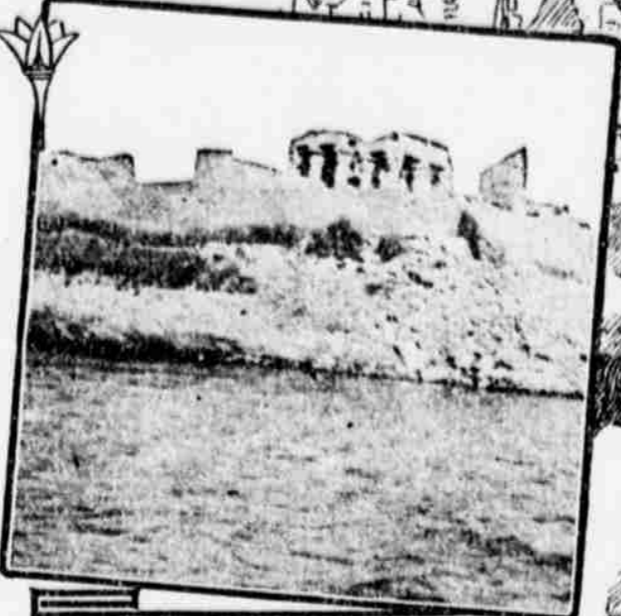


BARE SECRETS OF EGYPT'S PAST

By WALLACE N. STEARNS

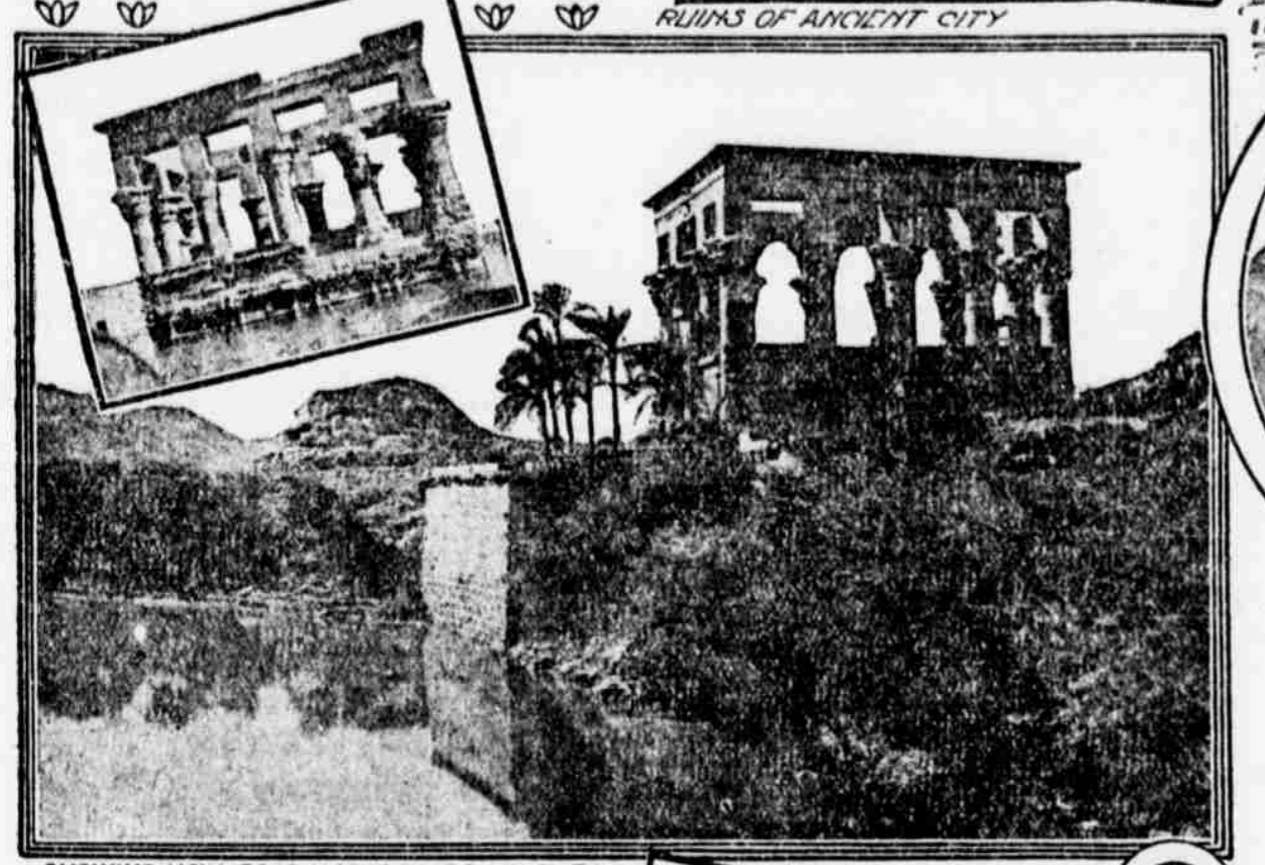
How would you like to be brought to light 2,000 years after you had been buried and to have the story of your life told again from what was found in your grave? Probably not a thoughtful could be gathered together, not a shred, not even a nail or metal scrap. Yet from the old cemeteries of Egypt the story of an extinct civilization is being wrought out anew. Kings and princes long since forgotten, arts long since lost, an almost endless panorama of a life that was hoary with age centuries before Homer sang, Solomon sat in judgment; while Europe was still the haunt of scattered savages



