

carbonaceous shales, presumably, led Figari Bey to commence a boring at Redesia, a village to the south of Edfu, of which the following is the summarized record, the thicknesses being given in metres:

	Metres
(a) Alternating sandstone (yellow marly) and greenish marly clays.....	30
(h) Horizontally bedded white micaceous sandstone or grey variety of sandstone with vague plant remains.....	23
(c) Shaly, ash-grey clay with pyritic nodules and thin veins of bituminous substance.....	3
(d) Alternating beds of ash-grey clay and sandstone.....	10
(e) Black, bituminous paper-clays with carbonized plant remains (Figari suggested <i>Calamites</i>).....	0.5?
(f) Chloritic quartz-psammite, alternating with chloritic clays, in between, at different depths, two beds of black paper shales with lignite.....	10
(g) Ash-grey, micaceous clay.....	17
(h) Grey-green, siliceous limestone with small oysters.....	0.5
(i) Black bituminous micaceous clay.....	0.3
(j) Grey-green limestone as in (h).....	0.3
(k) Very compact calcareous sandstone without fossils.....	0.5
(l) Regular alternation of shaly, micaceous, clayey, light grey psammite and ash-grey clay.....	40

At about 99 metres (330 feet), the bore reached a marked water-bearing stratum which hindered the work. The boring was, however, carried down to about 258 metres (860 feet) without further evidence of carbonaceous material, sandstones and clays being the most marked constituents.

My colleague, Mr. Ferrar, has given me the following note which indicates why the Edfu neighbourhood has aroused special interest in this connection. He writes: "While studying the sub-soil water in Upper Egypt in 1907-1908, my work took me to Edfu, where I heard of a well in the town from which coal had been obtained. Some difficulty was experienced in persuading the inhabitants to show me this well, which is on the high ground immediately to the north-west of the temple mound. The well is fourteen metres deep, and specimens brought from this depth show the presence of black, carbonaceous, Nubian sandstone, which is said to have been utilized as fuel by a local blacksmith. It is probably the presence of alleged combustible matter in this well which directed the attention of the early borers for coal to the Edfu district." Mr. Ferrar was also shown a well on the western desert edge which was said to contain coal, but carbonaceous matter was not obvious in the spoil heap from the well, nor in the immediate vicinity.

The subsequent proceedings in this connection were summarized by Mr. John Wells, then Inspector-General of Mines, in the report of the Department of Mines, of 1906, p. 51. In it he draws attention to the letters of a Mr. Neutinger written between 1844 and 1854, which have been the cause of the boring operation undertaken in recent years at Redesia. It was asserted that from the surface to 47 metres, there was a succession of clays and sandstones, and from 47 to 92 metres, shales (termed schists in the report) and sandstones in which five coal-seams were met with, and of which the lowest consisted of 2 metres, 25 centimetres of good coal. The locality suggested is Gebel Zabara, about five miles east of Edfu station.

No reports exist as to the result of Ismail Pasha's borings at Redesia in