

of ill health, but mainly for the sake of work, in seclusion! Few men knew Mr. Lane personally in his later years, and as time went on and the improbability of his living to finish his work became more and more apparent, his unwillingness to see anyone beyond his family circle and a few special friends became stronger than ever. Thus I have had no assistance from the recollections of friends. Nor have I derived the smallest help from letters. Mr. Lane had a deeply-rooted objection to the publication of letters meant only for private friends, and he took care to have all his own letters from Egypt destroyed; whilst after his return to England he hardly ever wrote one except on questions of scholarship which he was asked to decide.

Thus the only materials I have had for the foundation of the Memoir have been (1) the MS. of the "Description of Egypt," which contains a certain amount of personal incident; (2) certain note-books kept by Mr. Lane during his first and second visits to Egypt; (3) his published works; (4) his sister's journal, kept during the third visit to Egypt, and certain passages in her "English-woman in Egypt." I should add that Mrs. Lane, my Grandmother Mrs. Poole, and my Uncle Reginald Stuart Poole, have aided me greatly with their recollections. For the last ten years I can of course write from my own intimate relations with my Great-Uncle.

The diary of Mr. Lane's second visit to Egypt I have thought it well to reproduce almost *in extenso*. As the daily jotting-down of what he called his "idle moments" it reveals something of himself, and as the record of the changes which nearly ten years had brought about in the country it will be acceptable to students of the history of Europeanizing in Egypt.

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