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Joseph A Meyer Jr.

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No 2

~~XIV~~

NOVEMBER 23 = 1893

NILE.





The sun rose this morning in an ideal Egyptian sky. Not a cloud was to be seen and the horizon took on a color like the glow from melted iron. We had started at 4 A.M. and when I went on deck about 6 o'clock, it was already quite light, we were running through a country very much like that yesterday. The Nile landscape is forever changing - at first it seemed monotonous, but I am beginning to realize that like a new race of people, a new-landscape demands a closer acquaintance to show its peculiarities and individualities. This was the case as we approached the landing for Dendera. The great cliffs of limestone on the west rose as it were in a precipice of several stories marked by strong horizontal lines yet between these seemed and wore into a columnar surface. Below the steep upper cliff the debris sloped away in irregular masses to the verdure covered foothills there in turn to the dead level of the brilliant green plain. The valley proper showed less in,





NEAR  
DENDERA <sup>West bank.</sup>

diversity, yet here the great plantations of sugar cane which stretch for miles along the river banks and build a division line of green and brown with the <sup>always</sup> abrupt banks in a way have given a new character to the foreground. The villages continue to show the pyramidal houses crowned by the square dove cotes and the always graceful palm groves but in a way seem built more regularly. The river itself has changed, seems wider and shallower with many small low islands and bare mud banks, where thousands of strange looking water fowl stand waiting for fish - I suppose these birds are interesting to me - pelicans,orks and dozens of others that I do not know. One tall black variety looks like this  at a distance, what these queer side  projections are I can't imagine. We reached the landing at Dendera about 10<sup>15</sup> and the party from the steamboat landed at once and took donkeys. I went on foot, and was the scape goat for the whole party for the buckshead shouting mob of children that could not keep up with the trotting donkeys. The bad everything



Nov 23 - Plum (con)

DENDERA.



To offer - sticks of sugar cane, pods of castor beans & a queer looking stem of a plant that curled up at the end when they pulled a certain thread of the fiber grounds, even antiquaries - I was offered a fine new antiquary god for 2 1/2 cents. It was a long walk first by the river on the edge of a canal field then by a shallow canal that I crossed farther on by a bridge - then across open fields and a village - where I was greeted by half of the population shrieking barkbeesh and offering strange beads and imitations in conure. The temple of Hathor had been visible for some time to the left and it was not long after passing the last village that I reached it. Great masses of debris half hide the front and the facade is buried almost to the top of the wall that runs between the columns. and on this heap are the ruins of some huts. The facade - one approaches through the entrance gate some 100 yards before the temple and by the passage enclosed by low protecting walls - erected by Naxette I believe - I showed my government pass to the old warden at the door and then descended 10 or 15 feet into the imposing vestibule of columns. - the characteristic feature of Dendera. The appearance is much grander than I had imagined, the columns and ceiling higher. Inside the sculptured Hathor head capitals are well preserved. I will not waste time attempting to describe details. In the first place there is no difficulty in finding plenty of printed descriptions.

Nov. 23<sup>d</sup> Thu (cont.)

and in the second place I spent my very limited time in judging of general aspects rather than examining details. I think I was in all parts of the temple. I had a small boy who was well posted, show me the way and by this way saw fully twice as much as the escorted party. One of the most interesting parts was the crypt-like series of small chambers under the temple. The entrance is through a small opening about two feet square, then the passages are high enough to allow an upright position. The floor is of earth and of irregular levels. The walls are covered with beautifully executed figures of deities and monarchs, votive scenes and portraits, not disfigured as most of those in the temple proper, where the faces and upper parts of the bodies are cut and hacked. There ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> considerable remains of color although this is far from being perfectly preserved. I then went up to the second story of chambers - where the ceilings are decorated with curious figures of men who crouched up so as to reach almost around the four sides. Then higher to the roof. I walked on the top of the broad parapet, which was built of massive stones formerly joined by metal cramps, and had a good view not only of the temple itself but of the desolate surroundings. The Isis temple to the south and the pylons at some distance to the south-east. My boy then took me around the outside where I saw the richly decorated exterior walls. The

Nov 23<sup>d</sup>

DENDERA.

famous portraits of Cleopatra are on the  
near wall at the two corners and are colossal  
low reliefs about 15 feet high. Excavations are  
going on in order to free the entire temple  
and at nearly all points they are carried  
almost to the foundations. I then went to  
to the Mausolei not far from the principal  
front of the great temple. The largest room  
is decorated principally with figures of Isis  
nursling Horus. On one of the exterior corners  
is a figure of Set or Typhon. By the way the  
corners of the great vestibule are formed of a  
bundle of bound reeds  The innermost  
parts of the temple are  of the original  
gray color of the stone but the exterior and  
parts nearest the entrance are much black-  
ened. So I saw my first Egyptian temple.  
The time was of course altogether too short  
for a comprehensive examination, but the  
impression produced by this enormous build-  
ing rising over the cane fields and shrubs  
of the modern fellahs was ineffable. If  
Edfu and Karnak are as superior as they  
are represented, I can return feeling well  
repaid even if I see nothing else - which  
is not likely. The donkey party started before I did  
and consequently I was obliged to fairly run back  
and reached the landing in about half an hour  
to find the steamer still over at Keneh. She soon  
came over and about 12<sup>30</sup> we were again under way  
The sun was hot in the afternoon but by shifting 3



Nov 23<sup>d</sup> Thebes

would occasionally I succeeded in being comfortable. At 4<sup>20</sup> we stopped at Goo and at Nakada on the west bank a few minutes later. I talked with the engineer of the boat for some time and with the Capt telegraph operator going to Luxor and some Indian merchants (native) for a change. In the morning the Capt had taken me to see some acquaintances of his so that I could judge of their appearance. They seem to be tall and fine looking as a rule, dressed in black gowns and white turbans usually. They have a placid stateroque sort of expression and nearly always are smiling although they seldom laugh outright. The resemblance to the old portraits of the Pharaohs is certainly marked.



A FLOTILLA  
OF NILE  
BOATS

Before dark we sighted the heights to the west opposite Luxor, and not long after dark the lights of the town. The sunset was a wonderful display brilliant color that disappeared gradually under ~~the~~ lowering curtain of a deep ultramarine blue that the sky best takes on in moonlight. The planets appear to me of exceptional splendor in these Egyptian skies and the moon, full tonight, brings out the land scape almost as distinctly as daylight. When we

## KARNAC

arrived at Luxor - 830 half an hour ahead of time -  
 I could not stand the temptation to see Karnac by a  
 full moon. There was no lack of boys to act as  
 guide - even after I had selected one the others  
 followed with remonstrances of the utter worth-  
 lessness of the one I had. We walked out through the  
 streets of the village past the great Luxor Temple, into  
 the plain of ancient Thebes and perhaps half an  
 hour from the landing reached Karnac just outside  
 of the village were large salt vats and some wet  
 ground, but the village itself was pleasant looking  
 as Egyptian villages go with many palms. We were  
 greeted by a perfect hurricane of howling dogs, who  
 intimately were easily driven away by as they were.  
 After pushing to the farther end of the village we reached  
 the front part of the temple of Chonsu through an im-  
 posing gateway that was doubly impressive in the  
 moonlight. Then between a double row of head-  
 less sphinxes to the Temple. Here I showed my ticket  
 to the night watch, who carried a long gun, and  
 took a short glance at the first colonnaded court.  
 We then left this temple and skirted the east-  
 side avenue to the north? Here we suddenly found  
 ourselves in front of the huge pylons of Karnac  
 rising like the bastions of some great fortification  
 Passing through the portal we came to a large open space  
 where there rose a single giant column, with  
 wide-spreading capital, that looked more like  
 a great tower than the one of a colonnade to sup-  
 port a roof. Passing through the portal of a second  
 utterly ruined pylon I found myself in a

Nov 23d Thu (cont)

KARNAK

passage bounded right and left by a colonnade of astonishing size, where the capitals received almost supporting the deep blue sky and the huge bases buried themselves in the earth like natural rock. On both sides was a perfect forest of great columns, that stood out boldly in the white light or were obscurely visible only in the deep shadows. Everywhere were the ghostly figures of Kings and gods accompanied by their cartouches which covered shafts and walls. I was in the famous Hypostyle Hall. Beyond were other ruined pylons and



THEBEN.

the numerous obelisks then ruined halls and other buildings ending finally in a large portal. After going to the last I returned to the Hypostyle Hall and for a long time enjoyed the strangely beautiful sight. It was one never to be forgotten. The giant columns, apparently innumerable, the statuesque figures, cut on the shafts, that stood out sharp and clear in the moonlight, the impressive silence of the night broken only by the distant howling of the half-wild dogs, the shout of some belated donkey



Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> Thu (cont)

NILE.

driver or the melancholy wab-song from the village. My wab guide awakened the sensations I had expected - this was the Egypt I had dreamed of. He reached the boat again about 10 o'clock where after a glance at the Luxor Temple I turned in.

November 24<sup>th</sup> Friday. The boat left at 4 A.M. There was another beautiful sunrise in the cloudless sky which we have now had for more than 24 hours. The colors centered in the brilliant spot where the sun was about to appear and graduated in concentric circles to the sky above. The river, when I went on deck, showed considerable current by the numerous eddies and waves, and there was a light breeze from the north that was carrying the boats with their huge wing-like sails up the river. Yesterday was a dead calm for the greater part of the day and today promises to be another. About half past eight, after one stop, we reached a sort of pass where the hills approached the river on both sides. On the west was a curious ridge of rocks <sup>Djebel</sup> that bore the tomb of a sheik - a low building of brown brick crowned by a dome. Beyond this point the valley was mostly on the west side, on the east the high cliffs approached the water and often sent their tongues of sand to the water's edge. There is something terrifying in the very appearance of these edges of the desert - the furrowed rock of the cliffs that lies in many horizontal strata, the heaps of debris and banks of coarse sand that seem to be absolutely destitute of life - It is death.

Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Faioum)

NILE - ESNEH

robbed even of the darkness we are accustomed to associate with it, and bance to view under a brownish sun. At one place on the west bank was a forest of dark green trees perhaps sycamores that looked strangely northern after the palms, and changed the appearance of the river so much that I could have imagined myself on the Rhodo and not the Nile. Cultivation here seems to be directed almost entirely to <sup>Jorra</sup> ~~sugarcane~~ <sup>perhaps the Sorghum of the country</sup>. He reached Esneh about 11<sup>1/2</sup> when the mob on the landing was

more than usually noisy. They had melons, cheese, and bread to sell and others offered queer looking baskets, mats screens and strings of shells. The colors were crude yellows reds and greens yet in combinations that were not without taste. They had the appearance of African and other savage man-



TOWER IN  
ESNEH.

White  
houses brown.

ufactures. The town itself was more than usually important looking. The houses were nearly all of the pylon dome cote style but rose one above another on the hill side and in this way gave height and consequently apparent size. There were a couple of round towers that rested on square bases and ended in octagonal top stones and a small cupola. There were several pretentious looking buildings along

Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Fri. (con.)

NILE = EDOU.

