

**OSMAN AND  
EMINEH; AN  
ORIENTAL STORY**

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Osman and Emineh; An Oriental Story by Ella Sharpe Youngs

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**ELLA SHARPE YOUNGS**

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OSMAN AND EMINEH

# OSMAN AND EMINEH

*AN ORIENTAL STORY*

ETC.

BY

ELLA SHARPE YOUNGS



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1879

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TO

R. B. YATES, ESQ. (SEN.)

IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF HIS MANY DEEDS

OF FRIENDSHIP TO HER DEARLY LOVED

AND MUCH LAMENTED FATHER

THIS POEM

Is Affectionately Inscribed

BY

THE AUTHOR

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# OSMAN AND EMINEH:

AN ORIENTAL STORY.

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## *INTRODUCTION.*

THE following is founded on that fact of Egyptian history, the enterprise of Mehemet Ali against the Wahabees.

'This powerful sect was founded by Sheikh Abd-el-Waham in the middle of the last century, and was to Mahometanism very much what Puritanism was to the English Church. It also called the sword to the assistance of its faith, and took possession of the holy cities of Mecca and Medina in 1810. Encouraged by their successes, these Puritans of the desert next turned their power to practical and profitable purposes, "sequestering" with impartial zeal the caravans of pious

pilgrims and mammon merchants until they had acquired immense wealth and rendered themselves independent masters of the Hejaz.'

To enhance the interest of the poem the writer has sent Mehemet Ali himself against the Wahabees, whereas the campaign was entrusted to Ibraheem Pasha, his adopted son.

It must also be remembered that the slaughter of the Mamelukes took place in 1811, when they were massacred almost to a man; the writer assigns it a later date in order to be able to introduce this line of warriors in the piece.

Derey'ceyah, in Nejed (the Highlands of Arabia), and head-quarters of the Ebn-Sa'ood line (the rulers of the Wahabee dynasty), was bombarded, and 'Abd-Allah, the representative of the line, taken prisoner and sent to Constantinople, where he was put to death on his arrival.

To avoid constantly referring to the works from which some of the notes have been taken it may be as well to name them here—Palgrave's most interesting and instructive work on Arabia, and Warburton's '*Crescent and Cross.*'

## OSMAN AND EMINEH.

### I.

THERE is a sound of revelry and mirth  
In El-Kehirch's marble halls, and flow'rs  
Are blushing in that loveliness which earth  
May sometimes win e'en from its fallen bow'rs ;  
The moon her vestal light in many a smile  
Bends o'er the flowing music of the Nile,  
And festive lamps (whose radiancy is hung  
Above its waves, the palace groves among)  
Flash meteor glances where it wanders past  
Like some fair fleeting dream that may not last :  
For Meh'met Ali—he whose deeds of fame  
And blood, alike the fiercest recreants tame,  
Who wins his followers with a glance or word  
And binds their restless spirits by his sword—  
He 'tis who pledges, while the hour is bright,  
Alike his friends and secret foes to-night.