RUINS OF ANCIENT CITY



PYRAMID AND SPHINX



SHOWING HOW DAM HAS CAUSED Nile TO FLOOD ANCIENT TEMPLE

and before England had been snatched from the continent by the arms of the sea. Think of the rubbish heaps of these ancient cities being dug up and of their being sifted out from the debris the story of the daily life of people 3,000 and even 5,000 years gone by. Think of a bundle of letters 3,000 years old that retold and in points corroborated the story of Palestine when the patriarchs were still alive. Think of digging from the ruins of an ancient metropolis the records of 7,000 years.



SCENE ON THE NILE

The Egyptians were a people of great deeds, of incredible achievements. Their first great structures, the pyramids, surpass in magnitude the works of these modern times. Khufu's pyramid covered thirteen acres and was 500 feet high. Seven hundred and fifty square feet—more than a seventh of a mile. Over 94,000,000 cubic feet of material quarried out, dragged to the Nile, floated down the stream, dragged up to the desert, and into place. How they did it engineers are still puzzled to know. So closely were these stones fitted together that in the outside courses, which now are in place only at the base, beneath the sand, the lines were scarcely visible and must be outlined with charcoal to be photographed. Scarcely less wonderful were the temples of the mighty Ramesses. The gateway at Luxor was 100 feet wide and 80 feet high, and was flanked by obelisks 82 feet high. Before the temple at Tanis stood a 90-foot statue of the king. Leading from Luxor to Karnak was a great avenue more than a mile and a quarter long, 80 feet wide, and flanked on either side the entire distance by colossal sphinxes. In the great Hall of Columns at Karnak stands 12 columns 35 feet in circumference and 60 feet high. Flanking these are 122 columns 27 feet in girth and 40 feet high. Crowning these are hundred-ton architraves. Here stood huge obelisks 98 and 125 feet high, one obelisk weighed a thousand tons. In one city were 14 of these huge monoliths. More than 3,000 years ago the genius of man carved these cyclopean blocks from the rock, transported them for miles down stream and across country, and finally lifted them onto high walls or set them up on end, an enigma to modern engineers.

Not only are there such outward evidences of Egypt's wealth. From the burials come the very objects with which the people were wont to surround themselves. The tombs of the kings have given us the grave of Ioua and Tioua with its chariot, funeral sledges, mummy cases, chairs, beds, and jewel box—all gilded and paneled; alabaster vases, and larder still stored with food. Even the feather cushions have been preserved these 3,000 years.