The river painted a lavender color and decorated around the top with peculiar painted ornament. The immediate surrounding country was covered with palms which shaded pleasant looking houses - all of the pyramidal shape that could easily be mistaken for a temple pylon. The hills at this point are far from the river on both sides and the boat follows close to the west shore.



EDOU.

About a quarter past four I first saw the pylons of Edou rising above the trees around the village but it was sunset before we reached the landing. The sight of the great building outlined against the brilliant sunset sky. The nearer palms in silhouette I was another to put down by the side of my moonlit Karnac. I sometimes think that if the Traveller could only have such indistinct impressions, Egypt would be a fairyland to him ever afterwards. For so interesting as the examination of details <sup>is</sup> it <sup>is</sup> certainly invites the familiarity that might breed contempt. Edou when first seen from down the river shows its principal



Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Fri (Cov)

SELONA.

facade <sup>away from the spectator.</sup> while behind it rises a distant ridge of rock. There is no view of the back of temple as far as I could see, on account of the village and its palms. We saw the tourist boat Rameses moored by the bank and the crowd of peering tourists on the top of the pylon. We tied up for the night at Selona - it did not seem to be a town, at least none was in sight, and I spent a part of the evening wandering around in the fields examining the irrigation arrangements. I saw the holed lifts and spur wheels that caused an endless chain - or rather rope - to revolve with earthen ware pots. The trenches are filled by these various affairs and carry the water to the fields which are divided into small squares, surrounded by a low ridge. It seems that the plant that I had taken for sugar cane is a kind of bean or chick pea's, although there is some cane. (These fields are of divorce)

November 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday I unfortunately have not much to write tonight, although we passed through some interesting country and passed a number of ancient monuments. The one that I missed entirely was Kom-Orbo - the ancient temple that has recently been cleared of sand and mud and now over lies close to the river bank. The reason is that I woke with a slight fever that increased to such an extent that I was

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> Sat (con) NILE = ASSOUAN

not in a state to sit on deck in the sun, but lay in my berth for most of the morning and consequently missed much. I was out early - shortly after we left Seloua at 4 AM. - in order to see Djebel Selsele, a sandstone cliff which is one of two that come close to the river to form a kind of a pass. There are many tombs and sculptures, but I could only see the outline of the doors and the pannels that enclosed them. Beyond the landscape changed. We no longer had the high cliffs and wide fertile plain, but the low rounded hills of the desert of a brilliant yellow tinged with a little orange. rose and fell to the horizon and often approached to the water's edge. ~~THE~~ <sup>The</sup> rock that peered up through the sea of sand appeared dark almost black, but that may have been due to the contrast with the yellow.

It was a little before 2 o'clock that we rounded a bend and came in sight of the palm groves of Assouan. I went up to the Assouan Hotel a large new building close to the river bank but high above the water on the top of a stone wall. Only a street is in front of it. The dining room and corridors are entered from a large court. I was shown into a room in the Floating Palace no. 3. I felt pretty bad and did no more than enjoy the fine sunset. SKIP 5 PAGES?

November 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Notes PHILAE.



ISIS PAVILLION  
(Pharaoh's Bed) PHILAE

The small pavilion dedicated Isis (Pharaoh's Bed) is built of light colored sandstone and where not actually broken the carving of the capitals is as sharp and clear as if finished yesterday. The lower part of the columns and connecting walls are unfinished on the outside - are rough and show the lifting blocks as the brick masonry. - The inside is finished. Each column shows the rounded surface cut smooth and the spaces between filled by a wall decorated with a panel crowned by a cyma corice. 1000 of the panels on the north side are decorated with figures of gods and Kings, in serpents and winged globe on the cyma, while above is a crowning member of this outline <sup>fin</sup> made up of serpents, the head <sup>covered by the</sup> of the body as is. The un-decorated panels are crowned by a smooth mould of this outline. The capitals are curious and interesting and the appearance of the volute.





Nov 26<sup>th</sup> Sun (con.)

not only by the usual great central portal but also by the door in the west pylone. The surface of the pylones is decorated with colossal figures - all the faces disfigured. The material of everything here is sandstone, but the finer carving and hieroglyphs were covered with a very thin coating of stucco and then painted. In many places this stucco still remains in good condition. Entering the court through the principal portal, on the left is a



maneuve with a porch in arch and a colonnade porch on the east side towards the court. The capitals are of various designs mostly using the lotus as a motive and with an abacus ornamented with Hathor heads and a temple front on which rests the architrave. The ceiling of the porch is covered with winged globes, with the like the winged globe in appearance. There is a colonnade porch on the west also. From the porch a small nearly square vestibule is entered, from this two other rooms. Into these rooms open doors from the east side, apparently cut through for they cut the sculptures. There are also small windows high up cut as port holes. The interior of these rooms are covered with sculptures. The back of the pylones are covered with sculptures - Nile boats gods Kings etc. The cornice is perfect on the pylones. The columns on the west and east of the maneuve are cut on the lower parts as if for entrances (gates - cut behind as usual). The second series of pylones are partly destroyed on the upper parts show large figures also. One curious thing is our enclosed part of the natural rock


Nov 26 to Sun (con)

cut to a surface & covered with hieroglyphics. From this pylone we enter a hypostylal court the sides and end supported by 10 columns



The capitals here show great variety in palm, lotus &c and


the color is well preserved - nearly all a pale (faded?) green-like, pale green and blue with small bits of red here and there. The papyrus leaves are in blank, the veins or painted. (Central rib in relief)

Next to this part of the temple - approached by a door from the hypostylal vestibule is a partly destroyed passage leading to the river, where a portal still retains much of the painting on the reliefs. The hieroglyphics are painted in old blue & green - I notice that the figures are outlined by a deep mark perpendicular on the outside edge  which is the only way to make them visible at all in the bright light. I notice that where the surface is rounded or the light strikes into the deep outline everything is lost at a little distance.

repeated motive of a wall in one of the apartments. The figures and hieroglyphics



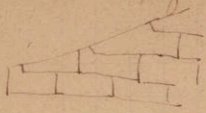
This was the decoration in one place the were in low

relief and all the surface cut away. There is a series of chambers, only lighted by a small opening in the roof or by small windows at the line of the ceiling, going in succession from the vestibule. The innermost shows well executed, but disfigured, figures. The ceiling is covered with stars, (5 pointed). The scenes are all related to the myths of Isis, & blocks of red granite.  about 5 feet high apparently an altar base, in the middle of the row.



Nov 26<sup>th</sup> the Sun (con). Notes Philae

The wall <sup>made</sup> on the ramp of a stairway ceiling is cut in this way



and there are offsets now and then in the wall



HATHOR  
TEMPLE.

PHILAE:



ISIS TEMPLE  
FROM THE SOUTH,  
North

The little Temple of Hathor near the Pavilion seems to be only the porch of a small temple foundations only remains towards the east. The front is distyle in antis and a door leads through the standing wall to the foundations beyond. Caps the character of the Pavilion.

November 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday. PHILA. (From 5 pages back)

The train was advertised to leave for Chellal at 9 A.M. and I came within a couple of minutes of losing it altogether for it started at 8<sup>45</sup>. We at first circled around the town, a most curious looking place. The houses of white mud rise on the sides of the low hills where everything, almost, is of the same color. A whitewashed mosque a tree or two are the only variations from the universal brown. It reminded me in a way of some of the towns in Spain Zaira for example in its monotony of color only here it was more somber. We soon entered the desert, and for the rest of the distance I had a taste of what the desert is like - The heat this early in the morning even was dry and intense, like that radiated from a stove; Every where were the rounded masses of granite and drifts of golden yellow sand. This sand is in every way like snow in the forms it takes on; Rippled, drifted and lying in deep level beds. As we neared the river again the piles of rock took on the appearance of huge boulder buildings - natural Cyclopean work - one <sup>part</sup> reminded me of the walls of Troy, only the human work suffered a little in the comparison. Even after this few minutes experience in the desert the palms at

Nov 26 to Sin (con)

PHILAE.

Chellal and the gleam of the river through the rocks were refreshing. The station is close to the landing place for steamers - there were 10 steamers lying there - and just behind the grove of palms that shades the Catholic Mission. I first went down to see the Wady Halfa boat and spoke to the engineer a few minutes. Then was ferried over to Philae in a small felucca with four oarsmen a helmsman and proprietor with a cable. I had trouble to rid myself of them; they followed me around for several hours and were then starved out and left for a pierce. One old Arab, however, stood it out the whole time as well as a couple of little boys who drove away flies while I was trying to eat. Philae looks beautiful from the opposite river bank. Although not as green as I had been led to believe by descriptions - it can hardly be called "an emerald sitting in the desert" - but the palms and bushes relieve the otherwise dead brownish color of the buildings. Of course it looked familiar - I have no surprise in that regard in Egypt. but as usual the addition of the color was an improvement, and the impressions of the surroundings can only be experienced by visiting the spot. On both sides of the river and on the island of Bige, which is quite close to Philae, the rocks rise in high masses of that



Nov-26<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

PHILAE

peculiar boulder wall appearance that I have mentioned, forming a gateway to the upper end of the Cataract. The island itself is precipitous at nearly all places and rises in a high rocky point at the south end. The end of the fore court of the Isis Temple rests on a high wall - 45 feet? - and the west colonnade is supported in a similar way. At the north west and north end the ground and rocks slope steeply into the water and a few palms and bushes grow there. At the north east corner there is a flight of steps and an arched Roman gateway - now in bad preservation. - On the east there are several approaches - flights of steps - and it was at the northernmost one that I landed just below the famous Pilline or "Pharaoh's Bed". This monument, the first that I examined, was larger than I supposed in reality is quite imposing especially when seen from below. It is interesting in showing Roman building methods in the unfinished parts, although quite Egyptian in character. I next visited the large Isis Temple, only a few steps from the Pilline towards the west. I was pleased to find the building in such good repair, excepting the colonnades of the forecourt which have lost the most of their cornice, and the cornice

Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> Suez (con) PHILAE.

of the second pylons with some other minor parts we might say that the temple is perfect. Perhaps the most remarkable preservation is some stucco and color on the exterior walls, more especially on the portal of the first pylons. Within all the chambers but one I think have their roofs intact. The lighting of these rooms is a striking example of the superiority of a ceiling window. Although not light these rooms are lighted sufficiently to see the wall sculptures in many cases only by a slot perhaps 3 inches by 12 inches in the roof. I hunted up the Treasury - nearly broke my neck falling into a hole in the floor about 6 feet deep, and climbed to the roof to see the chamber of Isis, then later to the top of the first pylons, where I had a good bird's eye view of the whole temple. The details of the forecourt although late are interesting and the painted capitals of the hypæthral vestibule excellent examples of the effect of color on these forms - pompous and barbaric. I ended by climbing to the top of the high rock at the extreme south end of the island where I had a good view not only of the island itself but up the river, where high rocky hills enclose the narrow valley and down through the curious rocks to the head of the Cataract. There was an American flag flying on a dahabeah

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> Sun (con)

PHILAE.

moved at the north end of Philae - a Mr  
Nunan, an American artist, who spends his  
winters there. Considerable yelling brought  
my boat and crew from the other shore  
and I was soon in the middle of a crowd  
of donkeys and boys bargaining for an animal.  
I found a good one and had a fine  
gallop back to Assouan. At first the road  
led along the river and through Chellal where  
I not only saw some funny people - they  
wear their hair in a very peculiar way -  
but just as funny architecture where  
ornament was attempted by plain bricks  
colored white and red in patterns.  
Beyond the village the way led over rocks  
thru across the ~~desert~~. Near Assouan  
we passed through a large scrub berry-  
ing ground where were the ruins of  
scores of little burial mosques. The  
sight was strange and in a way dreadful  
the thousands of tombs with broken <sup>lead</sup> stones  
the ruins of the mausoleums lying in  
the dead waste of the desert with the  
yellow sand drifted around like snow.  
At one place was an English burying ground  
where soldiers who died in the 1898 cam-  
paign lie buried. I reached Assouan  
again after 4 o'clock and sat resting  
on the upper deck of my "hotel" watching  
another glowing sunset. I think I saw  
the Southern Cross tonight. Day was hot. 12




Nov 27th notes Monday.


