

## LAND OF THE PHAROAH.

### IAN MACLAREN'S IMPRESSIONS OF EGYPT.

Persons and Property Are as Safe There To-day as in England Itself.

When one visits Egypt with his eyes open—especially if he has visited it before—he comes home with various impressions, and the first is the absolute quietness of the country, writes Ian MacLaren (Rev. John Watson).

Twelve years ago Port Said was safe but unpleasant. Thirty years ago it was so barbaric a place that a man would come into the hotel and remark casually that some one had tried to stab him, but that he had shot the other man first and his neighbor at the table would ask him to pass the mustard.

It was then the wickedest place on the face of the earth, and largely in the possession of the refuse of the Levant, who had been discharged by the Canal Company, and were living by their wits and their knives. People who had any regard for their lives walked down the middle of the street after dusk in case they should be dragged into a side passage and stabbed, and a revolver was more necessary than a hat.

An energetic prefect of police managed to transport the ruffianism of Port Said to Alexandria, so the story goes, and after the same gang had made Alexandria more intolerable, a prefect of police there, having come to terms with the foreign consuls, who had an unholy habit of protecting their own subjects, even though they were cut-throats, gathered together the moral residuum of Alexandria, native and imported, but all European in descent, and sent them for a trip to sea in an old sailing vessel, which was accompanied by a gunboat, and, so the story concludes, the gun boat came back, but that brig was never seen again. Port Said to-day is as orderly, and as clean and as safe as an

#### ENGLISH COUNTY TOWN.

In Cairo a European may go anywhere he pleases—unless he makes a fool of himself in a mosque at some sacred season—without the slightest fear for his life or his property.

The police are everywhere throughout the city—tall, well set up, intelligent, and attentive, and they now regulate the traffic with a pardonable imitation of a London policeman, though not yet with the same majestic authority. They have, I think, all passed through the army, and many of them have the medals of the Sudan campaigns.

Twelve years ago we were guarded by soldiers on various Nile expeditions far below the first cataract, but to-day one can go anywhere without protection as far as the second cataract, and even as far as Khartoum, which is now within a comparatively easy railway journey of Cairo. Twelve years ago, however, the Mahdi was at the second cataract, or thereabouts, and the unrest of his power was felt throughout Lower Egypt.

The police suggest the army, and the visitor is bound to be delighted with the Egyptian force. For twenty reasons.

Because the men are of excellent physique, because they are devoted to their drill—drilling one another in groups during their off time—because, although conscripts, they are a hearty and cheery set of fellows; because they are patient and docile; because the English officers are as smart a set of men as one could wish—I had no opportunity of meeting the native Egyptian officers—and because they have carried themselves well since the day they were drilled and organized by Englishmen.

Whether that portion of the Egyptian army which is recruited from the fellahen could be depended upon, say against the dervishes or any fierce and self-regardless attack, without a stiffening of English troops, is a matter on which no officer outside the "Gyp" army will pass an opinion, and although a "Gyp" officer is proud of his men, yet he also, I think,

#### HAS HIS MISGIVINGS.

As regards the Soudanese battalions of the "Gyp" army, there can be only one opinion—that such demons for fighting could hardly be matched from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof. To say that they have no fear and have no concern for themselves is to trifle with the case; the lust of blood is in them, and their chief joy of life is war. Let them have their wives with them, for without their wives they will go nowhere, give them something in the shape of arms, and brave men to lead them, and there is no enemy living a Soudanese battalion would not face, no situation they would not storm, and no circumstances in which they would turn tail.

But—and this is perfectly well known in Egypt—they are perilous stuff in time of peace, for if they start drinking they get beyond control, and if they are kept too long doing nothing they spoil for a fight, and one battalion will attack another.

This was what happened not long ago, and it was "a regrettable incident," and very soon the number of a battalion will be missing on the "Gyp" army list.

