar. This plastering was done with the hand - with perhaps a piece of cloth or matting - proved by the distinct print of a hand at one place. The dimensions of this chamber are, about 30 feet long, 5 ft wide & 8 ft high. The niches - there are 4, 2 about 6 or 8 ft from the entrance and 2 close to the back end as in the upper chamber. one 3 ft wide 3 ft 6 in deep and about 5 ft 11 in high. The ceiling is not plastered (perhaps fallen) but of large blocks of stone, the outermost is 6 ft 6 in X 7 ft X about 14 inches in size. The floor is

The stone was worked edge but there was to finish the surface stone that formed the lower chamber served floor. In the niches from the top were holes about 2 inches and of different inches to 2 feet, per-



Apr 5<sup>th</sup> Thue. notes (con) covered with earth, but as it is evidently only debris there may be a stone floor under it. The stone used is a <sup>siliceous lime?</sup> full of nodules of dark brown flint. Here the niches are also furnished with the round holes near the ceiling, and the same kind of holes are along the sides of the passage. As they are, I think, always opposite each other there is little doubt that they served to support cross bars or piers to support a shelf. (at one place was a circle of stones as if the mounds had curbs.)

April 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday. I was out early - about 6 AM. but our party did not get off for shore until after 8. Then Captain ~~Boer~~ our missionary P. J. Zwemer, the Russian clerk Mr. Emerson, and I took the boat Mr. Z. had brought out from shore to go to the town of Menamleh. The water was remarkably shallow with a rocky (coral?) bottom but quite level. When about 300 or 400 yards from shore a great crowd of donkeys came trotting through the water urged by a lot of bare-legged boys and we used them to make a landing. There was no landing place but we immediately entered the town by a very narrow street and in a few minutes reached the other Mr Zwemer's (our missionary's brother) room which was on the roof of a house reached by a narrow winding flight of steps. Here he had a tent set up as an extra room and in the room proper were his despensary and divided off from it his private room with a few chairs, a lounge and some articles from home that certainly made an oasis in the desert of oriental life. He is the only European in the place. After some loud



Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

BAHEREIN

Talking we managed to select donkeys and were soon under way through the narrow crooked streets of the town. The houses are built of pieces of coral fished up from the sea and laid in a rubble wall, then covered with a thick coat of plaster, I saw a few interesting (for Arabia) faades usually with a large pointed horseshoe arch enclosing the windows of the upper story. But nearly all work is of the roughest, rudest description. A couple of mosques that we passed were built in two or three aisles, ~~4~~ or 5 bays wide. The arches rested on small short round columns smaller than the wall above them. The streets were of course unpaved, the bazaar although pretty large was made up of poor shops and the street covered with a shabby roof of matting on round poles. We left the town and galloped over the bare plain outside - a regular caravan - 6 white men on the five Baherein donkeys and a drove of donkey boys of all sizes running after us. The donkeys had curious saddles that looked like this from the end  and this way from the side  They are made up of many layers of ~~wool~~ fiber matting with a wooden frame on top. From this project curved handles before and behind to prevent fore-and-aft slipping. The donkeys themselves are fine animals whose only vice was wanting to go too fast. After crossing an open tract of land watered by beautiful clear ditches of water, we rode through extensive date plantations to the old Cubic(?) mosque



Apr 5<sup>th</sup> Thes (con)

BAHEREIN

at . The mosque stands on rising ground near a group of huts where a bazaar was being held when we arrived. The building is totally ruined, but enough remains to give a little idea of what it was. There is very little ornament, no capitals to the columns. The only parts, excepting some bands of inscriptions, are the ornamented Kibla niches with concave figures in a panel or triple (?) sunk panels surrounded by bands of inscriptions. Under the gallery of the west minaret were two bands of ornament made of flat slabs like tiles or brick and I think made of cement




and laid edgewise to form these patterns. The galleries were of wood supported on wooden beams. That on the east minaret had fallen down. Inside the minarets were circular stairways to the highest windows. The Russian, Mr Sam Z. and I climbed the east minaret after crawling around the outside of the tower on a narrow ledge to the door. The view was fine over the level - mostly barren - island and to the sea where the steamer was visible. The Captain (Greer) and I sketched the ruin then we went on a short distance to a hot spring where baths have been established in a small house. A large pool of clear water is formed close to the spring. We now rode for several miles towards the south-west over a partly open partly date grown country to the village of Ali where there are potteries and huge heaps of broken refuse from the kilns. The houses of the village were of the rudest - mud walls or mere tents of matting. A little mosque with

Apr 5<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

ALI = BAHREIN







BUSHIRE.  
PERSIA

three or four rough pointed arches, and a mere shed at another place which answered the purpose of a shelter for saying prayers.  Close to the village towards the south were the remarkable sepulchral tumuli that were the object of our excursion, and which I have described a few pages back. We returned by the same road we had used in coming and reached the town again about 2 P.M. We only made a short stop at the rooms of our friend Z. then to the post office and finally took donkeys to the small boat and thence to the steamer. We sailed soon after 3 P.M. and it was not long before we lost sight of the low coast of Bahrein and stood out across the Gulf for Bushire. All was quiet as to weather, but our Arabs kept up a great row, clapping of hands and stamping until a sleepless officer came and put a stop to it. The day was hot, and I worked up a beautiful headache in consequence.

April 6<sup>th</sup> Friday

BUSHIRE

I was waked by friend J. to see the annular eclipse of the sun, which was partial here, and rose eclipsed. About  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the disk was covered. We sighted land later in the morning - a long range of low mountains, and about 10<sup>30</sup> The low shores with the town of Bushire. The European settlement is some miles down the coast, and the native town rises on a low elevation which runs into the sea. We lay several miles from shore close to the "Seraphs", an English gunboat, and the "Persepolis" a fine small gunboat(?) belonging to Persia, and I understand half of their navy. At Bushire we lost our Russians, the postal clerk and old crank-Cameron much to our - our means Mr. J and I now - delight, Mr. J + I went on shore with our friends the Russians in a sail boat and the fresh wind soon brought us alongside of the low stone wall that protects the shore from the sea. We walked through the Bazaar - a narrow street covered with a gable, thatched roof and roadway in bad condition. The goods here seemed more than usually clean and good - raisins, fruits, pepper, ginger &c &c. Pipe bowls of clay colored black and ornamented with silver paint were a specialty, and I saw some brilliantly colored silk handkerchiefs. The people here of course nearly all Persians with felt hats that resembled a Derby with the brim cut off and of several shapes   while tall conical caps of astrakhan fur were common  The soldiers wore ragged uniforms of  blue with red trim.



Apr 6<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

BUSHIRE

minings. with a small black astrakhan fur cap. The houses of the town were minute existing - built of rather large flat blocks of a shell rock, that looked as if it had been sawed out when soft, often covered with plaster. Upper stories sometimes projected, supported on beam ends of wood but there was seldom any attempt at ornament. The only signs of it were occasional buttresses and a few colored glass windows. The houses were however higher than common and gave parts of the town an important appearance. We visited the Post office where we saw our friend the clerk, then went back to the harbor just in time to catch a boat for the steamer. There was a new passenger in the shape of the Bushire Telegraph director (K.) on the same boat. He told us that over 60 white people lived at Bushire. The steamer left about 5 o'clock and Bushire was soon "hull down". Mr J. & I played chess in the evening. The day was not very hot.

April 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday No land was in sight when I first looked out, and we had a short squall of cool wind about 8 o'clock. About 10 o'clock we began to enter the muddy river water and it was not long before we could see the low palm-covered shores. We passed 2 steamers - neither of this line - on this way ~~west~~, and there were considerable numbers of native sailing craft. About 11 o'clock we entered the river Schabell Arab, and not long

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> Sat (con) SHAT-EL-ARAB RIVER

after stopped at the station Fao (pro. Fow) to drop on Telegraph. director. The place is made up of a few native houses and a couple of bungalows for the telegraph people. All around are the thick date groves. We did not cast anchor but soon were under way again. The river is broad with low flat banks covered with endless date groves. Occasionally there is a group of houses with mud walls and gable roofs thatched with palm leaves. In the river were a few boats of natives who were setting their nets. The water is quite yellow with silt but as we went the tide was strong up the river.

The native boats look like those I had seen in the Gulf and no doubt sail out to sea after making the river



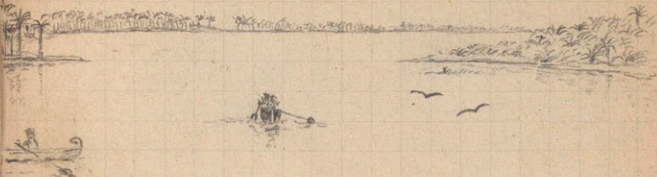
RIVER CRAFT  
SIFINENT (Safzenah)



HUTS  
along the river.

journey. The huts along shore are built of mud with dormer-like projections from the walls that I think are

used to support cross beams that prevent the ridge pole from sagging. At places the date trees were not planted and then the land stretched away to the horizon in a brown barren plain it was plowed for crops. The river was bank full of water.



RIVER AT  
MOHAMMERAH

About 3 o'clock we passed the mouth of the ~~Karun~~<sup>Karun</sup> River, a stream navigated for 100 miles by steamboats, where there was a British consulate and a large fine building with glazed tile mosaic ornament and an imposing flight of steps at the entrance. These better buildings are built of burned brick, not far above this we cast anchor for Mohammerah where there was a pleasant view over green rice fields and healthy looking date groves. The native boats that came out for passengers were remarkably long and narrow, and reminded me of gondolas. They were sharp at both ends, and bow and stern post carved into a scroll.

Nearly all our deck passengers left here in order to go up to Busrah in small boats, and escape the quarantine. It was about 5<sup>30</sup> when we started again and reached Busrah



Apr 7<sup>th</sup> Sat (Con)

BUSRAH



shortly after dark. The river banks were often beautiful, with landing stages in front of the date groves - where the trees stood in straight rows, and where there was often a fine planter's residence surrounded by promarguarite trees. We could only see the silhouette of a couple of steamers and the lights of the distant town when we cast anchor at the quarantine grounds to sit out the required 24 hours. The day was pleasant, with some clouds, but the temperature is higher here inland than on the sea.

April 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday: This was a long day. As we were in quarantine no one could leave the ship. The day opened clear and bright which made standing around on the deck uncomfortable. We were lying about a mile below the usual anchorage and above us were several Turkish war vessels, a few river and ocean steamers and a number of native craft. On the left bank stretched bright green rice fields with a few date palms, and in the background the solid walls of date groves. The

Apr 8<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

## BUSREH

right bank was closely grown with the same trees until breaks made place for the large residences of Turkish officials and English merchants. The solitary building on the left bank was a military hospital. Finally about 5 o'clock we left our anchor-~~age~~ age and steamed up to the port. Here was the mouth of a creek or canal and a long row of characteristic houses. In



## BUSREH

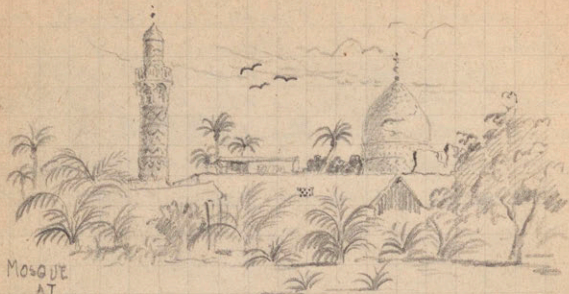
From Quarantine.

The river were iron lighters now used as landing stages. The banks looked green and pleasant, and the water was full of the long gondola-like boats. Mr. Z. went on shore almost immediately but I arranged to remain on the steamer. During the day I saw many pelicans.

April 9<sup>th</sup> Monday. Early in the morning before I had had breakfast, Mr. Zwemer came on board and loaded his baggage in one of the long boats, and we together went on shore. It was quite exciting near the cus-

April 9 the Monday notes.

BUSREH.



MOQBE  
AT  
(NE) BUSREH

This mosque is located on the south side of the town. It is built of the yellow burned brick of the country. A high wall seems to surround a court where a minaret rises at the S.E. corner and on the west side is located the temple with a dome. The surface of the dome is covered with glazed tile ornament (damaged) in star patterns of brilliant blue and a cream color. The drum shows an elaborate band of white and blue above and a lower part of yellow (ordinary brick with diamonds and chevron patterns in blue). The minaret also is covered with blue and chocolate brown patterns (mostly chevron) on the yellow brick ground. The shaft and top are round - the gallery octagonal, the latter supported on quarter domes resting on a sort of corbelled support. This minaret seems to be a type used in this part of the country for it is like those in the photograph of Kerbela that I have seen.



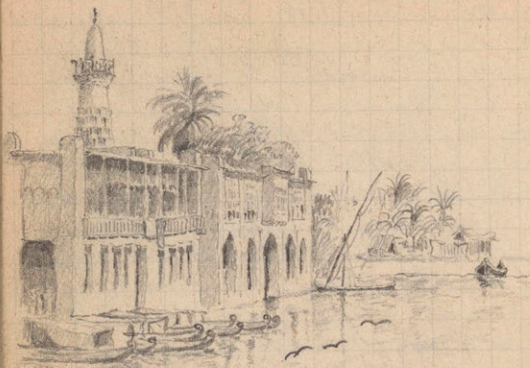
Apr. 9<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

BUSREH.

(from one page back) town house where the garrds were peacefully sleeping - for we ran the batteries silently and were not ordered to land - in consequence the big box of books &c were not assessed. We went up the canal a short distance and landed at the Dutch-Reformed Mission house - a fine new building with a court enclosed by the building on three sides and on the fourth by a wall with large entrance door and open arcaded upper story. The outside was in the usual style of the newer Bus-reh houses, but the court arrangement was original with Mr. Cantine the head of the mission. Here I met Mr. C. and a newly arrived young doctor Mr. Wykoff, who received me as their guest during my stay in Busreh. The interior arrangements were pleasant and roomy: each person with his room a large dining room and an improvised chapel. The lower story, owing to damp, was not used, I stayed here until about two o'clock when Mr. Juwenee and I walked down the canal to Busorch - perhaps a mile and a half distant. The road was very rough - the dried river mud thrown up as a sort of dyke to protect the date gardens from floods. The canal was ~~very~~ picturesque with its houses date gardens and continuous procession of boats. The shapes of the boatmen, the form of the boats and the long stretches of canal reminded

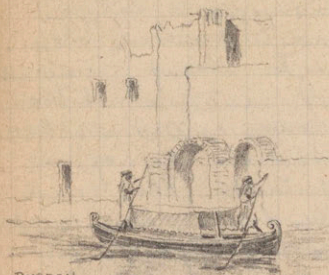
Apr 9<sup>th</sup> Mon (em)

BUSREH.



ASHAR CANAL  
BUSREH

we much of Venice  
 We entered the town  
 by a long street, like  
 all Arab streets lined  
 by low mud walls  
 or houses of a  
 similar material  
 and a road-  
 way distinguished  
 principally by  
 its rough walls.  
 At some distance  
 we entered the  
 bazar where as  
 at Sinja the  
 street was cover-



BUSREH  
"GONDOLIERS"

(The Bellaram boat)

ed with a mat roof, at some places flat  
 at others gabled. The shops were full  
 of a much better class of goods than I

Apr 9<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

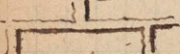

BUSREK

had seen in the other towns of Arabia. Confectioners shops and large cafes were a conspicuous feature of the place, and today - the closing of the feast at the end of the Ramazan & both offered fresh and novel wares. Still further we entered a portion of the bazaar - after passing the missioners Bible shop - that was roofed with fine brick vaulting. It began with a dome, and beyond each compartment, <sup>each</sup> separated from the rest by a well designed pointed arch. Each compartment consists of a small flat dome laid in concentric courses, and a vault like perpendiclar supporting it. Some of the larger spaces are covered with two sections of a sphere meeting in a angle in the centre, which makes them almost resemble a gothic vault. Along this part of the bazaar there are some good shops, one or two full of European goods. The shop keepers are nearly all white - but not necessarily European. The people are well dressed - perhaps only on account of the feast - but some black men, in black cloak, bright handkerchief over the head and figured undergarment looked quite striking. The shopkeepers as a rule ~~were~~ dressed in a long robe of some light colored figured stuff, fastened at the waist by a belt and closed in front by many small ornamental buttons. On their heads they wore the tall red fez. We met many Turks (?) dressed in European costume - of




Apr. 9th Mon (con) BUSREH

black as a rule - but always with a red  
fz. I think they must be the Turkish  
officials. We stopped at a store or two, then  
walked out to the extreme south end  
of the town to see the mosque, described  
a few pages back. On our way there  
we passed an open space where merry-  
go-rounds ~~vertical~~ and horizontal were  
in lively operation, and a large most  
brilliant and picturesque crowd gathered  
to see the sport. Near here were some  
rudely built Sheik tombs with the usual  
dome. We saw a brick-yard where a  
couple of natives were making the  
large square bricks used here. In  
this respect there has been little change  
since the time of the Babylonians. The  
poorer houses are built of these sun-  
dried brick, but those of the better sort  
are made of a burnt brick that has  
a pale cream color. Walls are not  
often laid up carefully - always with  
wide joints - but now and then  
the joints are carefully pointed with a  
white mortar in a flat low joint.

 The house facade is al-  
most invariably the same - a two story  
structure with large entrance - usually  
pointed  - on the first floor, which  
occasionally has small windows. The  
upper floor shows a large square oval  
window reaching to the roof and pro-  
jecting about 2 feet. This is glazed on  
front and sides in all the better houses.

Apr 9<sup>th</sup> (Mon). BUSREH.

The windows in the wall are usually square, but those in the oriel are often round-headed and the tops filled with stained glass. The top of the oriel is made up of a widely projecting cavetto cornice. This oriel is made of wood and nearly always painted a slate color. The house walls - which have a coat of mud - retain the mud color - a light brown, for the use of whitewash does not seem to have reached Busreh. The house inside, as far as I could make out from the few that I saw is made up of an open court with a two story porch with wooden columns ornamented with Arabian niche capitals support beams on which cross beams are laid and on these a brick pavement. The upper rooms are likewise furnished with brick floors - the usual square brick. Rafters are of round poles for the most part, and where they span a corner are laid radiating from the corner.  What large wood is used is brought mostly from India - teak &c. Roofs are I think invariably flat, and I hear leaky. We returned as we had come - on foot. The people were out in force enjoying their holiday. The day was not particularly hot but the sun as usual had an element of danger in it on account of its brilliancy. The sky was mostly clear!



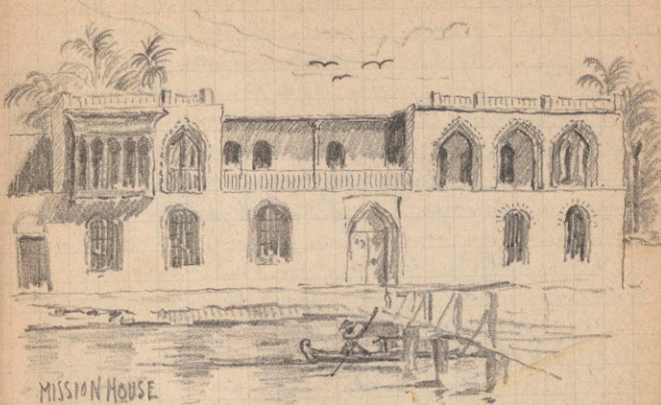
April 10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. BUSREH

I was up about 6 o'clock, and after breakfast spent some time in sketching the canal opposite the Mission house. Then Mr. Cantine and I went up to Busreh, visited the Bible shop - which is a little room about 10 feet square with a book-case or two and attended by a native - then I went to the agency of the Banque Imperiale Ottomane and had my English gold put into Turkish money. Later we walked in the bazaar and then back to the mission house. I spent much of the day reading the American magazines that had found their way here, but towards evening went with Mr. C and Mr. Bykoff for a walk in the date gardens, which proved very enjoyable with their fresh green grass and shady walks. There were many huge mounds of earth - I suppose thrown up from the irrigation ditches, but at one place a long high ridge marked an old fortification wall. I saw a new and very primitive way of irrigation - two men stood about twenty feet apart swinging a rope in the middle of which was a bucket which at its lowest point of swinging dipped up water and at its upper end emptied it into the ditch. The day was not oppressive and towards night - abt 9:30 there was a distant thunder storm.



April 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

BUSREH



MISSION HOUSE

BUSREH (style of modern houses)

The day opened fine and clear after last night's bluster. In the morning I walked down to the Tigris and Euphrates Steam Navigation Co's office and found that my steamer is to leave about 5 this evening. The most of the day I spent looking over books on the countries I am to travel through, tracing maps &c. About 4 o'clock I took a boat to the Sinla where I took up my baggage and bid the officers good bye and then ferried over to the Khalifah, the river steamer that is to take me to Baghdad, that lay near the Sinla by some lights. All my missionary friends and Captain Green came alongside to bid me good bye as our steamer began to move and at 6 o'clock we were steaming past the now familiar Ashar Canal and the river front of the suburb beyond. We slackened speed to drop an English passenger and his

April 11<sup>th</sup> Wed. (Con) SHAI = EL-ARAB.