THE DESERT



ASSOUAN

Looking north from  
the Arab bargeing ground.

The view over Assouan from the Arab bargeing ground is a characteristic Nile landscape with perhaps a little more green than usual this far up. The large hill on the other side is covered with yellow sand, those in the distance are purple while the foreground is brown. In the largest of the ruined mosques in the bargeing ground is like the other, mostly built of sun-dried Nile bricks with a few parts - corners, arch rings and the like - of burnt brick. Inside are the occasional red granite shafts. I could see four, and one curious capital of sandstone. This was after the model of the Corinthian with 2 rows of leaves, and volutes at the top, but the leaves are curiously developed into saucages even into a Greek foot. The general outline is this:  The lower leaves only projecting at the top. The larger of the mosques sketched on the opposite page seems to be deserted but is in pretty good preservation. The sun-dried bricks are covered with a "strucco" of mud which was once apparently whitewashed. The little mosque below the hill I think is still used for it is closed. The

outside is white. The plan of the larger one is a principal mosque with a semicircular niche towards the east and dome over a tomb (S) which shows visible parts at the corners. This mosque has three openings into a court surrounded by a battlemented wall, the central round and the others arab pointed. One window shows this shape  The line of the pointed arches is always straight near the top. Arch rings of stone or a single row of brick on edge with one above laid flat. The domes are slightly pointed and stilted, rest on ~~two~~ octagonal drums which have a window in each face. Some parts are barrel vaulted, while some compartments



MOSQUES  
IN THE  
ARAB BURYING  
GROUND.



show a domical vault on a square plan (such as I had seen in Hrisly) The octagonal drums supported ~~to~~ by means of semidomes at the corners to meet the square. The small tomb mosques that are scattered all over the district are a mere square with a dome roof in nearly all cases fallen in. The exterior walls were often decorated with arab patterns as in Swedish and other northern work. The simple graves, nearly all had an upright inscribed stone,

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Mon (con) notes.

FIRST CATARACT.



### THE FIRST CATARACT

The Cataract is a gentle sort of rapid, with the bed of the river full of rocky islands and single boulders around which the water circles forming a series of these rapids. The banks are formed by flat top-ped hills of dark rock, on the west side almost entirely covered with bright yellow sand-drifts. The most characteristic feature of the cataract is the polished black surface of the rock which resembles plumbago. I cannot make out what it is, but it seems to be a deposit from the water or else the peculiar effect of the water on the composition of the rock. There are a few clumps of trees here and there, but in general the surroundings are desolate.



IN THE DESERT  
CEMETARY

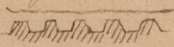


Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Monday.


ASSOUAN

After breakfast I went to the rail-road station to interview the superintendent of the steamer line in regard to Hadj Kalfa. It is all up. At first he said he could not sell me a ticket at all, they were only for government contractors. Then he said he was not supposed to know if I was a contractor or not and that I might (!!) have a ticket for \$16, double 1<sup>st</sup> class rates. Black it! I walked in the Bazaar this morning. The streets are nearly all covered with matting, as a roof, laid on palm logs that rest on the houses. It makes the streets dark but shady and a little cooler than the desert. If I had a big trunk I should be tempted to take some of the curious things home. I saw a good many curious looking natives the men with great bushes of hair on the top of their heads the women with theirs in long thin braids (!) stiff with fat. These black natives are tall and slim with the stride of a camel. Later I walked out of the town into the desert - I had great trouble ridding myself of donkey drivers and would be guides - and looked at some of those curious ruined tomb mosques in the old cemetery. While I was examining one that seemed to still be venerated, a very small Arab who had been following me around was in terror lest I should go in. For there was no door. I did not go in to please him, but think I should

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

have if he had not been there. I then walked across the hot sand and rocks to the ancient stone quarry. I wandered about for sometime before I found it climbed sand drifts and high rocks and finally discovered the place not far from the road to Chellal. There are many quarries - all on the surface and usually on hill tops. I could not find the obelisk, but saw many places where an obelisk might have been cut out. There are numbers of quarried stones lying around but everything looks so fresh that it is hard to believe that it is not a modern quarry. The method seems to have been to cut a groove, then sink wedge shaped holes for the wooden wedges.  about 3 or 4 inches deep.

The stone is beautiful (the feldspar a rich salmon color and in large crystals, there seems to be white feldspar also), the quartz is sparing but the hornblende plentiful and evenly distributed through the mass. There is another stone, fine grained and dark with white crystals scattered through it - no doubt a trap rock. It was one o'clock before I left the quarries and I then walked across the desert almost without reference to roads to the mill which I reached at a village just below the Cataract. The houses were circular, with round roofs - I could not

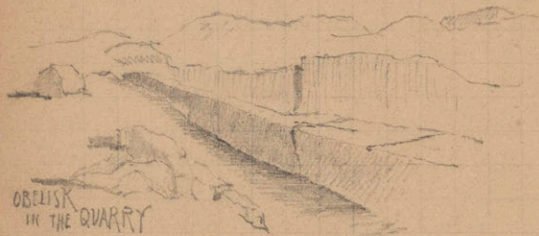
Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Mon (cont)  
see if they were brick vaulted ~~or~~ not  
for they were smeared with mud. But  
in appearance they were just like the  
sub-tombs that I had seen in the  
morning  which had a brick vault  
made of brick laid lengthwise with the  
arch. and only one thickness of brick. The  
natives were much astonished at the  
sight of a white man on foot alone  
with an umbrella and I was shouted  
at on all sides and the very babies call-  
ed "Backtheeth". I discovered that not  
to pay the least attention not ever look  
at them was the quickest way to quiet  
them and did not stop. Our youngsters  
followed me all the way to the middle  
of the Cataract where I stopped to lunch  
drink Nile water - which is remark-  
ably cool for river water - and cool  
off. About 3 o'clock I walked on to  
a high rock where I had a fine  
view of the whole rapid. Even as a  
rapid it is very tame, but the curious  
surroundings make it an inter-  
esting sight. A small boat was mak-  
ing its way up while I was there  
Several of the tourists passed on canals  
and donkeys, but I was rather glad  
I did not know them - these veil  
wound hats and cork helmets almost  
destroy the effect of the Nile, even the 15



Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

hotel and Table d'ôte to a certain extent spoil the trip for me. Like the French writer I can say "it is a vision of civilization, my mortal enemy." I returned over the hills and hot sand - across country but it was not long before I reached the Philae road and thus the tomb. The day was intensely hot on the desert and made an umbrella a necessity for one not accustomed to it. Even the evenings are not at all cool.

November 28<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Notes QUARRY



OBELISK  
IN THE QUARRY

The unfinished pyramid disappointed me a little. In the first place it either was too have been quite small - the marks indicate only 35 ft in length - or else the groove which apparently marks the bottom had nothing to do with it. I believe the latter is the case for the obelisk. has too great a section for the marked length. Then it is not as nearly free as one would be led to suppose two piles are prepared and the width only marked out on the top. The pyramidal apex is formed on the top - this is a little hard to

Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Tue (con) ~~W~~ ASSOUAN.



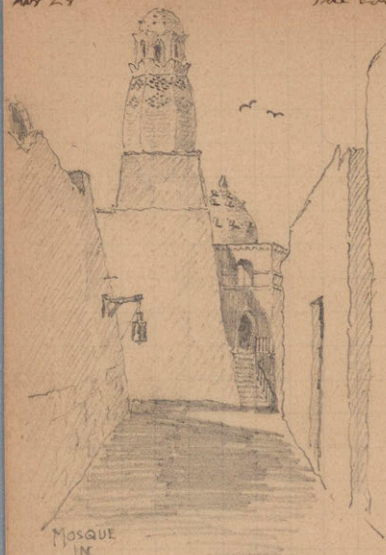
MOSQUE IN  
ASSOUAN.

see over to the sand that has drifted in.  
The bed of rock - which lies sloping to the west -  
was a splendid piece of material. It was about  
100 feet long and about 20 feet wide, that is the  
prepared surface. It is close to the arab cemetery.

One of the principal mosques in Assouan has  
a high white tower that is characteristic. The  
sketch above shows the form of the top. The sides  
are not straight but show a sort of cutaway,  
which is quite graceful - if it were ~~white~~  
I suppose we would sail over it. There  
is a wooden gallery about <sup>2/3</sup> way to the top.  
It is snow white - brick covered with slimes  
and then whitewashed. The mosque itself  
shows plain bare walls with a row of openings  
near the top almost forming an arcade. They are  
so close together. The mosque on the next page  
is also white - has side windows high up as  
above - but the upper part of the tower is  
not overcast but shows the raw brown bricks.  
There are curious ornaments near the top made

Nov 29

True color notes ASSOUAN.



MOSQUE  
IN  
ASSOUAN  
White below.  
Brown Nile brick  
above.

by emitting bricks  
so as to form a  
diamond shaped  
figure. The dome  
over the mosque  
as well as the cu-  
pola of the tower  
had a series of  
projecting bricks,  
I guess they were  
all over the sur-  
face. The shaft  
of this tower had  
one entasis also.  
Nearly all the  
houses show some  
batter to the walls.



floor  
of andir.

This is only one of many door  
spandrel ornaments. The border  
is of cut bricks and the span-  
drel filled with burnt brick of a  
dark color - like ash brick -  
in many cases laid in -----  
The archivolts of the door and frame  
of all is of sandstone. Often  
there is a disk over the door

of stone cut with an arabic inscription. There  
are also small courts within the doors that are  
decorated in the same way in successive  
panels.



November 28<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

ASSOUAN.

I have seen the sun rise and set I think every day that I have been on the Nile. Here in Assouan they have been ideal Egyptian displays. There is now unexpected increase or decrease of the light and color, but always a steady change from the darkness of night or light of day to the rich glow which hangs like a great semicircle above the sun. As in Greece the air takes on a luminous appearance, but here it has a reddish cast like light through a dust or smoke. This morning at breakfast the old English gentleman I have met several times proposed a ride to the quarries. He had quite a procession: we the hadjis, then the Englishman's native servant, a guide and two donkey boys not to mention the usual mob of ragtag backsheesh seekers. We rode over the hills by the arab cemetery and soon reached the half quarried obelisk which I have described. We then skitted the town, and had a fine gallop across the parade ground, under the trees by the Soudan barracks - this troop has a black flag; "black flag, black men", as our man had it - We then turned to the river which we reached far below the town, and where we had a beautiful landscape up the river. We rode back to the town close to the edge of the water amongst fields of sorghum (!) dur.



