A Catalogue of the Edward William Lane Collection in the Griffith Institute, Oxford

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Section 1 - Diaries

Lane MSS 1.1
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
It covers Lane’s preparations in England during June 1825 through his early days in Cairo in October 1825. It also contains some preliminary descriptions of Boulaq and Cairo that are not organized in journal fashion. Most of the pages of the volume are blank, but toward the back are some rough sketches.
Inside the cover: Edward Lane June 1825. No 1.

Lane MSS 1.2
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
It begins on 17 December 1825 when Lane went for a lengthy stay at the Pyramids and continues into his first voyage into Nubia as far as Wadi Halfa and then downstream to Philae. There are several pages of sketches toward the end.
Inside the front cover: 2

Lane MSS 1.3
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
It begins at Philae on 1 July 1826 and continues into his work at the Valley of the Kings on 1 September 1826.
Inside the front cover: 3

Lane MSS 1.4
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
The first portion of the volume is detailed notes, not arranged according to date, about sites covered in Lane MSS 1.2-3. Toward the end diary format is resumed, covering the dates 1 September through 10 October 1826.
On the cover: 1
[This and the following diaries, unlike the previous three, are all small and unbound. Lane numbered them consecutively, beginning with one.]

Lane MSS 1.5
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Topical notes at Thebes.
On the cover: 2
Lane MSS 1.6
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Topical notes at Thebes.
On the cover: 3

Lane MSS 1.7
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Topical notes at Thebes.
On the cover: 4

Lane MSS 1.8
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From his departure from Thebes on 11 October to on-site at Beni Hasan on 24 October 1826.
On the cover: 5

Lane MSS 1.9
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From Beni Hasan on 25 October to arrival at Cairo on 28 October.
On the cover: 6

Lane MSS 1.10
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Beginning with a trip to the Pyramids on 21 December 1826. Then again to the Pyramids on 31 April 1827 and on to Saqqara, ending with departure from Saqqara on 26 May 1827.
On the cover: 7 Pyrds of El Gee'zeh & Sack'ka'rah

Lane MSS 1.11
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828. Detailed notes on Lane’s work at Saqqara. Then commencement of his second voyage up the Nile on 23 June 1827 through arrival at Benisoueif on 25 June 1827.
On the cover: 8 Pyrds of Sack'ka'rah.

Lane MSS 1.12
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828. Detailed notes on the Fayyum during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 9 Feiyoo'm.

Lane MSS 1.13
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Begins at Birket Fayyum on 8 July 1827 and ends with arrival at Beni Suef on 11 July 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 10 Feiyoo’m.

Lane MSS 1.14
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From Beni Suef on 13 July 1827 to Tafa on 23 August 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 11 From Ben'ee Soowey'yf to Ta'feh, in Nubia.
Lane MSS 1.15
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From Tafa on 24 August through Kalabsha on the descent on 14 October 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 12 From Ta'feh to 2nd Cataracts & back to Kela'b'sheh.

Lane MSS 1.16
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From Kalabsha on 15 October 1827 to Thebes on 1 November 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 13 Kela'b'sheh to Thebes.

Lane MSS 1.17
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
At Thebes from 2 November 1827 through 2 December 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 14 Thebes.

Lane MSS 1.18
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
At Thebes on 3 December through 12 December 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 15 Thebes.

Lane MSS 1.19
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
From Thebes on 13 December 1827 to arrival at Cairo on 19 December 1827 during Lane’s second voyage up the Nile.
On the cover: 16 From Thebes to Cairo.

Lane MSS 1.20
Diary from Lane’s first trip to Egypt, 1825-1828.
Departure from Cairo on 20 March 1828 to arrival at London, 22 June 1828.
On the cover: 17 Lower Egypt.

Lane MSS 1.21
Journal of Lane’s second trip to Egypt, 25 October 1833 through 1 August 1835.

Lane MSS 1.22
From Lane’s second trip to Egypt: daily record of expenses in Egypt from 12 December 1834 until 22 August 1835.

Section 2 - Notebooks

Lane MSS 2.1
Identified on its title page as “Accounts and Memoranda Cairo. 1825”, it contains lists of expenses and miscellaneous information continuing at least into Lane’s second trip to Egypt, 1833-1835.
Lane MSS 2.2
Identified on its title page as “Notes relating to Egypt”, this manuscript is neatly written notes under various headings, the first being “Names of some of the principal places”. It should not be confused with Lane MSS 2.3, which Lane also entitled “Notes relating to Egypt”.

Lane MSS 2.3
Identified on its title page as “Notes relating to Egypt”, this manuscript is similar to Lane MSS 2.2 in content, and it has the same title. Its first section, however, is entitled “Hieroglyphics”. Also, most of its pages are blank, and unlike Lane MSS 2.2, which is soft-covered, this manuscript has a hard cover.

Lane MSS 2.4
Notes about Cairo, Arabic vocabulary, and Amarna.
On the cover: A

Lane MSS 2.5
Continues Arabic vocabulary and pronunciation. Some rough sketches after the text.
On the cover: B

Lane MSS 2.6
Notes on the principal mosques of Cairo, beginning with the Mosque of ‘Amr.

