# A QUESTION: THE IDYL OF A PICTURE BY HIS FRIEND ALMA TADEMA

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A Question: The Idyl of a Picture by His Friend Alma Tadema by Georg Ebers  $\&\:$  Mary  $\:$  J. Safford

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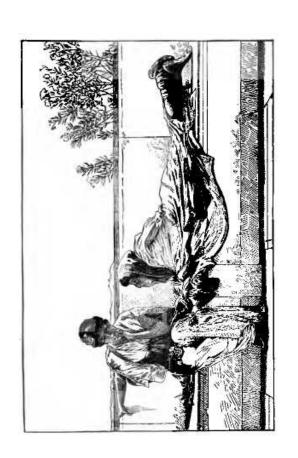
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#### **GEORG EBERS & MARY J. SAFFORD**

# A QUESTION: THE IDYL OF A PICTURE BY HIS FRIEND ALMA TADEMA





### A QUESTION

THE IDYL OF A PICTURE BY HIS FRIEND ALMA TADEMA

RELATED BY
GEORG EBERS

FROM THE GERMAN
BY MARY J. SAFFORD

NEW YORK
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY
1893

### \_ 28745\_



By WILLIAM S. GOTTSBERGER.

Authorized Edition.

# TO FRAU FANNY PURICELLI IN TOKEN OF AN OLD AND CHANGELESS FRIENDSHIP

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#### PRELUDE

In the Art-Palace on green Isar's strand, Before one picture long I kept my seat, It held me spellbound by some magic band, Nor when my home I sought, could I forget.

A year elapsed, came winter's frost and snow,
"I'was rarely now we saw the bright sun shine,
I plucked up courage and cried: "Be it so!"
Then southward wandered with those I call mine.

Like birds of passage built we there a nest On a palm-shaded shore, all steeped in light, Life was a holiday, enjoyed with zest And grateful hearts, the while it winged its flight.

Oft on the sea's wide purplish-blue expanse, With ever new delight I fixed my eyes, Alma Tadema's picture, at each glance Recalled to mind, a thousand times would rise.

Once a day dawned, glad as a bride's fair face, Perfume, and light, and joy it did enfold, Then—without search, flitted from out of space Words for the tale that my friend's picture told. B)

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