Illustration of a donkey's hind leg.

Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Tue (con)

ASSOUAN



ELEPHANTINE

South End with the Nile.

This sketch is condensed a little in width.



↑  
Nile

ELEPHANTINE

North End.

Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> Tue (con).

ÉLÉPHANTINE.

ra and beans, which looked strange enough in late November. We rode through the Bazaar where we reached the town - it almost seemed like riding through somebody's house on account of the roped in street. After I had left the old gentleman at the hotel I walked back into the town to sketch the mosque towers - 15 small and black entities with remarkable heads of hair looked on - and examine the curious ornament about the house doors. Later I took a native ferry over to the Island of Elephantine. An old native piloted me around, but there was not much to see. I was most interested in the old Nilometer - now restored to its old uses with French scales cut in white marble. It is only a narrow apartment between two walls and enclosing a flight of stone steps that lead to the water - the latter comes from the river by an unusual opening - Near by are the remains of some stone building that rises from the water. The masonry looks to me like Roman work. Up on the high north end of the island excavations were in progress - I could see only the parts of walls and do not know what is being uncovered. On the top of the hill is what appears to have been a portal; uprights and an architrave (6) cut with figures and hieroglyphics, which still show traces of color. Near this were 18



Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Tue (con).

ASSOUAN.

other scanty remains covered with stucco and colored! Near one of the villages, that furthest south was a large sitting statue in red granite and in quite good preservation. This was about all there was to be seen. The north end of the island is lower and covered with rich vegetation, but which looks even prettier from Assouan. I spent the most of the afternoon in a rest and looking up my return arrangements and about 4 o'clock boarded the fine new steamer Kataroo for the return trip. We left at 5 o'clock just after the sun had set and I looked with regret at the town with its palms fade out of sight, and the black hills beyond the Cataract grow dim that I had hoped to pass and see sink from view in the north. But I should be satisfied. It is not everybody's fortune to ever reach Philae as I have done. We steamed quickly down the river. I watched the evening glow disappear, the Southern Cross come out, and by the light of a big planet saw the outline of Korn Umbo rising from the hill close to the landing. - that was something I was unfortunate in missing on the way up - it is the case of the 4-Cirrus - viz again, see all most likely see nothing. The day was very hot but clear. Yesterday there were a very few white clouds.

November 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. THE NILE.

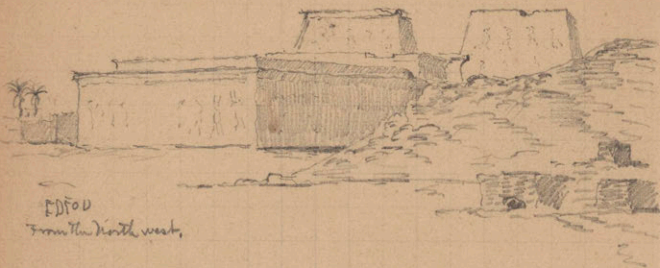


ABOVE  
EPTOU  
East Bank

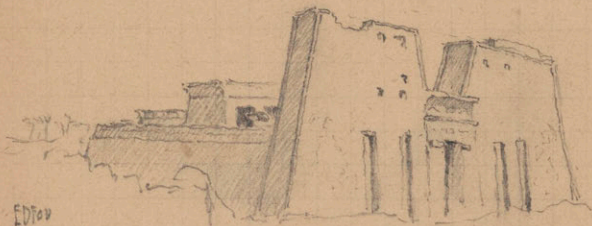
I went on deck shortly after 6. The character of the landscape was more like that of the lower Nile again: high hills and the cultivated plain. We came in sight of Edfo about 7 o'clock and reached the landing promptly at 7:30. I hurried on shore at once, and with a small Nubian as forerunner went up through the sycamore fields, and then the Nile-bank town, by many turns to the Temple of Horus. The great pylons rise from an excavated space 30 or 40 feet deep and is approached by a long flight of stone steps. To the right (east) lies the village which also stretches around to the north and south. On the west is a desert of ruined houses and hills of debris - broken pottery sand and bricks. The principal facade is towards the south and consists of the pylons - which have lost their cavetto cornice - and the great Cavetto crowned portal. The pylons are decorated with colossal figures of Kings etc. Through the entrance I entered the open forecourt. (By the way I walked from the landing to the temple in about 7 or 8 minutes fast walk) This court is 19

Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday (con)

EDFOU



EDFOU  
From the North west,





EDFOU  
South facade,

paved - broken at a few places only - and surrounded by a colonnade on three sides, that on the north walled up for part of the height and contains the entrance to the temple vestibule. This vestibule is roofed with stone - several slabs are missing in the centre, but I think this accidental for the edges are rough - which rests on a double row of columns. The capitals here are interesting, of several different designs, in excellent preservation, show much of the coloring on the



Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

EDFOU.

caps and shaft ornaments. The ceiling is discolored, even black. The bases of the columns are of this shape  and in four (!) pieces with diagonal joints that is they do not run towards the centre. The shafts of the columns are about 7 feet in diameter at the base. The north side of this pronaos is the front of the temple proper, perfect in itself and merely enclosed. It appeared to me an older part for the building of the pronaos was wider and merely abutted with a poor joint. On the south wall of the pronaos, on either side of the door were little temple form rooms with side niches inside.  Beyond the large entrance was the inner vestibule with its roof resting on 12 columns in 3 rows counting north and south. Here also a block or two were missing from the roof directly over the door but perhaps accidental for, if I remember rightly, there were a number of the usual small openings in the roof. Beyond the vestibule were three other rooms each a little higher than the one before it, as well as narrower. The first two were shallow, the last the adytum or sanctuary. The roofs of the last two were missing. In the sanctuary still stands the monolithic cell of the god. It is a beautiful piece of marble - gray in appearance on account of the amount of hornblende, but the feldspar is mostly a pale pink. The cella is cut in the shape of a small temple with a cove to cornice. 20



## EL KAB


(Looking south)

and door in the centre. There were double doors to close it that had pivot hinges and swung outwards. The surface of the stone was polished, but the back was left quite rough, not even brought to a surface. It now stands in the north-west corner of the room but as the side is finished it no



## ESNEH

7 miles north.

doubt was intended to stand in the centre of the north side. The door shut against one offset and inside sits a kind of seat about 12 inches high. The outside and inside are covered with figures and in criptions left rough on the polished surface. The adytum is surrounded by a passage way, this in turn by a series of chambers (?) entered from this passage. I climbed to the top of the w. f. and was interested to notice

Nov. 29th Wed (con.)

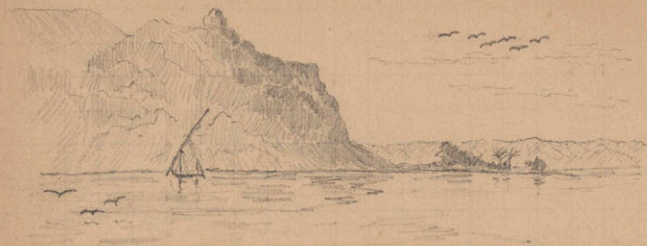
EDFOU.

that the roof slabs were not finished on top. The roof slabs are about 3 feet thick. The steps of the stairway to the roof are 15 inches broad 3 inches rise and, as a rule, slope downwards a little. I climbed to the top of the last pylon, ~~top~~ where there is not only a good view of the temple plan, but a fine and extensive view over the country and the curious mud huts of the village. I then went around between the outer wall of the temple and the surrounding wall. These walls are both covered with inscriptions, figures of gods and kings and illustrations of myths, perhaps. From the walls of the temple, 3 on each side 2 on the back are sphinxes(?) on a bracket



The faces of nearly all the figures are obliterated - cut out with rough pick - but on the inside of the surrounding wall they are nearly all preserved which seems to show that this destruction was done at a comparatively late period after the wall had been covered with rubbish. Some of the carving was quaint Nile boats - perhaps the myths of Osiris - and at one place there was a pole with four ropes stretching to the top up which men were climbing or sliding down head foremost. The entire building is of sandstone the walls of small blocks - about 4 ft 6 inches by 1 foot 6 inches - In climbing around in the narrow passages I was almost driven out by





## SHEIK MUSAS

TOMBS

Djebelen.

From the south.

The myriads of bats, and the musty mummy-like smell is strong every place. Outside the mausoleum(?) are as thick as the bats are inside. The cornice of the west side of the enclosing wall is ornamented with hawk's which show traces of color. I climbed rubbish heaps to the north west and south-west for a view of the whole and made hurried sketches, the time - 2 hours stop of the boat - was too short for more. I ended by taking one more look in at the forecourt and down the long series of portals to the sanctuary, then hurried to the boat headed by my guide who was on hand. I was the folow hope for backsheeh of the whole village for the others had gone before me, consequently had a large escort. When they became so bad that I escaped by running which at first frightened my guide out of his wits - he thought I was chasing him, and he dodged up an alley


Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Wed (con).




ESNEH

but I called him back. We left at 9.30 and steamed along the low banks until we reached the heights of El Kab in the east.

It was after dinner, 12.35, when we reached Esneh, and here the whole party walked up along the river bank and through the bazaar headed by an arab dressed in blue with a long staff to clear the way. The temple - at least what can be seen of it - consists of a pronaos of 24 columns, the aisle to the walled up portals wider than the others. The column shafts are cylindrical - no taper. The large caps bell form of most various patterns, using lotus and other conventional forms and in one case the vine and date a cap I understand unique in Egypt.






On the caps rested massive beams running with the axis of the temple. On these rest the ceiling slabs. As I said the capitals were of many designs in foliage and fruit but below each was a necking of reeded work - this section  then 5 rings

At the base was ornament like  The base proper was simply cylindrical  The shafts were covered with figures, as well as the walls where the same headed god occurred frequently. The entrance to the temple proper showed a sort of pylone facade  The floor of the pronaos is about 30 feet below the level of the ground. 22

Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Wed (con)

EDFOU.

outside. Here as at Alendera this vestibule had a wall pass way up the front columns excepting at the central entrance. I saw here too the small chamber at the side of the entrance inside as at Edjou. The ceiling of the entrance aisle was here, as at several other places - invariable in fact I believe - ornamented with the conventional spread eagle! (?) The party had gone when I was through and I found the door locked. Pounding and shaking did no good so I climbed over the 10 or 12 foot wall and pulled a lot of it down in the performance. On the way back I looked in at the mosque. It was about 150 feet front and 100 feet deep. The exterior wall was white, with an upper row of windows like this . The door was enclosed in a square made of black and white bricks laid in patterns and six pointed stars of blue and white - The lower part of the tower was of the same kind of work. The doors were topped with an arch of this form . The interior consisted of 6 rows of ~~columns~~ of 7(?) columns each. From these columns spring pointed arches in the opposite direction from the axis of the mosque. The columns were round in blue and white bands. The arches in two offsets. . The Kibla was of brick-work similar to the principal portal. There was a large central dome (low) of wood on the out-



Nov 29th Wed (con)

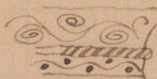
NILE

side at least. A great crowd had collected by the time I had taken these notes, so I moved on. The doorways are curious and rudely executed. One was like this, all in brick (course) painted



black and white (painted). The cornice of a newly building was like this!