Shrewd officers consider that the English army of occupation has reached its minimum, and to reduce it further would be dangerous. When the Seaforths in Cairo—a

very tidy set of lads—and the other English uniforms, he saw the final guarantee of Egyptian security, though there is a man called Senoussi up-country who may give serious trouble some day.

One comes home every time from Egypt with the conviction burned into his mind that it was a singular blessing to that country that the dual system of Anglo-French Government came to an end, that England has

#### ABSOLUTE CONTROL.

and that the real ruler of Egypt is not the Khedive, who, left to himself, couldn't hold the reins of power six months, but Lord Cromer and the Sirdar.

They are the lords of Lower and Upper Egypt, wearing the double crown as Viceroys, neither of the Khedive nor the Sultan, but of the King of England.

As one sails through the Canal and passes Tel-el-Kebir, or stands on the citadel at Cairo, or sails up the Nile, as one hears and studies and takes in the situation, he is amazed at the folly of the politicians who condemned the purchase of the new Suez Canal shares and proposed to scuttle out of Egypt, and he admires afresh the wisdom of Lord Beaconsfield, who by that clever stroke inaugurated the modern Egyptian policy, and the statesmanship of those great pro-consuls, Cromer and Kit-chener who have brought that policy to its height.

We are now the real governors of Egypt, and the English power there increases every day. We have rendered the greatest service to Egypt, giving to the mass of the people justice, and comfort, and security, and it is time we should let the world know that we do not intend to retire and hand this prosperous country over to anarchy and ruin.

The Englishman who can leave Egypt without pride must be cleansed, not only from the spirit of patriotism, but also from the feeling of humanity, for the final victory of his nation on the Nile has not been that of war, but of peace.

But I also pity the Englishman whose blood does not tingle with shame as he remembers the inexplicable and unpardonable tragedy of Gordon.

#### ONE NAME PER YEAR.

When a month old the Japanese child gets its first name, with great ceremonial. The child is born in state to the family temple, and behind the procession march the household servants, carrying the infant's wardrobe. The last male servant bears the box in which is the priest's fee, together with a slip of paper on which three names are written. On reaching the temple these three names are tossed into the air, and the first that touches the ground is the one which the child receives. When three years old the child is again christened, accompanied by elaborate religious rites. At the age of fifteen his education is supposed to be finished, and as he then enters the manhood state he is again christened. When he takes to business he receives his business name and upon every upward step in his life he receives a new name. If his principal happens to have the same name he again alters it, as it detracts from his superior's dignity. At his marriage his name is altered, and his last, and only permanent name is given him after his death, which is writ upon his tomb.

#### THE JUDGE SCORED.

Some years ago many farmers along the line of a large railway brought suits against it, and engaged a young lawyer named Brown.

The judge who was presiding was compelled to throw many of the cases out of court because they were improperly brought, at which the lawyer became angry.

Swelling with indignation, he arose and said:

"Your honor, will you please tell me how it is possible in this court to get justice against a railway company?"

The judge quietly ignored the contempt of court shown by the lawyer, and asked:

"Do you want an answer to that question, Mr. Brown?"

"Yes, sir," was the definite reply; "yes, sir, and I want to know how a farmer can get his case into this court so that it will be heard."

The judge smiled and said: "Well, first, Mr. Brown, I'd advise the farmer to employ a lawyer."

Mr. Brown had nothing more to say.

#### TO THE END,

Persistence is a great thing in advertising. Fighting the campaign to the end, making success in spite of all obstacles, planning large sales with an assurance of values in stock and conveying the impression of a desire to supply the wants of the people at the right time in the right way, this is what is necessary to-day to-morrow and every day. This is what makes business certain this week, next week, all through the spring and all through the year. Keeping at it makes greater success possible. Keeping at it insures the attention of the buying public.

Advertising gives life to business and keeps dull days from the store when the non-advertiser is wondering what to find for his clerks to keep them busy.

