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Aristocrats and Archaeologists: An Edwardian Journey on the Nile. By TOBY WILKINSON and JULIAN PLATT. Cairo: THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY in CAIRO PRESS. 2017. Pp. xv + 144, illus., maps. \$29.95. [Distributed by Oxford University Press]

In December of 1907 Spencer Compton Cavendish, the fifth Duke of Devonshire, and a small party of family and friends embarked on a Nile cruise that began at Bulaq, the port of Cairo, and reached as far south as the Rock of Abusir in the Sudan. This was in no way unusual at a time when Egypt had become the winter destination of choice of the affluent for relief from the chill of England and its attendant ills. What was different about this voyage was that the participants included the Duke's personal physician, one A. F. R. Platt, who happened to be an amateur Egyptologist. Platt had previously visited Egypt. His letters to his wife describing this cruise form the basis for this book.

The doctor's letters were called to the attention of Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson by Julian Platt, one of his descendants, but it was not the letters that caught his attention at first but rather the way in which they had been preserved. The box that contained them had been decorated with careful copies of tomb paintings and with two inscriptions in hieroglyphs (included as the end papers of the book). These were in the nature of a dated dedication to his daughter, "Year 13 month 8 day 30 under the Majesty of George, fifth of that name"; the names of the dedicatee and family, "the maiden Violet, her mother was the mistress of the house, Mable, her father the physician Ferdinand"; and even a curse on one who might harm the box. Wilkinson was immediately intrigued because the inscriptions were composed by a person with "near professional knowledge of hieroglyphic writing."

Dr. Platt's letters to his wife at home were a general account of the cruise, the daily routine aboard the steamer, the personalities involved, and the social niceties observed. He accompanied members of the group to sites but he also had time to return to excavations he had previously visited to witness the ongoing progress of the work. His letters give an informed picture of the archaeological activities in Egypt at the beginning of the century. He remarked on the clearance of the Temple of Dendera since his last visit and on the number of new tombs exposed in the Valley of the Kings. He was able to meet and sometimes be guided at various sites by most of the Egyptologists involved, a veritable list of the important scholars and archaeologists at work at the time, ranging from Flinders Petrie

to the young Alan Gardiner and the American George Reisner, whom Platt found "not highly polished." He described a chance encounter with Winston Churchill, who was returning downriver from Uganda. Churchill visited the Duke on board, accompanied by his secretary, Eddie Marsh (better known later for his literary and poetic activities). Churchill and Marsh entertained the travelers with photographs and descriptions of their experiences in the south.

Of particular note was the time Platt spent on the west bank at Luxor with Howard Carter. Carter had recently been dismissed from the Antiquities Service and was without an income. He was supporting himself with the sale of his watercolors of tomb paintings and reliefs. He invited Dr. Platt to lunch at what is still known as "Carter House" and Platt later managed to interest the Duke of Devonshire in buying a painting. Fourteen years later Carter would become the most famous Egyptologist in the world with the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.

To explain the context of Platt's letters, a map, a detailed itinerary of the voyage, and family trees of the participants are included. Wilkinson has provided an explanatory introduction to "Ferdy's tale" that addresses the circumstance of his interest in the letters, the modes of travel utilized by the well-to-do in Egypt in the Edwardian Period, the rigors of class division observed, and the archaeological scene in Egypt at the time. In the appropriate places there are text boxes with thumbnail biographies of archaeologists and other prominent individuals encountered. There is also a chapter on the future lives and careers of the passengers, a select bibliography, acknowledgements, photograph credits, and index.

This work, with letters and explanatory material, provides a thoughtful insight into the then vanishing tradition of the Nile cruise enjoyed by the English upper class at the turn of the century. The personal record of a turn of the century tour of Egypt, while not as detailed as many accounts of the time, brings a new sensibility to the experience. Dr. Platt was a knowledgeable observer and his observations are immediate and interesting because they describe a vanishing tradition as well as an unusually productive period in Egyptian archaeology.

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Wilhelm II.: Archäologie und Politik um 1900. Edited by THORSTEN BEIGEL and SABINE MANGOLD-WILL. Stuttgart: FRANZ STEINER VERLAG, 2017. Pp. 140, illus. €39 (paper).

Like many upper-class Germans educated in the late nineteenth century, Kaiser Wilhelm of the German

Empire was deeply interested in the history and culture of ancient Greece, but unlike most of them he was in a position to contribute directly to the recovery of the remains of Hellas through patronage of archaeological projects, in particular of excavations on the island of Corfu. Furthermore, his engagement extended to the lands of the ancient Near East, then part of the Ottoman Empire, where he helped support German expeditions from his privy purse. Indeed, his particularly warm relationship with Sultan Abdul Hamid was instrumental in securing concessions to excavate at Assur and Babylon, among many other sites, for the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft (see p. 18 here for a full list).

