

silks, are often accompanied by children in old and shabby clothes. The reason is, that Egyptian mothers are afraid of the "evil eye." They suppose that evil spirits are envious of their little ones, and ready to do them harm, and therefore they are afraid of decking the children gaily, lest they should provoke them. No one dares admire a child in passing by, lest the evil spirits should hear. No mother dares praise her own child; she will not even say, "My child is strong and hearty."

An English lady once said to an Egyptian lady, "What a fine child that is!" Immediately the Egyptian looked alarmed, and exclaimed, "Bless the prophet!" It is thought that by blessing Mahomet the child may be preserved from evil. These poor Egyptian mothers know not of a Saviour's tender love for their babes, nor of the constant care that his angels take of the feeble creatures.

Knowing nothing themselves, they bring up their children in ignorance. All they ever teach their little girls, is to repeat a few prayers out of the Koran. The chief delight of the ladies is in adorning themselves in beautiful garments, and in painting their eyes with "kohl," and their hands with "henna" (which is a dark blue leaf). They amuse themselves also by embroidering handkerchiefs with elegant