## THEY WANT TO BE BRITISH

### NATIONS WHO WOULD LIVE UNDER UNION JACK.

Some Reasons Why Great Britain Has Declined \$350,000,000 a Year.

Did Britain accept all the offers of other countries who want to come in under the Union Jack, we might increase the Empire by half its size again, add some 50,000,000 subjects and put a trifle of \$350,000,000 to the revenue. But there are two sides to look at, says London Answers.

We should be on the brink of another "white man's war," now had we accepted Chili's application of 1891 to take her under our wing, and make her people Britons. For the Senate of Deputies voted almost unanimously in favor of the offer, and Senor Ana de Selba was deputed to apply formally for the inclusion of Chili in

#### THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

A polite reply went back from the British Government, that it was very nice of Chili, but we couldn't. The little nation tried again, however, and sent over its chief diplomat—Don Alvarez—with a special plea. It was at the time of the Chili loan, and the nation voted for annexation in a body, but the request was refused a second time and Chili got rather huffy.

It would have been a better property than the majority of the South African Republics, for Chili has a revenue of \$33,000,000, with a yearly balance of about \$1,000,000 on the right side, and we should have gained 270,000 square miles, and 3,200,000 fairly industrious people.

It is just as well, when one comes to balance the accounts, that we left Turkey's offer alone, in 1889, for that shifty nation would, as a British asset, have let us in for a plentiful crop of European wars, and a general dilemma that would take a dozen Cabinets to get us out of. But before the Armenian troubles, Abdul Hamid, being

#### BOTH VERY IMPECUNIOUS

and scared about the outlook, applied to the British Government to take his empire as a suzerainty—a la Transvaal—leaving the revenues in Turkey's hands.

A prompt refusal followed this, and it was thought a little complimentary that Turkey should think us foolish enough to agree to such an agreement, or to have anything to do with the "shifty country." Turkey, however, thinking she would tempt us, proffered a second suggestion, that we should have the revenues to ourselves, and take the country altogether, as a British possession, and finance and protect it. But Britain said "No, thank you!" very decidedly.

This "deal" would have brought in an income of \$50,000,000, with a small yearly balance during good times on the right side. There was plenty of land to paint red—about 1,000,000 square miles—and 22,000,000 people—mostly idlers. There is not much doubt, either, that Turkey would have found a way to slip out after being

#### SET ON HER LEGS

and we couldn't take her. But we let her have a man who put her finances straight.

Britain really did consider the offer that Nicaragua made, and if we had accepted, the situation would be immensely important just now, because of the canal which is to be cut to join the two oceans at the narrowest point of America. That would have meant, apart from the country, as big a hold over the Atlantic and Pacific as we have over the Mediterranean—in fact, it would be a second Gibraltar.

Nicaragua, in a formal Government petition, asked us to take her over, lock, stock, and barrel and run up the Union Jack at Greytown. The canal would have cost us a huge sum to build; but it would have paid, of course. We really did have a protectorate over Nicaragua once, and "ran" the native negro kings—the Fredericks—who were descended from the castaways of a slave-ship that was wrecked on the coast.

But these monarchs, who were addicted to drink, became rather tiresome, and we eventually parted with our rights. So, when Nicaragua made the offer, it was talked over; but as the deal was not worth causing a war with the United States, as it would have done, we dropped it.

Another country, and a rich and prosperous one that made a big effort to come in under the Union Jack ten years ago was Persia. It seems almost a pity we did not take her at her word, for she would have been a fine appendage of India; whereas now she has given Russia the chance, and Russia has, for all practical purposes, got control over her. Persia's trouble at the time was lack of railways, and she was willing to make

#### HERSELF OVER TO BRITAIN

provided we would "run" her, protect her, and build plenty of railways.

