

Mohammedans and a boy were eating their meal; I cannot say what meal it was to them. I watched them with some interest, because it is useless to hurry up the Nile. They were squatted on deck, at the stern of the boat, with a dish before them, out of which they all ate in common with their fingers. It looked a race for life, for each one bolted a handful of the soft food as fast as possible. At Luxor, as well as in Canada, I asked myself, Does the best man always win? The one that had the biggest hands and largest mouth won in this race I am sure, for the boy just looked sorry. There was no one to applaud. The only joyous one was the owner of that mouth of no mean magnitude.

After our own meal we were conducted through the Temple of Luxor that every year is becoming more interesting. Courts, columns and statues and ruins mingled up in splendid confusion. Until very recently a large portion of the buildings connected in ancient days with the temple were buried by the accumulated rubbish and earth, upon which a large number of houses stood. During the last ten or fifteen years excavations have been made by the Egyptian government and most interesting results have been obtained. Among the antiquities brought to light a fine granite statue of Rameses II, the existence of which was quite unknown, is a surprise. The Temple of Luxor follows the course of the river and consequently irregular in plan; its walls arose from the water on one side. It was founded by Amenophis III, B.C. 1500. Many additions by succeeding kings, in the way of great colonnades, obelisks, colossi and the large pylon. The large court, 200 feet square, behind the pylon, is surrounded by a double row of columns. The obelisk now standing bears the inscription, titles, etc., of Rameses II, and stands 82 feet high. It is a fine specimen of sculpture. Its fellow-obelisk stands in Paris not far from the Exhibition grounds of 1900. After the burning and sacking of this temple by the Persians, some repairs and rebuilding seem quite modern, and

certain parts appear to have been used as a church by the Copts, for the ancient sculptures have been plastered over and painted with figures of saints, etc. As the Egyptian believed that his soul and the gods lived forever, his first care was that his tomb and his temples should be everlasting. Keeping this in mind he built them carefully and well, and

We only remember that they stand for what is best in human life. If nothing else but these monuments remained to us of the works of art of this period of Egyptian architecture we should be compelled to admit that the Egyptians of those times were mighty builders.

(To be continued.)



INTERIOR OF J. McLAREN'S RESIDENCE—A MANITOBA HOME.

of the best material. They bear upon them the impress of edifices constructed for eternity and not for time. The colossal magnitude of the monuments and the grand conception which inspired them overwhelms the mind with a sense of human nothingness in the presence of the divine. A strange feeling of reverence comes over you in visiting any of these ancient temples, and the most frivolous is hushed in walking amongst their ruins. We forget for the time that they were heathen temples, and often degraded by superstitious rites.

A great many people who are trying to get to heaven grow weary along the way, not from over-exertion, but from creeping. The man who takes half an hour to walk to the front gate always feels like hanging on it when he gets there.

A warehouse in Paris has been built with glass floors. The initial cost is considerable more than that of the ordinary floor, but in view of the fact that toughened glass is so much longer lived than wood, the experiment is likely to prove cheaper in the long run.

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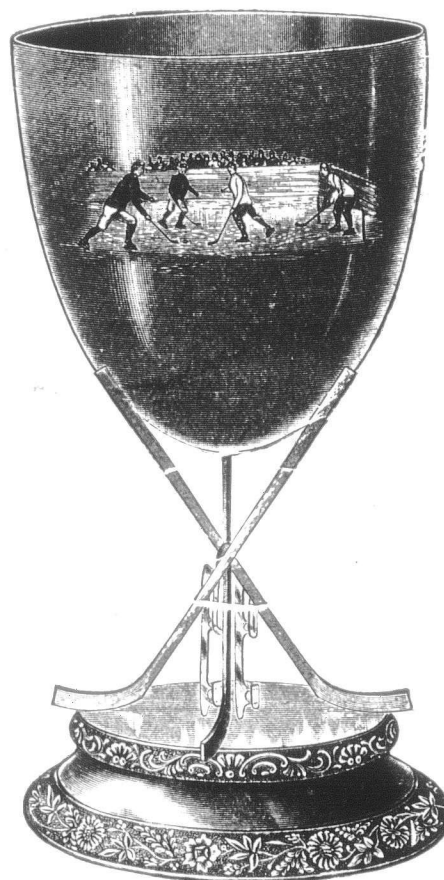


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