Lane MSS 2.7
Notes on the principal mosques of Cairo, beginning with the Mosque of El Mo-y'yed.

Lane MSS 2.8
Primarily a list of things to do in Cairo, as on the first page, which is headed, “Things to be purchased at Qa'hirah”.

Lane MSS 2.9
Miscellaneous notes and sketches pertinent to both modern and ancient Egypt. Opening line: A gallon-measure, made of tin, if such can be procured. Quinine for Hay.

Lane MSS 2.10
Identified inside the front cover as “Scrap-book”. Begins with an account of a trip to Heliopolis (El-Matariya) and moves on to more general notes. Most of the pages are blank with some sketches near the end.

Lane MSS 2.11
A notebook of maps, some of them sections of the Map of Egypt by W. M. Leake; others are Lane’s manuscript maps of sections of the river.

Section 3 - Sketches

Lane MSS 3.1
A packet of camera lucida cards.
Numbered 8 [not numbered by Lane].
Antiquities.
Lane MSS 3.2
A packet of camera lucida cards.
Numbered 9 [not numbered by Lane].
Modern musical instruments and musicians, pipes, household utensils, etc.

Lane MSS 3.3
A packet of camera lucida cards.
Numbered 10 [not numbered by Lane].
Views of Cairo, Alexandria, Upper Egypt, and Nubia.

Lane MSS 3.4
Camera lucida cards loose inside a hard binding.
Primarily Cairo streets, the slave market, details of houses, geometric designs, etc.

Lane MSS 3.5
Camera lucida cards loose inside a hard binding.
Primarily people, street scenes, processions, performances, camels, etc.

Lane MSS 3.6
Camera lucida cards loose inside a hard binding.
Women and jewellery.

Section 4 - Notebooks Relating to Modern Egyptians

Lane MSS 4.1
Notebook for Modern Egyptians.
Numbered by Lane on the cover: No. 1.
The first page is the “New Arrangement to be adopted”. The second page begins “Chapter XVI. Population of Egypt”. This notebook also contains “Chapter XVII. Religion and Laws” and “Chapter XVIII. Government”.
Softbound.

Lane MSS 4.2
Notebook for Modern Egyptians.
Numbered by Lane inside the front cover: Note book. N 1.
Begins with the heading “Superstitions”. Also contains “Government”, “Procession of the Kis’weh”, etc.
Hardbound.

Lane MSS 4.3
Notebook for Modern Egyptians.
Numbered by Lane on the front cover: 2 and as Vol. 2 on the first page of text. Begins “Chapter I. Of the Moos’lim Egyptians: Their Manners, Customs, &c.”
Softbound.
Lane MSS 4.4
Notebook for Modern Egyptians.
Numbered by Lane on the front cover as “4” and on the first page of text as “Vol 2”. It begins in mid-sentence with a continuation of “The Mooslim Egyptians”, but not where Lane MSS 4.3 breaks off. Then follows “Chapter II. Of the ‘Osma’nlees, or Turks”, “Chapter III. Of the Ckooobt, or Copts, & the Jews”, and “Chapter IV. Of the Moo’s’lim Dynasties in Egypt”. Softbound.

Lane MSS 4.5
Notebook for Modern Egyptians. Identified by Lane inside the front cover: “Note-book. No 2.” Begins with “See’ret Ez-Za'hir, or Es-See’reh ex-Za'hiree'yeh” followed by topical passages that were later incorporated into Modern Egyptians; for example, the introduction to the book begins on p. 24 [Lane’s pagination]. Hardbound.

Lane MSS 4.6
Notebook for Modern Egyptians. Identified by Lane inside the front cover as “Note-book no. 3.” It is a volume of insertions for the Modern Egyptians manuscript. Hardbound.

Section 5 - Correspondence

Lane MSS 5.1
Lane correspondence, letters 1-93, as numbered and catalogued by Warren R. Dawson.

Lane MSS 5.2
A manuscript catalogue to Lane correspondence entitled “Catalogue of Ninety Letters from the Correspondence of Edward William Lane Preserved in the Griffith Institute Oxford.” This was prepared by Warren R. Dawson, 20 January 1953.

Section 6 - Miscellaneous

Lane MSS 6.1
Manuscript draft of Lane’s “Description of Egypt”.

Lane MSS 6.2
Manuscript fair copy of Lane’s translation of the Arabian Nights, breaking off in the Third Night.

Lane MSS 6.3
Manuscript draft of the first portion of Lane’s Arabic-English Lexicon.

Lane MSS 6.4
Manuscript draft of an essay by Fulgence Fresnel, “A Memoir on the comparative advantages of Djawhary’s Sahah as a vade-mecum for the Arabic Scholar. By M. F. Fresnel”.

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Section 7 - Varia

Lane MSS. 7
Package containing some 150gms of *mey'ah mubarakah*, a substance used to ward off the evil eye. Consists of storax, coriander seed, fennel-seeds, wormwood, etc.

Updated February 4, 2014
[Previous versions: February 28, 1997; February 12 and 24, 2003 (with some corrections)]