

IN THE MAGIC EAST

Streets of the Egyptian Capital

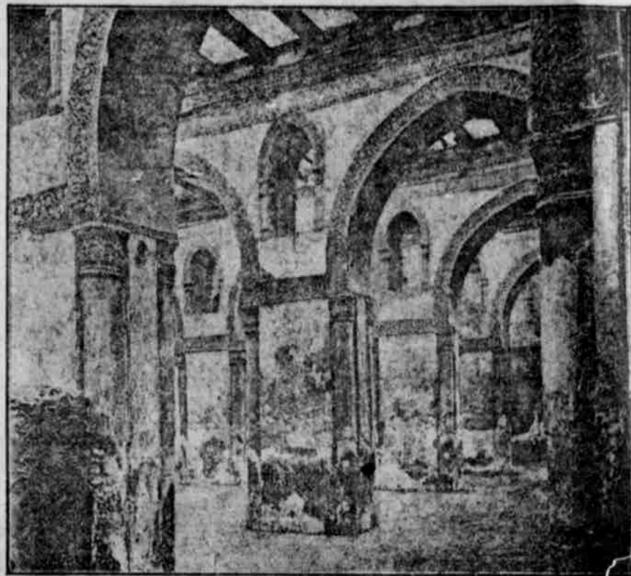
(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE)

Nothing in Cairo is so eloquent of change as the streets. Fifteen years ago one could see in the Mooski Bazaar the true Eastern city, with its narrow crowded lanes, its accumulations of filth and rubbish, its brilliant splashes of color, and its strange, unmistakable smell. So the old resident will tell you, but now in the Mooski and the lanes leading off it, as well as in the warrens behind the Khedival library, you will see puffs of patent medicines, sun helmets, and Greek shops with polyglot inscriptions and glass fronts. Even now there is much that is Oriental surviving in these quarters, while a few hundred yards away you are in wide and airy thoroughfares swarming with the same mixed population that clogs the Mooski, but in all else differing little from many Mediterranean cities.

There is a difference, to my mind a happy difference, between Cairo and London, not to mention other European capitals. There are newspapers in Cairo, it is true, but they hide their light under a bushel, and you are often compelled to seek them instead of their pursuing you. There are newsboys, and newsboys who cry their papers at nightfall in Cairo, but as far as my own experience goes they are generally only to be heard around certain streets, and, having no winners, no latest betting to shout, their voices lack that frenzy which is characteristic of the camelot. But if there are few newsboys in Cairo, the city has substitutes in the art of producing noise in its donkey boys, who shout by day, and its musicians, who celebrate wedding feasts by night. To the untrained European ear each of the performers on the tom-tom, or darabukeh, drum, tambourine and flute appears to be extemporizing independently, and the combination of extraordinary sounds cannot be said to have a tranquillizing effect, especially between the hours of 11 at night and 1 o'clock in the morning. A marriage among the better-class Moslems is the signal for a musical orgie which may last for an entire week, and the stranger, after listening with a tolerant interest to the festivities on Monday and Tuesday evening, feels a certain impatience when the quavering cries of singers and the thud and clash of brass and parchment disturb his first sleep on the third and fourth nights.

To the tourist the native quarter of Cairo means Cairo, the Mooski Bazaar, but these two districts are by no means as Oriental to-day as other less-known divisions of the city. A tram runs through Old Cairo, and the Mooski Bazaar is changing, but west and southwest of the citadel there is a maze of lanes and alleys which bear but little trace of Western influence. The ground without the walls is one gigantic rubbish heap, an unending series of mounds of broken potsherds and crumbled brick, hide-

blade of grass in the cemetery, nothing but ankle-deep dust, on which square dirty-white buildings and misshapen whitewashed tombs are flung. The buildings contain the burial places of the rich, and within their walls it may be possible to see something beautiful, some token of love for the departed, in a grotesque shape in granite or marble. But the outer walls present only a horrid and unrelieved bareness to the eye, and the doors and shuttered windows are



Mosque of Touloon.

locked and barred, while around them the tombs of the poor, rising three or four feet at most from the dust, seem to differ only in size from the stones, potsherds, and battered tins, all the meaningless litter that the sand and dust have not yet quite covered.

When at last you find your way among the houses and shake the dust of the graveyard from off your feet and clothes, you find yourself in narrow streets full of sharp turns and crowded with beasts and men. Under foot the road is nothing but dust in one place, but in another slippery with trampled green stuff, orange peel and the slops that are thrown from the houses. The smell of manure and wood ashes fills the air, save where now and again you catch the acrid smell of long unwashed clothes. There are no buildings here that strangers come to see. There are only mean streets and little cafes, with rows of brown men sitting with their knees up to their noses on the roadside, and shop fronts where marvelously tawdry handkerchiefs hang in rows on clotheslines. In this quarter Europeans are rather infrequent visitors, and the native population is

poorer and rougher than in the Mooski, so you will occasionally notice that the little groups sitting outside the Arab cafes split on the ground with disconcerting unanimity as you pass, and the children—dear little innocents—whom you try to avoid treading

down, cry to Allah to burn your father, the favorite curse in this country. After long wanderings in these streets you get back with some relief into the better quarters. They may be defiled in the eyes of the purist by European advertisements, but they are cleaner. "The Magic East" has been celebrated by scores of poets as a captivating and luxurious goddess, the spell of whose beauty is more powerful than the wisdom of the West. It may be, but does not the goddess at times appear to us in the guise of a slatternly "general" with more than a partiality to dirt?

