EGYPT AND THE LEVANT

A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF BOOKS, MAPS, DRAWINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Gonzalo Fernández Pontes
Owen Jones rose to prominence with his studies of Islamic decoration at the Alhambra and the associated publication of his drawings which pioneered new standards in chromolithography. In 1832–4 set out on a Grand Tour to the Continent, travelling first to Italy and Greece (where he met the architect, Jules Goury) then continuing with Goury to Egypt and Turkey before arriving at Granada in southern Spain where they completed a detailed analysis of the Islamic decoration at the Alhambra Palace.

Keywords: Egypt, Nile, Cairo, Second Cataract, travels. Owen Jones (15 February 1809 – 19 April 1874); Jules Goury.
Keywords: Egypt, letterpress, travels. Henry Pilleau (British, 1813-1899).
SANDYS, George

A relation of a Journey begun An Dom. 1610, in foure booke: containing a description of the Turkish Empire, Aegypt, Holy Land and remote parts of Italy and Islands. London: Printed for W. Barrett, 1615.

Extremely rare first edition. Neither Blackmer, Atabey or Aboussuane collections had the first edition of this classical book. Frontispiece, double page map of the Mediterranean, folding view of Istanbul and 47 engravings on text representing city views. Original armorial English brown calf with an important provenance: Sir Christopher Hatton 1619 (at the British Library there are some bindings similar to this one). Spine restored. Corners bumped. Ex libris of the Constitutional Club Library. A good copy. Ref: Blackmer 1484. Atabey 1087, Hilmy II-210

George Sandys was an English traveler, poet, and foreign service career officer. Considered one of the first English tourists in the Levant. He set sail on 1609 and was travelling for over a year. He was also interested in the early promotion of the colonial position of England in the East that was basically a territory under French influence since the middle ages. Source: Encyclopaedia Britannica. George Sandys.
PUBLISHER'S EGYPTOLOGICAL BINDING

WILKINSON John Gardner


First edition of the First and Second Series, including the rare second series graphic supplement. Totally six volumes: First series: 3 volumes. (1837), Second series: 2 volumes. (1841) + 1 plate volume; some 600 woodcuts and many full-page lithographs, some coloured and some folding. Fine black cloth publisher’s binding gilt-tooled with Egyptian-style motifs. Very slight foxing in some pages. Ref: Blackmer 1803, Ibrahim Hilmy II,331.

John Gardner Wilkinson was educated at Harrow and Oxford, and was encouraged by the classicist Sir William Gell to devote his career to the study of Egyptian archaeology. Wilkinson arrived in Egypt in 1821 and spent the next 12 years studying Arabic and Coptic. He travelled extensively throughout Egypt and is thought to have visited and recorded more ancient sites than any other traveller of his time. A prolific writer, he was the author of several books, including Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians, originally published in 1837. He was knighted in 1839. Source: WALDRON GRUTZ, Jane. The Lost Portfolios of Robert Hay, Saudi Aramco World. Volume 54, Number 2March/April 2003.

Keywords: Egypt, manners, costume. Sir John Gardner Wilkinson (5 October 1797 – 29 October 1875).
Keywords: Egypt, letterpress, travels. Henry Pilleau (British, 1813-1899).
WATERCOLOURS, DRAWINGS

THREE ORIGINAL WATERCOLOURS OF PYRAMIDS, POMPEY PILLAR AND THE OBELISK OF HELIOPOLIS
WILLEY REVELEY

This three watercolours were originally in the collection of the Dukes of Aveiro (Madrid) and purchased to them in 2004. We have to thank to Mrs. Patricia Usick (Honorary archivist of the Dept of Ancient Egypt and Sudan, British Museum) for her assistance in the identification of these rare pieces.

Mrs. Usick’s article on Willey Reveley where she presented these watercolours as a new discovery was published in 2009 in the Astene bulletin(Association for the study of travel in Egypt and the Near East).

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Title: Pyramids
Artist/Maker: Reveley, Willey (1760–1799)
Category: Watercolour
Subject: Pyramid. Egypt
Style: British School / Orientalism
Date: ca.1785
Materials and Techniques: Ink and watercolour on paper
Dimensions: 745X360 mm.
Condition: Good
Notes: The drawings of the pyramids made by Willey Reveley from actual measurement that were in 1814 recorded at New College, Oxford, are now lost.
'La Arquitectura Antigua en Toledo.'

Los edificios de Egipto... fueron el arte egipcio con sus esfinges monolíticas y sus gigantescas pirámides y obeliscos..." (págs. 148-149)