

power than most other kings. The Egyptians groan beneath the power of the pasha, as you will see when you hear how he collects soldiers for his army.

The Egyptian peasants live in mud huts, dress in blue shirts, and wear red caps (for they are not allowed to wear turbans); and they eat fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic, with coarse bread, as the Israelites once did in Egypt. They hate hard work, and only do just enough to keep them from starving, spending much of their time in sleeping before their doors.

What is their horror when the pasha sends a troop of men on horseback to seize the peasants! O then what running there is in the fields, and what hiding in the huts! But the soldiers pursue the fugitives, trampling down the corn with their horses' feet, and catching all the men they can find. Those who are caught are dragged in chains to a prison, and are there examined by a doctor, to see whether they are fit to be soldiers. Some are considered too young, some too old, and some too short, and some too weak. How glad these are to be suffered to return to their huts! Some are found to have no upper teeth, others to be without the first finger of the right hand, and others to be blind. Have they met with accidents? Not

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