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British Representative in Egypt Allenby the Conqueror of Jerusalem

Following in the footsteps of Earl Cromer and Earl Kitchener, Viscount Allenby has gone to Egypt. But whereas Cromer and Kitchener both held office as His Majesty's Consul-General in Egypt, Viscount Allenby's title is His Majesty's High Commissioner in Egypt. The last High Commissioner of consequence was Lord Dufferin, who held office in 1882, and the thirty-eight years that have elapsed have been momentous ones in the history of Modern Egypt. There is a striking similarity between Lord Dufferin's mission to Egypt in 1882 and that of Lord Dufferin in 1882. Armed rebellion had broken out in the Canadas and Her Majesty's Government had sent Lord Dufferin to devise some satisfactory form of government for the colony. So, after Arabi Pasha's rebellion in Egypt Lord Dufferin was sent out as High Commissioner to draft a plan for the future government of the country.

Great Britain's interest in Egypt is a very old one. In 1801 British armies were co-operating with Turkey in expelling Napoleon's forces from the country. But Britain has never had the intention of annexing Egypt. British policy throughout her many years of association in Egypt has been steadily aimed at complete independence for Egypt. It was the spendthrift Khedive Ismail who finally brought the British into Egypt. He had borrowed money in France and in England, borrowing recklessly and spending prodigally; he had become involved in various ventures in the Sudan; he had taxed his subjects until they were in the most pitiable condition. At last in 1879 Britain and France intervened. They insisted upon the re-establishment of the constitution, which had been discarded by the Khedive; and they appointed a commission to control the country's finances. The commission was composed of one French and one British representative; the British member was Major Evelyn Baring, who later as Lord Cromer became the great Consul in Egypt.

Ismail, thoroughly frightened at the condition to which he had reduced his country and at the probable results which would befall him, accepted the Allied control. Later, however, when he found himself under capable guidance regaining his feet, he decided—or some Pashas persuaded him—that he could do without foreign interference and he took a high hand. To discipline him the Allies appealed to Turkey (Egypt being a Turkish tributary state) and the Porte immediately addressed a letter to Ismail, calling him "ex-Khedive" of Egypt, informing him that he was deposed and that his son, Tewfik, was now the ruler. Ismail accepted his deposition with good grace, not being strong enough to do otherwise.

But the foreign interference had important results; it stirred up in the breasts of the fellahs that feeling of nationalism which has at last borne fruit in the practical independence which has been granted to Egypt.

Ahmed Arabi was not a brilliant soldier nor an able organizer. But he was a fluent orator and a man of great personal magnetism. He rallied the Arab soldiers to his banner; he rose to a high place in the councils of the Khedive; he became virtually dictator to the country. On 11 June, 1882, his attempt to drive the foreigners out of Egypt was inaugurated by the massacre at Alexandria.

British and French warships assembled and "demonstrated" in the harbor of Alexandria, but when that had no effect the British proposed a bombardment of the forts. The French fleet, however, did not feel at liberty to take part in this measure and withdrew, whereupon the British warships carried it out alone.

This action, however, only stimulated the revolt and military intervention became necessary. The British Government asked both Italy and France to assist in this important undertaking but both refused. British troops were then landed under Sir Garnet Wolseley and on 13 September, 1882, the rebellion was crushed at Tell-el-Kebir, almost three months after it had first broken out.

The story is told that at Tell-el-Kebir the Arab forces fought with great courage and for some time the issue of the battle was in doubt. Then the warships took a hand and shelled the Arab lines. When the brave Arabs found shells falling upon them from heaven, and apparently from no human agency, they decided that Allah had turned his face away from them, and they broke and fled in dismay.

Had the Khedive been allowed a free hand the leaders of the rebellion would have been executed immediately. British intervention, however, caused him to spare their lives. Arabi was exiled for life. Many years later, however, he returned to Egypt and he might be seen strolling along the streets in Cairo, unrecognized save by the very few who knew the story of his former greatness and of his bid for power.

It was after the crushing of the rebellion that Lord Dufferin was sent to Egypt. He recommended the creation "within certain prudent limits, of representative institutions of municipal and communal self-government, and of a political existence untrammelled by external opportunity, though aided, indeed, as it must be for some time, by sympathetic advice and assistance."

The British Government concurred

in these suggestions and Sir Evelyn Baring was appointed Consul General to put them into effect. At a Cabinet meeting in 1884 Mr. Gladstone is reported to have remarked "We have done our Egyptian business, and we are an Egyptian Government."

