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## ALEXANDRINA TINNE.

"A beautiful dazzling white daughter of the sultan of the sultans, the grand seignior of Constantinople, was of late travelling through the distant desolate regions of his large empire in Africa, at the same time liberally lavishing her riches, and winning by it the hearts of the people!" Thus at least believed in their simplicity the savage tribes of the vast and almost unknown region with which the rest of the world is now gradually becoming acquainted. How could they comprehend—what even in Europe appeared strange—that a beautiful young lady, slenderly built, and endowed with all worldly gifts, instigated by a desire of knowledge so rare in her sex, would make the attempt to solve the old problem of finding the sources of the Nile, in which so many brave men have already fallen victims? A few months ago the sad news reached Europe that Alexandrina Tinne, the fabulous princess, and daughter to the descendant of the caliphs, had been assassinated by the Tuareghs, a savage tribe through whose territory she was then passing on one of her exploring expeditions.

Miss Tinne was journeying from Murzuk to Ghat, when one morning the camel-drivers, while loading, commenced a fight among themselves, whereupon the two Dutch servants of Miss Tinne hastened from the tent to separate them. At that moment Miss Tinne stood at the entrance of her tent in company with the chief of the Tuareghs, which tribe, strangely enough, had her full confidence, and was invited by her to inspect her encampment. She then advanced to ascertain the cause of the fight, but was that very moment struck from behind with a sword. The two Christian servants, on hearing her screams, quickly approached, and were just seizing their arms, when they were killed on the spot. The Tuareghs now rushed to the iron water boxes which, they thought, contained treasures; this misapprehension, by exciting their cupidity, no doubt led to the murder.

The tragic end of Miss Tinne is a great loss to the cause of geographical exploration. The greater expedition which she intended in the fall to have undertaken to the sultan of Bornu—in the course of which, near Ghat, she wished to strike her tents and recover her broken health—would undoubtedly have given much interesting information, which is lost to the world through the



ALEXANDRINA TINNE.

greed and barbarity of these savages; for this intrepid woman was one of the boldest of African pioneers.

The mother of Miss Tinne was a Lady of Honour of the Queen of Holland, and descended from the noble family of Steengracht-Kapellen; her father, an Englishman, was a merchant, and died when she was not yet five years old. The young lady, inheriting millions, and distinguished by beauty and wit, had every facility for pursuing a passion she had nurtured all her life, that of exploring the world, and wandering over all its parts. The spirited Queen of Holland liked the young lady, and procured her access to the different courts of Europe. Like a young, agile amazon, managing with extraordinary security and skill the wildest horses, she attracted, both by her graceful appearance and the report of her riches, the attention of many cavaliers, who vainly courted her heart and hand; two barons are even said to have followed her to Khartoum. The love of the young lady seemed to be exclusively devoted to wild romantic nature; her strongly moulded self-will appeared incomprehensible to the great mass, and it was consequently not surprising that the oddest reports circulated of her dislike to matrimony. One even pretended to know that love for a prince had driven her to the wilderness. But of all assertions this one is the most improbable, as Miss Tinne always manifested in her conversation extremely liberal, social, and political opinions.

Her first long journey was to the North Cape where she became acquainted with the Norwegian painter, Saal, who has acquired a name by his Northern twilight views.

In her eighteenth year she made a trip through Asia-Minor, Syria, and Egypt; after that time she never gave up her love of life in the desert, and showed the greatest interest in all the discoveries made in Africa. In her predilection for the Orient she had adopted the Egyptian costume, which was well suited to her tall blonde figure; she kept a number of African servants, through whom she soon obtained a knowledge of the language. She even engaged an eunuch for her protection, or rather—as decency required of Turkish ladies of rank to be conducted by an attendant of the harem, she kept up the custom of not walking out without being accompanied by a servant. Taking up her residence at Cairo, she resolved to build a