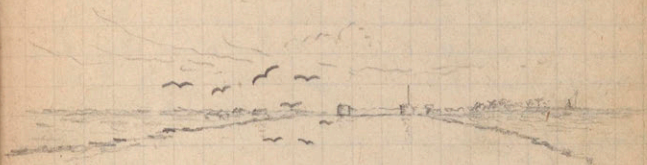
bottle of whiskey at a small village a short distance up the river, then continued the race with the Turkish steamer that had started before us. They had no chance on account of a large they were towing and we passed them before long as if they were anchored. For a long distance the banks were covered with luxuriant palm groves which made the noble river a beautiful sight, especially as darkness came on and the young moon cast a pale white light over the landscape and was reflected in the smooth water. I had supper alone with the purser of the steamer Mr. Svoboda, a native of Baghdad whose father was the first European to settle there (1819). Both he and his father have been interested in collecting Babylonian antiquities, and the collection of cylinders in the Louvre were collected by this Mr. S. I walked about the deck, stood in the bows for some time before going to bed. The day was clear and warm, but the evening much cooler.

April 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday. I woke about 5 o'clock and on looking out of the window I saw that we were running through a plain, but a few inches above the level of the river, and stretching as far as the eye could reach. At many places it was flooded - for the river is high - and the only things to be seen were an occasional tree in the distance, a drove of cattle or brown sheep, now and then a little hamlet made up of small huts built of reeds. These huts are round topped, made by bending reeds or palm stems, covered with mats while the ends are

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Thu (cont).

TIGRIS

closed by merely piling up bunches of reeds. Should I look I we stopped for a minute to take on some people at a village, Ezra's Tomb where there was a large building with ornamental windows and entrance. From the court rose a dome covered with richly colored (greenish-blue) glazed tile. The dome had the usual graceful outline and on the top was a gilded sun(?) as a finial.



TIGRIS

The river was quite narrow, I do not think over 250 feet, and thick with mud. Every place crowds of boys old and young but mostly about 10 to 15 years old ran along the banks shouting for donations to their breakfast fund. Nearly all of them were stark naked and when a bit of bread or other food fell in the water, did not hesitate a moment to plunge in after it. Some of them wore their hair shaved around the bottom leaving a shock that began above the ears, others wore it long plaited <sup>in two pig-tails</sup> down their backs. All of them looked like desperate young rascals. At the villages men and women joined the



Pig-tail.



Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday

TIGRIS.

crowd and even held out their hands for presents. The deck passengers were not sparing in throwing things to them. At one place I saw some young fellows with fish spears with an iron head, divided into 5 prongs, fastened to a long cane pole which in turn was held by a cord. Nearly every village is furnished with a large mud fort - a square enclosure with a wall about 15 feet high and round bastions at the corners. The country seems to be planted in barley, and the little round mud towers, like those along the Nile, seem to suggest the bird nuisance. The Sheik Tomb is seen here too, - a small square building surmounted by a dome, but unlike those in Egypt where they are hemispherical - here they are pointed.



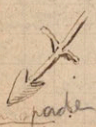
All around them are scattered ordinary graves. The cattle still show a suspicion of a hump but not nearly so large as in India and their horns, when they have any, are short. The buffaloes look like those in Egypt & India but seem to have more hair. Their horns curve



front. I notice that even small groups of houses have their fort, in most cases a more round tower-like building tapering towards the top. The forts are a light narrow



crave about 25 ft long and of graceful outline. They use slant paddles. I saw some men with boat-headed iron spears. Whether they were for fishing or were a kind of irrigating ditch spade I could not make out. At one place we made a remarkably short turn where the river doubles on itself. The river is always doubling



iron paddle

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> The con

TIGRIS



VILLAGE HOUSES  
OF MUD.

10.30

and bending like a ser-  
pent in the low plain.  
The surface of the water  
often looks higher than  
the land: At a large vil-  
lage that we passed were  
a number of curious mud  
houses, like the Egyptian  
mashabs in shape. Some  
of them were set in the  
mud wall that ran a-  
long the river. Some of  
these towns have  
fine date gardens.  
The villages continue  
to be made up of huts  
built by bending  
bundles of reeds in  
the form of an arch.  
On these are laid  
horizontal rafters  
(of what I could not  
make out) <sup>reeds</sup> in which  
the plaited mats  
are laid. A c



VILLAGE HOUSES  
OF REEDS AND  
MATS



SAILING  
ON THE  
TIGRIS

Squidab (Buzalow boats)

and low amidships. They carry a large tizen sail.  
Although not as picturesque as the side boats they

pass many boats,  
high bow and stern,  
which are both sharp.

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Thur (Con).

ON THE TIGRIS

look very pretty sailing along apparently on the green rice fields. As we passed one village I saw a hut under construction. The form of the bent reed-rib is exactly that of the Cleopatra palace arch.



Hut under construction

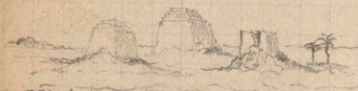
At another - I ought to call it a camp - there were a number of the Arab black tents. At this place I saw many horses all more or less fine looking and spirited.



BLACK TENTS.

During the afternoon we passed many groves of trees growing along the river bank.

I do not know what variety they were, but they resembled willows. Other trees looked like Fanjisks about 4<sup>30</sup>



BRICK KILNS  
(near Amara)

P.M. we reached the town of Amara, near

which were some curious looking brick kilns, that resembled ruined towers. The town presented a prosperous appearance along its river front with good substantial two storied buildings of yellow banded brick. The style is the same as at Bussrah - the large square arch, round topped windows and pointed doors. When we stopped I walked into the town but found it much poorer than the river front and not very deep from the river. There were the usual ornamental spandrels over the door openings - blocks of brick set in



Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

AMARA.



MINARET  
AMARA

(See the ornament)

geometric patterns, and I saw one mosque (built I believe about 1861) with a minaret after the style of this country. A peculiarity, however, was in the corbeling of the gallery which was made up of simple courses of brick, corner front, each course projecting over the other. The effect was very good. There was an enormous

crowd on the landing and in all the streets near it, attracted by a brass band we had on board, and who made a little extra money by escorting a bridegroom on shore. The band was made up of Bagdad Jews who played by ear only with the usual results. The bass horn knew only two notes. Between the brass music we had a country fiddle and bass drum which played native music. It was laughable to see the village people as we passed them further down the river when this band was playing. They seemed to be mad with delight. Men, boys and everybody rushed along the river bank and through ditches of water in their wild desire to keep up, and when no longer able danced in a frenzy. There were many soldiers and a large barracks at Amara and consequently big cafés. I here saw the first of the famous wicker boats that are common up the river. It was about 8 ft in diameter, perfectly round, with the upper edge turned inwards and coated on the outside with bitumen. Then all was painted red. As we left the owner made a frantic effort to be taken in tow by the steamer, but his rope broke and he fell in a heap in his tub amid roars of laughter from the shore.

Apr 12 to Thu (con) THE TIGRIS.

Ever since 3 o'clock we had been running in sight of a high precipitous range of hills on the north, but far distant and partly obscured by clouds. Above Amara we passed a regular nomad Arab camp - black tents, enormous flocks of brown sheep - a few white ones - horses, and queer brown donkeys. To the south the plain stretches to the horizon with scarcely a tree.

April 13<sup>th</sup> Friday. At 6 o'clock, when I first looked out, we were running due east owing to a great bend in the river. The mountains

I had seen yesterday were now much closer, in fact we were at the closest point reached by the river. Far over the plains I could see a Turkish steamer ahead of us but soon



SHEIK TOMB.

overtaken and passed. The district towards the highlands was, at this place, nearly all under water owing to a break in one of the weak levees. We stopped long enough to land a few passengers at a village about 9 o'clock where I saw nothing new. The porches of the houses of brick are usually made by erecting slender wooden posts - the simple barked sapling - on which is laid a round beam, and this an upper wall of brick is laid to conceal the roof. The roof seems to be merely beams laid across on which the earthen roof is supported. I saw one mud but - ruined - yesterday that had had a gable roof. Beyond the village, near which was a sheik tomb, the plain



Apr 13<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

THE TIGRIS



MOUNTAINS TO  
THE NORTH

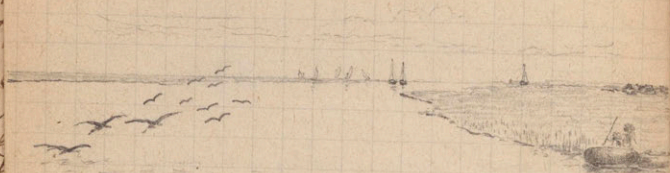
was one vast barley field, which presented a beautiful sight as the wind blew over the brilliant green grain. Now and then there was an encampment of black-goats hair-tents or a few of the need and mat huts. I have learned that the mats, too, are made of reeds. There are always plenty of horses and great droves of cattle or flocks of sheep. About 3 o'clock we passed a large village built up almost entirely of mud houses. I noticed an attempt at ornament in the building of the parapets that surrounded the roofs of some of the larger ones - open triangular spaces left to form a single or double row.

△△△△△  
The larger boats - called bugalows - △△△△△ have their big cabins - in the stem of the boat decorated in gaudy patterns painted in blue red yellow and green. The patterns are triangles, squares &c sometimes the "Cashmere shawl" pattern interwoven. In the later part of the day we passed through a country that was flooded almost to the point of being a great lake. The immediate banks of the river showed a few inches above the water where the low embankments had been built but beyond little was to be seen but the brown.



Apr 13<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

THE TIGRIS.



CHARACTERISTIC  
SCENE ON THE  
TIGRIS


(High water)

expanse of water. The sunset was a curious sight. The sun sank through the haze of the horizon towards the surface of the flooded plain, and I watched for it to dip into the water. But suddenly the peak of a mountain top began to eclipse the disk, and soon covered it. At this time not a trace of the mountains was visible and the sky seemed perfectly clear to the horizon, but immediately <sup>after</sup> the sun disappeared the range came out in indistinct silhouette fringed with gold. The evening was cool and pleasant with a bright moon. Soon after dark we passed a wrecked bugalow. The crew shouted after us desperately but we passed mercifully on our way. Perhaps they were only venturing some of their ill-humor. Later I saw a neat village completely surrounded by water and the inhabitants crowding around a fire they had built on one of the last dry spots. During the afternoon I saw an abandoned village about ready to float away. The river seems to be rising.

April 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday THE TIGRIS.

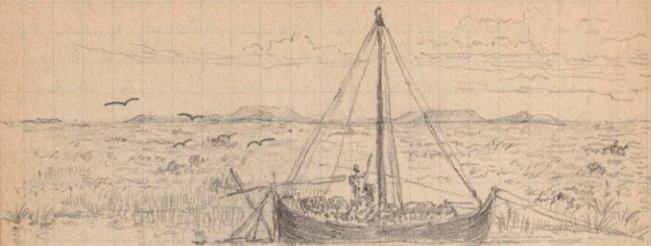
This morning the country is not flooded - either the river is not so high or else the land is higher. We pass great flocks of brown sheep grazing on the luxuriant grass and watched by the Bedouins. These shepherds seem to wear only the wide brown cloak, and the hanging cloth over the head secured by a couple of coils of rope. They usually carry a long staff. The river here is much wider than where we first entered it, and presents a majestic appearance.



About 8<sup>45</sup> we passed the town of Bazheli that rejoiced in a graceful minaret and a number of substantial buildings along the river front. The cupola top of the minaret was red , the upper part decorated with spiral lines of colored brick, and the gallery balustrade with bands of the same material. In all these towns the better class of buildings resemble those I have described in Basrah. We have now reached the lignivice root district. The plant is a low bush - perhaps 3ft high -

April 14<sup>th</sup> Sat (Con.)

THE TIGRIS



PLAINS  
OF MESOPOTAMIA

mounds in the distance.  
Boat loading with  
linen root.

which is gathered together  
and packed on boats to be  
taken to Busrah where it  
is pressed into bales (S).  
The plain, especially  
on the Mesopotamian  
side is often broken  
by long flat topped  
mounds that doubtless  
are the remains of old  
cities. If this is the



RUINS OF  
(Cabal)

Case the valley must have been thickly popula-  
ted. Mr. says that they are supposed to  
date from the time of the Caliphs. One of these  
mounds rose the fragments of a wall, apparently  
the remains of an arcade, but owing to the great  
distance I could not make out more than the  
outline. To the north the mountains are still  
visible but very faint and always crowned  
by clouds. Everywhere else the sky has been  
almost cloudless all day. The brilliant light



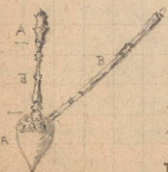
Apr 14<sup>th</sup> Sat (con)

THE TIGRIS.

effects seen in didid at sunrise and sunset seem to be absent here and the sun goes down in a mere yellow blaze of light, monotonous as it is this landscape is very remarkable - the great flat expanse stretching to the horizon broken only now and then by the mysterious black mounds, and the ghastly, winding river cutting through its centre make the observer almost forget that such a thing as undulating country, hills and mountains exist but that he could go on to infinity over this endless waste of water and verdant. The evening was beautiful. The sun dropped rapidly below the horizon - here a sea of water but the last spark seemed to remain for some time, due perhaps to a mirage effect. After it had finally disappeared there was a rich glow with a deep cobalt blue sky. The moon and stars seem to me remarkably brilliant here, and have the appearance of hanging in space not that of being fixed against a flat background.



Leather water pot on a stand



Water pipe  
A metal  
B wood.

Sunday Apr 15<sup>th</sup> I was out very early - about 5 o'clock in order to be sure in seeing the ruins of Ctesiphon, but it was about 7 o'clock before I first caught sight of the ruin rising above the plain and fully half past eight before we were opposite. Meanwhile I amused myself looking at the outfit of some of our deck passengers - their leather pots set in a wooden frame, and ornamental - (silver plated?) water pipe.

April 15<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

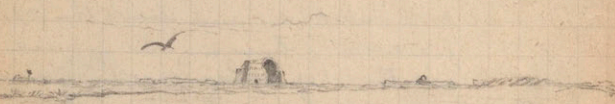
CTESIPHON.



PALACE OF CHOSROËS I

From S.E. CTESIPHON  
(From nature)

The steamer did not pass the ruins on the same side of the river but the distance was not so great but that I could make out details in a pretty satisfactory way. - see notes - The great vault was no doubt a reception hall or some-



THE SITE OF  
CTESIPHON

(From S.E.)

thing of the sort. Its ceiling seems to have been panelled. The accident of a few years ago by which the building lost the noble arch and a half of its facade has greatly lessened the interest of the building as an example of Sassanian architecture. The whole building is a pale brown - mud color - with the facade a little lighter than the rest of the building. The river makes a great

Apr 15<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

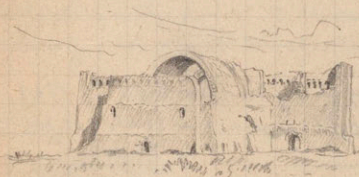
THE TIGRIS

bend here and while the distance across at the ruins is perhaps only a mile or mile and a half it took the steamer about 2 hours to go around by the river. In this bend we met the other steamer of this line which had left Bagdad this morning. The banks of the river now became more interesting.

There were



From S.



From the W (back)  
this drawn from  
a photograph taken  
in 1867.

large date groves, green barley fields, and often the river

banks were lined with low trees that resembled willows. We still passed inundated districts, but the river seems to be falling a little. About 3 o'clock we caught sight of the minarets of Bagdad rising above the date trees and soon reached the suburban villages - mostly made up of low mud houses but with pleasant gardens of orange and date trees. At many places people out in holiday costume were riding or walking on the narrow river road that ran between the houses and the water. The approach to the city was



April 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday notes.

CTESIPHON.



PALACE OF  
CHOSROES I  
CTESIPHON.

E. Facade from a photograph  
taken in 1867.

550 AD?

Dimensions as measured by Mr. Svoboda in 1861.

Length of facade (118 picchi Bagdadi) or 310 to 312 ft.

Span of the arch (32 " ) or 86 ft.

Height of the arch to the top of archivolts (40 " ) or 105 ft.

Depth of the great vaulted hall (62 " ) or 163 ft.

Thickness of arch wall (at bottom) (9 " ) or 23 1/2 ft.

Material, brown burned brick with bonds of wood<sup>s</sup>, said to be cedar. On the night of Apr 15<sup>th</sup> 1888 the great arch and one half of the facade fell. The natives who live in the vicinity say it fell at once with a great crash during high water. As an example of Sassanian architecture this accident has almost destroyed its value. What remains can be seen in the sketch taken from nature today. The palace lies almost midway between the parts of the river, which here makes a great bend, perhaps  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from each. From what I could make out with a glass and from

Apr 15<sup>th</sup> Sun. notes (con)

CTESIPHON.

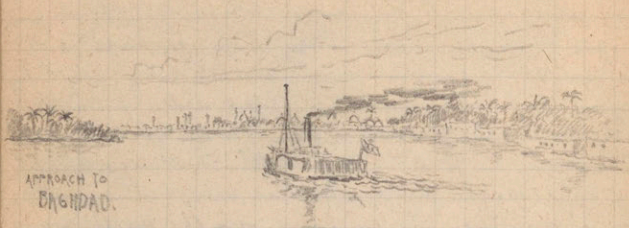
The photographs I have seen I think all the subordinate arches, blank as well as openings, are semicircular. The great arch is not horseshoe in shape. The top is apparently elliptical. As near as I could make out from the photographs the great vault was carried up perhaps  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the way to the crown in the usual way, viz: by laying the bricks with their flat sides parallel to the axis of the vault. Then for the remainder of the arch for a little over  $\frac{1}{2}$  the thickness they are laid perpendicular to that axis, but above this is another shell laid in the usual way. Perhaps at the point of change a bent need (?) centering (its shape suggests it) was introduced.

From the photograph of the facade - now fallen - however, the inner part of the entire arch appears to be laid in the perpendicular-to-the-axis way. although the point is indistinct and faded.

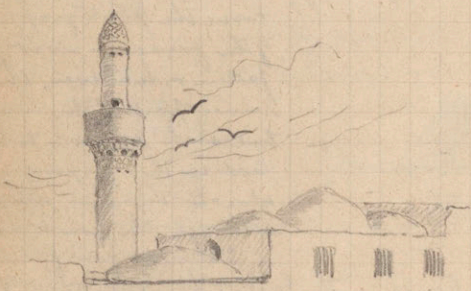


Curious house and external stairway. (Sun dried bricks) Bank Hill? near Ctesiphon.

There was a house on the bank of the river, close to the ruins of Selucia (opposite Ctesiphon) of a peculiar but common form in this valley. Here was a peculiarity in the outside stairway to the roof. The ruins of Selucia consist of mounds and at the northern side of a wall - unburned brick at least in part - now in ruins that was perhaps the city fortification. On the east Ctesiphon side of the river, north of the old palace, were many mounds. It is said that coins are often found in the mounds of this period.



APPROACH TO  
BAGHDAD.



Shemak's  
Mosque  
(near the Custom House)  
yellow brick with  
the cupola only in  
glazed tile.

(from 2 pages back) between  
a continuous line of these  
houses and their surround-  
ing gardens and as we  
rounded the east bend the

famous city presented an imposing appearance  
with its many brilliantly colored minarets  
and domes rising above long facades  
of buildings which lined the noble river.  
We stopped for a moment before the



Apr 15<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

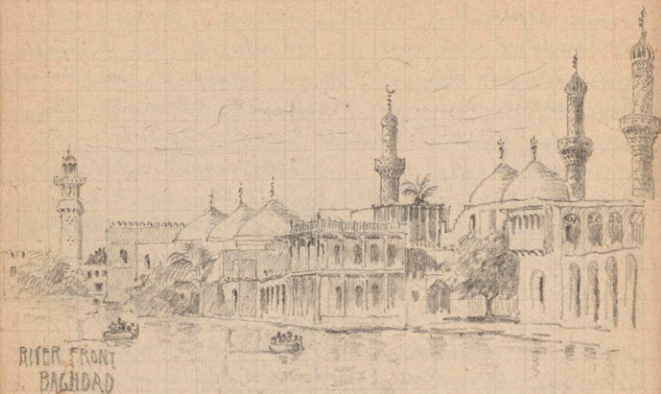
BAGHDAD

British Consulate, then steamed up to our anchorage before the Custom house. It was only 5<sup>30</sup> but I did not go on shore for I had arranged for dinner and sleeping on board. There were many minarets close to the steamer and I had good opportunity to examine the glazed tile work with which they are covered. Nearly all the solid colors and many of the patterns are made up of small pieces, but some of the patterns seem to be painted on larger square tiles and fitted together. The work is in good condition as a rule, but at a few places - convex surfaces for example - some of the tiles have fallen off. The minarets are all round - as far as I could see - with a gallery supported on niche corbelling and furnished with a solid parapet. The upper part of the minaret - which is smaller in diameter than the lower part - is crowned by a small pointed cupola <sup>almost</sup> always covered with brilliant bluish green tile (or blue). Near to the Custom house were the Serai (palace:) and on the opposite side of the river the old city, with a number of coffee houses, a bazaar covered with a multitude of small domes and a large pointed gateway which serves as an entrance <sup>to the</sup> ~~to the~~ bridge. This bridge - resting on curious clumsy looking piers, is now swung around against the banks on account of the high water and two small steam launches and scores of gophers(?) - the queer round wicker-work boats used on the Tigris - do the ferry work.

between  
of these  
remains  
as we  
beneath  
appear  
minarets  
regards  
the river  
the

Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

BAGHDAD.



