



GENERAL VIEW OF CAIRO FROM THE CITADEL.

kept a perfect prisoner. And a man may have several wife-prisoners if he desires and can afford it. There is scarcely an end to the evils that come from this cause. While at Jerusalem a Mahomedan woman, whose husband had just brought home a second wife, was so heart-broken she threw herself into one of the great cisterns and was drowned. I was told that was nothing—only one instance out of hundreds. The Muslim, too, may “put away his wife,” or “turn her off,” on the slightest provocation. What a religion that will countenance such atrocities! Mahomedanism and all other religious beliefs that degrade and keep their adherents in gross ignorance, never ought to be called religions.



“BAKSHEESH.”

There is but one true religion—the Belief in our Lord Jesus Christ—that *elevates* mankind; that gives perfect liberty—“the liberty to do right.” All other so-called religions are degrading and enslaving.

There is really no Sunday in Cairo—at least but little indication of one even in the quarter inhabited by Europeans. Everything goes on as on week days—shops all open, cafés and gambling places in full blast. Gambling is carried on there in a most open manner. Tables for the purpose are set out in front of cafés by the dozen—on the sidewalk itself—and hundreds of Turks and foreigners may be seen busily engaged in this atrocious pastime. The

fashionable life of the city was as disgusting to me in many of its phases as the wretched life of the natives.

There is a grand and broad view of Cairo and its surroundings from the Citadel—an imposing structure with a dome and two slender spires, situated on the heights back of the city, from all parts of which it is conspicuous. Before and below it the city lies spread out to full view. The numerous minarets and towers projecting above the mass of irregular houses and buildings, are very striking. There are 264 mosques in Cairo. In the distance are the pyramids of Geezeh and the valley of the Nile. One can there study the lay of the ancient and new city as he would a map.

Though our stay in Egypt was somewhat brief, we saw all the principal sights in Cairo—the ancient mosque, the interesting bazaars, the whirling or dancing dervishes, the howling dervishes, etc., etc.—which I will not further mention, since you have had opportunities of reading descriptions of these things by much more thorough travellers than myself, I will confine myself to a short account of one or two outside excursions we made. Our trip through Egypt was at an unfortunate season, there being a severe “hot spell” at the time. Going any distance up the Nile was out of the question and our time was devoted to Cairo and its neighborhood.

The mere mention of the name Egypt will at once suggest to the mind the great pyramids and the Sphinx. These we saw, of course. It was early one fine morning (and are not all mornings fine in Egypt?) when we started for the Pyramids of Geezeh, and, as we drove out of the city, the country thoroughfares leading to it were lined with hundreds of both camels and donkeys, laden with produce and stuff for market. There seemed to be more freshly cut clover for fodder than anything else; and the little donkeys were so heavily laden that their heads and forelegs were all that could be seen of them as they trudged along, while the big camels, in long lines, one tied behind the other, bore ponderous loads. Men, and women too, would be seen carrying great bunches of it balanced on their heads. There are lots of women, also, bearing immense water jars on their heads, which they poised so gracefully—the jar on its side if empty, or erect if full. From the habit of carrying burdens on their heads the Orientals walk very erect, and so straight and stately is there bearing that it is very noticeable and always elicits admiration.



A STREET IN CAIRO.