The excavations of 1906 brought to light the wonderful Hathor shrine with its statue of Egypt's cow-goddess plumed and crowned with the lunar disc, trailing lotus blossoms from her splendid head and with the stars of heaven gleaming along her form. Beneath her kneels the infant king whom she nourishes; before her stands the dead king whom she protects.

The excavating of ancient sites is a task that calls for expert knowledge, the utmost skill, punctilious care, and no small diplomacy. Often owners, more or less real, must be placated and bought off. Before money is expended the utmost care must be taken to insure a profitable site. Trial trenches and shafts must be driven to confirm or disprove, if possible, expectations. When at last the site seems feasible, the work begins in earnest.

The excavations of ancient sites is a task that needs in the field, has just entered upon the work at Abydos. Following the methods of scientific excavators, they are settling for a long period. A considerable tract of land has been se-

cured, necessary buildings erected for the health of workmen and the preservation of antiquities. Not only are actual remains to be sought, but also important historical or artistic questions are to be solved. Indeed, the Egyptian Exploration Fund was the first to employ this method of clearing old monuments and of showing the world what they were.

Such stupendous undertakings call for equipment on a considerable scale. By the courtesy of Sir Gaston Maspero, the government has loaned to the Fund a light railway with equipment. Work must be rapid. December 1 to April 1 marks the working year. Every moment is precious. Every car load must count. Every shovel of earth must be carefully sifted wherever there is a possibility of a find. Even a basket brigade is sometimes pressed into use. As soon as some apparently valuable piece of located, workmen are called off, experts are sent in, every man is on guard; carefully every inch of soil is watched as the last few baskets of earth are removed. Every fragment must be saved and laid away until everything has been recovered. Think of the disappointment when a magnificent statue comes out headless, for example. Think of the conjectures as to the whereabouts of the missing piece and the furore when, perhaps weeks afterward, the lost is found. There is an air of hushed expectancy, a suppressed excitement hovering over, that keeps men up under the most tense strain under which the work is of necessity conducted.

America has joined hands with the old world in prosecuting the work. An American professor, Dr. Whittemore, is now with the staff in the field. An American secretary, Mrs. Marie N. Buckman, has been assigned to the direction of the American office, located in Tremont temple, Boston. Wonderful are the results attained. Every student of history and literature, every student of the Bible is vitally concerned in the confirmations yearly coming to light from the sands of Egypt.

There is need of haste. To extend the arable district of Egypt is an economic necessity. Accordingly, the British government has erected at Assuan a great dam, whose 95-foot head has sent the waters of the Nile back over great areas of hitherto dry ground. Already a dozen great temples have been flooded, and ere long will be forever lost to sight. Already beautiful Philae, at the head of the first cataract, is gone. The soil is becoming infiltrated, and the stores of treasures, especially the papyrus manuscripts, are being ruined even before the waters cover the ground above.

VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR ALDRICH ATTACHES HIS VETO TO THESE BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

The following is a synopsis of the bills vetoed by Governor Aldrich, which had been passed by the recent session of the legislature.

- S. F. 26—Bartling—Permitting the playing of baseball or golf on Sunday.
- S. F. 91—Tanner—Provided that all proposed amendments to the constitution shall be published in two papers in each county at the price now paid for printing in one paper; also that the papers designated shall be of opposite political parties in each county.
- S. F. 167—Tanner—Extending terms of office of members of school board in South Omaha for one year.
- S. F. 216—Tanner—Providing for a commission form of government for all cities within the state of Nebraska, having more than 25,000 and less than 40,000 inhabitants.
- S. F. 324—Lee—Non-partisan judiciary act, providing for nominations of judges of the supreme, district and county courts, without party designation.

H. R. 24—Neir—Amending sections 8803 and 8805 of Cobbe's Annotated Statutes, by providing that the term of office of mayors and councilmen in all cities in Nebraska, except those of the metropolitan class should be extended one year, making the term of office two years.

H. R. 82—Taylor—Dolezal stock yards bills, designating stock yards as "public markets."

H. R. 191—Bailey—An act regulating the business of real estate brokers or agents, providing for a state license for the persons so engaged and to appropriate the receipts from said licenses and providing a penalty for violation thereof.