RIVER FRONT  
BAGHDAD

I sat on the deck all evening with some of the officers listening to the bands that were playing their characteristic music - it sounds like perfect nonsense to western ears, but I have been assured that it is music that the performers can repeat. The air was cool and pleasant, but the mosquitoes rather bad. We were watched by about a half a dozen custom house officers but they had nothing to do but to watch the gaffers, or whatever they are called, when they came too close or caught hold of the steamer to avoid the stiff current.



All gaffers etc.

gaffers  
gaffers, or whatever they are called, when they came too close or caught hold of the steamer to avoid the stiff current.

April 16<sup>th</sup> Monday.

BAGDAD

I did little but wander around the deck, do a little sketching and writing. The sky is partly overcast this morning, but there does not seem to be much danger of rain.

The river is full of <sup>Kuffahs</sup> gophers with sometimes as high as a dozen men in them. The view up the river to the bend just beyond the city, is picturesque and purely oriental. The houses here are much like those at Busrah. The almost solid lower story with an occasional window and the large door, the wide wooden ovel resting on brackets and second story with a number of windows. They are built of the usual pale brownish yellow brick of the country. and porch posts of wood nearly always are furnished with capitals made up of a number of small niches. Everywhere palm and other trees show above the walls and give a pleasant appearance to the river banks. About 10 o'clock I managed

to reach shore by using a gopher, the Turkish steamer lying at the landing and the way boat. Then I was in the custom house were scores of big bales of cotton goods, general merchandise and indescribable confusion filled the



KUFFAH  
(Gopher)

place. I managed to force my way through it, past the little dens where red-robed officials sat on oriental rugs, to the bazaar. They stretched away in different directions presenting a scene



Apr 16<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

BAGHDAD

at once strange and at the same time highly interesting. These narrow unpaved streets are nearly all covered with fine brick vaulting. The ceiling is divided into square or rectangular compartments by pointed arches that spring

across the passage and present a picturesque perspective as they stretch away in a long straight line or gradually disappear around a curve. The ceiling of the square compartments is made up of a small flat dome resting on long spherical or vaulted pendentives which are sometimes made up of elaborate ribbed work, like that at Bijapur. The domes are laid in concentric circular courses and the brick work I think is without exception unplastered. The shops

are full of oriental goods but shoes and many imported



GLAZED TILE DOME

Fig I El Meidan Mosque



TOMB OF SHEIKH OMAR

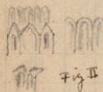


Fig II



Abdil Kadir Tomb

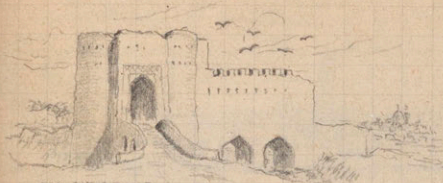
in South part of the city

Fig III

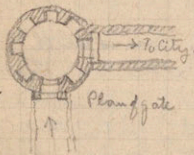
Apr 16<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

BAGDAD

goods are European. Saddles and some native rugs are fine. I did not however waste much time on these but made my way to the Hotel d'Europe kept by a Greek named



OLD CITY GATE  
BAGHDAD  
(N.W.)  
BAB-AL-WASTANI.



Georgios I believe - quite a nice looking place, but expensive - 10 to 12 1/2 francs. After this I saw the Hotel Constantinople - a native place of the usual stamp where the rates were 3 roubles per day. The Hotel d'Europe is close to the American Consulate on the same street (the first to the right on leaving the Custom House.) The Hotel Constantinople is reached by following the bazaar to the left on leaving the custom house. Until it opens on the street in front of the barracks. It is on the opposite side of this street at the bazaar entrance. After this I



Hemispherical  
Dome (French Church)



ARAB GRAVES.

went to see Lynch & ended by arranging

Apr 16<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

BAGDAD.






to stay on the steamer and mess with the officers. In the afternoon I walked out through the bazaar and the crooked narrow streets beyond until I passed the gate that formerly led through the walls. What should have been the country beyond was now a muddy sea stretching to the horizon broken only by a few clumps of trees and some brick-kilns which rose like islands. The city was protected by a dyke, where now there were dozens of tents to shelter the guards who looked after the safety of the dyke. After passing the first line of houses I came out on a place where the site of the old walls - now destroyed - and the deep moat enclosed a large open space, where there was an excellent view over the highly picturesque city. It was purely ~~and~~ <sup>an</sup> oriental. The sea of flat roofed, mud colored houses, palm trees everywhere, and the many huge domes and slender minarets brilliant with the colors of their glazed tile ornament, showed to the best ad-



Apr 16<sup>th</sup> more (con)

BAGDAD.

vantage. I walked along the moat until about half way around the city where I saw one of the ancient city gates (Fig IV) still in fair preservation. It consisted of a round bastion standing out from the wall and surrounded by the moat. In plan it was round with the entrance from the side (west), when approached from the outside. The passage led into an octagonal chamber, roofed by a flat low circular dome of brick and furnished with deep pointed arch niches on 6 faces, from which the exit into the city led at right angles to the outside entrance. It was built entirely of brick - the square kind  $9 \times 9 \times 3$  - of a yellow color, and there were remains of ornamental tile work, blue and white diaper work , around the pointed  outside entrance. A short distance in the city enclosure from this gate is a tomb (Fig II) with a curious cone-shaped tower. The lowest division is octagonal, each face with a pointed top. Above this rise 11 more divisions each smaller in diameter than the one below on the face ornamented with a convex panel . It resembles the towers seen in Assyrian sculptures. The interior - as much as I was able to examine on Tuesday - was made up of a small open court, some apartments, for the descendants of the saint perhaps, and the tomb. The tower rose at the south-east corner, and was much out of perpendicular. Bagdad is a city of leaning towers - I do not believe that there is a straight one in the place. From one point on my walk I counted 21 minarets. In the north part of the city there was a

Apr 16<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

BAGDAD

large low dome (Fig III) with rough mud coating and the curious projecting knobs seen in Egypt, grouped with a smaller brilliant blue dome and a couple of minarets. It proved to be the Tomb of Abdul Kader Gilani. The hemispherical dome of the French Church - Carmelite Fathers - also mud color, is a conspicuous object. All over this deserted part of the city and in the open spaces outside of the walls were full of Arab tombs. Here they are as a rule plain brick structures that imitate a pointed barrel vault. Occasionally ornamented with a few colored glazed tile or a variegated marble slab with an inscription. Occasionally there is a larger tomb with small dome something like a sheik tomb. I went back to the city by the way I had come out, but passed the gate to look at the old citadel located in the south west corner of the city. The outside walls have been left standing and give some idea of the old walls. There are round bastions and other devices, but the walls are not very high. On the surface of bastions and walls are remains of glazed tile bands and other ornament.


I had dinner with the chief mate (Picard) and one of the engineers (Heber) and spent the most of the evening enjoying the fine air and the moonlight on the river. It is not at all hot.

April 17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. After breakfast I went with a couple of men, who had arrangements for the trip to Damascus, to the American Consulate - near the Hotel d'Europe - and after going through a long dark passage found the house on the bank of the river. Here I met the Consul - Dr Sued-



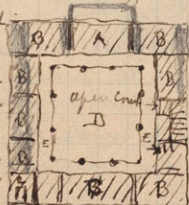
Apr 17<sup>th</sup> Tue (con)

BAGDAD

Berg, a native of Norway but long a resident of the United States. He was a short, fairly stout man with full light-colored beard - looked the doctor all through - It did not take long to become acquainted, and after we had disposed of the men I had brought along we had lunch together. The house is typical of Bagdad. There is an open court, with a well into which percolates the water from the river, surrounded on all sides and in both stories (there are two) by open corridors with wooden posts ornamented by the usual niche capitals. At the entrance - a huge nail-studded wooden gate in a pointed opening - sits the Kavass or guard who goes out with the consul, dressed in uniform and carrying a sword. The servants rooms are in the first story, and along the river side are the underground - here finely vaulted - chambers for a place of retreat in hot weather - a Bagdad institution. A very narrow, winding flight of steps, built up of brick with an edge of wood ~~wood~~ and with high (8 in?) sides, leads to  the open gallery that serves as a corridor for the rooms. The living rooms are

located around this court <sup>opening</sup> on the gallery. A similar stairway leads to the roof which is flat, and covered with square humped bricks laid flat. There is a low parapet surrounding the roof. These roofs are

Plan of a Bagdad house (2nd floor)



PLAN.


- A Large room open on the side of the court and furnished with a large well on the side towards the river
- B Enclosed rooms.
- C w.c. entrance under this part
- D Open courtyard.
- E Open gallery serving as a corridor.

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Apr 17<sup>th</sup> Tue (con)

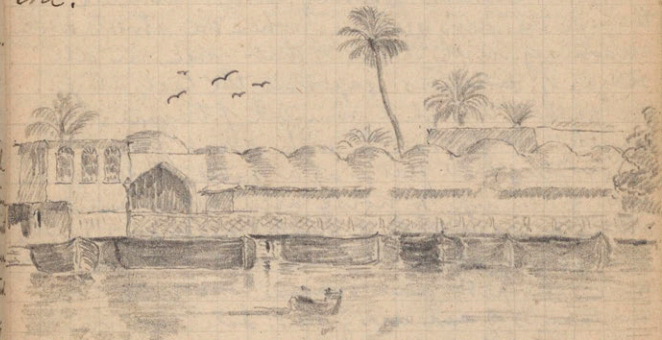
BAGDAD

merely laid on rafters, mats (S) and a bed of mortar. The view from the top of the house was fine up and down the ~~river~~ river including both banks, and over the city. In the afternoon we - preceded by the Khawass in his uniform and sword - took a walk about the city. On the way we stopped at the French Church where the Carmelite Fathers conducted us to the top of the church and to the dome. The view was extensive - included the whole city - and gave the best idea of the size and general appearance of the city. Near to the church rose the minaret of Hammatal-Raschid said to date from the time of the Caliphs. It is remarkable in the considerable difference in diameter between the top and bottom divisions, the long series of corbel niches under the gallery and for the absence of glazed tile. The decoration is applied as raised ornament - geometric figures - and patterns in projecting brick. The color is the usual yellow. The interior of the French church is of imposing proportions and interesting in many ways. The plan is cruciform  with a dome over the crossing and semi-domes over the apse and transept ends. The nave is a pointed barrel vault with transverse arches. All the construction is native - the pendentives like those in the bazars, and the work who took us around said they in vain tried to make them work after drawings. The roof of the nave is merely the vaulting covered with brick laid flat. I could see several other Christian churches from the roof - Armenian and Syrian, all built after this same plan, more or less. Our walk now took us into the north-east corner of

Apr 17<sup>th</sup> Tue (con)

BAGDAD 710 1166

The city where we saw the tomb of Abdul Kader Bilani consisting of a large low dome - described yesterday, and a vestibule (?) building with a dome decorated in brilliant blue. We now crossed an open space full of graves to the walls and then visited another of the old city gates. This was similar in plan to the one described yesterday, but in much better preservation although one of the bridges - that towards the outside. Under the openings of the battlements ~~of~~ were the remains of stone brackets and a little lower down a broad band, running entirely around the bastion, with ornamented inscription.



Exterior of a Bazaar.  
West side of the river.

But the point of greatest interest was the outside opening of the gate. It consisted of the usual pointed arch (now walled up) with the ornamental square frame enclosing it. In the spandrels thus formed were the figures of dragons - one on each side facing the centre and with tails forming loops and





Apr 17<sup>th</sup> Tue (cont) - BAGDAD

twists, Over the crown of the arch between the dragons was a small cross-legged seated figure, like a Buddha, with hands extended and in the open mouths of the dragons. The entire surface of the background of the spandrels was made up of an intricate conventional foliage pattern. At each side supporting the arch were <sup>columns with papyrus capitals</sup> lion capitals which resembled the lions seen in Romanesque work. All this work appeared to be carved in a yellowish <sup>brown</sup> stone. The dragons were covered with scales. We continued our walk until we reached the gate I had seen yesterday, and then entered the city. We then visited the tomb with a curious tower ~~skull tower~~ described yesterday, and continued on through the Jew's quarter where the streets were swarming with people of that race in all stages of dirtiness - especially the last stages. We passed through a number of bazaars some vaulted others covered with that roof resting on <sup>round</sup> rafters laid flat or as a gable. One bazaar was given up to noise and coppersmiths others to saddle and bridle making. Saddles are often of cloth - a kind that resembles ingrain carpet - and ornamented with hanging tassels of red and green. Later we visited a German merchant Mr. Hermer, where we met a couple of Europeans - Dutch and German - who wish also to go to Damascus. It was nearly 7 when I reached the steamer. After supper - as usual, we enjoyed the moonlight on deck. The water is still rising and everywhere people are building banks to keep the water out of the town or their private property.



April 18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. BAGDAD

After breakfast I took a short walk out through the bazaars and in the district by the old citadel. This part of the town shows traces of the work started some years ago by an energetic Pasha who in consequence <sup>of his</sup> ~~drank~~ <sup>drinking</sup> of a strong cup of coffee. The streets are paved with cobble stones and the houses below them are a little more than usually clean. The type of house is, however, always the same - 2 stories with a large square oriel in the second. These oriels - and other wood work - show peculiar surface decoration - geometric figures formed by nailing <sup>on</sup> small half round or other shaped strips of wood. This work is nearly all painted green. I have also noticed that screens - the openings in the second story gallery at the consulate for example - are made in similar patterns with slats about an inch wide. All this work is far inferior to that seen in Cairo, and evidently of much later date. The other, surface, decoration appears oftenest on the wide cavetto cornice over the oriel window. I passed some sort of a large school, apparently military, and a public garden; then returned to the bazaars. Bread in Bagdad is more than usually good. Besides the common Arab bread in large thin cakes about a foot in diameter are rolls like French rolls,  6 inches long, and a sort of twist of soft bread  which is remarkably good. Both the latter are brown almost approaching a light colored gingerbread. Candy shops are not as plenty as in India, and the wares seem to tend towards the Turkish Delight type. Oranges, sweet limes - as large as oranges - dates and figs are plenty and the oranges especially

Apr 18<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

BABDAD.

good. They are large smooth and thin skinned like Spanish oranges although the Indian variety, like mandarins, are seen occasionally. Oranges are sold simply dried, and also in the Apples we are familiar with, and the best in boxes. About 11 o'clock I went up to the Consulate, and had my passport given the American visé and had lunch with Dr. Sundberg. Later we went out with the Kavass to near the Serai, then took a Kuffah for the other side. We landed a little above the Persian consulate and after a short walk through narrow crooked and extremely filthy streets came out in the open behind the town. Here we passed through a cemetery of the usual kind - more dreary looking places than these Arab cemeteries could hardly be imagined: and on to the tomb of Marsoof (?) where we got a glimpse of the small court and some of the glazed tile (?) decorations of the entrance. The approach to the tomb was by a road lined on both sides by countless tombs, some of the ordinary type but others decorated with glazed tile or tablets of variegated marble. One tomb was completely covered with painted glazed tile like the work on the mosque domes and minarets. The saint's tomb was covered with a hemispherical dome raised on a tapering drum and before it, in the court, rose a small minaret in plain brick. Not far from this tomb - towards the west? - was the tomb of Zobeidah, the favorite wife of Harun-al-Raschid. The tomb proper was octagonal divided horizontally into two parts. The upper relieved by square panels the lower by a pointed blank (?) arcade. Above



Apr 17<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

BAGDAD



TOMB OF  
MAARUF-EL-KERKHI  
AD 1215  
(From north)



ZOBEIDAH'S

827 TOMB

(Favorite wife of  
Harun al-Rashid)

(From north)

9<sup>th</sup> cent

executed in moulded designs or  
projecting bricks of the same color.

These designs are nearly always made up of hexagons and pentagons and are often seen in the spandrels of doors in private houses. We were now on the limits of the city, and at the present on the shores of a muddy sea that stretched to the horizon in many places. This was the desert now overflowed by the waters of the Euphrates. We returned through the town by another route and crossed from what was formerly U.S. Consul Haines house to the city proper. The evening as usual on the boat

this lower part was a tall tower similar in design to that in Bagdad proper that we had seen the other day (see sketch)

There was a minorous vestibule towards the east

and scores of graves on the hillside of the large tomb.

It was built of the usual yellow brick and the decoration-like that on the minaret of Harun al-Rashid in Bagdad proper - was



April 19<sup>th</sup> Thursday.

BAGDAD.

Before breakfast Consul Smedberg sent for me. He had word from Mr. Hermer that the Germans thought of going by the Euphrates route. I went back to breakfast and directly after it went out to see Mr. Hermer, where we again met the travellers from Persia, but with no definite results. I had lunch on the steamer but went up to the Consulate in the afternoon where I met Father Polycarp again - his real name is Geyer - Fr Polycarp is a Carmelite monk who has

lived some years in India but for the past year and a half has been in Bagdad. He speaks English well and gave me much information in regard to the city. He says that the present Bagdad was built by the Persians and Turks, by the latter after they had taken it from Timurlane for the purpose of restoring the shrine at the Tomb of

There is not much doubt but that the larger mosques are the work of the Persians. Their designs and the peculiar



OLD MINARET.

(Hamm al Raschid's)  
really monumental



Reeded dome covered with glazed tile, floor & doors some white plaster (unfinished)

MERJANYEH MOSQUE

all lower



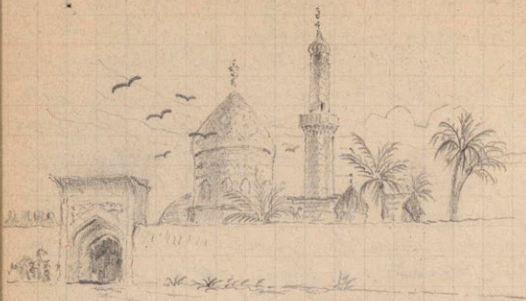
Assyrian Chaldean? Church near the French Convent.

Apr 19<sup>th</sup> Thu (con) BAGDAD.

ilarity of covering them with glazed tiles seem to be thoroughly Persian and exactly like mosques I have seen in photographs of Isfahan. Very little remains from the time of the Caliphs - the old minaret, called Harun - al - Raschid's, but no doubt of later date, and Zobeidali's tomb on the west side of the river seem to be the only buildings of importance. Fr. Polycarp is of the opinion that the Bagdad of the Caliphs was on the west side of the river and extended down the river to a certain canal that still exists. As there is a slight elevation on the west side of the river on which the present miserable huts are clustered, it seems to show a natural elevation which in this flat country would have attracted the founder of a new city, or the remains of great buildings merely built on and not removed. The river is still rising. News comes from Mosul that they have had a further rise of 3 feet, and in consequence the Bagdad people are cutting the dykes to allow the water to run into the desert and thus relieve the pressure on the city. Everywhere dykes are being raised to keep the water out of the streets which are much lower now than the surface of the river. It is said that the rise is about 25 feet above the ordinary level. - a foot more will go over the most of the present protecting walls. The weather is quite cool owing to this snow water. Each evening, almost, we have a curious bluster - once it brought a cloud of yellow sand that hid everything for a few minutes - followed by a little rain. This evening it lasted only a few minutes but the wind was strong.

April 20<sup>th</sup> Friday.

