

**A HISTORY OF  
EGYPT, VOL. V.  
UNDER ROMAN RULE**

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A History of Egypt, Vol. V. Under Roman Rule by J. Grafton Milne & Roman Rule

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A HISTORY OF EGYPT

Vol. V.

ROMAN RULE

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HISTORY OF EGYPT

UNDER ROMAN RULE

BY

J. GRAFTON MILNE, M.A.

SOMETIME SCHOLAR OF C.C.C., OXFORD

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

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## PREFACE

It may seem somewhat premature to issue a History of Roman Egypt, when there are masses of papyri, belonging to the period under consideration, waiting for publication in half a dozen different museums. But the additions to our knowledge made by the documents already published are so considerable, that it will be of service to students to have them briefly summarised.

It must be recognised that the story of Egypt during the centuries of Roman rule is not, and probably never will be, anything like a connected narrative. From time to time a chance notice by some writer throws a momentary light on the state of the country; but, for the most part, events in Egypt were too monotonously uninteresting for the historians of the Roman Empire to pay any attention to them. Egypt supplied corn, not men, to Rome.

There is one point on which I should like to forestall criticism. In the spelling of proper names and titles, I have found it impossible to be consistent when dealing with the mixture of Egyptian, Greek, and Latin which prevailed during the period. And so I have used whatever form was most familiar to me, as it seemed better even to write the Latinized "drachmæ" beside the Greek "arourai," than to fall into the pedantry of such a style as "Thebai"; the more so,

when it is necessary to deal with such compound names as Ælius Eudæmon or Aurelius Didymus.

I have to thank Professor Petrie for continual help and advice throughout the time that I have been preparing this book, both in Egypt and in England. Mr. F. G. Kenyon and Mr. B. P. Grenfell have most kindly put at my disposal the proof-sheets of their publications of papyri, and the latter has also made a number of valuable suggestions; while Mr. F. Ll. Griffith has given me information on various points connected with Egyptian religion. I have tried to acknowledge in the references all facts and ideas which I have drawn from other writers, but I feel that I owe a special debt to Professor Mommsen and Professor J. B. Bury in a wider sense than can be stated there. And I must also thank Mr. D. S. Crichton for much careful work in preparing the index; and my wife, for constant clerical assistance.

LONDON, *13th September 1898.*

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