Such engagement in antiquarian research on the part of a head of state, scarcely imaginable to an American today, was the subject of a conference held at the Bergische Universität Wuppertal in July 2012. This volume presents eight essays (all but one in German) written in connection with this gathering—by Suzanne Marchand, Matthias Steinbach, Dieter Vieweger, Julia Serr, and Marcel Serr, Sabine Mangold-Will, Lars Petersen, Thorsten Beigel, and Christoph Johannes Franzen.

In their introduction, the editors point out that Wilhelm's interest in Greece and Western Asia was part of a "lebenslanges politisches Legitimationsprogramm" (p. 12) intended to buttress his own claims to rule. In his own dilettantish efforts at scholarship, chiefly delivered as lectures to former courtiers attending his informal "Doerner Arbeits-Gemeinschaft" during his exile in Holland, but also as published in *Das Königtum im Alten Mesopotamien* (Berlin, 1938), Wilhelm sought to demonstrate that he was heir to a monarchical culture that arose in the Near East, spread to Hellenistic Greece, and was ultimately adopted in central Europe. He even draws a rather vague comparison between Hammurapi of Babylon and his own ancestor Friedrich Wilhelm I (*Das Königtum*, p. 27).

Other topics treated in this book include the monarch's 1898 state visit to Ottoman lands, during which he gave his well-known speech in Damascus proclaiming himself to be the protector of the world's Muslims; his quixotic decision to send a German expedition to uncover Baalbek; and his general relations with the intelligentsia of his realm, both before and after his abdication in November 1918.

Wilhelm II.: Archäologie und Politik um 1900 will be of interest not only to students of the intellectual history and diplomacy of "the long nineteenth century" CE but also to Assyriologists curious about how Germans came to play such a prominent role in the early history of our field.

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Carl Friedrich Lehmann-Haupt: Ein Forscherleben zwischen Orient und Okzident. Edited by SEBASTIAN FINK; KLAUS EISTERER; ROBERT ROLLINGER; and DIRK RUPNOW. *Classica et Orientalia*, vol. 11. Wiesbaden: HARRASSOWITZ VERLAG, 2015. Pp. vi + 217, illus. €48.

At the time of his death in 1938 nothing suggested that C. F. Lehmann-Haupt's scholarly reputation would generate a fascinating memorial volume decades later. In his specialty, he had given up on finishing a lavish corpus of Urartian inscriptions, his interpretations of the grammar and content of texts in that obscure language challenged at the most fundamental level by a younger generation of scholars. His favorite student and erstwhile heir apparent to his academic post at Innsbruck, Fritz Schachermayer, turned his back on him. *Klio*, the journal Lehmann-Haupt founded in 1901 and edited for decades, did not even honor him with a formal obituary, presumably because of his putative non-Aryan status in post-Anschluss Austria. Yet this book, created from a series of lectures given at the University of Innsbruck in 2013, has far more to offer than updates on the fields in which he worked. The editors are to be praised for producing a book that goes well beyond the reputation of one particular scholar to embrace a whole era of formidable German scholarship and intellectual turmoil.

Carl Friedrich Lehmann, a near contemporary of Sigmund Freud, was born in Hamburg in 1861 and died in his summer home near Innsbruck in July 1938. In 1905 he added the surname of his wife, Therese Haupt (and only coincidentally that of his erstwhile teacher in Assyriology, Paul Haupt), to his own. Initially trained for the law, Lehmann was probably drawn to ancient history and Assyriology by the dynamism of that field in the 1880s and particularly by intellectual giants such as Theodore Mommsen. He studied for a year at Johns Hopkins and completed his dissertation in Berlin, where he also habilitated and held junior academic posts.

Lehmann-Haupt's first full professorial appointment was in Liverpool, which he left after only one year to return to Germany at the outbreak of World War I. For most of the war he held a professorship in Istanbul, but shortly before the end of the hostilities took up his final post in Innsbruck. Officially retired in 1932, he remained in Austria to greet the Anschluss, apparently with enthusiasm, despite the threat it posed to him on account of his partially Jewish ancestry.

Lehmann-Haupt's most enduring legacy is in his pioneering work in Urartian Studies, which were very much in their infancy when he took them up. In 1892 he began collaboration with Waldemar Belck, a chemist who became interested in Urartian inscriptions while working for Siemens AG in the Caucasus. Lehmann provided the cuneiform expertise Belck lacked, and the two traveled together in a remarkably productive