BAGDAD



TOMB MOSQUE OF HANIFEH

MOAZIM


(Moadhemi) a popular Sunni lawyer  
and saint

This morning I went over to the Consulate about 11 o'clock and in company with Mr. Sundberg went to visit the Carmelite Fathers at their Convent. The establishment is a large one, church, school and the rooms of the Fathers. The latter are located around a large court planted with date palms, but excepting its size it is arranged like the smaller private houses. We were received in the large reception room and sat on the divans that ran around the room. Fr. Peter showed me some sketches that he had made of places around Bagdad - carefully drawn but lacking in artistic effect. Fr. Peter is a <sup>Spanish</sup> South American, or rather Cuban, born in <sup>Madrid</sup> ~~Spain~~ <sup>Chile</sup> ~~Spain~~ and has lived in ~~Spain~~ and Spain. The Superior was a tall, fine-looking Frenchman, and the doctor, the oldest of the community, gray-haired. We went from the convent out to the Citadel where




Apr 20<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

BAGDAD.

we saw a large cannon, 8 in bore, that was used by the Turks when they besieged Bagdad and I believe was the gun that breached the walls. It is of gun-metal ornamented with inscriptions and a few decorative reliefs. The gateway behind this cannon is apparently the remains of some fine building to judge from the glazed tile ornament. On our way to this place we saw the entrance to the Meyanecah mosque - a high pointed arch with richly ornamented jambs and archivolt. At each side are large roll mouldings decorated with spiral moldings. It is built of brick and stucco<sup>(or plaster)</sup> & either on we visited a small and apparently very old church where there were a number of small tablets of marble set in the walls - the inscriptions were in a curious character and there were rude reliefs of crucifix, angels, bishop's mitre, crosses &c. At one place there was a small sarcophagus - about 2 ft long - ~~of~~ of this shape set into the wall. Before it was a stand of brass for candles, and it may have been a reliquary. Architecturally the church was entirely without interest. The interior was furnished with a marble dado. We went back and had lunch then walked through the bazaars and the gate behind the cannon and thus into the old citadel on our way out of the town. There is not much to see in the old citadel, only the walls - at places full of pointed arcades in two tiers, and crowned with square battlements . After leaving the city we

Apr 20<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

BAGDAD.

passed through a palace fore-court, where there were soldiers and horses, then through a pleasant date and orange garden to the station for the omnibus for which I had seen the other day (Monday) We took the 'bus, a kind of ranshankle gharry drawn by two mules, and rode across the country over a fine wide road in pretty good repair, date gardens enclosed by round walls lined both sides after we had crossed an open space near the city and the road was full of people - on foot and horseback. We met numbers of well dressed ladies taking an airing on the backs of white donkeys fitted up with rich saddle cloths and bridles. Horses are as a rule gorgeous with trappings - saddle cloth of fine carpet in rich colors and a breast band and bridle hung full of long tassels. The horses are of all colors - gray, bay & sorrel. We reached the tomb in a few minutes, located in the middle of a considerable village and surrounded by a high brick wall with large gateways. The mosque seems to be a large enclosed chamber - no doubt the tomb-chamber - surrounded in part at least by a two-aisle open arcade resting on wide piers on the outside and columns (wooden?) within. The walls of the interior seemed to be furnished with a glazed tile dado in brilliant colors, and the large pointed openings were filled with an iron screen . Towards the south-west(?) rose the vestibule dome of glazed blue tile ornamented with large patterns and the glazed tile mini-



Apr 20<sup>th</sup> Fri (cont)

BAGDAD.

gided

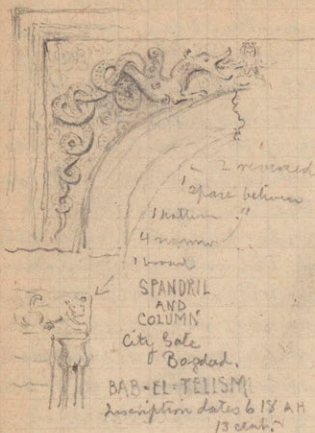
arch which was crowned by a ribbed cupola. Grass was growing on the vestibule dome and looked very curious on the blue background. The tomb proper was covered by a large low dome covered with mud and full of the knob-like projections often seen. The Court before this part of the building was entered by a large ornamental gateway. Both this gate and the mosque building were crowned by wide projecting cavetto cornices. We walked through the narrow crooked streets of the village but could find no Kuffah, so we returned to the mosque, and after I had made a sketch took our blue bus back to the city. The view as we drove along the date groves, of domes, minarets and long flat roofed houses was one of the best of Bagdad that I have seen. When we reached the Citadel after returning through the garden where our Kavass showed me a bud full of the blossoms of a palm ~~tree~~, we took a Kuffah and floated down to the steamer. Here I stopped and Dr. Sundberg went on down. There was a heavy downpour of rain in the evening and the sunset immediately following was remarkably brilliant.

April 21<sup>st</sup> Saturday. It was nearly 11 o'clock before I was ready to go out, and then went up to the Consulate. Dr. Sundberg and I then walked out to the "Dragon Gate" to sketch the spandril. I had an immense audience - Jews and Gentiles of all shades of color and religion. Some soldiers came along and were a little inclined to



Apr 21<sup>st</sup>. Sat (con).


BAGDAD.



be soldierly, but were restrained without much trouble. I had good opportunity to examine the gate. All the ornamental part of the work is executed in stone. The small figure which resembles a Buddha wears a crown has a projecting head-dress on each side of his head and long braids of hair hang down on each side from over

his shoulders. The figure wears a richly embroidered coat with flowing sleeves and cut away front. The legs are crossed and clad in a robe or "flowing" pants. The hands are extended and each grasps the tongue of the dragon next to it. The dragons are I think exactly alike. The mouth is widely extended and a paw grasps the upper part of the archivolt. The arched neck is covered with small spirals to represent a mane, and there is a representation of a wing in the same kind of spirals. The enormously long tail is knotted and twisted in a remarkable manner, but forms an excellently designed ornament to fill the spandil. This part of the dragon is covered with scales, but its body is smooth. The background of the spandil is covered with a complex pattern of interlaced arabesques ornamented with

Apr 21<sup>st</sup> Sat (con) BAGDAD

conventional leaves to  This work is made with flat or nearly flat surface and the intervening spaces deeply cut. In character it closely resembles the work on the mosque façades at Ketch and Sijere in India. All of this ornamental work is beautifully executed and in excellent preservation. The archway rests on a sort of architrave & this shows a bas-relief of a lion sitting in a stretched-out way with his fore paws extended. The face is turned forward and the tail passes up behind the hind leg. Below this architrave is a slender octagonal column with a capital that resembles an hour glass, and made of some light colored stone, perhaps marble. The archivolt is made up of 19 <sup>radiating</sup> voussoirs with ornamental joints. On the face of the voussoirs grooves of a similar design to the joints so combine with them that when the work was fresh concealed the jointing. Unfortunately the moat before this gate was broad and full of water and it was hard to make careful examination. I should have mentioned a marble threshold before the gate I had seen the other day. It is about 12 in. high rounded on the top and broken in the center to form a narrow entrance, although this may be accident. We returned to the town by this gate and through the Jews quarter later through a cleaner and more respectable quarter than I had seen in my three walks. After lunch I went up to the steamer and later moved my



Apr 21<sup>st</sup> Sat (con)

BAGDAD.

baggage to Mr Sundberg's who kindly offered me quarters. I bid the steamer people - Clerk Henry Svoboda, mate B. Ramer &c - good bye and then walked about in the bazaars for an hour or more. In the evening Mr. Haines - whose home is in North Adams Mass - called at the Consulate. He has been excavating at Niffat.

In the University of Pennsylvania in the past years or more. Although the results have not been brilliant he thinks that they are valuable - a door jamb, lintel or something of that sort, roses about 8000 tablets &c. He also opened a number of graves where they found the much decayed remains of the bodies. River rising, Air cool & pleasant.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. I woke just in time to see the Khalifah sweep past, about 6 o'clock, on her way to Basrah. The day opened quiet and bright, everything is full of sparrows and they hop about the eaves of the house with the greatest unconcern. I stayed in the house

most of the day but walked out once. I saw some bricklaying going on that illustrated the way natives do that sort of work here. In the street a couple of small boys were mixing



Master house  
the minaret

MOSQUE

(old Armenian Church) JAMA KHASEKI

Jama Charaki (17<sup>th</sup> cent)

up some common earth from the road to form a stiff mud - this was the mortar - The bricklayer was standing on a scaff-



Apr 22nd - Sun (con)

BAGDAD.

fold spreading the mud with his hands and laying the brick with a small hammer. An assistant stood below and threw up the bricks to the mason one at a time. He used the hammer to settle the brick in place and the sharp edge-like end for cutting the brick to fit and in smoothing the broken edge, all while holding the brick in his hand. Here the wall was strengthened by pieces of wood set in at intervals on the outside end.

The laying of bricks in mortar with lime is done in the same way - no trowel is used, but the bare hand spreads the mortar, and a finger end does the pointing. I also saw what appeared to be the carpenter bazaar where there were shops for the making of the wooden posts with niche capitals seen so often in the houses of the city. Others were devoted to furniture making and various kinds of carpenter work.

Here as in many other trades the workmen feet play a prominent part and even serve as a vise to hold a board while it is being planed. At one place there was a shop bazaar full of shoemakers all sitting out in the street at work and presented a lively sight.



carried especially and black. The Arabs use a blue figured cloth for a protection to the head, merely thrown over loose and held in place by a couple of coils of loose brown wool tied at intervals.



Apr 22nd Sun (con) BAGDAD.

with silver thread or a thick coil of black wool wound around a couple of times.

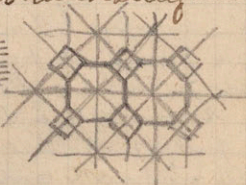


In the afternoon Mr. Haines was in to pay a visit and told many of his experiences with the arabs in his work at Hiffa. Hiffa is below Hillah, on the Euphrates, at some distance from the river, on a sort of canal I believe. During the afternoon I saw the large gateway to the Meoyaneseh Mosque. The twisted wall mouldings seem to be built up of separate layers

(1) is either stone carving or stucco it is hard to tell on account of the many layers of paint - (2) is of bricks laid in the curving upwards ~~above~~ line. I have seen considerable of the geometrical work, that appeared to be an actual mosaic - the frame work laid up of strips of stone, and the spaces filled with small blocks richly carved. The wooden screens are always interesting and often rich in design



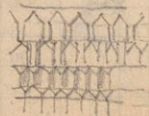
LATTICES OF WOOD.



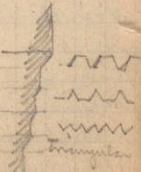
Till pattern on minaret



Variety of Bazaars

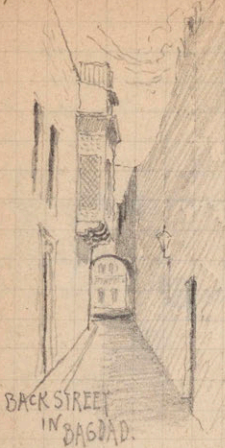


minaret gallery corbel.



minaret

Apr. 23<sup>d</sup> Monday.



BACK STREET  
IN BAGDAD.

BAGDAD.

After breakfast I called on Mr. Hemen and later on Mr. Haines at his temporary quarters, where I made provisional arrangements to go with him to Damascus. Later in the day I took several walks in the bazaars, looking at the vaulting and enjoying the street life. Dogs - masterless and spiritless - are seen everywhere and nearly always lying down curled up asleep. They are miserable beyond descrip-

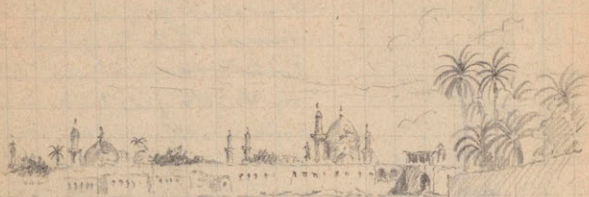
tion - half starved, mangy and full of raw sores. Only the puppies occasionally have spirit enough to snarl at a kick, and by such treatment is followed by prolonged and dismal howls. They are almost universally "galled," of the deepest down curdow. Cranes fly over head, an occasional raven sits on the house tops while doves and sparrows keep up an incessant noise. The pottery in Bagdad is a pale yellow like that made along the Nile, shapes are different, however. The common water jar for cooling the liquid is of this shape and is usually hung up by the small handles. Some large jars are glazed inside and partly outside with a curious green glaze. The river has begun to fall slightly. Clear day.





April 24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday.

BAGDAD



BAGHDAD

(From N.W.)

The river is still falling this morning making in all about 8 inches. The day is warm and calm. During the morning Mr. Cantine came in to visit the Consul who says he never saw so many Americans in Bagdad at one time. Mr. Cantine reports the entire country flooded often as far as the eye can reach. In the afternoon I went to see Mr. Haines but as yet he has had no word. Later I walked in the bazaars. River still falling Day bright and considerably warmer than yesterday. In the afternoon Fr. Polycarp was at the Consulate and gave me a letter to a priest in Jerusalem.

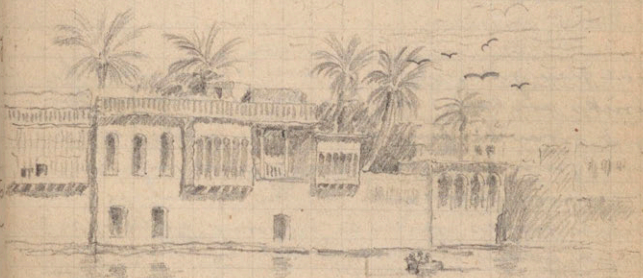


Roof of  
COURT MEN. KHAN.

brick structure.

April 25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. BAGDAD.

I spent the morning writing, and in the afternoon went to see Mr. Haines as usual but there was no word. Later I hunted up the Sowtnick Khan. It is located on the street that leads from a coffee house at an offset in the principal bazaar. The building is rectangular, perhaps 40 x 100 ft, and about 50 ft high. The entire building is of brick. The vaulted ceiling <sup>which</sup> is the most interesting part, is made up of a series of 8 pointed



Characteristic Houses  
Bagdad.  
(West bank)

arches and 7 intervening spaces, the central wider than the others.

- A Transverse pointed arches
- B Central vaulted compartment
- E a pointed barrel vault. F circular barrel vault.
- At D are the large domes.



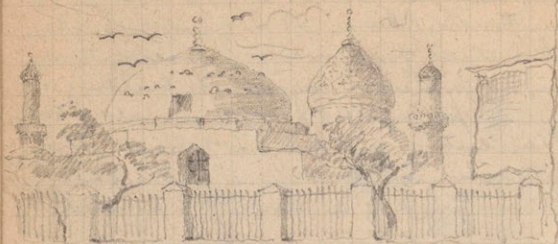
CEILING OF KHAN.

showing the brick laying.

The centre C is a square domical vault open in the centre.

C The smaller vaulted spaces. Centre are octagonal domical vault, the spaces from each dome barrel vaults.

Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> Wed (con) BAGDAD



ABDUL KADIR  
TOMB.

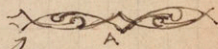
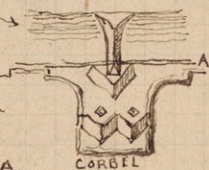
BAGDAD AH 840

15<sup>th</sup> Cent.

into a gallery &   
carved on many red stone.

The plan given shows the directions in which the bricks are laid. At two levels domes project from the line of the great arches and are furnished with large openings, unglazed or unscrined. At the springing of the great arches runs a narrow gallery resting on a coved support which in turn rests on corbels.

The only carved ornament is found in the narrow line of moulding at A



All this work blackened by age


and in little diamond shaped blocks set in the surface at places. Below the galleries are the low entrances. The south gable is furnished with large pointed openings, but the north end is made up of alternate open and closed squares. The entrance





Apr 25<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

BAGDAD.

From the west, shows a concave trim laid up brick in spiral lines  and the tympanum is filled with inscriptions. I then by wandering about for a long time in the confusing maze of streets finally found my way to the Abdul Kadir Tomb. The tomb is covered by a large dome - I think at least 60 or 75 feet in diameter - pointed but rather flat. It is coated with plaster of a light brown color and shows the peculiar knots I have mentioned scattered in an irregular way over the surface. There is a smaller dome on the east (?) side apparently over the vestibule which is covered with brilliant blue tile on which is an elaborate pattern in white and colors. There are two minarets at different places both covered with ornamental glazed tile. The grounds are enclosed by an iron railing and are full of tombs some with marble head and foot stones, others plainer and one or more small shrines with glazed tile domes. The main building is all light brown. I sketched this tomb from the street to discover the effect of sketching in public. Of course there was a large crowd collected but they were quite friendly. One boy even took it on himself to chastise the others who came too close. When I was through there was laughing and motions for me to lend my opera glass which I had done the other day after sketching at the Resem Gate - no doubt some of those present saw me then. At that gate there is

Apr 25<sup>th</sup> Wed (con) BAGDAD.

a great crowd which was also noisy, perhaps because there were some soldiers, and a stone or two were thrown, but I put them in a friendly humor by allowing some of the singleaders to look through my opera glass. } From the Kadis Tomb I went back to the Consulate. The river is still falling, and this evening the port-cock bridge is again in position for use. A very delightful in the evening which we spent on the roof. Today I saw

some granaries again. They are made up of big bins arranged about an open court and the grain heaped in protected only by a roof and some reed mats. Mats are often made of reeds split on one side and spread out.

April 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday. About 11 o'clock I took advantage of the bridge being open for traffic and crossed to the other side of the river. The bridge is a curious affair, a frame work of wood covered with mats and earth resting on big piers open on top and pointed at each end. At several places there are openings in the wide roadway and over these the traffic is forced on narrow planks without railings. The further end of the bridge ended in a slough of mud about the middle of a long bazaar. Here again I had occasion to notice the excellent vaulting that covered a part of it: perfect quadrangular vaulting with spherical surfaces, pointed transverse



Apr 26<sup>th</sup> Thu (con) BAGDAD.

and longitudinal arches. In this bazaar not all the vaults were open at the top. At the end, where there was a dome - there was some tile mosaic on the walls. I walked entirely out of the town along the Framway track, under an occasional coffee shop awning which covered nearly the entire width of the track street. Close out of the town I had a fine view up and down the river - the distant minarets of Kuthmeim a very holy place of pilgrimage some miles to the north west and reached by the train line. The water still covers nearly everything and shows little signs of a fall. This side of the river does not seem to be so interesting as the other, and although there are some pretentious houses - especially one near the limits of the town that has a kind of renaissance appearance and is surrounded by a fine garden - the general view is commonplace and often miserable. While I was walking about I saw a dead body being carried along followed by a large crowd of excited people - it seems to have been an accident or something of the sort. I also had a good opportunity to see the entire business of breaking up one of the peculiar Tigris rafts that are floated by skins. In the river one was being taken to pieces, the logs stacked on shore and the




Apr 26<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

BAGDAD

leather bags collapsed. The wet skins were then spread out flat to dry, then perfectly dry they were rolled and folded ~~ed~~ once and packed into jute (S) bags, of a size convenient to load on a donkey. In the afternoon I visited both Mr Haines and Mr Herber but there is still no prospect of getting off. These are Jewish holidays and many of the Jews are on the street. Their women wear a long sort of visor of black over their faces, a blue robe which does not reach the ground but exposes the high top.



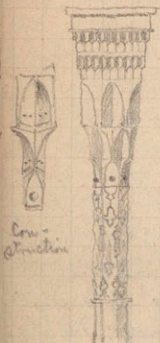
ped yellow leather boots, especially when the fair wearers ride astride of their donkeys. Arab women as a rule wear  long black robes and have their faces covered with a black veil. Arab men wear a brown cloak blue figured cloth over the head confined with coils of brown or black wool. Turks use European costume and a tall red fez. The Jews wear a robe usually of some colored stripe goods, often silk, exposing a vest which is fastened with numerous silver buttons. They often wear a black cloth cloak, embroidered with gold at the back of the neck. Their head dress is usually a red fez, but as other merchants the white gold embroidered Turban is not uncommon. The people are of all shades of complexion down to sooty black negroes who are doubtless slaves although such condition is derided by the people.

Apr 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday (con)

BAGDAD.

In the evening Mr. Haines called, and in the afternoon Fr. Pelycarp was here for a short time. In the night there was a bluster of wind, a little rain and some lightning.

April 27<sup>th</sup> Friday Another morning of uncertainty visiting Mr. Haines and Mr. Haines with no more result than deciding to wait for Mr. Haines' telegram. The morning was hot but with a temperial breeze where there was an opening. It was only towards evening that I took a walk out past the English Consulate to hunt up Mr. Cantrice - and as he was not at home I walked out to the Abdul Kadir Tomb

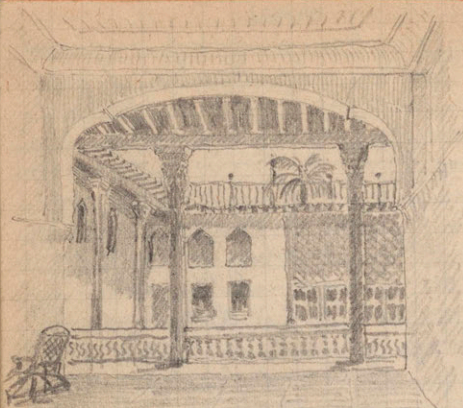


Corn  
Structure

again. The streets were full of small boys parading with clubs, were Friday holiday I suppose. The dust proved so bad - there was a bluster of wind - that I was glad to hurry back to the Consulate where I spent the entire evening reading. The day was warm for the effect of the melted snow in the river flood is passing away.

