

sense of what is meant by really doing a thing. She was indeed, a shade stern in the matter of discipline. Once the dainty ten year old poppet was thrown by her pony, and naturally came home with rather a deep feeling of the pathos of her situation. She was straightway sent to bed to have her cry out. If she could not keep her seat on a horse, she would surely be capable of keeping it there! A letter might have to be written no fewer than thirteen times, before it had come up to the exacting maternal standard in point of expression and calligraphy. At a very early age she was sent to boarding-school, where she remained till she was fifteen, her mother having in the meantime left England with her second husband for India. The next stage in her education was the exceedingly delightful one to her of travelling in Egypt under the tutelage of family friends, the Rev. Mr. Badger and his wife. Mr. Badger was guide and philosopher as well as friend. A very learned man in his way and a keen Egyptologist, he succeeded, no doubt very much to his satisfaction, in infecting his beautiful and intelligent young ward with his own enthusiasm for mummies. At that tender age she wrote a lecture on Egypt which she was able to deliver sixty years later with but little change, to the immense enlightenment and delight of a Montreal audience. It was then that she laid the foundation for that love of learning and taste for antiquity, and that priceless liberating capacity for sympathetic observation of the thoughts and customs and religions of far-away people whose ways and thoughts are very unlike ours which went a long way towards making her the full and free woman she grew up to be. In this peculiarly momentous and decisive line of her development, she was destined, as we shall see presently, to find much further scope and stimulus later on in India and Siam.

From Egypt she went to join her mother and step-father in India. With them she stayed at Poonah for a year or two. Then, rather decidedly against their wishes—they favoured a much wealthier, though older and less attractive, suitor—she married Captain L. S. Leonowens of the British Army.