Each is a busy looking place and



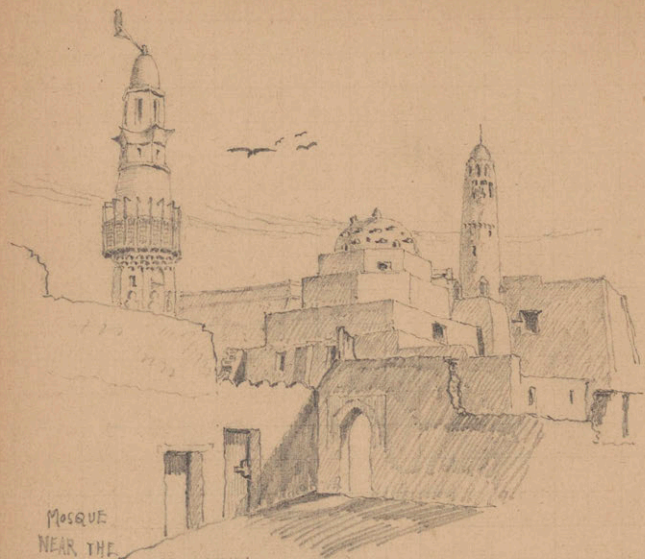
Blue ground yellow arabesque brown (reddish) + yellow Blue ground yellow line.

thoroughly Egyptian in character. The houses are flat topped of course often only covered with cones. The walls of the houses are brick and the only tower rises at the north-west corner of the mosque. The most of the town rises on a high bank from the river and the suburbs are full of palm groves. We left at 1:30 and after a time reached Matana - one of the most pleasant looking places on the river due to the many sycamores! There is a big sugar factory here with white buildings a tall graceful smoke stack. It was about 5 o'clock when we rounded towards the plain of Thebes and at 5:15 were at the dock. I went up to the Saxon Hotel - it seems to be a fine place especially the grounds. I have a ground floor room electric light and a big divan to lounge on - I hope I shall not want to lounge, however, in Luxor. The day was another warm one. Some clouds. 23

November 30<sup>th</sup> Thursday

LUXOR

'8-'93.



MOSQUE  
NEAR THE  
LUXOR  
TEMPLE.  
MADNEH'S

mosque & tower to  
left white, tower  
to right brown  
pylon brown  
walls white with  
brown upper parts.

This morning I had intended to go to the other side of the river but could not find the boy I wanted and finally gave it up to walk to Karnak. Before going I sketched a group of towers and dome near the Luxor Temple that was quite striking as an example of the architecture of the upper Nile. The walk out to Karnak was warm and dusty but soon over. I first examined the temple of Ramses III which is approached by the avenue of headless sphinxes, there went

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Thu (cont)

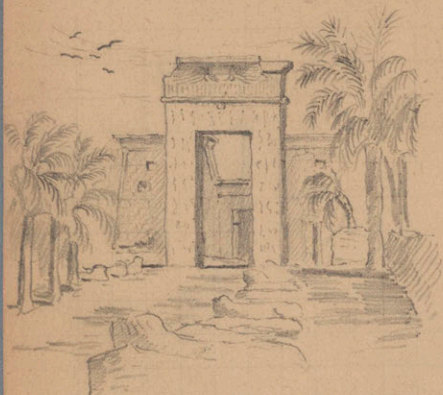
KARNAC.

around the outside to the similar avenue before the great pylons of the large temple. After a general view from this point - it is very striking both on account of the width and perspective down through the many gateways - I entered the court looked at the different temples within and opening into it then on to the temple proper where I made the notes that follow. After reaching the final gate I returned to the pylons where I had begun and enjoyed the sunset from the top. On my way home I followed the series of pylons and courts, with their colossal, to the long but badly designed avenue of sphinxes to the crescent shaped lake that must be over a half a mile from the temple and where there was a group of temples. In one part was a multitude of black basalt statues of the lion-headed goddess. At other places human and ram-headed sphinxes. The sphinxes are I think without exception sandstone. The walk home was almost in the dark but I found the way without difficulty. I saw a jackal and an owl in Karnac today. The jackal was a fine fellow and not very shy. The day was of course warm but not particularly oppressive. The sky was clear. In the sketch opposite that is an eagle sitting on the lantern crane.



Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> Thursday Notes.

KARNAC

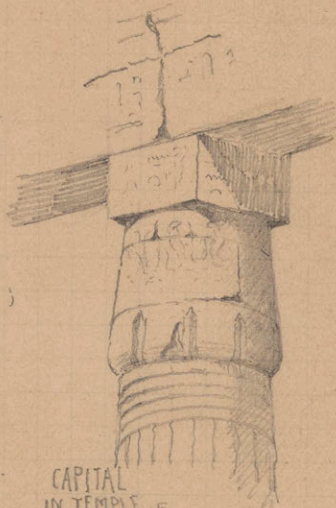


THE AVENUE  
OF SPHINXES  
KARNAC

The sphinxes have all without exception lost their heads - they were ram-headed. The bodies were covered

with a scale-like ornament. On the breast of each was a small statue. One of the heads in fair preservation lies about half way down the avenue on the right hand side. The bodies are about 12 feet long. The front legs are doubled under the figure. The gateway is imposing. I think in a way equals any triumphal arch that I have ever seen. The opening is about 18 ft wide the whole structure about 75 feet high. All the surface of the inside and faces not occupied by figures and ornament is filled with hieroglyphs. Faces of the figures disfigured. Traces of color. Sides (outside) rough and indicate that this was merely the door between two enormous pylons. The latter perhaps 125 ft high

The Temple of Ramesses III is built of sandstone. It is fairly well preserved, but the stone is broken and worn at the bottom. The pylons retain their cornices and show the mast grooves. The first court is surrounded by a double row of columns on 3 sides. The architraves run parallel to the sides of the building. One column has disappeared but the inclination at that point did not fall. In nearly every case the perpendicular joints are nearly over each other. The capitals and shafts are made up of




CAPITAL  
IN TEMPLE OF  
RAMESES III.

(Colonnade Court) of columns are considerably higher than the side rows. (There are 2 of each) and have wide bell caps. The outer row at the outer court. Bases the same also. Both within + without. (See paper 11)

several pieces not only divided horizontally but perpendicularly also. In most cases, I think all, the perpendicular joint is a radius. The domes of the columns are in two pieces, joints alternating. There are simple massive bases sometimes in one piece. The stone was covered with stucco before being painted. The second apartment - hypostyle hall is entered by a door now in bad preservation. The central rows

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> Thu (Con) Notes.

Following are several rooms each with corridors and small chambers at the sides. In some of these smaller chambers there is a central column, cylindrical with no taper, and simple dome cap  $\cap$ . I saw a peculiar treatment of hair in a figure of a King being mounted by the hawk and ibis headed gods (the ~~mountment~~ mountment was made up of alternating ♀ and ♂). The hair was represented by successive, cone shaped figures with holes in the bottom thus 

The second room from the hypostyle hall had four columns - now only parts of the shafts are in position. On the four principal sides were perpendicular lines of hieroglyphics while between each two were four "doric" flutes, thus 20 fluted counting the hieroglyphic faces which were the same width. The building ends in a series of 3 rooms.

The figures in the interior of this temple often show the faces in good preservation. Fragments of granite (bed) lie in the room next to the hypostyle hall, perhaps the cella.




UNFINISHED PYLON  
KARNAC.  
(Facing N.W.)

927  
37

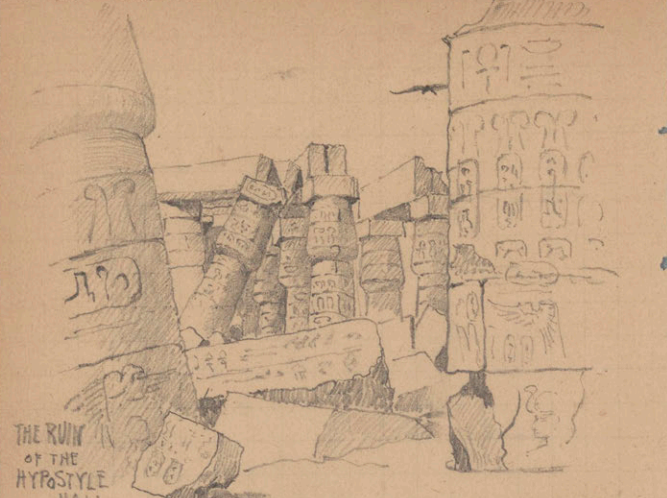


Nov 30<sup>th</sup> (Thur) Notes.

The approach to the great unfinished pylons that stand before Karnak is past the sockets of 2 obelisks and between an avenue of ram headed sphinxes - about feet apart - about 275 feet long. Some of these sphinxes are well preserved and I see some traces of color. The first great pylons are built of sandstone, have not been carried up the full height and the stone is still in the rough. The roll courses are rude blocks projecting like quoins and the blocks of the wall have not been brought to a surface, but rise like shallow steps to form the batter. The portal, only about half finished - leads to a large court, two sides - north and south - with colonnades of columns overcast with stucco. In the north west corner is a small temple of three rooms side by side, some parts of it built of granite. In the south east corner the temple of Rameses II breaks through the colonnade. It consists of a fore court, Egyptian style hall and chambers beyond. It is built of sandstone, in bad repair at many places and nearly filled with rubbish. The capitals are of this form  rather clumsy, but some of the figures on the walls are interesting on account of their preservation, the faces of Kings etc. In the east end of the court rises a single one of the 2 rows of columns, that run through the centre of the court between the pylons at each end. There are some fragments of the other shafts standing but this is the only one standing complete. It has a massive wide spreading bell capital and small block abacus on top. Shaft covered with hieroglyphics. 26

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Thuleen

THE RUIN  
OF THE  
HYPOSTYLE  
HALL.