No Need to Rise.

In one of Glasgow's finely-laid-out cemeteries a rich citizen, who was notorious as a skeptic, had erected a massive mausoleum on what he termed "his ancestral plot."

One day he met a worthy elder of

the kirk coming away from the vicinity of the imposing mass of masonry so he said to him:

"Weel, Davrit, ye've been up seen that gran' erection o' mine?"

"Deed, hiv' I, sir?"

"Gay strong place that, isn't it? I'll tak' a man a' his time tae rise oot o' yon at the day o' judgment."

"Hoots, ma mon," said David, "ye can see that day comin'. They'll tak' the bottom oot o' tae let ye fa' doon."

Scotch School Luncheon.

The fact that Edinburgh school children are below the average weight and height is ascribed by the "five-meal meat-fed men" of England to the meal system there prevailing. Only twenty or thirty minutes are allowed at luncheon for the consumption of a "piece" or "slice" of bread and butter. As the school classes are not dismissed till 3 p. m., the children have practically no nourishing food between 8:30 a. m. and 3:30 p. m. The Edinburgh Merchant Company, which provides excellent secondary education to some 5,000 children, has resolved to adopt the English system of meal hours.

Would Honor the Mothers.

Senator Plot, who is head of the movement whose object it is to arrest the decrease in the population of France, has made a novel suggestion. In a letter, which he has sent to the prime minister, he suggests that a medal should be struck and a special order founded for mothers of large families. "Soldiers, and sailors and even firemen, are decorated," he says, "and why should not the mothers, who perform the greatest of all services to the fatherland, have some recognition?"

Not for Public Perusal.

At one time Mr. Cary was lunching at the University club with an old friend who had lately been married. During the conversation the friend said by chance that his life was an open book. "Well, you'd better not leave it open when your mother-in-law is around, unless it's an expurgated copy," said Mr. Cary promptly.—New York Times.

Pencil Making.

E. Faber (Eberhard), of the family who have made pencils in Germany for 144 years, began the business in America in 1861, and now manufactures his pencils in Newark, N. J. The graphite is given various degrees of hardness by the admixture of clay, and the best red cedar for use in pencils is that from Florida.

Also Honored.

"Here's an American traveler dat must be purty prominent," remarked Weary Walker, glancing up from the scrap of newspaper he had been reading. "I see dey've gev him de freedom of de city o' London."

"Dat's nothin'," replied Roving Ragsey. "I got dat oout after bein' locked up in a Whitechapel police station."

UNCLE SAM'S FORCES

HISTORY OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Enlarged and Reduced at Necessity's Demand, It Has Gone Through Many Fluctuations—The Various Commanders.

The army of the United States, depending upon and governed by the national legislature more directly than the army of any other country, has from the very beginning of our national existence reflected the necessities of the country by the way in which it has expanded or contracted to meet existing conditions. It may be doubted if any other army went through so many fluctuations of size as ours has done.

After Washington gave up his command at France's Tavern in December, 1783, Gen. Henry Knox as senior officer became commander-in-chief, holding office until June, 1784, when he was mustered out along with most of the army. The rest, consisting of a regiment of infantry and a battalion



MAJ.-GEN. HENRY DEARBORN.

of foot artillery, was placed under the senior officer, Major Josiah Harmer, commander-in-chief by brevet as lieutenant-colonel. There were 700 men in the army then.

In 1789, after the constitutional government had got into working order, the army was enlarged to forty-six officers and 840 men. In March, 1791, the army was still further increased until it consisted of 104 officers and 2,128 men. Arthur St. Clair was commissioned Major General, and Ipswich became commander-in-chief, whereupon Col. Harmer resigned.

In March, 1792, the legion was brought into our army. It consisted of four companies of dragoons, four companies of riflemen, with a total of 258 officers and 5,136 men. Major General Anthony Wayne became general-in-chief of the Army of the Frontier, a post which he held until Dec. 15, 1796, when he died. He was followed by Major-Gen. James Wilkinson, who remained senior officer until July 2, 1798.

There was fear of a war with France, and Washington, who had left the presidency fifteen months earlier, was made lieutenant-general and commander-in-chief; and on March 3, 1799, the army was enlarged, and the rank of general was created for him. He never was commissioned in that rank, however, and died lieutenant-general. The army had been enlarged meantime, its authorized strength being placed at two regiments of artillery and engineers, four regiments of dragoons, forty regiments of infantry and one regiment and one battalion of riflemen. Its total was 2,447 officers and 49,244 men. Major-Gen. Alexander Hamilton was senior officer.