But there were difficulties in the way, and we politely refused Persia's offer, and did what we could for her from outside. Persia would have been a nice little asset to the Empire for she has nearly 700,000 square miles of good land, and her revenue of \$7,500,000 we should soon have doubled or trebled. And her \$25,000,000 of imports would have been ours, to say nothing of keeping Russia away from the west

side of India. However, as it happened, we had to let the plum go.

We did take Sierra Leone's offer, and added her to our list, though we had a lot of fighting afterwards as she did not play fair. But we might have had the Philippines had we liked just before the Spanish-American war; for Alcedes, then the leader, offered to yield up the country to us, under a suzerainty. The trouble was that it was not his to give, as Spain nominally owned it; only, as Spain had no hold on the country,

#### SHE WAS NO MORE

able to refuse, in effect, than the rebels to offer.

But as Alcedes, anyway, was not a recognized president, we could not take any notice of the offer, either to accept or refuse, and we did not. We could have done with the Philippines very well, for they would have added a couple of millions a year to our assets under decent management.

It was something of a wrench to decline the offer of Abdul Aziz, Emperor of Morocco, three years ago, to let us gather him in under the flag, and control both sides of the gates of the Mediterranean. He was so troubled by internal tribal fights, and the bad management of things in general that he sent Shaykh Akbar to approach the British Government about annexation, and if we could have taken the offer, we should have doubled our power in the South.

Besides which, the trade, with business-like treatment, would have yielded us \$6,000,000 a year, at least, together with a fertile country stretching so far inland that nobody quite knows how far it does go. Here, again, we declined twice, and were approached yet a third time. Had we accepted, however, we should almost certainly have had the much-talked of "European coalition" down on us in earnest. But it was a pity we could not take the Emperor at his word.

#### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE.

No doubt much can be accomplished during a dull season by a man who is laying the foundation for the busy days later on. If there are idle days just now they can be made valuable to the establishment by laying plans for the busy days which will come when spring business opens. Much of the stock is already bought, some of it is already on the shelves. If the selling force of the establishment is familiar with the goods which they are expected to sell during the spring months there will be no doubt about their ability to sell more of those goods. If the force is not familiar this is the best time to explain to them the value of each grade of goods and educate them along the lines which they will be called upon to sell to customers. In transmitting this information to the clerk remember what your arguments were and later on you will be able to put them into your advertisements in a manner which will make your space a great deal more profitable and give you plenty of satisfaction as a dividend from the time spent.

#### HE DREW ATTENTION TO IT.

A merchant who had made his money quickly was invited to the wedding of a friend's daughter, where he thought he would be able to display to its utmost a fine diamond stud which he had lately bought. He went to the wedding; the diamond blazed resplendent on his bosom. But, throw out his chest as he would strike attitudes calculated to show the gem to the best advantage as he might, everyone ignored the palpable fact that he had a new shirt-stud. His heart was broken. What was the use of having a diamond if no one looked at it? Finally, he was called upon in his turn for a toast to the happy couple. In a flash he saw his opportunity. Pointing to the sparkler on his breast he said with great solemnity: "My dear children, may your whole future be as bright as that!"

#### POOR FATHER!

A farmer was driving along one hot summer day when he met the son of a neighbor standing by the roadside viewing an overturned load of hay. It was a very hot day, and the farmer asked the boy to come to his house close by for dinner.

"No," said the boy, "father wouldn't like it."

Persuasion was used, and the boy at last consented to go to the neighbor's house, but he added that he was afraid "father wouldn't like it."

After a square meal the farmer wanted the boy to remain and smoke a cigarette, and rest till it got cooler.

"No," said the boy, "father wouldn't like it."

Finally he was persuaded to remain, and soon he insisted that he must go back and get his hay up. The farmer accompanied him, and when they got to the load the boy insisted on going right to work, but the farmer wanted him to rest under a tree.

"No," said the boy, "father wouldn't like it."

This exasperated the farmer, and he wanted to know what in the name of goodness there was between the boy's father and himself that could make his father dislike everything proposed.

"Why," said the boy, "father's here under the hay."