April 28<sup>th</sup> Saturday. After breakfast I visited Mr. Cantrice at his temporary quarters, and later we walked up to the consulate together then out the bazaars, on the steamer *Medjed* and over the bridge. There were showers at times during the day and in the evening and afternoon a fine gale from





A BAGDAD  
INTERIOR

the ~~20th~~ that raised a swell on the river that was fully as large as is seen on the sea in a medium wind. The waves dashed against the house in a fierce way threatening the bulged out wall that may fall any minute. The "sea" on the river showed the qualities of the Kuffa to good advantage. During the afternoon a steamer arrived from ~~Samarra~~ with every wave breaking over her bows. Mr. Haines called in the evening. He had a telegram but it was not at all decisive. Pleasant air. Today neither warm nor cold. Mr. Cantin looked me a book today that contains many interesting things about Bagdad and neighborhood I intend to copy some of the more important notes from Bombay Govt. Records no. XLIII new Series Memoirs by Commander James Felix Jones I.N. (Bombay, for Govt. by Bombay Educational Socy's Press 1857) (numbers refer to those on the map.)



notes from a book, as above.

- (1) Jama Suk-al = Shajil, The most ancient mosque in the city. Built by order of Khalif Moss-tansir Billah in AH 633. The minaret now only remains. (2) Jama el Khaseki, Mosque said to have been an old Christian Church; built AH 1094. (3) Jama Sultan Ali, Mosque of Syud Sultan Ali; rebuilt by Ibrahim Pacha in AH 1093; but the tomb existed there previously. (7) Jama Merjanizeh, Mosque built by Met-jan ibn Abdulla ibn Abderrahman as Sultan al Col Khani AH 758 (1356-7). (8) Khan el Fourtueh, The enclosed Khan an ancient edifice of peculiar Saracenic construction with vaulted roof, hence its name. It is said to have been an ancient Christian church, but doubtful, believed rather to be connected with the mosque of Merjanizeh originally from its being entailed property of that Mosque. It bears the date of AH 758 (1356-7). (9) Jama Dawud Pacha, Mosque of the Heider Khanek; built AH 1243 (1827) by Dawud Pacha. (10) Jama Ashred Kebya, Mosque built AH 1211 (1796) a very handsome enamelled dome. The rents of the Heidar Bazar, are all bequests to this mosque. (11) Jama Hussain Pacha, Mosque now in ruins, AH 723 (1323). (12) Jama el Fadel, Mosque built in AH 1197 by Suliman Pacha. (13) Jama Bab el Ayha, Mosque. (14) Jama el Fakulizeh AH 1095 (1683). (15) AKed Gurnush Halkeh, Mosque of Khidhr Beg, AH 1133 (1720) Property in Hillah. (16) Jama el Fadelizeh. (24) Suk Mulleh Khanek, mosque built by Dawud Pacha AH 1242 Bazar of same name built as an endowment. (25) Jama Kaplanizeh, Mosque built AH 1174 (1721). (26) Jama el Keger, Mosque of the Vizier built AH 1008 (1599).

notes from Jones Memoirs (con)

- (27) College of Khalif Mastansir Billah, erected AH 630 (1232) Bears a fine inscription. (31) Jamaa el Pacha, Mosque of the Pacha, built by Hassan Pacha AH. 1133 (1720) (31) Jamaa Szeggizelh mosque of Usbeys. (32) Jamaa el Kelach, mosque of the Citadel. (34) Jamaa Ahmed Effendi and Jamaa Ali Effendi. (35) Jamaa Murad Pacha. Mosque called Muradizelh AH 870 (1465) by Murad Pacha. Has many endowments, among others the Beled Ruz canal from the Dizaleh.
- (36) Jamaa el Khatim. (39) Jamaa el Khanem. (40) Jamaa Namarielh. (42) Jamaa Safiyelh. (42) Jamaa Adliyelh. (43) Jamaa el Mehdielh. (47) Jamaa Sheikh Seraj ed Din. (50) Jamaa el Sheikh, Mosque and shrine of the celebrated Sheikh Abdul Kader of Ghilani. He was buried here about AH 650 (1252). Visited by many devotees from all parts of the Mahomedan world. An aqueduct conveys water to it from the river (iron pipe now '94) and a noble dome serves as a canopy to his grave; this was built AH 840.
- (51) Mosque Annamaani, built by Sheikh Mahamed Annamaani AH 230 (1329). (53) Jamaa Namari. (54) Jamaa Berat Hassan. (55) Jamaa Haji Fetulhi. (59) Jamaa Hassan Pacha. (61) Jamaa el Maleh. ( ) Jamaa el Syaghjir. ( ) Jamaa Haji Amin. West Side of River
- (1) Jamaa el Sheikh Sendel, Mosque AH 1118 (1706) (2) Jamaa Khidher Elyas. (3) Jamaa el Kimerizelh mosque built AH 1020 (1611) (4) Tekizelh Bab-el Kadem, Tekizelh of the Bekktash Devvishes. A fine copper inscription much defaced exists here. The date is somewhat imperfect but about AH 333 (944) (5) Jamaa Sheikh Museh, Mosque built AH 1228 (1813) It has



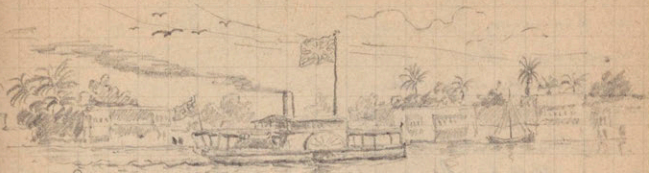




notes from Jones memoirs

He restored it to Sultan Ahmed, who was chased out by Miran Shah son of Timur-Lenk. Factors for tribes called Ak Koyunlu & Kara Koyunlu (White & Black Sheep) held it until AH 914 (1508) when it was seized by Shah Ismail Sufi, the Persian King. Sultan (Turkish) Sulaiman I took it AH 941 (1534) from Persians, but it was recovered by Shah Abbas the Great. Murad IV besieged it in person & took it AD 1638. Turks have held it ever since. Attempts made to take it by Nadir Shah (first of 18th cent) and un-  
homed Ali Mirza Prince of Kermanshah beginning of 19th cent. || Niebuhr, Buckingham and Frazer have described Bagdad. Oriental writers in Tarikh-i Bagdad. || Nahrawan Canal used to water the suburbs. || Walls enclose 737 acres - 591 on east 146 on west. || No walls perhaps, at first. || Talismanic Gate inscription (a fine specimen of Sassanid brickwork) gives the date AH 618, built by Khalif Abul Abbas = an Naasir-din. Lower parts of the walls older - open brick and mortar work peculiar to the older Mesopotamians - a substantial foundation of masonry built principally as water defenses on which fortifications were raised. Many cannon were formerly on the walls (Copper & brass as well as iron) || Gates: Bab - ad Moadhem (north-west); Bab = as = Sherki on north-east; Bab = al = Wastani, middle; Bab = al = Taliem ( ) which was closed according to custom, since Sultan Murad IV. issued from it on his departure for Constantinople after capturing the city from the Persians. || Circuit of eastern fortifications including the river face 10600 yds, of the western 5800 yds in all about 9 miles 2/4 furlongs.

notes from Jones memoirs



THE COMET  
going up the river  
to Samarrah



MALWIYEH TOWER  
Samarrah. (from  
a cut in Jones memoirs)

Tower of Malwiye north  
of the modern Samarrah.  
It is about 163 ft high.  
A spiral way leads to the  
top on the outside. It is  
apparently solid brick-  
work. Sarge holes pierce  
it at right angles as at  
Birs Nimroud and Mujelibi.  
All Babylonian ruins are  
thus pierced, and in this

case the architect of the Khalifs seems to have  
copied the more ancient models.

Tak-i-Bostan, Arch, 30 ft high 25 ft wide, depth  
22 ft, excavated in the rock and adorned with  
sculptures. || Oldest parts of the Baghdad walls  
date perhaps from the 3<sup>d</sup> century of the  
Hejireh. In the Nusbat al Dulab of Ab-  
dallah Mastafi we read of a wall of lime and Kila  
burnt brick, surrounded by a ditch having been  
erected by Mustadhir Billah (18<sup>th</sup> Khalif) about  
300 AH or 913 AD.

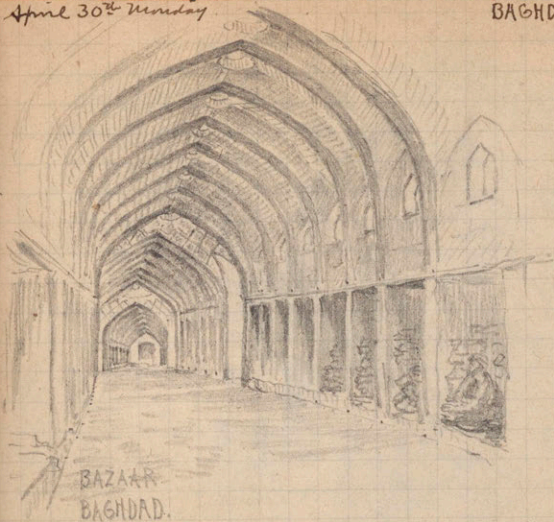
April 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday. BAGHDAD.

I spent nearly the whole day at the house, partly in drawing maps of Baghdad. Some arab masons have been repairing a wall of the house and afforded endless diversion for everybody. They were obliged to work from a Kuffah and the hod carriers - who used small green enamelled bowls for hods - waded waist deep from the nearest street. They used bitumen, lime mortar and plain mud - mostly the latter. The wall, apparently very thick, was made of an inner and outer skin of brickwork and the space filled in with common river mud and brickbats. Three or four men on the roof of the mosque next door and three or four of us from our roof offered suggestions as the work proceeded. In the afternoon I took a walk out through the bazaars as far as the Pacha's Mosque. This building seems to be a rectangle covered with 15 low domes. The walls are relieved by deep and high pointed recesses to correspond to the aisles and bays no doubt. There is a glazed tile minaret at the N.E. corner. I managed also to get a sketch of the principal bazaar, near the Custom House. This morning the English gunboat Comet went up the river to Samawah to settle some international difficulty caused by the killing of some East Indian natives up there I believed. She looked very beligerent with the big Union Jack at the mast. The river is rising again, and there was wind with thunder storms in the night. The air is much cooler. Mosquitoes are bad in Baghdad.

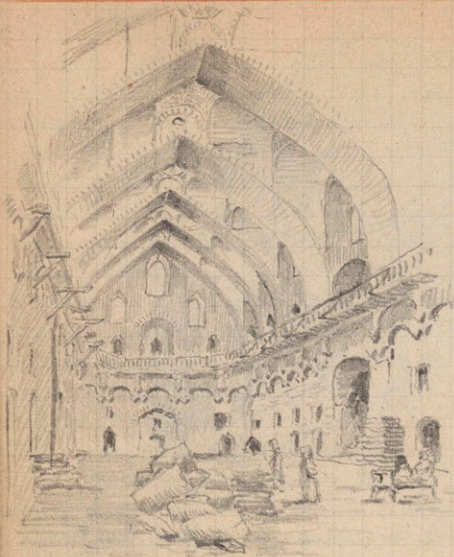


April 30<sup>th</sup> Monday

BAGHDAD.



after breakfast I went up to Mr. Cantine's rooms by appointment and we walked together out to the south gate - Bab saox Sherki an octagonal faced building arranged for cannon - and went out to follow the embankment that protects the city from inundation. At first we skirted the date gardens that fill the south end of the city, then came out on the prime covered open by the Telism Gate. The ferry to the main island has given rise to a flourishing village on the embankment, and at many places bleaching and washing was going on among the arabs. I examined the Telism Gate again. Mr Cantine says the inscription around the top is from the Koran which seems to point to Moham- medan origin. Moreover as the ornaments



KHAN  
AOURTMEH

1856-79 35' x 100'

al background to the inscription and that on the spandrels seems identical I am strongly inclined to believe that the dragons and the squatting figure are of the same date as the inscription and consequently of Mohammedan workmanship - a singular circumstance. Above the gate is inserted a block - apparently ancient - which shows remains of a lion's head(s). The frame around the inscription and the joints of the walled up gate are of a gray marble. The inscription is on large square blocks and the spandrels also of blocks, both apparently of a light brown fine sandstone, al-

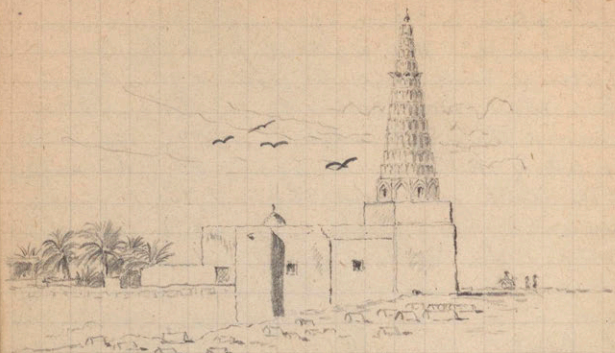
April 30<sup>th</sup> Mon (con) BAGHDAD

Though a book that I have read calls the inscription a "fine specimen of Sassanid brickwork". We walked past the Bab-el-Nastani also and I noticed this time that there was formerly an inscription around this gate also. Near the top, but most of it has disappeared. We walked to the north gate and through the bazaars home. In the afternoon I went up and sketched the interior of the Soufmech Khan. The merchants were quite obliging and much interested, looking at the sketch through their folded hand like through a telescope, and expressing wonder that I had done it "with my hand".

Several of them spoke English. I am perplexed to make out the original use of the Khan. It looks like some sort of an assembly hall with its great floor space and surrounding gallery. As it is near the Messaniyeh Mosque it may have had some connection with it. Later I went to the latter mosque - the one with the high elaborate door and ceciled dome down - where I went in as far as the court. There does not seem to be a prayer hall, but simply the wall with some ornamental tile work protected - like the other walls - by a single aisle porch. The dome is on an enclosed building towards the south (?). From what a bystander told me I learn that there is a school connected with the mosque. Before going home I visited Mr. Haines' where we talked of architecture and travels. River rising. Air cool, clear day.



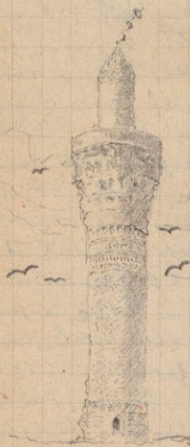
May 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday. BAGHDAD



SHEIKHOMER SHAHABODIN  
AH 622 (1225)

(Flaming Sword of the Faith)

It was only after dinner that I went out partly on account of a headache partly on account of Loftus's book. I walked out through the city to Sheik Amer's tomb and made another sketch. This time I noticed that the building was formerly ornamented with patterns in colored tile. The tower is built of a yellowish brick, and is not plastered nor colored in any way. These conical towers are very peculiar in appearance with a scale-like surface. The tomb is covered by a low dome - out of



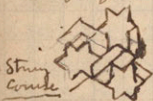
SUK-AL-GHAZL MINARET  
"Hamm al Raschid's Minaret"

AH 633 (1235)

May 1st Tue (con)

BAGDAD.

sight in the sketch. After taking bearings I returned to the town and easily found the old tower of Mustansir (called Hamra al-Raschids tower) By looking around a little I found a good point for observation. The tower is built of the usual yellow brick. The patterns I am convinced were formerly in glazed colored tile patterns but now the color seems to have scaled off. The crowning cupola and the main shaft were thus ornamented. A peculiarity of this tower is the slender upper division and the great length of the gallery corbel. The latter is in a ruinous state for the honeycomb corbels were supported by pins of wood walled in the masonry, which rotting away allowed the projecting parts to fall. The pattern on the shaft was that common to the more modern minarets, while rope (?) patterns and bands




made up of 6 pointed stars served as divisions for the various parts. When in perfect preservation it must have been a striking tower. I had a large crowd of admiring onlookers, as usual, and quite as friendly as ever, even some old women were brave enough to come to see the sight of their familiar old tower on paper. I don't believe I have mentioned the water carriers. Here as in all oriental cities they use the goat skin



shaft decoration

May 1st Tue (con)

BAGHDAD

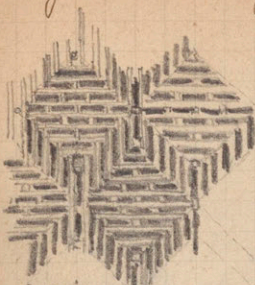
bag, slung over the shoulders or thrown over the back of a donkey. Here they have a unique sort of beathel scoop with a strap handle to dip the water from the river and pour it into the bag. They are not at all particular where they get the water, and as the cess pools were emptied by use of the same sort of bag, the horrible thought suggests itself that they may be used for both purposes. Vendors of confectionary - nearly always a sweet that looks like marsh mallows - are a common sight on the streets and bread is stacked up on the street corners mornings and evenings. People buy only what is to be used immediately, such a thing as laying in a store of food appears to be unknown. Money changers sit in the bazaars and rattle a handful of coins. Drinking water is carried about in a long porous clay vessel  and advertises it by jingling a brass cup in his hand. The Bazars are open from about 8 or 9 till about 4 or 5 P.M. and outside of those hours are almost deserted. The river is still rising and is now within about 3 or 4 inches of the height it reached last week. The day was a little warm but the evening delightful. Tonight there was a brilliant sunset and as the sun disappeared up the river at the bend above the city, the sight of palm lined banks and picturesque houses was strikingly beautiful.



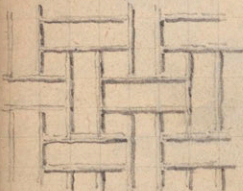
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.

BAGHDAD.

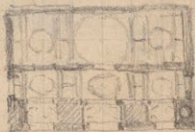
In the afternoon I walked out through the bazars as far as the Meidan where I sketched the Shined Khaya Mosque better known as El Meidan Mosque. I managed also to roughly sketch the facade and take a few notes on the interior and the courtyard. The mosque is roughly of this plan



Lattice screen.

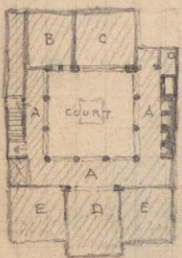


Surface decoration in wood in narrow strips.

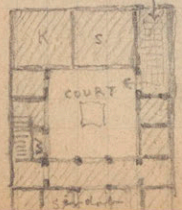


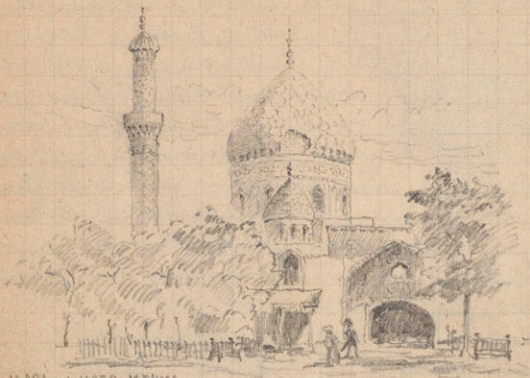
Plan of El Meidan Mosque.

The ceiling I could not make out from the court. The enclosed part of the mosque - perhaps a tomb - was not used but entirely cut off from the public, who used the porch for praying place. The court is enclosed by an pointed arcade for the nullahs quarters perhaps - a series of little rooms. The entrance was through a line of shops by a



PLAN OF A PRIVATE HOUSE.





JAMA AHMED KERYA  
(El meidan)

WW

n. 1796



JAMA MERJANIYEH

(front West side of court)

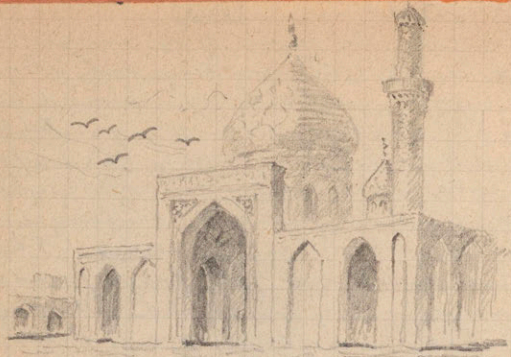
n. 1356-7

May 2 Wed (con)

BAGDAD

pointed gate. The facade of the mosque showed a high centre with one large arch while the wings on each side were divided into 2 bays - a blank and an open pointed arch while at the outer end was a narrow panel. At the north corner rose a minaret while over the enclosed part of the building were a large and two (3) small domes. The spandrels and Trims of the large facade arch were richly ornamented with glazed tiles in two shades of blue, green, pink, white & yellow. The spandrels of the side arches and those in the courtyard arcade as well as the entrance door were decorated with geometric patterns in blue tile on the background of the ordinary pale brown bricks. The facade was very much like that of the mosque in Lahore but not so richly decorated. Nobody objected in the least to my sketching but there was always a curious crowd. One old fellow tried to be funny and mimicked me by drawing on the back of a playing card and rubbing a my face as he did it. After finishing I went to the Merjanijeh mosque, and as I was looking in at the door a crowd came out led by a fine looking arab with a huge green turban on his head. This latter individual seemed to recognize me and motioned me to go in and draw the mosque. I acted on the invitation for it was an interesting example. A sort of showy looking mosque attendant said something to me that had a tone of "clear out" in it but the crowd that had followed me into the court yard said some-





FACADE OF THE  
EL MEIDAN MOSQUE

1796



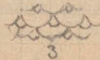
JAMA SHEIKH  
SERAJ-ED-DIN

2 arches and  
a porch.

