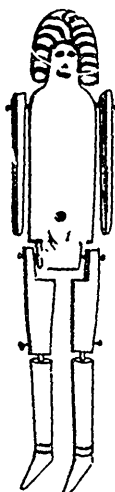


travel hundreds of miles up and down the Nile. A mission boat, the *Ibis*, is maintained by a Mahometan gentleman, who married a graduate of one of these schools. In Cairo alone the mission congregations embrace about four thousand regular hearers, and in Cairo and the Delta the church membership reaches about three thousand two hundred, an increase in 1890 of seventeen and a half per cent.

Under the enlightened administration of Sir Evelyn Baring, the twelve secular government schools, with two thousand pupils, of 1887, had increased, in three years, to forty-seven, with an attendance of over seven thousand. I visited several of these secular, and several of the mission schools, and was much pleased with the bright, intelligent faces and respectful demeanour of the scholars. They all rose, on my entry, and made a respectful salutation. The teachers seemed quite glad to have a visitor, and put their scholars through their paces in excellent style. They read in Arabic, and in many cases in English and French, the latter performance in a very measured style, as if there was a very big hyphen between the words. We found these schools as far up the Nile as Assouan, under the very Tropic of Cancer, and were impressed with the conviction that they were among the brightest auguries of the future of this land.



EGYPTIAN
JOINTED
DOLL.

It was with regret that we found that the time had come for our departure from this city of old renown and of such living interest. Our faithful Mahomet accompanied us to the railway station, and presented us with copious supplies of fruit and flowers, which we reciprocated with appropriate backsheesh. We caught our last glimpse of the slender minarets, on the citadel hill, and of the more remote pyramids, and set out on our journey across the fertile land of Goshen. Not far from the railway is the ruined site, still known as Tel-el-Yehudiyeh, "the Hill of the Jews." In this spot, Onia, the High Priest of the Jews, aided by Ptolemy Philometer, erected a temple for his countrymen, in fulfilment, as he alleged, of the prophecy in Isaiah, "In that day there shall be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord." Every vestige of this temple, which was built after the model of the temple of Solomon, was lost till 1871, when Brugsch found, under the rubbish massive structures of oriental alabaster, attributed to the Jewish architects.

The train approaches the fresh-water canal, probably constructed by the early Pharaohs, and certainly in existence fourteen cen-