

THE VOYAGE OF ITHOBAL

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The voyage of Ithobal by Sir Edwin Arnold

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SIR EDWIN ARNOLD

**THE VOYAGE
OF ITHOBAL**

The Voyage of Ithobal

BY

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD

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TORONTO

WILLIAM BRIGGS

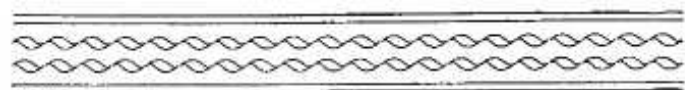
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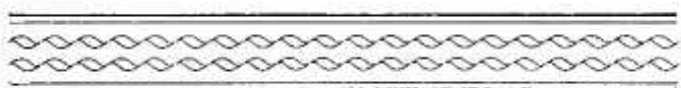
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This Volume
IS DEDICATED TO HIS FRIEND
MAJOR JAMES B. POND
BY THE ATTACHED AND GRATEFUL
AUTHOR



. . . Libya shows itself to be surrounded by water, except so much of it as borders upon Asia. Neco, king of Egypt, was the first we know of, that proved this: he, when he had ceased digging the canal leading from the Nile to the Arabian Gulf, sent certain Phœnicians in ships, with orders to sail back through the Pillars of Hercules, into the Northern Sea, and so return to Egypt. The Phœnicians accordingly, setting out from the Red Sea, navigated the Southern Sea; when autumn came, they went ashore and sowed the land, by whatever part of Libya they happened to be sailing, and waited for the harvest; and having reaped the corn, they put to sea again. When two years had thus passed, in the third, having doubled the Pillars of Hercules, they arrived in Egypt, and related what to me does not seem credible, but may to others, that as they sailed round Libya, they had the sun on their right hand. Thus was Libya first known.—HERODOTUS: *Melpomene*, 42.



ILLUSTRATIONS

ITHOBAL *Frontispiece*

But Nesta bent upon me those dark eyes,
Deep as the sea, and spake, "This is for thee,
Ithobal, son of Magon, lord and lover,
The gods do bring thy heart and wish in one.
Rise and make parley with these men of Nile;
It is thy work, and I shall help thy work;
Thou art the man they seek." And while she spake
The silver dove of Ishtar fluttered in,

THE FIRST DAY

ITHOBAL BEFORE PHARAOH FACING
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Satisfied, resolute, stained by the Sun,
Telletth to Pharaoh what things he hath done;

THE SECOND DAY

THE SHIPS 53

Then, mighty Pharaoh! thou didst answer me,
"Build me those ships on these my waters here;
Build at what cost thou wilt to make them stout,"

THE THIRD DAY

THE FOREST 83

Bold in the sunshine. There four-handed folk,
Monkey, and ape, and marmoset, long-tailed,
Fur-bonneted, black-maned, with mocking eyes,

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THE FOURTH DAY

FACING
PAGE

THE VISION 115

I fell to slumber in that cavern, King!
And had strange visions. In my sleep I saw
A Queen of stately stature, dark of hue:
Dark, but most comely: oh! a form and face
Exceeding beautiful;

THE FIFTH DAY

THE BATTLE AND DELIVERY 145

Our foemen hear and fly. First of the host
A youth chieftain, clad in pelt of pard,
Whose mounture is a striped horse of the wilds
Caparisoned in gold, rides nobly forth.

THE SIXTH DAY

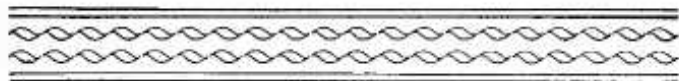
NESTA BY THE CAMP-FIRES 175

The watch-fires gleaming back from the green eyes
That showed and shone and vanished, Nesta raised
Her eyelids from what seemed a dream, and asked:—
"Know'st thou, my Master! what the lions say?"

THE SEVENTH DAY

VICTORY 205

No more unknown. Ithobal's ships have sailed
Around all Africa. Our task is done!



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