H. R. 394—Clayton—A bill amending section 13 of article 1 of chapter 77 of the compiled statutes, exempting all bonds from taxation which are issued by the state, county, township, precinct, city, village or school district; also property used exclusively for religious and charitable purposes.

H. R. 527—Minor—A bill for an act to declare all persons, corporations and associations operating telephone lines or exchanges within the state of Nebraska to be common carriers and to give the state railway commission of the state of Nebraska power and authority to regulate the rates and service, and exercise a general control over the same, and to require connection of telephone lines, and interchange of telephone companies, and to permit the consolidation of competing companies and to prohibit the granting of franchises in cities where there is in operation a company engaged in the furnishing of telephone service without first securing the consent of the state railway commission.

H. R. 573—Gerdes—Provided that the officers of all state institutions supported by public funds should make monthly reports of the condition of such state institution or board to the auditor of public accounts and required the auditor to condense such reports and place them, each month, in the hands of the governor, and establishing a uniform system of book-keeping.

H. R. 574—Gerdes—A companion bill to 573, providing that a uniform system of bookkeeping shall prevail in all state offices and that an expert accountant be appointed to examine into the condition of each state office or state institution.

H. R. 575—Gerdes—Providing for a state board of supervision of maintenance funds, whose duty it shall be to look after and have a general supervision of the disbursement of funds appropriated for the maintenance of executive departments or offices.

Taft May Go to Texas.
Washington.—If congress adjourns during the spring months, President Taft may go to Texas to see the federal troops maneuver. The president answered an invitation to witness the maneuvers extended by Governor Colquitt of Texas. He said in substance that he would like to see the maneuvers, but that it depended on congress whether or not he could go.

Andrew Carnegie has presented Sioux City, Iowa, with \$75,000 for a public library.

Annapolis.—In memory of the French soldiers and sailors who gained no individual fame like Lafayette, Rochambeau or Steuben, but who helped the thirteen colonies gain their liberty, a statue has been unveiled here on the grounds of St. John's college. The president and Mrs. Taft, Ambassador Jusserand of France, Secretary of War Dickinson and Secretary of the Navy Meyer were among those who witnessed the ceremonies.

B. F. Bush has been elected president of the Missouri Pacific railroad.



WHO IS TO BLAME
Women as well as men are made miserable by kidney and bladder trouble. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy promptly relieves. At druggists in fifty cent and dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it. Address, Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

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Bettis Eye Salve GRANULATED ITCHING LIDS CAN BE CURED

HIS INVOCATION A SUCCESS
Actor Finally Got the Gas Man Awakened and Attending to His Duties.

"Years ago," says Guy Bates Post, the actor, "I appeared in an amateur performance of a play that had a distinct religious flavor. The leading player had studied for the ministry and had a deep and sonorous voice. In one of the scenes the lights were supposed to be turned down and a raging storm simulated. The accompanying lines were:
"Oh, Lord, deliver us from the powers of darkness."
The leading man spoke the lines, but darkness didn't follow. He spoke them again, and still the stage was distressingly light. Finally he roared:
"Oh, Lord, deliver us from the power of darkness, and also give that fool gas man sense enough to turn down the lights."
"The gas lights went down and the audience roared."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Too Fresh.
"Will you promise to support my daughter in the style in which she is accustomed if I consent to your marriage?" demanded old Skinfint, when Dobby made his formal proposal.
"Well, I—I'll promise to be tolerably close with her, Mr. Skinfint," said Dobby, "but you know, I'm a soft-hearted cuss, and I'm afraid she'll be able to wheedle a few things out of me that you were strong enough to refuse her."—Judge.

Deaths From Wild Beasts in India.
Wild beasts and snakes were the cause of 21,904 deaths in India in 1908. Tigers killed 900 people, leopards 302, wolves 269, other wild animals 686, and snakes 19,738, while 17,926 wild animals and 70,494 snakes were destroyed.