Jama Salma



DETAILS  
OF  
TELISM GATE



- 1 Bas-relief lion on impost 3 Scales on dragons.  
2 Joints and incised line 4 Terminal in ornaments  
on the archivolt & central figure of the background.

May 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed (con)

BAGHDAD

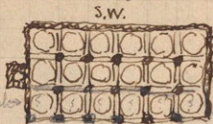
thing about "the Sheik" and I was num-  
bered. The crowd made many remarks  
but were delighted only when I put in  
the palm trees. This cabinet was surrounded  
on all sides by high buildings, the wall on  
the south-west shaded by a wooden porch.  
The side opposite showed a deep high  
pointed arch and before it was a wide  
platform. The decoration on the needed sur-  
face of the dome drum was made up of chev-  
ron patterns in blue tile on the brown brick  
background. with little niches at the top of  
each recumbent angle in black and white.  
A little later Mr. Smalley and I went up  
to the Banque Imperiale Ottomane and after  
that stopped in to see the Fourtuech Khan.  
Mr. Haines called in the evening. The river  
is stationary - about 3 inches lower than it  
was a few days ago. It is said this is the  
greatest flood since the destructive inun-  
dation of 1831 when 7000 houses were de-  
stroyed, and the plague following carried off  
12000 of the population. The lamp at night  
brings in a myraid of insects - from minute green  
gnats to brilliantly colored dragon flies. Mosquitoes  
are of several kinds - all equally energetic.  
The other day the servants killed a snake in  
the house, but I did not see it. Birds are  
numerous. Those in the trees around the house are  
sparrows, doves - a slate color like our turtle doves -  
ravens with slate colored body and black wings  
cranes or rather Jorks and a small bird with  
a brilliant light blue back. Swallows skim over  
the river, large black ones, or at least a very  
dark brown in color.

May 3<sup>d</sup> Thursday.

BAGHDAD

About 1030 I walked out in the southern quarter of the town, where I sketched first the Jama Sheik Seraj = ed = dia. The plan of this mosque seems to be as below to judge from the exterior.

It is covered with a series of 18 domes very irregular in height and as usual covered with square bricks laid face up.



The body of the mosque is also of the local brick, partly plastered, and very ancient in appearance. On the S.E. side rises an unfinished minaret covered with glazed tile - no doubt quite modern. Not far from this place I passed a small mosque, with plastered dome, which was being reconstructed a tile on the face gave the date 11<sup>th</sup> 14 (1893 AD).

I stopped for a few minutes before the Abdul Kadir Tomb. I noticed that the vestibule dome is covered with small square tiles on which the pattern is painted - then glazed. It is made up of a dark blue pattern, with some white and yellow, on a light blue ground. Bands run around the dome of a complicated pattern. The dome is not pierced for windows but is a plain cylindrical surface with elaborate pattern in glazed tile. It rests on a plastered octagonal base which in turn, I think, changes to square. Later I again found my way to the Telian gate. The light was very favorable for examining the details, even the embroidery on the "Buddah's" clothes was easily made out. On second



May 3<sup>d</sup> Thu (cont.)

BAGDAD

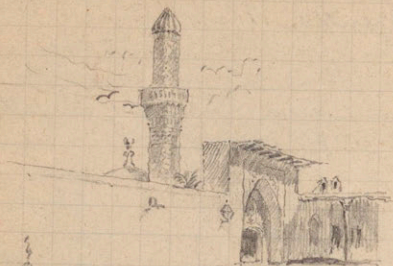
examination I find that although the ornament in the background of the inscription is of the same character as that on the spandrels, yet it does not seem to be as finely executed. The surface of the scrolls on the spandril is cut concave. The scales of the dragons are very carefully drawn and cut, very slightly pointed at the tips perhaps.



In the afternoon I sketched a typical tile-covered minaret from the roof of the house - the minaret of El Adeliyeh. About 3<sup>30</sup> &

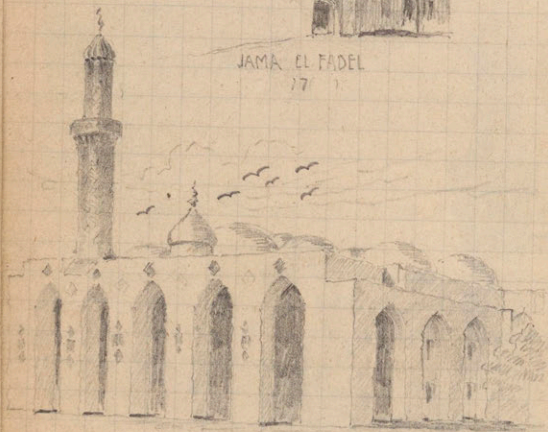
May 3<sup>d</sup> Thu (con)

BAGHDAD



JAMA EL FADEL

17



JAMA EL PACHA.

AD. 1720 (Fornelli cont.)

Walked in the north quarter and visited a number of mosques. The first was the Grand (Princ. Lodge) Pacha mosque. This is almost identical with the El Meidan. It has the great blue tile dome small side domes, single minaret, high centre flat

May 3<sup>d</sup> Thu (con)

BAGDAD

façade, and nearly the same kind of ar-  
caded court. The minaret was of light brown  
brick with the usual fret-like geometric  
pattern in blue, brown and white. Corbels  
showed a preponderance of yellow. The  
apandils of mosque and arcade arches  
were decorated with glazed tile. I next  
tracked up the Jama el Fadel almost  
on the edge of the city, and surrounded  
by a high brick wall with an elaborate  
entrance. The mosque seems unimpor-  
tant - one dome and a minaret in  
the usual style - brown brick with colored  
tile laid in intricate patterns. I had a  
crowd of lookers on here for there was  
a café opposite. One soldier seemed  
to think he had a right to direct mat-  
ters but was easily tamed. Following  
a maze of crooked streets but still  
keeping my bearings I managed to  
find the small Jama Khidhr Bey.  
In all respects it was almost the coun-  
terpart of the last described, both in de-  
sign and colors. Farther on was the  
"mosquelet" el Sakuliyeh - a single  
domed apartment, brought to the square  
by merely cutting into the dome on  
the four sides with arches. There was  
a small minaret of the usual form  
with gallery corbel of simple bricks  
set corner out. From here I went on  
past the <sup>minaret</sup> Meidan passing the Jama el  
Kelaeh (Citadel) a perfectly plain small  
mosque with no striking features (resemi-

and vs  
The first  
pachas may  
be the 2d  
small in  
centre of




May 3<sup>d</sup> Thu (con)

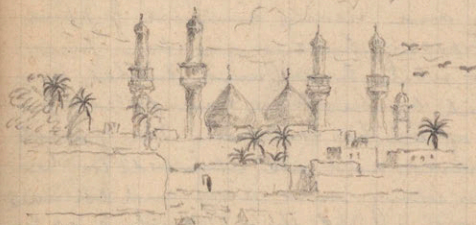
BAGHDAD

bled the east in many ways, finally reaching the curious mosque which I think is the Juma Azbeggiyeh. close to the north gate (mosque of the Usbeys) There is a long enamelled tile ornamented arcade facing the street, with two large portals. At the south end are two large very flat domes - white plastered - with a diminutive minaret between them covered with glazed tile. Within is a small court yard and an open Kibla wall - for the domed apartment is at the north east corner. There is some curious needed ornament on the joints of the western portal. I walked outside of the gate as far as the cemetery for a view of the city. On the way I looked in at the great Khau outside of the walls. It consisted of a large court surrounded by small stables and store rooms. At the further end from the entrance was apparently the kitchen, and the roof seemed to be the sleeping place. On my return I stopped in to look at what I think was the Juma Wezir although the water carrier said it was the Safiyyeh. Here were two large pointed arches, richly decorated with painted glazed tiles, while between them was a Kibla niche on the outside of the building. The court was surrounded by 2 story buildings with a wooden upper gallery. The buildings seemed to accommodate the mosque attendants. I saw a long inscription (ancient) on what appears to have been a part of the old Mustansir College, over the door in the main bazaar. River higher & cool cloudy day.

May 4<sup>th</sup> Friday.

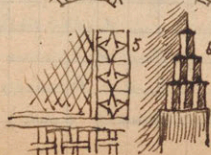
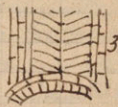
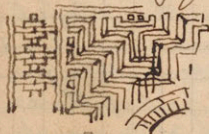
# BAGDAD

(note: The minaret of the Merjanijeh mosque is on the North corner of the court surrounding building. It is of the usual form of pale brown brick with no ornament but a  couple of narrow bands of blue around the gallery. The corbel support of the gallery is of bricks set corner front.)



KATHEMEIN. (from the NE) (Kassimayn)

After breakfast I visited Mr. Haines and then Mr. Cantine. Later walked over as far as the Abdul Kadir Tomb. On the way back I amused myself examining the brick-work spandrels over the arched doors of the private houses which showed an almost endless variety of design.



- 1 Brick spandrel
- 2 " "
- 3 " "
- 4 " "
- 5 Wood lattice
- 6 corbelled  
Corner  
(bricks corner  
out)

May 4<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

BAGHDAD

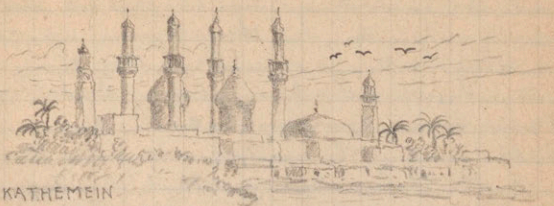
In the afternoon Mr. Cantine and I with Mr. C's servant crossed the river in a Kuffah to the end of the bazaar (little below it) and after hunting a short time found the terminus of the Kathmeir tramway. We sat in a native coffee house on one of the curious high benches waiting for the car to start. We waited for an age, then inspected the car house. The cars themselves are in the last one-hoss-shay stages of dissolution and nearly innocent of paint but show traces of having once been fine. Finally two white horses were hitched in the car which by this time had filled up. Some time after the car from the opposite direction arrived and we climbed to the roof seats as being more airy and command ed a better view. It then slowly crept through the town, the target of stone-throwing boys, then crossed the open on a narrow ridge between the seas of inundation waters. The great lake in the direction of the Euphrates is now navigated by sail boats which together with the clear water as far as the horizon gives it the appearance of the sea. Far to the left surrounded by water were high ruins I believe of some tower or other fortification outwork. To the right was the river and its date tree lined bank, in front the large date groves near Kathmeir. After a ride of perhaps three miles we came in full view of the great mosque-tomb of the Dinaurs surrounded by the low clay-colored houses of Kathmeir (pronounced ~~Kasmeir~~ here). Seen from this

Kazmaire



May 4<sup>th</sup> Fri (con)

KATHEMEIN - BAGHDAD




KATHEMEIN

(Approach from Baghdad)

distance the group is most imposing in appearance. Only enough of the poor houses of the town are visible to give a strong base of dull color, while to the left a mass of foliage sets off the brilliancy of the mosque itself. The shafts of the minarets are richly colored with tile mosaic as high as the galleries. But all above that point and the two central domes are gold, with a brilliancy in spite of age that gives the appearance of solid metal. A couple of clock towers of plain white and a great low dome, ~~make up a group with the central feature~~ of four minarets and ~~two~~ domes, as I have said all of gold, make a most striking and purely oriental picture. The road along which we were now travelling was full of people in holiday dress - for it is Friday - on foot or riding horses and donkeys. All on the way to the shrine or returning from Baghdad to their homes. We landed in a covered tramway shed and walked up into the bazaar. They were quite full of life and goods compared quite favorably with those in Baghdad. But at only one place the roof was vaulted. We walked to within


May 4<sup>th</sup> Fri (con) KATHEMEIN BAGHDAD


about 200 or 300 yards of the shrine where it was advisable not to go further - these Shiah shrines are inaccessible to anyone but mahomedans - even dangerous to approach. One of the leading industries in these bazaars was comb-making - always of wood, either ebony decorated with color and jet or of sandalwood. I saw some curious costumes here - no doubt many of the visitors were from Persia and other countries in that direction. One man, apparently of some importance for he was accompanied by a Kawass, wore a vividly embroidered jacket with figures of this shape  in many colors of silk, a small square sided cap without visor also embroidered and baggy pants, fastened close to the ankles, made of cloth that resembled black paper muslin. We walked along a dusty road through the date groves after leaving the Town and after ~~we~~ going about a half a mile reached the bridge of boats over the river which led to Moadhera - the place the Dr. and I had visited a couple of weeks ago. We walked through the town past the shrine of Hanifeh then took a crowded omnibus back to the city. The walks and coffee houses were crowded for it was about 6 o'clock and the prayers were over. Mr Haines called in the evening, but still no Telegram. The day was bright - and warm in afternoon. [note from Jones Memoirs. "The Imam Musa al Kathem (7<sup>th</sup> Imam revered by the Shiaks) and his grandson Mahomed Taki, son of Ali Ridha 8<sup>th</sup> Imam, lie entombed here, Imam Musa was great great grandson of Hussein (2<sup>nd</sup> son of Ali). Brought to Baghdad from Meo

May 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday.

BAGHDAD

directly by Harun al Rashid fearing that his (the former's) presence in Arabia would foment troubles. Poisoned by the vizier by order of Khalif. on this spot. His death took place A.H. 153. His grandson Mahomed Taki was much esteemed by Khalif Mamun. gave him his daughter in marriage and brought him to Baghdad. The Khalif's relations displeased and it is supposed he was murdered in 25 yrs of his age. This tomb also called the Koreish, Kathere = "generous", Kathere-mein the dual form of the word. The domes were last<sup>ly</sup> gilt by addir Shah. Tomb visited by wanderers from Thibet, Chashmere, Afganistan, Persia, by Moguls and Arabs on horse and on foot.

May 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, is a tale soon told. I spent the most of the day writing a long letter to Canton. In the afternoon I went to see Mr Haines and examined some of the small antiquities he has collected - more than a hundred cylinders, terra cottas of Greek or Roman work, some curious terra cotta cones  - supposed to be a phallus - covered with inscriptions, and other objects. Dr Smulberg's cook has disappeared, and there seems to be a deep plot among these gentry to destroy domestic arrangements generally, for Mr Haines too is in trouble.

Bagdad had one of the native name stamps made for me - a cast brass affair engraved with the date  1894. All this = 3cts! These stamps are used as an official signature, and even appear on public documents.



May 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

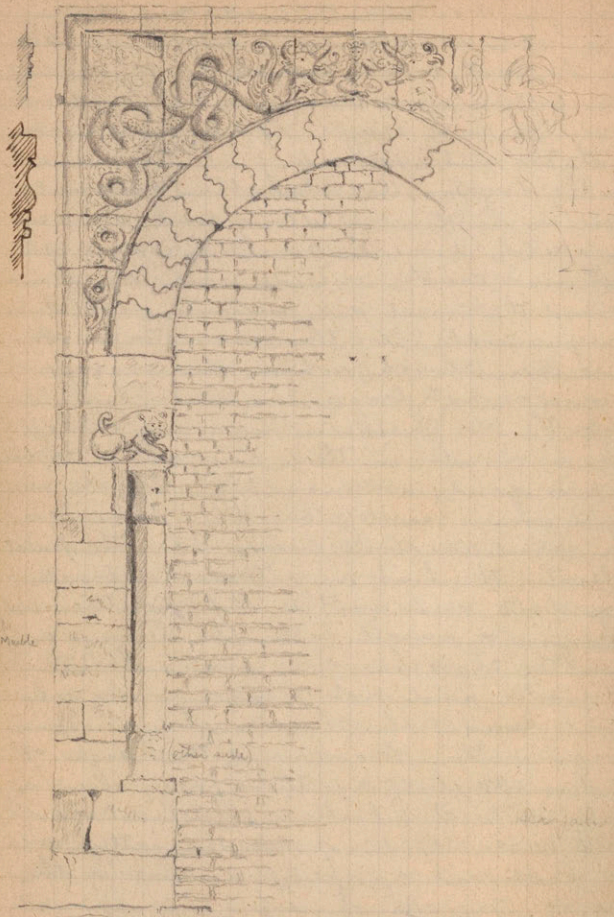
BAGHDAD.

About 7 o'clock I went out to visit the different Christian churches in order to see something of the service. At the Syrian Church I found a large congregation - the men occupying the front seats, the women those that were left in the back and the gallery at the west end - these churches seem to be correct in orientation - This church was a large one - nave and aisles with round columns, and vaulted ceiling but owing to the crowd I could not see much. I met one of Mr. Sandberg's men here, and he piloted me to other churches. At the Chaldean Church I first examined the new church building. It is to be a large and fine structure with nave and aisles, Round columns and half-columns on the walls of Mosul (gray) here used to support the vaulting. Mohammedan masons are doing the work and it is said to be impossible for them to follow a drawing - an overseer must teach them every step. Here the architect was a priest who lives in Mosul, and when he came to inspect the work found the walls too thin, doors wrong and a general lapse from the plans. It is said that masons are Mohammedan but that stone cutters are Christians. The work of the latter is good - not jeweller-like workmanship but vigorous and well drawn. The service of the Chaldean church was being held in the old church on the other side of the court-yard. Before I looked in I heard what sounded like tambourines and cymbals.

May 6<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

BAGHDAD.

but after I entered there was only singing. The men here also sat in front - squatted on the mats which covered the floor - and the women were behind. This church was vaulted in a single span - narrow bays with the net work rib-pendentive seen in the bazaars. Over the altar the vault rose in a kind of oblong dome. seen in a sketch I made some time ago of the exterior. On the outside walls and around the court are memorial tablets in gray marble. We then went to an Armenian church, where the congregation was not large. The church resembled the old Chaldean in a way - there was a recedo in three compartments, but of poor gaudy workmanship. Here the men and women sat together. When I was there the service was about ended. When the priest elevated the host an attendant struck cymbals and another kept continuously ringing a small bell. The singing in all the churches was arabian in character, and not pleasing - harsh and loud. The Christian women wear a thin black veil the size of a handkerchief over their faces and a long cloth of brilliant solid color with wide border of decided pattern over the head and completely enveloping the figure. The church service is apparently like the Roman Catholic - in fact is under the jurisdiction of the Pope I believe - but Chaldean and Armenian are used in the mass in place of Latin.



Mulle

(then note)

Siyah

TELISM  
GATE  
AH 618  
13<sup>th</sup> Cent.



May 6<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

BAGHDAD

In the morning after breakfast I went out to the Telisim Gate to make a careful sketch of the carved decoration, which I was able to do without being disturbed. Only one ragamuffin came and squatted by me occupying his time examining my shoes. The day was cloudy and cooler than yesterday. The river is stationary. The opposite sketch is quite accurate. All the work is of a yellowish-brown color, the carving sharp and distinct, and with the exception of a few broken spots is perfect. On the opposite side from that drawn there is a thin joint of gray marble behind the column.

May 7<sup>th</sup> Monday. After breakfast I crossed the bridge to the west side of the river and walked through the bazaars to the district of tombs beyond. I had good opportunity to examine the large tombs carefully for there were few people around. Imberdalis Tomb is built of brick - smoothly finished bricks laid in half inch beds of mortar but apparently with no mortar in the vertical joints. Spandrels and panels are laid with ornamental blocks - diamonds stars &c with moulded work on the surface - and bricks cut and laid to fit the spaces.

laid →

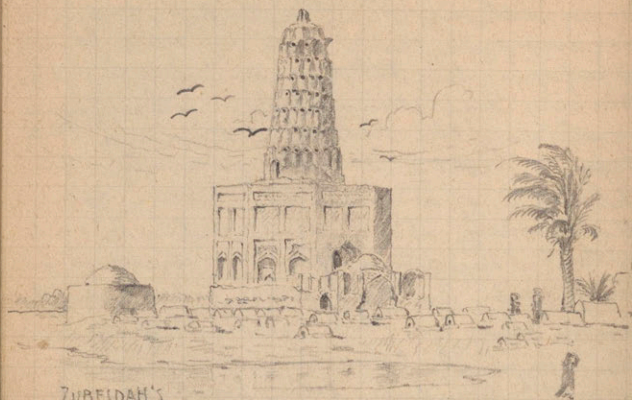


justing

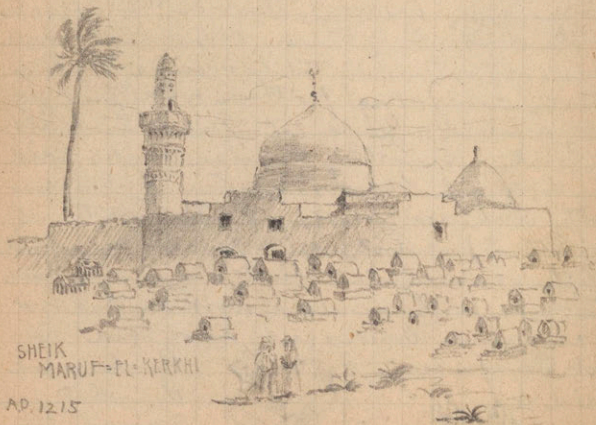


→ Panels were the white part. Some of the spandrels, how-

ever, where the work appeared the oldest



ZUBEIDAH'S  
AD 827 TOMB.