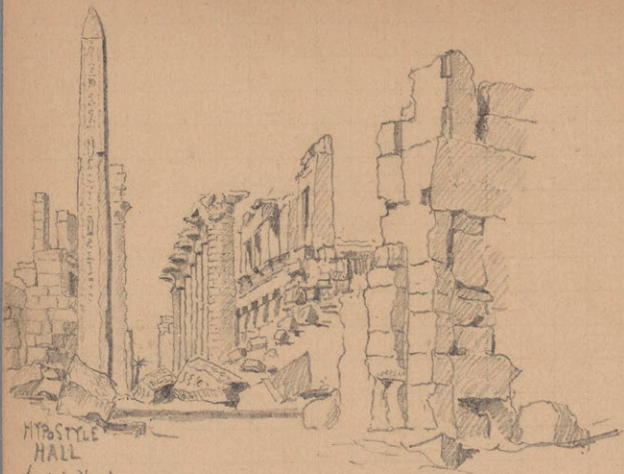
The second set of pylons is a heap of ruins. They were evidently finished, for the fragments show figures and hieroglyphics. Towards the court are projecting walls - perhaps 30 feet ending in what appears to have been a second gate-way. Before this, towards the court stood two colossal statues of granite - standing figures - one of which is still in position but headless. The colonnade through the court crosses in line with these projecting walls. The remaining parts of the great portal within - only the centre with lintel and nearly all the cavetto have fallen - show figures and hieroglyphics in relief coated with stucco and showing considerable of the color remaining - red blue yellow and green. This enormous gate-way leads directly into the first apartment of the temple proper the famous

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Thur (Mon) notes

KARNAC

Hypostyle Hall. Leaving sentiment and fame out of the question there is no doubt that the architecture itself creates a profound impression. The central aisle does not appear as large as we might expect from the dimensions - the columns are about 70 feet high - on account of the great distances, but this very dwarfing of the size helps to increase the effect. For the eye seems to keep its grasp of the whole and not lose itself as in a gothic cathedral where the smothering of detail adds to the apparent size of members. This reflection brings up the fact, too, that the figures used as decoration are often destructive to scale for the human figure always seems to set a measure for the eye that no other object can. Consequently when we have a great wall covered with colossal figures of men the result can only be to bring down the size of the wall and not make giants of the men as was intended in this case. This is particularly striking on the front of the pylons at Abydos. No return to the Hall. The central aisle is flanked by 12 columns, 6 on a side. The shafts are about 11 feet in diameter at the bottom intercolumniation about 13 feet and the columns about 70 feet high. I feel sure that there is an entasis to these columns, for it seems impossible that it was all imagination that made the line rising from the ground to the double curve of the capitals so graceful and elastic. The shafts are built up of narrow drums which in turn are made up of smaller blocks. 27





HYPOTYLE  
HALL

Looking West,

(Obelisk abt 6' 9" wide)

The capitals are broken at places and only a part of the architrave - made up of two parallel beams - is in position. The columns of the hall to the sides are much lower, not  $\frac{2}{3}$  as high, they are about 12 feet in diameter with 12 ft intercolumniation. The capitals are papyrus, and the lines are straight, considerable of the architrave remains, the first two rows are parallel to the central aisle, in the rest of the hall perpendicular to it. The famous leaning column is in the fifth row from the central aisle, fifth column from the east wall. These smaller columns are in nine rows from east to west, and 6 on each side from north to south. Over the row next to the great columns rises the clerestory pierced with large

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Thu (con)

KARNAC

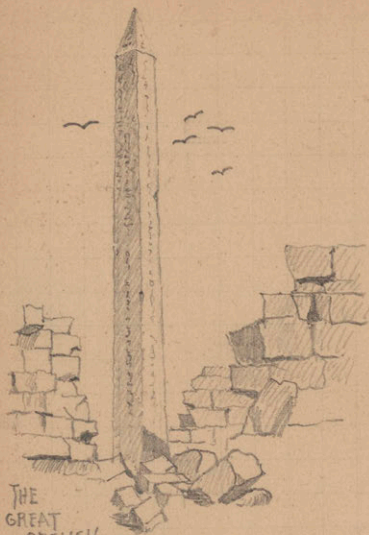
square openings filled with plate tracery like a grating



made up of two stone slabs. The interior walls are covered with figures of gods and kings as well as hieroglyphs all in low relief. The carving on the shafts of the columns is partly in relief partly intaglio, or in the case of figures the Egyptian method of lowering the outline only and leaving the body in relief. The ornament of the large bell capitals, necks, and the like is outlined with shallow lines to confine the color. Much of the latter remains especially on these capitals, and the architraves of the hall.

The colors are red green blue and yellow. A second and careful examination of the available columns seems to show an entasis there also.

Keeping on towards the east I reached the two standing obelisks the one before and ~~after~~ after passing a second door. The first - about 65 or 70 feet high is considerably damaged on the edges but shows a peculiarity I have never noticed in other obelisks: the arices of the pyramidal top are convex. It stands a little out of plumb. I am not quite sure, but think the arices of the shaft too have a slight entasis, - yes I am sure for sighting along the edge shows it. The great obelisk on the other side (though) of the door stands on a great square base. It is a beautiful piece of stone and with the exception of some parts that have scaled off on the north side, is in fine condition. The faces and arices although not exactly straight I think were intended to



THE  
GREAT  
OBELISK.

Over 8 ft wide at the base. ( $8' 2''$ )

both lean towards the west. The companion of the great obelisk has fallen towards the south where on a heap of rubbish the top still lies, 6 feet wide at the base of the pyramidal top. The middle seems to have been cut up and removed to some extent. The flanks on this side are better preserved, even show some color on the faces. In the following room - where the east wall is decorated with a multitude of cartouches on the breasts of Isis and some foreign looking men - is the shaft of a column showing the four hieroglyphic engraved faces with 3 plain faces between making 16. This is of sandstone (I believe), however only the front face is covered the others are

be so for they are irregular, more - over the pyramid at the top has straight courses and the sides look straight and geometrical. The place where this latter obelisk stands is a complete ruin. Parts of the shafts of columns are badly damaged flanks or about all the recognizable parts. This obelisk too is not perpendicular



Nov 30th Thu (con)

# KARNAC

covered by the wall & the remains of a granite doorway lead to the next room in the center of which stand two square piers on the faces north and south of which are these decorations and color show blue the center of red color. These piers are of red granite. Immediately beyond is the cella a small temple of red granite about 60 feet long and 20 feet wide. It is covered inside and out with figures, and they retain much color. It is filled with the ruin of the roof. After an open space of about 20 feet there is a wide but shallow hall of columns built of sandstone. The outside wall rests on 2 square piers and the ceiling is supported by 2 rows of round columns of 8 each. The capitals are curious.



The stems the flowers granite.



The ceiling is blue with stars and the caps colored mostly green and yellow. The ornament is nearly all painted, but a few hieroglyphics, intaglio and very low relief figures & large hieroglyphics on piers and moldings, all retaining their color. There is a slight coat of stucco here too. Beyond this was a narrow room with columnar halls beyond to north & south. One row of columns are the orthodox lotus bud, but the others are genuine "proto-doric" with 16 flutes or rather faces for they are quite flat they run directly up against the square abacus which has no projection at the sides. Curious looking low rooms on square piers led to the west, with much color. Still further east



Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Thu (con) KARNAC.

is a round columnar hall with round  
caps and papyrus. East of all a great  
portal, unperfected on the west side.  
I went back then to the point where I started  
- the great pylon - and climbed to its top to  
see the sun-set. From this point the best  
idea, perhaps, can be gained of the extent  
of the temple - the dom<sup>e</sup> at the other end  
looks as if it were on the other side of a  
city. But the view over the country makes  
us forget even Karnac. The insignificant  
plain the famous river winding through  
it the hills of stem on them - now tinted  
a delicate purple and the rich growth of  
palms make a picture characteristic and  
as far as my experience goes, unequalled.  
Tonight the air was full of a yellow glow  
as if floating full of dust and the sun  
was extraordinarily brilliant up to the last  
minute. There was a multitude of sounds in  
the air chirping of insects barking of dogs  
singing and shouting of children in the village  
and the occasional growl of a camel. But  
all seemed far away. Up here in Karnac  
all was silence and desolation. A jackal  
trotted across the great court and an owl  
sat blinking up six or a mile on the great  
portal. All day I was the only white person  
in Karnac, evidently.

December 1<sup>st</sup> = Friday (Notes)

KURNEH.



HILL OF  
TOMBS OF KINGS

1271 A. M. D. D. D.  
1875 S. M. S.

The Temple of Kurneh shows a shallow portico with 10 columns in antis. The rooms beyond form a complex system, some with the ceiling borne by columns others free. Behind the existing remains are the ruins of a room that show four square piers supporting square architrave of a single stone. All ornaments and inscriptions are in relief the surface cut away. - excepting some on the facade which are of the usual intaglio cameo method. The caps are all lotus buds, those in the front like the Boston Bubastis example, those of the interior plain with outlined ornament covered. Some color remains on the exterior columns also.



ESE

on plaster not of particular interest. There is a








THE FALLEN COLOSSUS  
RAMESSEUM.

granite sarcophagus near the ruin and with broken cover. The passage square abt 10 feet wide perhaps 12 high. Part of the ceiling is slightly rounded, rectangular niches in the walls about 50 feet from the entrance, door frame like offsets now and then. # The Ramessesium is in a state of ruin. The first pylons, now only about 20 feet of the height, behind the portal is choked with fallen fragments. The court beyond shows little but some of the fragments of the enormous granite statue of Ramesses. # The only recognizable parts lie together near the second pylon - the head, shoulders and part of the breast, broken and disfigured. There are marks of attempts to cut up the fragments and no doubt this accounts for the disappearance of the greater part of the figure. The first hall beyond this contains Osiride pilasters on the entrance and opposite walls - the temple faces SE. They are nearly all without their heads, but the other parts are not much disfigured. These figures rest a-

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - Fri (em) Notes RAMESSEUM

against square piers that support heavy arch-  
traves (lotus-bud columns stood before the  
pilasters in the hall. Beyond this part of the  
building is another row of lotus columns.  
Behind this is a hypostyle hall with bell caps  
of this form  on the central aisle columns,  
but the plain  lotus-bud cap at the sides.  
The sides show  a double row of columns.  
The walls - only the end walls are standing - show  
many illustrations of battles & the King's gods.  
The capitals of this hall show the color ornament  
plainly. Two halls beyond show lotus bud col-  
umns, and are connected by comparatively low  
doors with heavy lintel and cornice. The build-  
ing is all of sandstone. There are fragments of a  
large black granite (?) statue lying in the Court-  
side Hall. The clerestory of the hypostyle hall has  
wide low windows over each intercolumniation.  
Most of the sculptures are cameo-intaglio and  
the hieroglyphics sunk.

December 1<sup>st</sup> Friday, About 8 o'clock I hunted up a  
donkey and then crossed the east arm of the  
Nile on the Hotel boat while the donkey came  
over with a boat load of palm trees. I rode  
across the low muddy island to the smaller  
west arm of the river and there started across  
the plain. I was completely mobbed by an  
army of small girls with water bottles on  
their heads - picturesque enough but a perfect  
nuisance. They followed me - at least eleven  
and a very small boy - all the way to Biban.