## AN HOUR WITH UNCLE SAM

### HOW THE BUSY YANKEE SPENDS THE DAY.

Some Interesting Matters of Moment and Mirth Gathered From His Doings.

In the United States only one murderer in fifty is condemned to death.

Exports of iron and steel and copper have increased in ten months \$46,000,000.

The population of the United States by the census returns of 1900 is given at 76,000,000.

The value of the mineral production of the United States in 1900 was more than \$1,000,000,000.

Several seats in the New York Stock Exchange were recently sold at the top price of \$80,000.

The estimated surplus of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1902 is \$100,000,000.

The United States army is costing one-fourth, or about \$25,000,000 more than the United States navy.

Sir Thomas Lipton, through an English company, is starting a line of steamers between Savannah and Liverpool.

In four counties of Western Massachusetts, no less than 120 libraries, containing 825,000 books, are in operation.

There are 1,074 post-offices in North Carolina, in which the compensation of the postmasters is less than \$50 a year.

A statement of the treasurer of Harvard university shows that it ran behind \$321,579 for the year ending July 31st, 1901.

It is now estimated that the Nicaragua canal will cost three hundred million dollars, possibly one billion dollars.

There are 120,000 children out of the schools in Kansas, in spite of the fact that the state has a compulsory attendance school law.

A Florida man has built a forty-foot launch, with a glass bottom. The purpose of this is to enable his guests to see the wonderful sea flora.

Thirty-five years ago it took six days to go by stage from Atholton to Denver. It now takes fifteen hours by rail. The difference in fare is \$175 and \$15.

The only member of the President's Cabinet not a native of the United States is the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. James Wilson, who was born in Ayrshire, Scotland.

The waterworks of Boston represents a cost of \$15,000,000 and have a daily supplying capacity of 75,000,000 gallons. Another reservoir is about to be constructed at Weston.

Andrew Carnegie during 1901 donated to the cause of public education, embracing universities and libraries, \$40,200,000, or an average of more than \$11,000 for each of the 365 days.

The evacuation of New York by the Tammanyites, says an American newspaper, is the most notable event of the kind since the evacuation of that city by the British over a hundred years ago.

Coats of arms are gaining in popularity every year, and some persons of wealth have had their heraldic escutcheons on specially manufactured fabrics for draperies and furniture coverings.

Postmaster-General Smith, it is reported, will ask Congress for an appropriation of \$6,000,000 for the free rural delivery service in the next fiscal year. The appropriation for the current year was \$3,500,000.

In 1900 there were in the United States 373 boiler explosions, by which 268 persons were killed and 520 wounded. In Great Britain during the same period only 24 persons were killed and 65 wounded by boiler explosions.

San Francisco bay will be tunneled to accommodate traffic between opposite sections of the city which now has to go around. The distance is about five miles and the subway will pass beneath an island in the bay.

Raleigh, N.C., is planning to celebrate next summer the landing of the original British colony on Roanoke Island, off the North Carolina coast, and also to erect a statue of Sir Walter Raleigh, for whom the city was named.

For every man, woman and child in the United States there was in circulation last year in lawful money \$26.93. The per capita debt of the Government was \$14.52. The per capita interest of the public debt was 44 cents.

Charles Leopold Manning, who came to the United States from England about fifteen years ago and squandered a fortune, died in obscurity in Jamaica, L. I., recently. Manning said he was a scion of a noble family, and was known as "Lord" Manning.

Perry Belmont's campaign for a seat in Congress is understood to have cost him about \$80,000, nearly \$11 per capita for his total vote of 7,283. A large part of this great expenditure was notoriously paid out to political clubs, canvassers and badge wearers, in direct gifts to voters of turkeys, wash-boilers, etc. He was defeated.

Teacher—"Hereditary is an adjective that means something that descends from father to son. Now, Willie Green, construct a sentence containing the word." Willie Green—"My father's trousers are hereditary."