SHEIK  
MARUF-EL-KERKHI

AD. 1215

May 7<sup>th</sup> Mon (con) BAGDAD

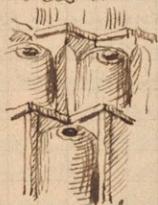
There were blocks of stone set in, carved with ornament identical with that on the backgrounds at the Teliam Gate.

There is a small domed vestibule proper from which a door leads into an octagonal chamber covered by a dome, or rather the part of a dome, for the tall cone like tower opens into it from above. This high tower is lighted by scores of small round holes pierced through the cell-like projections on the outside. These projections give the tower a curious resemblance to a mud wasp's nest.

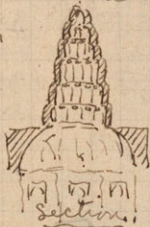
nest.



plane



cells on the outside.



Section.

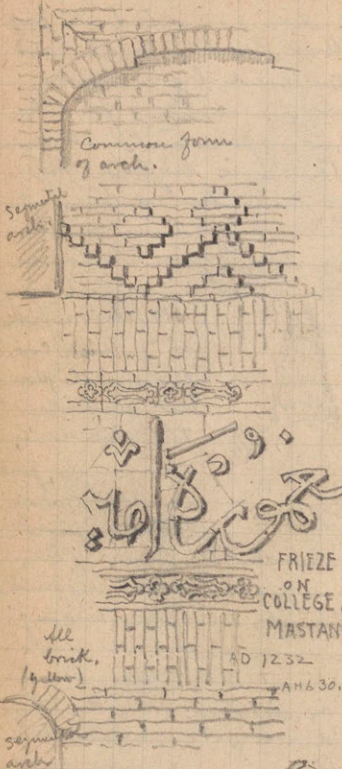
All this work is of brick covered with plaster, while the lower, octagonal, part is the color of the exposed

bricks. - a pale yellowish-brown. The tomb stands on a small elevation and is surrounded by tombs. Sheik Mansur's tomb is near this and like it surrounded by countless tombs - in fact part of the same cemetery. Here the whole building domes and all is covered with a coat of plaster. The minaret, only, is of plain yellow-brown brick with some bands and the cupola in glazed tile. I walked over towards Sheik Saad's Tomb but did not go close to it. It consists of a large square enclosed space, with high wall a sort of porch and over the wall a dome is seen rising



may of the moon.  
 above the building. The porch is supported by  
 two large round columns of brick. The entrance  
 is decorated with the usual tile mosaic.

BAGHDAD.



The river remains the same height but the current seems to be slackening.

May 8th Tuesday. I was not out in the morning. Mr. Haines paid a visit - no decision. In the afternoon I went with Razuk to the bazaar where we looked at cloaks, saddle bags and rugs. I had two more of the brass stamps made by an old Persian in green Turban, and who worked with hammer and chasing tool, using no marking out but engraved the reversed letters by eye. His sample card showed some elaborate work. We wound up by buying some sugar and canned fruit - all this at European prices in spite of freight and extra handling.

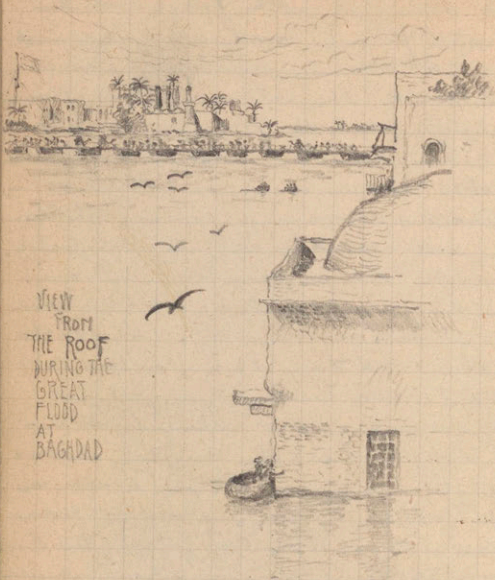
May 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

BAGHDAD.

On the morning I went down to the old college of Mustaurin - now the custom house - The finest part remaining is the frieze extending along the river facade made up of ornamental brick work and an inscription also wrought in brick. The letters are cut from brick - curved parts or from the brick laid flat fall out - and the back ground filled from bricks cut in irregular shapes. The small bands above and below with the foil ornament seem to be moulded brick. All brick work laid in regular courses is laid in a half inch bed of mortar and has the vertical joints dry. The bricks are a little less than 12 in long (& wide?) by less than 3 inches thick, of a yellow color - greenish yellow where broken - burned very hard. The mortar seems good but at places where the wall has been cut, bricks had come away from the mortar without breaking it. All that remains of the interior are some vaulted chambers perhaps 25 ft high. One is covered by a pointed barrel vault, and others by a square vault - quadrant section, rising in two successive vaults of that form and crowned by a turret with quadrifurcate vault of cylindrical compartments. All this work was in bricks and as far as I could see the short joints were left dry. I did little all day. Walked out towards evening. The day was warm, almost hot. River rising if anything and is within about 8" of its highest.

May 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday

BAGHDAD.



VIEW  
FROM  
THE ROOF  
DURING THE  
GREAT  
FLOOD  
AT  
BAGHDAD

Did little, but pay visits to Mr Haines and Mr. Cantine. For the day was hot and I have seen nearly everything interesting in Baghdad. Mr. Haines made me an offer to go with him to Tiffar for a year and I have promised to consider the proposition. It would mean a hot summer and delay of a year in getting back to America, but would give me an experience that I have long wished for, if not exactly in this part of the world. The river is still stationary. Day warm.



May 11<sup>th</sup> Friday. BAGHDAD.

One of the first things that I did was to visit Mr. Haines and accept his offer to join the expedition that is excavated at Niffer. It is uncertain when he will return, but within a few days. I spent a little time hunting for some things but succeeded in finding only a few. I spent a good part of the day in writing out arabic to learn the Alphabet. The day was hot - over 90° in the shade. The evening was pleasant down on the ground floor, where the mosquitos did not collect.

May 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday After breakfast I walked through the bazars as far as the north gate and back. The fruit markets out in that direction were better supplied than usual - mulberries, apricots, sweet limes, oranges, and vegetables - onions, cucumbers, &c. At places the crowds were so dense that I could hardly make my way. In the morning I visited Mr. Haines and tried to make out something in regard to paper. After dinner I ended my long stay at Dr. Sundberg's by delivering my baggage over to Mr. Haines where I will now stay. The day was very hot at 95° <sup>shade</sup> with little or no air. The river is falling a little.

May 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday. This was another oppressively hot day and I went out but little. The principal thing done was to start some men to work on clothes and shoes. I was over to Dr. Sundberg's a couple of times and saw the Khalifah come in from his roof about 5 P.M.

May 14<sup>th</sup> Monday.

BAGHDAD



Finial  
metal  
(copper?)  
Inscribed  
base  
tile  
white with  
pallid

fringe of  
brown, black, white  
on light  
brown ground

TOP OF  
KHASEKI  
MINARET

(Common  
form)



Lattice border.

faded to nothingness, yet he had endless arguments how it might be very valuable. The group made a picture - the old merchant with long white beard, big turban and simple robe hanging to his dirty feet, Mustafa, the Kawas in snowy white uniform, bright silver buttons and red fez - the cook in the usual Arab costume sitting and standing on the bright colored rugs that completely cover our porches, and a background of elaborate wooden screen work and oriental looking furnishings. The day was hot but the evening pleasant with bright moonlight. In the afternoon there was a thunder storm with a little rain.

The day was spent in making preparations for a start, visiting shops and receiving shopkeepers and workmen. An old man came up while we were at lunch with some old rugs - the most orientals think that age is the only requirement of Europeans when they are buying anything, and often these rugs are worn out affairs of no pattern and less color.

His old man had a scarp cut off of the end of a rug and

May 15<sup>th</sup> Tuesday.

BAGHDAD

I spent a good part of the morning in hunting through the bazaars and in the operation visited a number of drug stores - rather fine looking from the outside, but not very well stocked. Bottles are certainly scarce and high prices. After a long hunt I found two old perfume bottles at 50c apiece. Sprays too, are hard to find although I managed to pick up a small one. In the afternoon I took some paper to a book binder to have some note books made up, and later paid Dr. Sundberg a visit. The river is rising again - never has been over a foot or 14" lower than the highest point. Mr. Cantine and several other visitors came while I was keeping house when Mr. Haines went to the Palace to see the Pacha Governor General. Mr. C. is to leave tomorrow morning for a trip to some places near the Shah-el-Nil. The day was hot - perhaps 95° in Mr. Sundberg's office - but the evening bright and pleasant with a moon approaching full.

May 16<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. I was not out of the house all day. Mr. Cantine was in to see us before he left and in the afternoon the British Consul called. I wrote letters to Frank with directions as to my funds (12 of w's debt 100d in Peoples Bank) to Sady Tyler asking for another year, postals to Cook & Son Jerusalem, Athens, Constantinople & the Ottoman Bank in Damascus asking to have my mail forwarded. The house was full of



May 16<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

BAGHDAD

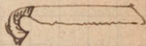
merchants and other people who are afraid Mr. Haynes will get away before they have all of his money. The day was hot, but apparently less oppressive than yesterday. In the evening there was lightning but little or no rain.

May 17<sup>th</sup> Thursday. During the day I made excursions into the bazaars for drugs and to the post office where I mailed various letters and postal cards. (One letter to Mr. Langenhagen in Athens enclosing 100 drachmas to pay for 2 Badaekers and to store baggage) I left my future address with the Post Master. Later in the day I called at Dr. Sundberg's. The drug stores of Baghdad are, considering the place, good ones, and the friendliest looking business places in the city. The day as usual was hot.

May 18<sup>th</sup> Friday. A day of packing and getting ready to travel. It now looks as if we were to need about 15 or 18 animals. I visited Dr. Sundberg in the afternoon. The river is falling a little, but has not dropped much below the highest level. We sleep in the open porch that surrounds the court yard, but although there is usually a cool breeze during the night and it is needed after the hot day - the mosquitoes make sleep intermittent. The moon is nearly full, and the sky during the day nearly always cloudless.

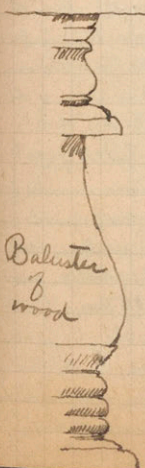
May 19<sup>th</sup> Saturday.

BAGHDAD

We spent the day packing and collecting stores but it is fast reaching an end, and there is fair prospect of starting on Monday. The carpenter has been at work with his saws  teeth pointing in an opposite direction from ours, adze and his set of drills and countersink. The last two are worked by a drill bow as in the sketch. The strap is held in the right hand with the handle of the bow, and the drill steadied by means of the top set on a pivot. He used these drills to set screws. Our meals are simple - usually sweet brines, cucumbers bread, with milk for breakfast & tea for dinner. The bread is of the raised variety - quite good if it were only above suspicion as to dirt. Weather continues very hot, but the nights are pleasant with a breeze.



Drill and Bow.



Baluster of wood

← (Wooden baluster of upper porch.)

May 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday. BAGHDAD

In the morning Mr Haines and I called at a Mohammedan's house in company with our old Commissioner. The gentleman was not at home, but we were served with coffee in the reception room. Later we called on Mr. Hurner at his house by the river. The back yard was full of grape vines and trees that cast a cool shadow over the porch. Here we met Mrs. Hurner and the son of the family who was about 2 1/2 years old. I spent the rest of the day at the house and on a trip to Mr. Sundbergs and then the drug store for cream of tartar. In the evening Mr. Haines was out to dinner and I had my peaches and bread alone. The day was very hot. - little or no breeze.

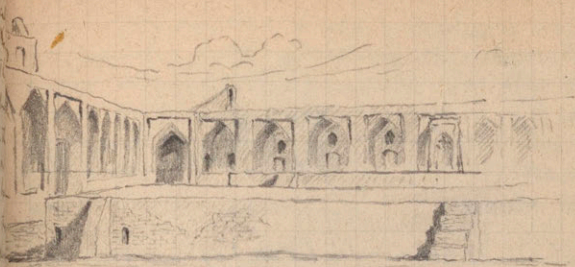
May 21<sup>st</sup> Monday. We were up early and soon had a court-yard full of soldiers, workmen and merchants, each helping or hindering our preparations for a start. I made some last purchases and took dinner with Mr Haines at the Hotel Europe. The latter part of the day was a stupid wait because porters, agents and sailors all conspired to keep us back. At 9:35 P.M. however, Hadji Ali came with his slave and his lantern to announce that the caravan was ready. We made a long and noisy procession down



Approach  
to land by  
Sifinchit



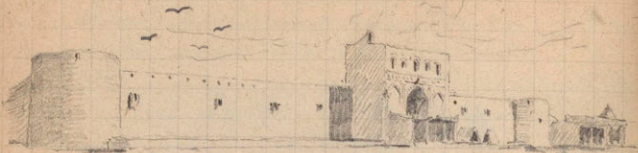
May 21<sup>st</sup> Mon (con)



Corner of Court  
Khan Mahmoudieh.

The deserted bazaars and across the bridge rousing the few late customers at the coffee houses and a host of dogs. After an hour or more wandering in the crooked narrow lanes of the western suburb of Baghdad we finally reached the shore of the overflow. Here our Sifneht was waiting among a crowd of others, and our men loaded up at once. We had our beds pitched on the top of the narrow embankment and slept - as much as possible - under the sky. There was a cool pleasant breeze, but the air was not cold.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday. We woke at the first streak of dawn, and would have soon been ready for a start but the usual delay occurred when we were told there was a government tax to pay. But after considerable talk we were off loaded to the water's edge with cargo and our 12 or 15 men loaded on top. At first we sailed and poled over a broad sheet of water, then between islets where the water was so shallow that we were

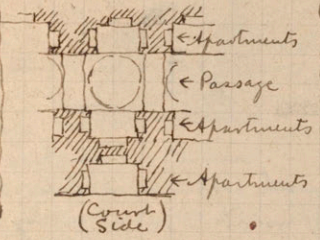


KHAN MAHMOUDIEH

The Khan Mahmoudieh is typical of this class of buildings. The exterior shows only the Oblank surrounding wall pierced only in the centre of one side by the great portal. This opening is accentuated by a projecting pavilion ornamented with blank pointed arches on either side of the portal. Above is a suite of upper chambers, and the portal is enriched by a semidome of intricate ribs vaulting. At each corner of the building is a circular bastion and the solid parapet along the wall pierced with narrow slots. Lower down the wall is cut for drain spouts. The building surrounds 4 sides of a court in the centre of which are two raised platforms of masonry for sleeping places, or places of prayer - that on the south is furnished with a Kibla niche. - Surrounding the court is an arcade opening into small open port chambers of this section with simple pointed barrel vault ceiling. These are occupied by guests that require more shelter than the open platforms and roof afford. Surrounding this part of the building are the stables

- a passage with domed compartments separated by pointed arches and on each side furnished with sleeping apartments like those around the Court. At the corners there is

compartments supported by arches. At the is a layer about or twenty diameters.



a domed vault like the others or four piers. entrance dome eighteen feet in

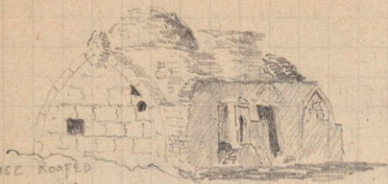
on the bottom nearly as long as we were off. At one place we crossed a swift current that marked the canal between the Euphrates and the Tigris, and where there was a pontoon bridge floating by a few houses. It was because of the toll due to the government by our avoiding the bridge that we were taxed on starting. Beyond this we entered a broad lagoon that stretched to the horizon - a muddy inland sea where the swell threatened to give us a wetting. Here the sail was of good service and we sailed along at a good speed, even passing a boat that had started long before us. At 11<sup>15</sup> AM we reached dry ground again - we had started at 5<sup>15</sup> - at a place where several reed huts and a couple of canvas tents for the soldiers had been erected. (This point was about 18 miles from Baghdad) We sat for some time in the captain's reception hut of reeds where we



May 22nd Tue. (cont)

ROUTE TO HILLAH.

125  
62



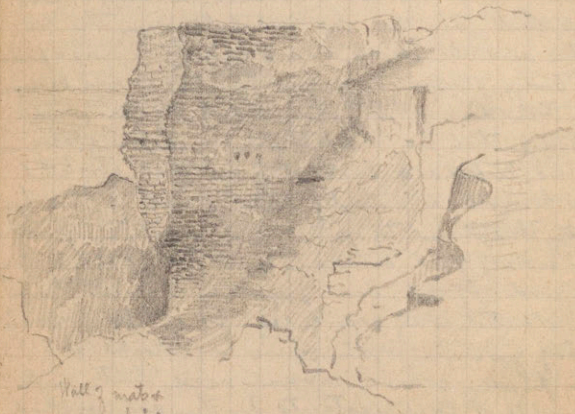
HOUSE ROOFED  
WITH DOMES.

(cont) KHAN HASSWA

(dinner 23)

"Strong Inn"

were served with coffee and later had our  
lunch. We perscribed for a young fellow  
who had inflamed eyes, quarrelled with our  
safirah captain, and finally mounted our  
animals and set out for the first stopping place  
about 2 P.M. I was furnished with a big



Wall of masonry  
bricks

BABIL  
BABYLON.

(24th)

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Tue (con).

black mule gorgeously fitted out with a red  
halter, decorated with small white shells  $\circ$ ,  
and an enormous saddle made of reeds and  
covered with goats (or) hair matting. Behind which  
was a rich piece of carpet to cover the animal's  
flank with a shell ornamented border and  
fringe of thick tassels of many colors. All  
this finery did not, however, prevent the  
saddle from getting very hard after some  
miles of riding. If I had no cushion.  
At first we skirted the overflow, which  
from this point presented the appearance  
of a great lake, and then struck into  
the hot desert. The ground is a rich  
alluvial of a light brown color, soft  
and entirely free from the smallest stone  
although as a rule it is level as a floor  
in every direction are seen the long ridges  
of earth thrown up from ancient can-  
als or the remains of buildings. The  
afternoon was extremely hot, and all  
objects at a distance were so distorted  
by mirage and quivering in heat that  
they were unrecognizable. Not long after  
we left the water a huge blue gray object  
very indistinct in outline came in sight  
- the Khan Mahmoudieh where we were to  
stop for the night. We reached it about 4 P.M.  
and were soon located in one of the niche-  
like rooms on the side of the court, while  
another served as a kitchen and still others  
as store rooms. The wind was strong and  
blew clouds of dust and chaff over us  
as we had our tea, but when the sun  
set (about 7 o'clock) we went up on the roof

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Tue (con)

KHAN MAHMOUDIEN

where there was a suite of 3 rooms for distinguished guests - but too dirty for us to use and we spread our beds on the open roof. The view from the top was extensive and characteristic of Mesopotamia. Far to the east I could make out the huge mass of the Palace at Ctesiphon, and in an opposite direction rose the mounds of Abu Habba that mark the site of ancient Sippara - the Biblical Sippar Vain. We had a cool, almost cold night, after the extreme heat of the day, that could hardly be called quite pleasant, but there were no mosquitoes.))