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Fri (con)

BIBAN-EL-MELUK

d-Melook and as far as the other side of the hill where they gave it up. It was a ride of perhaps half an hour to the village and temple of Kurneh. I stopped to examine the ~~massive~~ - see notes. then rode on towards the hills. It was not long before I entered the narrow valley of Bidan d. Melook, and followed the dry bed of a torrent between high reddish yellow cliffs and around many loose fragments that had fallen from above. The rock appeared to be some sort of a matrix filled with nodules of flint. There are plain traces of a great rush of water in the sand and gravel, but where it comes from I do not know. My sonkey boy said it was from "far away", from rain in the summer. After many times I finally reached the desolate basin surrounded by high cliffs that contains the famous Tombs of the Kings. After waiting for a short time the guardian came accompanied by an old wretch with a ~~log~~ gun. He first showed me tomb No. 2 Ramesses ~~IV~~ which I have described. Then followed that of Ramesses ~~IV~~ no. 6, where the pictures on the walls were in good preservation and richer than in No. 2. A feature here was the presence of small rooms opening into the main passage way. My next visit was to the famous no 17. Belzoni's Tomb which lies on the left hand side of the valley. Here the



Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Fri (cont). TOMBS OF THE KINGS.

illustrations were especially rich and far better in execution than the others. The method was to level up the rough surface of the rock with a thick coat of plaster then a quite thin skin of white stucco on which the figures were painted. In this tomb however nearly everything was in relief, beautifully executed and carefully colored. The passage here leads down steeply into the rock, and near the bottom is enlarged into several chambers supported by square piers, in several cases badly cracked and broken. The guide lit several of the rooms with magnesium wire and the effect was impressive, especially in the large room with a curved ceiling. I crept down into the lowest depths where the passage ends in the interrupted work of the miners. No 11 was the next I entered the Harper's or Bruce's Tomb. A remarkable variation in the construction of this tomb is the sharp bend or offset to the right about 50 or 100 feet from the entrance caused by the passage striking another tomb. In one of the number of small chambers that line the passage are the figures of two harpers that give the name to the tomb - it is that of Ramesses III. The last tomb that I saw was No. 9 that of Ramesses VI - the Tomb of Memnon - where the broken remains of the gold granite (5) 32

Dec' 1st Fri. (con).

DER EL-BAHARI.

sarcophagus lies in the so called "Golden Hall"; I left the valley by a steep path over the hills - so steep that I was obliged to walk - but the view from the summit well repaid the exertion. Behind was the deep and desolate Valley of the Tombs; in front the extensive plain of Thebes - ~~Sukot~~ Karnak and the hills - pointed and picturesque in outline - beyond, while across the plain ran the Nile with its bright green border of fields and palm groves. I then descended to the plain or nearly so, and passing the mouth of the pit - perhaps 40 feet deep - that leads to the tomb where the mummies of the Kings were found. A short distance beyond was the Der el-Bahari a mass of ruined buildings rising in terraces. I neglected to take definite notes but the most striking features were the barrel vaulted chambers - real stone vaulting - the remarkable illustrations - in low relief of a naval expedition or rather mercantile sea voyage where the drawing was excellent, execution fine and composition charming. The fish in the water were especially well drawn. In the chambers the decoration was rich - many figures, and the ceilings usually blue with wide five pointed studs, yellow or red. One small chamber with a smaller niche-like apartment opening from it - both with almost

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Fri (con)

pointed barrel vault ceilings (I was only discovered last year by Neville. Many of the partly destroyed rooms showed polygonal columns with 16 faces. Some fuller caps showed Hathor heads on two sides and a plover?) If decorated temple front above? I next rode past El-Assassif with its cemetery tombs to the Ramessum which I have described in a way. By the time I had finished the latter it was after three o'clock, and I rode slowly over the ploughed plain - at one place I saw 19 plows at work - close by the famous Colossi of Memnon, standing out like watch towers in the broad level plain. It was after four when I reached Luxor after the double ferry that over the small hills on the local boat where an old Arab was very anxious for his backsheesh but I am I afraid my dusky boy cheated him out of what I gave for the purpose. There was only a small table full of people for dinner, nearly everybody left of the evening boat down the river. The day was hot, at any rate in the Valley of the tombs, where it could hardly be otherwise. Today I saw many tamarisks - they resemble our Tamarack only spread more and are shorter - and acacias which have leaves ~~like~~ and beans like a locust.



DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> Saturday. notes.

(COLOSS) OF MEMNON-



### THE MEMNON

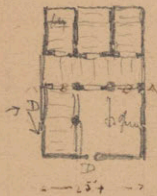
#### COLOSS


From the north.

The Colossi stand on enormous bases that appear to have been one piece, but now are cracked at a number of places. They are covered with hieroglyphics. The northernmost figure is the Vocal Memnon. The lower part, up to the elbows is still of one piece, but badly cracked. Above that point the body has been pieced out with blocks of what I think is sandstone. The head too appeared to me of sandstone, but it was hard to determine exactly from the ground. The older parts are of limestone.

The south figure is in much better preservation. Not only is it still a monolith but the different parts are in comparatively fair preservation: the breast right arm and lower pair of the legs as well as the face are shattered but the head, dress, ears, hands, knees etc are almost perfect. The small figure on the south side is well preserved. The figures are certainly a great curiosity and although their position so far from any great city is in their favor yet

They do not appear as large as they are. It is only when a man stands close to them or climbs up the side that we can form some idea of their height, but even then they are not overawing. Then too they are so disfigured it is hard to bring the imagination up to the point of considering them as statues. The sides and back of the slab show figures and hieroglyphics. The blocks from which the figures were cut must have been about 15 x 30 feet on the base and 45 feet high.



The little temple Der El-Medine consists of a hypaethral court (north side preserved under roof, resting on 4 cols with the open lotus cap)  The "in antis" pilasters at the west side at A bear Hathor masks and show a curious use of the sacred snake at the corner ornaments. The wall at the west

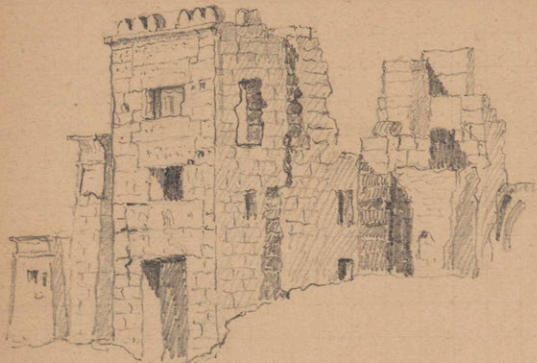
end is pierced with a door case which above the cornices are 7 Hathor masks. At B was a low wall between the door, still on south side. Representations on the wall of Isis in a boat, kings gods etc., the winged globe over the door and figures on the door frame. Beyond are 3 small rooms, the walls covered with well



executed and remarkably preserved figures of the Egyptian Pantheon in <sup>in relief on</sup> 2 horizontal rows. Much of the color remains on all parts. The whole is surrounded by a brick wall.

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. notes (con)

MEDINET-HABU.



THE PAVILLION  
OF MEDINET  
HABU.

The Pavillion is approached by a portal through an apparently surrounding wall. The front in this direction is a court surrounded on three sides by the building which rises in 3 stories with wide low windows. The exterior walls are covered with figures in low relief and the hieroglyphics cut in. The corners show a slight batter. The lowest parts show a sharp batter, but the walls of the court are perpendicular. Two black statues of the lion headed goddess and a fragment of another are in this court. This building seems to be only a kind of portal for the sides are rough and apparently left as a bond for the continuation of the building north and south. On the face of the heavy double lintels over the windows are representations cut on a round topped space. To the north are parts of doors a great figure and the front wall facade.



Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat notes (con)

MEDINET-HABU

of chambers of a temple. A corridor surrounding the first large inner court is partly supported in the middle by 16 sided cols. with conical base and square capital. The outer court shows the bundle of reeds for the shafts of columns. The outside of this building is covered with deeply cut hieroglyphics and carved into relief figures.

The great temple is approached through the portal of a great pylon both partly ruined. The lower parts covered with hieroglyphics and a few colossal figures. The four main grooves can be seen at the bottom. Passing the pylon the first grand court is reached on the south a colonnade of 8 bell capital pylon shaft (cannot carved into relief) columns base.

On the north side the colonnade is made up of square piers (8) on the face of which are Osiris figures only 2 in anything like fair preservation. The walls of this court too are covered with inscriptions. A second pylon - also destroyed nearly to the level of the other court cornice - this latter well preserved - with its portal perfect. Leads to the 2<sup>nd</sup> court which is surrounded by a corridor on all sides. On the north and south sides are 5 plain lotus cap columns on the east and west 8 piers (counting the corners) which all have Osirides on their outer faces. This court was at one time used as a church & of the columns of which are still standing. They were with monolithic shafts - round - with caps.

The ground (paved) is lying full of these columns and capitals.




Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. notes (con) MEDINET-HABOU

Beyond this sweet series of piers is a row of plain  
Coptic columns, as on the north and south  
sides of the court here forming 2 aisles. Passing  
the door of the west wall the hypostyle hall  
is reached - completely ruined - only the bases  
and a few remains of columns remain with  
a small part of the walls. These fragments however  
show considerable of the stucco covering and the  
painting. Beyond this apartment all has  
disappeared or at least is covered, for here  
the ruins of the Copt town begin. I should  
mention that to the north and south of this  
hypostyle hall are rooms containing fine fig-  
ures of Kings offering to the gods, sphinxes, &c.  
The north outer wall is covered with large  
representations of battles and hunts mostly  
with chariots. This wall is well preserved  
Cornice and all but is partly covered with the  
debris of the village. Before the temple to the  
north of the Pavillion is the unfinished parts of  
a fine vestibule as at Dendera. Two large round col-  
umns with open lotuscaps, and the rough unfinished  
low wall as at Dendera are in position.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. It was a new experience  
when on this my birthday morning I looked  
from my window into a garden where an  
oleander was in full bloom and the trees  
were in full leaf. The day opened beautifully  
and when I went to the hotel gate after a  
breakfast of omelette and tea I found my  
boy Mohammed waiting for me. This

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat (con)


THEBES.

morning I went with the donkey and we took a boat clear across the river without the island transit. All the way over I had heard a screaming and yelling from a hundred throats and wondered what was the cause of it. When we reached the other side I saw a strange sight. The entire country where we landed was covered with durra - a plant that looks like our corn or rather more like sorghum, with a large bunch of grain at the top. All around and at some places in the middle were cone shaped  mounds made of brick and dried mud, and on each was a man, woman or child with a sling in the hand. scattered between were others with great whips made of straw and rope. Everybody was given vent to hideous yells and cat calls, the whippers brought out cracks like the shot of a pistol, and the slingers slung stones or clods in every direction while enormous flocks of small ~~birds~~ birds tried to settle on the ripening durra. All this excitement and labor was to keep them from doing so. with apparently good effects. We rode along a dyke between the fields of durra and corn then turned inland towards the Colossi. These famous statues lie about a mile from the river in the middle of the plain. No object of size is to be seen near them. To the west one <sup>30</sup>



Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat (con) THEBES. TOMBS.

some shapeless pieces of rock - still farther on the remains of columns and fragments of statues. Beyond these there is nothing to indicate the former presence of a large city. From the Colossi I turned in the direction of the hills and first visited the tombs at Schéeh Abd el-Kurneh - No 35, in this

form  with a long curious vestibule. there the tomb led into rock

in a straight direction the ceiling always increasing in height, while at the farthest end was a niche, high up, for the mummy.

The walls were covered with paintings in fair preservation with interesting representations of workmen & funeral processions.