When the danger of war was over the army was cut down with great rapidity, the act of May 14, 1800, lopping men off right and left, until only two



MAJ.-GEN. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN.

regiments of artillery and engineers, two companies of light dragoons and four regiments of infantry remained; and of these James Wilkinson again took command as senior officer. The army consisted then of 318 officers and 4,118 men; but only a year later this number was further reduced to one regiment of artillery and two regiments of infantry, with a strength of 241 officers and 3,046 men.

The army remained at this size for six years, with Wilkinson still in command, until on April 12, 1808, the strength was placed at 774 officers and 9,147 men, divided among a regiment of light artillery, a regiment of artillery, a regiment of dragoons, seven

regiments of infantry and one regiment of riflemen.

Gen. Wilkinson was relieved as commander-in-chief in January, 1812. Gen. Dearborn succeeding him for the war with Great Britain. Many additions to the army were authorized during that war, the greatest strength reached being 3,495 officers and 59,179 men, in one regiment of light artillery, a corps of artillery, a regiment of rangers and sea fencibles.

At the end of the war the strength was fixed at 674 officers and 11,170 men, in a corps of engineers, a regiment of light artillery, a corps of artillery, eight regiments of infantry, and one regiment of riflemen; and Major-Gen. Jacob Brown became senior officer.

After another six years the army was reorganized, with a staff corps, four regiments of artillery and seven of infantry, the total strength being 540 officers and 5,580 men. When Gen. Brown died in 1828 Gen. Macomb was directed to take command of the army—the first officer ordered to that duty, the earlier commanders-in-chief, except Washington, being merely seniors for the time being.

Macomb held office for thirteen years. In 1832 a battalion of mounted rangers was authorized, the strength of the army being 599 officers and 6,840 men; in 1833 the riflemen were discontinued and a regiment of dragoons enlisted, the authorized strength being placed at 599 officers and 6,595 men; three years later, when a second regiment of dragoons was provided, the strength became 647 officers and 7,310 men, and two years later still, in 1838 another (eighth) regiment of infantry having been formed, it was placed at 735 officers and 11,804 men.

The Mexican war was fought very largely by volunteers, but the regular army was increased until it consisted of 1,353 officers and 29,512 men, in three regiments of dragoons, a regiment of mounted riflemen, four regiments of artillery, sixteen of infantry, and a regiment of volunteers. This last body was not the same as the state volunteer organizations. Gen. Scott had succeeded Macomb in 1841, and held office until Nov. 6, 1861, when he retired.

After the Mexican war the piping times of peace returned and the army was cut down by two-thirds, so that it consisted of 882 officers and 9,435 men. In 1855 it was increased to 1,040 officers and 17,278 men. This was the strength of the old army.

It was just about doubled for the civil war, reaching a total of 2,009



BRIG.-GEN. JOSIAH HARMER.

officers and 37,264 men, divided among a staff corps, six cavalry, five artillery and nineteen infantry regiments. The end of the war did not cause a reduction, however. Instead, the army was increased until, in the staff corps, ten regiments of cavalry, five of artillery, and forty-five of infantry, it had 3,036 officers and 54,641 men.

Three years later, in 1869, twenty regiments of infantry were disbanded, and the authorized strength was fixed at 2,277 officers and 35,036 men; and in 1874, with the same number of regiments, only 25,000 men were permitted.

Twenty-four years passed without a change in the army strength. In March, 1898, two regiments of artillery was added, the officers then numbering 2,137 and the men 26,610; and six weeks later the strength was increased for the Spanish war to 2,346 officers and 62,473 men.

This was increased in 1899 to 2,285 officers and 65,960 men, and then, in 1901, came a reorganization which has given us, besides the staff corps, fifteen regiments of cavalry, a corps of artillery and thirty regiments of infantry, with 3,820 officers and a maximum enlisted strength of 100,000 men. The actual strength at present is fixed at 59,866 men.

Since Gen. Scott retired, the army has been commanded by Major-Gen. McClellan, Major-Gen. Halleck, Gen. Grant, Lieutenant-general and general; Gen. Sherman, Gen. Sheridan, as lieutenant-general and general; Gen. Schofield as major general and lieutenant general, and Gen. Miles as major-general and lieutenant-general.—New York Sun.

Mice Caught on Fly Paper.

A woman in South Deerfield, Mass., has discovered a new use for the sticky fly paper. She found that if a mouse put his foot on the paper he would put the other foot on and it would hold him fast.



Native Arab and Wife.

ously bare, and tenanted only by a few quarrymen and wolfish pariah dogs. To the mounds succeeds a great cemetery that thrusts itself, in all its negligence and squalor, between the Citadel and the tombs of the Mamalukes. There is no leaf or

poorer and rougher than in the Mooski, so you will occasionally notice that the little groups sitting outside the Arab cafes split on the ground with disconcerting unanimity as you pass, and the children—dear little innocents—whom you try to avoid treading