Sir Evelyn held office until 1907 when he retired on account of ill-health. He had been created Baron in 1892, Viscount in 1890 and Earl Cromer in 1901. During his term of office Egypt entered into an era of financial prosperity. She gained some experience in the difficult art of self-government and her population grew from six and one-half millions in 1882 to eleven and one-quarter millions in 1907. Moreover numerous iniquitous customs and privileges of the Khedive and his Pashas had been abolished. Under British rule every fellah, no matter how lowly, was sure of his share of the precious Nile water, whereas in former years he received only what was left after the Pasha had liberally and wastefully irrigated his own land.

Cromer was followed by Sir Eldon Gorst and then by Kitchener, who carried on the traditions of British justice and furthered the policy that as soon as possible Egypt was to be independent.

When the Great War broke out Turkey espoused the cause of Germany. So did the Khedive of Egypt, Abbas Hilmi (grandson of the old Ismail), and he was deposed by Great Britain and the throne offered to Hussein Kamil the eldest living prince of the House of Mohammed Ali (founder of the dynasty). Kamil was a son of Ismail; he died in 1917 and was succeeded by Fuad, also a son of Ismail.

With the deposition of Abbas in 1914 the rank of the ruler of Egypt was enhanced to the title of Sultan and the country itself became a Protectorate of Great Britain.

Britain, however, never lost sight of the ultimate end of her policy, the freedom of Egypt, and last year Viscount Milner, Secretary of State for the Colonies was sent to Egypt to investigate the conditions in the Protectorate and to devise some form of greater self-government.

What Viscount Milner suggested is not exactly known, but it is known to be virtually independence and to have been accepted as such by the Nationalist leaders of Egypt.

The man who will have the difficult task of putting these ideas into practical force is Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G. His Majesty's High Commissioner for Egypt. Of massive stature, Viscount Allenby is known as "The Bull," because of his whirlwind way of doing things and of his manner of disposing of people who annoy him, particularly pipe-clay generals.

During the War Viscount Allenby served in France, where he led the 3rd Army. Returned soldiers tell stories of his lifting little Flemish children on to his giant shoulders that they might better enjoy the Christmas at his Corps Headquarters.

But while his service in France was of great value it was in Palestine that Allenby did his great work. On his arrival in Cairo he found General Headquarters comfortably installed in that city. "Well," he said, "I am going up to my men." And G. H. Q. was forthwith removed to the scene of operations in the desert.

The result of his campaigns are well known. He did that which the Crusaders failed to accomplish; he captured and held Jerusalem.

The man who would successfully govern an Eastern nation must have a touch of something not usually found in a Western soldier. Kitchener had it and his name became a byword through the East. That Allenby also possesses it is shown by his action when entering Jerusalem.

The ex-Kaiser of Germany had entered Jerusalem some years before. He was not a conqueror, but a visitor, yet he caused the walls to be breached that he and his train might enter in regal style. Viscount Allenby, the conqueror, dismounted at the gate of the city and entered on foot, an act which touched the imagination of all who live in the East.

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Conditions at
Witless Bay.

Editor Evening Telegram

Dear Sir,—Things here are looking bad with all our young and old men, who are able to go, cleared out. Fish is no good now, it takes 9½ qts. of West India fish to buy one barrel of flour. West India fish fetches from \$2 to \$4 per qt. and flour is sold at \$19.90 per barrel. Charges for other things are also high. None of the young men, who have left here are returning to go to the fishery next spring. The truck system has again come upon the fishermen, but they are not standing for it and are seeking to other countries where they will be paid cash for their labor. Sir, the conditions cannot be painted worse than they are, and if the St. John's people would only act, I believe the outports would fall in line with any lead they may take to remedy matters.

Yours truly,

WAKE UP.

Witless Bay, Nov. 8, 1920.

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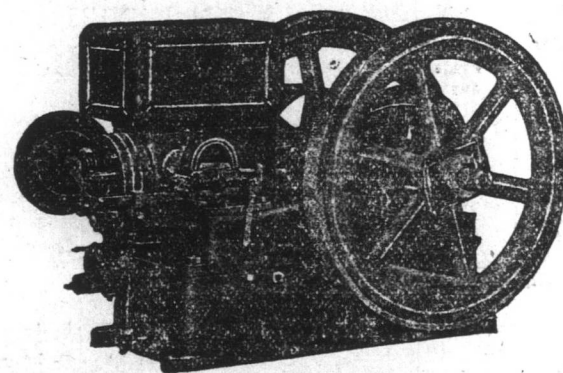
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