I saw also No. 16 with four figures sitting in a inner chamber (at least I think this was the one). No. 14 also had many scenes painted on the walls. The guide also showed me what he said "Cook's tourists didn't see

No 134. We climbed down a tremendous distance over loose stones where the only way to keep from falling was to brace with the hands against the sides. At the bottom we came

into a low chamber where <sup>were</sup> a series of painted scenes in the most remarkable preservation of anything that I have seen in Egypt. The ceiling was irregular but painted with a vine like ornament and representations of grapes(?) and a round fruit. The figures and hieroglyphics on the walls were rather rudely

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat (con) THEBES TOMBS.

drawn but the colors were absolutely fresh, not a bit more faded than if they had been finished yesterday. Later I visited the little but interesting temple of Sler el-Medine described a few pages back, then we crossed the hills of loose stones to Medinet-Habu. I have written considerable about what is to be seen there, and it is sufficient to add that the courts of the great temple are among the finest that I have seen. We left for Luxor sometime after 2 o'clock and after the long ride over the plain past the Colossi I where I had a man climb up the Vocal Humbug and pounce on his stomach with a stone. The musical ring was hard to imagine until an unpaid small boy brought out a metallic pound by pounding on the back near the base - so we will acknowledge that the quality of the stone is musical. We reached Luxor about 3:30 and I did little more than wander over to the Temple of Luxor and take a preliminary survey. On the way across the river I took that notion to go to Cairo in a small boat what will come of it I will say tomorrow - Meanwhile I had supper or rather dinner with Charlotte Russell for my Birthday treat if the ordinary desert can be called such. Very pleasant day. 97

Dec 3<sup>d</sup> Sunday notes

LUXOR.

The Temple of Luxor is approached by a pair of pylons nearly perfect. - nearly all the cornice is gone. Before the pylons stand: first an obelisk: the mate to that in Paris, and the base of the one missing. On each side of the portal is a sitting colossus, the faces disfigured but the crowns still on the heads. That to the west is excavated to the base, the other covered to the middle of the breast. Near the west corner is a standing colossus also with the same white crown of Upper Egypt. The body and face of this statue are badly damaged. All the Colossi are of red granite. The pylons - as the temple - is built of sandstone. although disfigured, about hieroglyphics and the mast spaces. Immediately behind the pylons come a series of small chambers - at least behind the west pylon the opposite space is occupied by a mosque and is not excavated. Along these rows towards the court ~~mass~~ <sup>or pylons?</sup> <sup>of granite</sup> is a porch of small needed lotus columns. This seems to have been built into the court at a later date. The fore court - only the west side excavated shows a double row of plain lotus columns interrupted at the entrance to the hypostyle hall. At this entrance on each side are sitting colossi, the one on the east fairly preserved - face disfigured. Between the columns are a number of standing colossi, there appears to have been one between each column. Another back wall is a representation of the front of the temple with its pylons, obelisks, flag staffs and colossi - 2 standing and one sitting on each side. In the east side of the court where a small part



Dec 3<sup>d</sup> Sun (con) notes

LIXOR

has been excavated - all this was done about 10 years ago by Maspero - there is a well preserved column (standing) of Ramesses. At his side is a small figure of his daughter - behind a stele with hieroglyphics. The large sitting colossus is also accompanied by a female figure on its right. Within the corridor of columns that follows beyond the portal from the court stand the headless <sup>broken heads of one row by</sup> remains of two groups of mummies <sup>and</sup> and a single male figure in white marble. The corridor columns appear to be about the size of the Karnac columns, and of the same form bell cap plain surface with considerable remains of color. There certainly is no entasis here. The corridor is perhaps 60 feet wide. Passing another gate I came to a great court surrounded on three sides by a papyrus colonnade of two rows of columns - on the south side by a colonnade hall of 4 rows open to the court. Nearly all of the columns and architecture are still in position and this court forms, perhaps, the most imposing part of the temple. Beyond the court is an apartment that I was perhaps the sanctuary. This was at one time used as a Coptic church. At the end is a semicircular apse, with hemispherical top, flanked by two red granite monolithic columns with attic bases and corinthian capitals of correct design but of bad very low proportions. The walls had been plastered and preserved but now at some places are uncovered and show beautiful low relief representations of kings and gods. Small rooms to eastward flank the larger central apartment. Beyond the Coptic church 38

Dec 3<sup>d</sup> Sun notes (con) LUXOR.

is a series of rooms - some with papyrus columns - in one of which is a large fine sanct-  
uary erected (?) by Alexander (with his portrait!)  
Floor of sandstone and reaches nearly <sup>quite</sup> to the  
ceiling, and is built of small blocks. I draped  
the room with the sandstone, or still other way,  
all with papyrus columns.

December 3<sup>d</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> meday. Almost the first thing in  
the morning I engaged - and paid for a boat  
for Cairo. Then I visited the Luxor Temple and  
walked through the town - quite an unimportant  
place with not even any shops that amount to  
anything. After dinner I found an interpreter  
who is to go with me on my queer voyage.  
It was at 3<sup>1/2</sup> P.M. that - after various excursions  
into the town for supplies - I boarded my boat.  
I am afraid most Americans would have been  
inclined to back out at first sight for my  
dragonman at the hotel, as is usual with his  
class had overdrawn the beauties of his waves. But  
I am in for it and will go now there is no  
other way for it. It was a pleasant drift down the  
river - not much more, for the rowing does not  
amount to much. The sun set a deep red tonight,  
and the sky was nearly covered with clouds.  
We passed a steamer going up, and about 5  
o'clock the steamer I had intended to take passed  
me. The boatmen rowed late into the night but  
stopped at Nakade, until I believe 5 o'clock in  
the morning. The night was cold and shall I  
say I was comfortable.

Rec'd the Monday.

THE NILE.



NILE BANK.

- 3
- 1 Tamarisk
- 2 Short Palm
- 3 Date Palm.

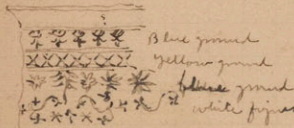
I woke early but did not  
turn out until it was quite  
light. We had eggs and bread  
for breakfast with a little coffee. The morning  
was cloudy and it did not get warm until  
nearly noon. We reached the Kishk landing at  
10 o'clock and my man and I rode up to the  
town - about 2 miles away - on donkeys. At the  
small arm of the river or I guess it is a piece of  
stagnant water we were obliged to ford, because the  
natives were building a new road across the water  
in anticipation of a visit from the Keddive. It  
was a queer sight. From both sides the men  
were carrying baskets of earth and emptying  
them into the water, and thus gradually building  
the embankment. Of course they were singing  
their chant - as the engineer of the Cleopatra said  
they never can work unless they are in a frenzy.  
The town is a large one with many stores of the  
usual wardrobe size. Here as at Assuan the  
streets are covered with a roof made of reeds,  
resting on palm logs, and in some places



Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Mon (con).

KENÉH

plastered. The goods in the stores were not nearly so interesting as at Assoum. There were several curious houses - the ornament I imagine truly African - at least it was barbarous. One had the sides decorated somewhat in this fashion -



which was carried out in varying patterns over the whole front. I saw one front that was more

pleasing and not less characteristic. There was a large round arch portal enclosing a square door, the tympanum of the arch spandrels &c were made of brick laid in fancy patterns, while at the springing of the arch and other places on the door posts were <sup>laid</sup> horizontal courses of wood carved in ornamental patterns such as are common in arabian work and arabic inscriptions. In all respects it resembled those I had seen in Assoum and Sounou but made with more taste. The wall above was of unburned brick, and directly over the door was a charming little wooden oval window with a projecting wicket: <sup>1</sup> octagonal in section &c.



After we had bought a lot of stuff we rode back to the boat and started at one o'clock. - I noticed a Hotel des Etrangers at Kenéh that looked fairly clean. - We left the long row of boats that were moored along the bank and sailed down the great bend at Sen-  
leva village which we reached at



Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Mon (con)

NILE.

2 P.M. Nearly every island with sandy banks is covered with pelicans and other water birds. Last night I saw a big flock of pelicans - I estimated them at 2000 - flying as water birds usually do in a regular order. These in a mass collected at a point and two long strings following forming a V. The birds - I suppose they are - are tall and graceful looking birds of a slate color. I forgot to mention the pottery at Kench, there are big shops full of them. of

many shapes some of them pale yellow & greenish cast.



There are

They are a brown, with

a greenish cast. <sup>36" high</sup> They are <sup>small</sup> cheap I bought one like A for 1/2 piastre. We had a sailing breeze all day, and if we had be going south would have made a good distance. As it is I think we did well enough. It is now 4 o'clock and we are nearly at that part of the big bend where it turns west after going nearly E.W. The wind is dying away and the sky has cleared to some extent. About 5 we passed the Dahabeza "Rudder Orange," now occupied by a solitary woman whom I saw on the upper deck reading. The boat had left Luxor about 2 1/2 or 3 days ago and we passed her as if she were anchored - small boats seem to go faster down stream. After 6 we reached Dishna where we put up for the night. It is a large village with stores and a post office - I went up to post a letter but the office was closed. The night promises to be clear and a little cold.

Dec. 3. Guide gave Boatman 105.



~~Achmet~~

Hassan Ali.

Mohammed 16

Hamdan  
Achmet 15

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Return to  
Joseph & Nelson  
of American Engineering  
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No 2



The view over the morning was an ideal topographic  
view. Not a cloud was to be seen and the horizon  
lent on a color like the glass pane installed  
over. The had started at 4 AM and when  
I went on deck about 6 o'clock it was already  
quite light, and some morning through a country  
very much like that yesterday. The hills looked  
scape as if ever changing, at first it showed  
irregularities, but I am beginning to realize that  
like a sea of people, a whole landscape  
demands a broad perspective to show its ge-  
ometric and individualities. This was the case  
as we approached the landing for London. The  
great cliffs of the western coast, most were in  
more in a perspective of aerial views marked  
by strong horizontal lines and between these were  
all and were into a continuous surface. Below  
the steep upper cliffs the slopes sloped away in so  
regular success to the surface around foot hills  
these in turn to the level of the foothills  
green plain. The valley proper showed two im-



Joseph A. Meyer, Jr. Journal. 14 (November 23-  
December 4, 1893).

Condition upon receipt: 80 pp. (40 leaves) stapled through the fold into a black single signature binding of simulated leather. The paper is wood pulp, discolored and yellow, extremely brittle and breaking at the staples. The writing is pen with pencil drawing; it fills each page from inner gutter to outer margin. The pages are too fragile to withstand any use and too brittle to be guarded and rebound, even after washing.

Treatment: The pages were collated with page numbers noted in pencil in the lower right recto corners. The staples were removed and the pages slit along the folds. The pages were washed with ammonia and water, deacidified with calcium carbonate, and flattened. Tears and losses were mended with Japanese paper and methylcellulose. The pages were encapsulated in .002 gauge Mylar and assembled into a post binding with Barcham Green endpapers and black linen boards over acid-free binders board with spine titling in gold.

Nancy Carlson Schrock  
Paper treatment by Allan Thenan  
1/85