The low places along the overflowed land were alive with diminutive frogs, and on the boat I saw a queer light brown fly - like a house fly in shape - that had a sort of transparent hood over his eyes and head that gave him the appearance of having on a diving suit.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Mustafa waked us at 3 AM. before there was an intimation of dawn, but the bright moon made things almost as easily seen as in daylight. We had breakfast and then came the packing of beds and utensils to join the procession of mules, horses and donkeys that was filing out of the great Khan portal for the Gays marsh. The air was deliciously pure and fresh as we rode in the gray dawn into the plain, and almost repaid the ~~the~~ enduring of the heat that followed. We had started at 4 AM, and the way for the most part was like that we had followed yesterday - a flat loamy plain broken here and



May 23<sup>d</sup> Wed (con)

There by ridges and mounds that mark the sites of ancient works. The road followed the Telegraph line in a general way and was made up of a number of paths worn by the animals feet into trenches. Otherwise the way was quite practicable for carriages - in fact I have heard of several occasions when people travelled from Baghdad to Hillah in that way. Far to the east lay some large ruins of what I do not know but the walls were extensive above the slopes of debris. We passed many caravans during the morning from a few diminutive donkeys to great trains of camels loaded with bales of wool, or crowds of pilgrims on their way to or from Kerbela on foot or on horse. About 8 o'clock we reached the Khan Hasewa the night resting place for caravans going from Baghdad to Hillah in two days. There was a small village around the half ruined Khan that was remarkable in being built up of domical houses. The method of construction was to enclose a square with pointed arches, several of these squares were placed adjoining one another and from this sprung the spherical pendentives which were carried some little distance towards the completion of a dome. Before this was accomplished however a dome of smaller diameter was built to close the opening - see sketch 3 pages back - The ends and those arches that appeared outside were walled up with bricks laid with the flat side out, while the voussoirs of the arches

May 23<sup>d</sup> Wed (con).



BABIL MOUND

BADYLON.

seemed to be made of concrete - a mortar mixed with very small gravel. The material of these vaults seemed almost like a kind of sandstone but the texture led me to think it a concrete. The house shown in the sketch was the Zaptieh (soldiers to guard caravans or) station directly opposite the Khan. We made use of one of the Khan apartments as a place to lunch but were nearly driven out by the clouds of dust and a noisy horse. We started on again at 9:30 A.M. (9:30) over the now gravelly road - this is the highest point of the watershed between the rivers and is made up of a wide low ridge of fine gravel - Shortly after leaving the Khan I noticed myriads of holes in the ground and thousands of birds sitting on the neighboring telegraph wires or on the ground near the holes. The birds resembled a woodpecker in shape and in having a long straight beak, but were a brilliant metallic green on the body and tops of the wings.

The under side of the wings, tail and I think part of the body were a beautiful pale salmon-color. While I was admiring these five birds I noticed a great excitement among them, many darting down towards the ground and then flying up again, I soon discovered that the object of their attack was a large lizard about two feet long, that darted out its long purple tongue and hissed like a snake. It was of a pale brownish yellow color, its back mottled with spots of concentric black rings, while its tail was encircled with black bands. Near the end of its tail the color changed to a salmon. Soon the rest of the party caught sight of it and a chase over the desert followed. The animal was very swift & it put Mustafa, who had dismounted, to the top of his speed to overtake it. Some strokes of a whip stopped it and Mustafa captured it with a loop of twine placed behind its fore legs. It had fastened on the top of a cane with its teeth and for several hours hung on like a snapping turtle and it was impossible to force the cane from its mouth. At several other places along the road we passed similar colonies of the green birds, always with the holes <sup>in</sup> the ground which were apparently their nests, but I never saw <sup>an</sup> bird actually go in or come out of one. The ride was intensely hot and we were not at all sorry when the dark poor



May 23<sup>d</sup> Wed. (con).

of Khan Mahawil rose by the mirage of  
palms. It was 13<sup>00</sup> P.M. when we  
reached the Khan, and we were soon  
settled down in the guest chamber over  
the gate - here a single room with a  
pointed barrel vault and an end  
open to the air by building up alternate  
open and closed squares of masonry.  
Of course all these Khans and houses  
are built of brick. The village houses a-  
round were built of simple mud or  
sun-dried brick. Before the Khan, which  
was of the same design and plan  
as the Khan Mahawil, but smaller,  
was a square, the usual coffee houses  
and a sort of square divan built of  
mud - a meeting place for villagers  
and travellers in the open air. We had  
our beds set up and managed to get  
a little sleep as well as all the breeze  
that was to be had to temper the heat.  
When we woke towards evening we climb-  
ed to the top of the highest chamber to en-  
joy the sunset. The sky was perfectly  
clear, and an intense blue. The sun was  
setting in an orange glow with a rich  
pink above shading into the blue. Near  
the horizon was a whitish mist like  
appearance that brought out high points  
distinctly even when at a great dis-  
tance. Against this background we could  
distinctly see the great mound Babil - per-  
haps the remains of the Palace at Baby-  
lon, its furrowed precipitous sides in  
strange contrast to the level plain and

May 23<sup>d</sup> Wed (cont).

the long low lines of palms that fringed the Euphrates. Large flocks of sheep were gathering in towards the village, belated caravans were hurrying into the Khan, and fires began to glow on the plain as night came on, and marked the camps of nomad arabs. For miles we could trace the course of the Euphrates by the thick palm groves and at one place we caught the gleam of the river itself. We had another cool night - perhaps colder than that last night, but were better prepared to meet it and did not suffer. We slept on the roof before our room and drifted off into unconsciousness looking up at the familiar old dipper and that little star that represents the north and all that is ~~connected~~ connected with it in our minds.

May 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday. We turned out just as dawn was beginning to light up the east, and after a simple breakfast of bread and hot milk made ~~our~~ start at 5<sup>15</sup> AM. We crossed a small bridge just beyond the Khan then over some high ridges that rose on each side of ancient canals. The plain was now under the influence of irrigation and covered with grain - yellow and ready for the harvest, or a carpet of thick grass where great flocks of black, white, and mottled sheep grazed under the eye of savage looking arab shepherds. The sheep here are



May 2, 4<sup>th</sup> Thu (con). THE ROAD TO BABYLAN.

peculiar in having monstrous tails about 10 inches wide and nearly a foot long and almost resemble an apron hanging down behind. No doubt much of it is wool, but I have heard that the fleshy part is a great mass of fat, perhaps something like the cart-wheel supported tails of Australia we read about. After a ride of about 2½ hours, passing on the way a number of mounds where excavators had been at work, we approached the great Mound of Babil, which had been visible for some time, when we had crossed the waters of the Shat-el-Nil, an ancient canal that traversed the city of Babylon, Mr Haines, Saleh-Effendi, our Concessionaire, the Zaptieh and I rode off from the caravan to visit the Mound. Babil. We at first rode along the canal bank and then across a plain alternately covered with a growth of half dried grass and low bushes, then hard smooth places of dried mud. The mound rises abruptly from this plain - a sloping base of debris, bricks and earth, then a more precipitous top part that is made up of brick walls. We rode to the top by a steep narrow path up one of the gullies that the rain has cut in the sides, and there dismounted. The remains are at once striking and incomprehensible. The excavations that have been carried on for ages for the purpose of quarrying bricks have to



May 24<sup>th</sup> Thu (con) BABYLON

all appearances destroyed nearly all hope of ever determining precisely what was the plan and purpose of the building but the existence of many finished walls descending almost if not quite to the level of the plain in all parts of the building seem to point conclusively to the fact of its not being a temple but rather a palace. Such is Mr. Haines' opinion after having had much experience with the zigzag form of temple. These walls are often exposed for a great height - perhaps 40 or 50 feet - and seem to be of three kinds of material; a red burned brick, hard and flinty, usually laid in bitumen; a yellow burned brick laid in a workman-like way; and sun-dried bricks laid in layers about 5 inches thick and separated by mats made of reeds. These reeds are remarkably preserved - in fact almost as strong and perfect as those in modern reed mats, even at places long exposed to the air. I saw several places where the walls enclosed spaces like apartments and passages, but nothing like a door or window-opening. Quarrying for brick was going on on the east(?) side where a very perfect wall of the large yellow brick was being destroyed. On the opposite side were enormous walls (part of one is shown in a sketch 9 pages back) of all the kinds of brick, and it looks as if the sun-dried and mat separated brick


Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

BABYLON.

walls were the latest for they were placed for the most part on top of those of burned brick. The two kinds of the latter, too, seemed to have been of different epochs for I saw a place where they were built adjoining one another without being bonded together and it seemed to me as if the reddish variety were the older. See this, however, is mere speculation for I merely glanced at it all, and hope for a more satisfactory examination on our return. When we left Babil we crossed to the river bank and rode among date trees and barley fields to the extensive mass called the Ksar and supposed by many investigators to represent the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. ~~It is~~ not nearly so high as Babil but of much greater extent. We rode up and over the mound and gained some idea of its general character and details but of course had no chance to come to any reasonable conclusion as to its plan and arrangements. The surface on top is broken into many pit-like depressions, and made up of earth mixed with bricks and presenting an appearance such as one would expect from a mass of earth resting on vaults which had collapsed. At one place was a large <sup>black</sup> stone figure of a lion standing over some fallen man or animal, rudely cut it is true, but showing vigorous drawing and an experienced hand in its execution. There were rough holes cut in the exposed sides and on the



Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Thu (Con) BABYLON.

back of the neck which may be merely  
fracture of an attempt to break up the fig-  
ure, but as Mr. Haynes suggested may  
indicate a metal covering which would  
also explain the rude finish. This figure  
lay near the centre of the mound.  
At another point was a series of yel-  
low brick walls of excellent workman-  
ship - perhaps a gateway building  
or something of the sort. At one place  
in them I saw a small square head-  
ed door, where the joints were smooth,  
but the soffit of the lintel somewhat  
rougher, and seemed to point to a  
wooden lintel which had disappear-  
ed. We rode down to a village near  
here, where Mr. Haynes enquired for  
some of his old workmen. The crowd  
of men women and children that  
gathered around us was a study in  
Arab villagers. The houses were of the  
usual mud walls with flat roofs  
resting on palm logs. The usual way to  
make a roof seems to lay palm logs  
close together over the room and on this  
are laid reed mats; on this in turn  
is placed a thick coat of beaten earth  
which makes a cool, tight covering.  
When the roof is made a parapet of  
mud bricks is built up <sup>3</sup>ft or  
four feet furnished with pilaster-  
like buttresses.  on the inside.  
On our way ~~back to the~~ back to the  
Hillah road we ~~crossed~~ crossed the large  
mound called ~~Suram~~ Suram where there



May 24<sup>th</sup> Thu (cont)

HILLAH

is a group of sheik tombs and other graves. I noticed in the largest of the domes - which was so high that it might almost be called a sugar loaf - that the bricks appeared to lie almost horizontally towards the top. We had a hot ride for the rest of the way between high mud walls, crowned with thorny brush that enclosed the date gardeners surrounding Hillah, and finally entered that part of the town that lies on the east side of the river. We arrived at the house we were to occupy at 10:30 AM. and spent some time in resting and having a little lunch.

Later in the day Mr. Haynes, the commissioner and I walked down to the river, over the bridge of boats, not nearly so long or large as that at Baghdad, and across a hot square in front of the barracks to the Serai to visit the governor. As he was not at home, we returned to the other side of the river and looked over our goods which had been stored in a khann near the water's edge. We slept on the roof. It was not nearly so cold as in the desert and I slept comfortably until broad daylight.

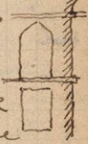
May 25<sup>th</sup> Friday. We went out early, and before the sun was hot began to make some calls on the principal people of Hillah. At the first place - the house of some sons of Abdoul Djelil Bey a one time very influential man in Baghdad, we met a

May 25<sup>th</sup> Fri. (con)

HILLAH.

young man - one of the sons - who spoke French and I had a chance to engage in the conversation a little. The etiquette of receiving visitors is for the host to meet them at the head of the stairs shake hands - touch forehead and breast, several times repeated when the guest is seated, Cigarettes, coffee and sometimes sherbet are offered. The seat of honor may be on the divan, a simple seat or bench covered with calico, this again covered with some white cloth, or if the visitor is a European may be a chair in which, perhaps, he may be more comfortable.

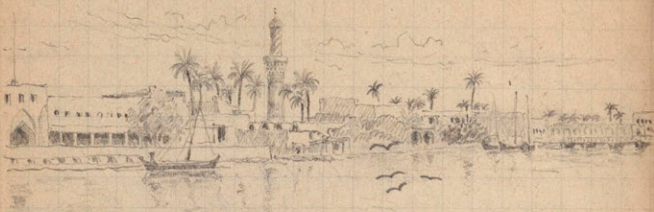
General conversation follows which is full of polite expressions on both sides. The room is not what a European would call well furnished - usually the plain panelled walls, painted above, square below, with a coved cornice perhaps at the top. Red curtains of cheap stuff and a brick floor sprinkled with water to keep it cool. Here place we were received in the court of a house that was more than usually elaborate in brick laid in ornamental patterns and carved wood oriel. The finished by calling on the governor of Hillah District - a fine looking, apparently very intelligent man, who always had a crowd in his room. The afternoon I spent writing in spite of the heat which was oppressive. The sunset was brilliant, almost <sup>approaching</sup> equal to those I had seen in parts of India.






May 26<sup>th</sup> Saturday

HILAH



HILAH


(West side of the River)

Immediately after breakfast I walked down to the river bank for a sketch of the west river front of Hillah. A couple of soldiers who saw me wandering around hunting for a point of view seemed to think that I was lost and both were anxious to set me right, but English answers did not answer the purpose. I finally found a place in a sort of enclosed garden on the river bank where I was undisturbed ~~but~~ excepting by men towing sifinehts up the stream. Later I crossed the bridge to the west side where the principal part of the town is located. The bazaars are extensive but not as fine as those in Baghdad. Here they are almost universally roofed over with palm logs laid flat, although at a few places there are gables made of slender round poles. The goods for sale were of the kind found in the bazaars that I have seen. Coppersmiths were making pans and cooking vessels with their small square hammers.  and blacksmiths were at work on spades and



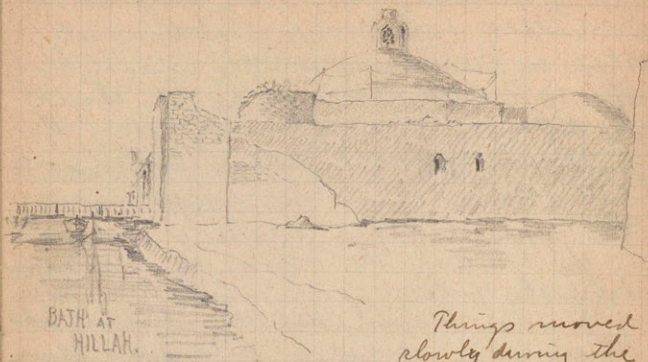
May 26<sup>th</sup> Sat (con)

HILLAH

and nails. The latter use a double bellows set up vertically behind the forge which is built of brick (?) covered with mortar. Their anvils are a simple square block of iron a little larger at the top than at the bottom  and merely set in the earth floor. Everybody, almost, works sitting down. I saw one group making the spear shaped spades I had seen on the banks of the Tigris. One man held the piece of iron with two pairs of pincers (?) and did the shaping while three men rained a continuous shower of blows with heavy hammers making the operation much as it would have been under a steam hammer. There seems to be only one mosque of importance in Hillah at least only one with a fine minaret. This one is similar to those in Baghdad - of enamelled tile. On the east side of the river is a bath - a square building covered by a large dome. On the west side of the river are a couple of barracks which give quite an imposing appearance to the river front on account of their size. Although rude and low, their walls with few windows, battlemented parapet and projecting portal pavillion, prevent their looking common place. Some of the streets on this side of the river are paved with asphalt or bitumen and I was inclined to credit the Hillahites with great enterprise until I learned it was merely stored in this way until sold!

May 26<sup>th</sup> Sat (Con)

START FOR NIFFAR



BATH AT  
HILLAH.



SHEIK TOMB.



JOBS  
TOMB.

Things moved slowly during the afternoon but we managed to have the boats loaded by half-past-four.

Bledrey, Bey and several other persons were down to the landing to see us off as well as a crowd of curious loafers. At 4<sup>45</sup> P.M. we started down stream but were obliged to stop several times for workmen who had been engaged to go to Niffar with us. So it was an hour later when we finally left Hillah.

The river banks both in and below the

May 26<sup>th</sup> Sat (con)

THE EUPHRATES



Sketch view of  
BIRK NIMROUD

Town were beau-  
tifully shaded by  
dates, pomegranates,  
poplars and willows  
which contrasted  
well with the yel-  
low water of the  
river. The stream

is not wide - much narrower than the  
Tigris, and I do not think larger than  
the Muskingum in Ohio at its mouth.  
I kept a sharp lookout for Birk Nimroud  
as we passed openings in the trees that gave  
a view of the desert and finally had a  
good view of it rising above the canal  
mounds and mud walls nearer the  
river. We passed several sheik tombs,  
all with the tall, almost conical, domes  
that we are accustomed to associate with  
Persia. One of them is the so-called Job's  
Tomb located in an enclosed date garden,  
and near it is the traditional well  
where he washed away his boils. A  
breeze sprang up and our two sophrachts  
slipped along at a good speed. We have  
about 70 people with us, and innumerable  
boxes and bales that make me realize  
that the expedition is not for a day. The  
sun set brilliantly, and the stars came  
out clear and bright as we had our  
extemporized supper of tea and cucumbers.  
Then we lay down on some of the softer  
bales and tried to sleep. Noise, mos-  
quitoes and cramped position did not  
allow of much, however. Day very hot.



May 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

ROUTE TO NIFFAR



THE MARSHES.

I woke up with aching bones about daybreak to find that we were tied up along the bank near a small village mostly built of reeds and mats. Near by was a little sheik Tomb with the usual dome, where a number of arabs were at their morning prayers.

We had left the

main stream of the Euphrates and were now in a mere canal at places not more than 20 or 30 feet wide. The water was, however, deep on account of the floods and the wind fair. In consequence we made good time and had few delays beyond a collision with the bank now and then when the turns were too sharp for the length of our boat. The stream ran for the most part between rice fields where there was a little work going on preparing the soil. We passed a number of villages each with its tall round or square watch tower of mud, pierced for muskets. For these towers act also as fortresses in time of disturbances. At several we saw watchmen posted for there is some trouble in this neighborhood. I understand. We were even warned at Hillah that Niffar was particularly dangerous at the present time. About 9 AM. when I was looking over the boundless

May 27<sup>th</sup> Sun (con) ARRIVAL AT NIFFAR.

marshes covered with tall reeds and flags that had succeeded the fields, I saw rising above the horizon the enormous mounds of Niffar - reddish yellow above the bright green of the vegetation - my home in all probability for the next year. We wound around in the narrow canal for a long time and about 10 o'clock left the canal near one of the lookout towers - one erected last year in all probability to watch the operations at Niffar - and began to push our way through the marsh to a landing place on dry ground. It was about 11 A.M. when we finally stopped alongside of a brush grown bank but a considerable time before Mr. Haines and I started to walk for the "Castle" which had been visible from the top of the boat's cabin. The way led over an alluvial plain cracked by the heat and sparsely covered with a low bush. After walking about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile we reached our house - a curious fortress looking place outside with a fringe of thorny brush around the top. We had our first meal about 2:30 P.M. All afternoon there was a straggling procession from the two masts in the distance that marked the spot where we had landed, and the house. Boxes, bales and other freight began to accumulate in the yard. We had plenty to do keeping things in order and storing the articles taken from the boxes and were quite ready for sleep. But we had little of it - the mosquitoes were fearful, even a sheet was no protection.

70 leaves (140 pages) in this book,

navab Akhbar - God-dowleh garden  
in south part of Baghdad.

Razak the boy.  
Khosroo the Kassar  
Khosroo



بغداد = Baghdad

مدينة الخوفا = medinet al Kholafa  
(city of the Khalifs)

دار السلام = dar-as-sellam  
(abode of peace)

names of  
Baghdad  
in  
Arabic.

In Baghdad are Turks, Persians, Jews  
Christians, Kurds, Arabs and nomad  
Arabs, which form the regular population.

Impure Arabic the vernacular but merchants  
speak Turkish and Persian, Sabvers & speak  
Kurdish, Luri and Chaldean. Hebrew and  
Armenian sparingly heard

100

414 15 2/3  
385  
29  
77

5 2/3  
2 1/2  
8

12. veshek

shirts

Suit 2 pairs  
dark linen

20. veshek



badgir the wind towers of houses on the Gulf.

Harun al Rashid reigned 786 to 809 AD

Mr Hervey at Bagdad.

Fr Polycarp at Bagdad

Fr. Julian at Beirut.

Fr Morrison at Jerusalem

Beshlek  
the paper  
for Turkey.

gold	1 Sira	= 414 <sup>small</sup> piastres.	Bagdad.
Silver	1 Medjedi	= 77 piastres	
"	"	=	
"	Beshlek	= 19 "	
"	"	= 10 "	
Copper	"	= 10 "	
"	piastre	= 1	
Silver	"	= 8	
"	piastre	= 4	

mezar an arab cemetery.

Keffieh the cloth worn over the head.

Kathamein - one way of spelling the name of the shrine near Baghdad. - the tomb of the Imams.

Sifineht native sails boat on Tigris final to not pronounced. (Saffeeriah)

Jama = Mosque, the place for gathering of congregations on Friday

Musjed a small house for prayer

Seggadeh the rug used by Mohammed in praying.