The errors of a great mind are more edifying than the truths of a little.—Borne.

COFFEE CONGESTION
Causes a Variety of Ails.

A happy old lady in Wisconsin says:
"During the time I was a coffee drinker I was subject to sick headaches, sometimes lasting 2 or 3 days, totally unfitting me for anything. To this affliction was added, some years ago, a trouble with my heart that was very painful, accompanied by a smothering sensation and faintness. Dyspepsia, also, came to make life harder to bear. I took all sorts of patent medicines but none of them helped me for any length of time.
"The doctors frequently told me that coffee was not good for me; but without coffee I felt as if I had no breakfast. I finally decided about 2 years ago to abandon the use of coffee entirely, and as I had read a great deal about Postum I concluded to try that for a breakfast beverage.
"I liked the taste of it and was particularly pleased to notice that it did not 'come up' as coffee used to. The bad spells with my heart grew less and less frequent, and finally ceased altogether, and I have not had an attack of sick headache for more than a year. My digestion is good, too, and I am thankful that I am once more a healthy woman. I know my wonderful restoration to health came from quitting coffee and using Postum." Name given by the Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

"There's a reason," and it is this. Coffee has a direct action on the liver with some people, and causes partial congestion of that organ preventing the natural outlet of the secretions. Then may follow biliousness, sallow skin, headaches, constipation and finally a change of the blood corpuscles and nervous prostration.
Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pgs. "There's a Reason."
Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

UNWRITTEN LAWS Traditions Which Have Almost the Force of Statutes

There is a class of unwritten law which does not and cannot become written law, says Case and Comment, because it approaches so near the danger line that man dare not recognize it to the extent of publishing it and declaring it as a part of the positive law.

It is the unwritten law of the sea that a captain must go down with his ship. Men dare not write it into the contract, and nations dare not incorporate it in their navy or marine regulations, yet the tyrants of the sea know the law, and believe that to obey it betters their service, and there are few instances of its being disregarded.

It is the unwritten law of the army and navy that an officer shall not seek cover, or at least shall not show apprehension of danger to his person, in time of battle and in the presence of enlisted men or common sailors. In the Franco-Prussian war nearly four thousand officers of the German army were killed and the great majority of them gave up their lives because they believed in this law of conduct.

In obedience to this law Farragut bound himself to the mast, Lee rode to the head of his charging column at the bloody angle, and Lawton

walked coolly in front of the line and was shot in the presence of his men.

The law of the right of revolution has been much talked about and much written about. Every intelligent citizen believes that he has the right under certain conditions to oppose the established government of his own land and join in an effort to establish another in its place. Just prior to and during the Civil war there was much discussion in this country by learned men on either side of the right of revolution and the "higher power" and the "greater law."

The law justifying one person in the killing of another has required the serious consideration of every country. Every criminal code provides certain punishments for homicide, and many of them graduate the punishment with minute particularity, according to the circumstances of the killing, so that any one of six crimes may be involved in a single tragedy. Such codes also attempt to define what killing is justifiable and what is excusable and with their interpretation by the courts attempt to describe the only conditions under which one human being can kill another.

The Hebrew code almost stands alone in its

recognition of man's desire to kill and his right to have that desire and that climax of all satisfactions which comes to him who under great provocation slays another. It is not at all strange that in his branch there should be an extended code of unwritten as written law, unwritten now and always to be unwritten for the reason that the recognition given by its embodiment in the statutes would be taken as a license by dishonest men and would result in harm rather than good.

It is an unwritten law among the officers of the army that if a subordinate officer kills a superior officer because that officer has publicly degraded him by striking him or by other action equally humiliating then the court-martial will not convict. During the Civil war at Louisville, Ky., General Nelson said to General Davis:
"How many men have you?"
General Davis replied, "About—" giving an approximate number.

Nelson said, "You an army officer and say 'about!' Why don't you 'know' how many men you have?" And with that he struck Davis in the face with his glove. Davis shot and killed him and the court-martial acquitted Davis.