

**A SHORT MEMOIR OF
MOHAMMED ALI,
FOUNDER OF THE
VICE-ROYALTY OF EGYPT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649366675

A Short Memoir of Mohammed Ali, Founder of the Vice-royalty of Egypt by Sir Charles Augustus Murray

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

SIR CHARLES AUGUSTUS MURRAY

**A SHORT MEMOIR OF
MOHAMMED ALI,
FOUNDER OF THE
VICE-ROYALTY OF EGYPT**



The Hon. Sir Charles Augustus Murray, K.C.B.
From the painting by Miss Mullock, Esq.

A SHORT
MEMOIR
OF
MOHAMMED ALI

FOUNDER OF THE VICE-ROYALTY OF EGYPT

BY THE
HON. SIR CHARLES AUGUSTUS MURRAY,
K.C.B.

whilst H.M. Consul-General in Egypt, 1846-53

EDITED BY THE
RIGHT HON. SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, BART., M.P.

WITH A PORTRAIT OF THE AUTHOR

LONDON
BERNARD QUARITCH

1898

Ta



THE HOOVER LIBRARY

DT. 21
M 981

229300

LONDON
G. NORMAN AND SON, PRINTERS, ADELPHI STREET
COVENT GARDEN

1907

1907

INTRODUCTION

AMONG the papers placed at disposal of the editor when he was writing a biography of the late Hon. Sir Charles Murray, there was a memoir of Mohammed Ali, written by Sir Charles, and apparently intended for publication. Some extracts from this memoir given in the biography attracted the attention of persons in Egypt who are interested in the recent development of that country, and a desire was expressed that all that Sir Charles had written about Mohammed Ali should be published. Lady Murray having kindly given her consent, the memoir is given here exactly as Sir Charles left it, with the exception of two sentences which altered circumstances rendered it desirable to omit, and a few trifling alterations of construction, such as every writer has to make when his composition appears before him in print.

Of Sir Charles Murray himself, and of his connection with Egypt, a few words may not be out of place.

The second son of the fifth Earl of Dunmore, he was born on November 22nd, 1806, was educated at Eton and Oxford, took his B.A. degree at the

age of twenty-one, and shortly afterwards was elected to a Fellowship of All Souls. After some years of travel on the Continent and in North America he was appointed Groom-in-waiting at the Court of Queen Victoria, and a few months later, in 1838, became Master of the Household. He was the author of several works, and mixed much with literary men, being a frequent guest at Samuel Rogers's famous breakfasts, where Macaulay and Sydney Smith used to meet in wordy tournament.

In 1844 Mr. Murray became Secretary of Legation at Naples, and in 1846 received the appointment of Consul-General in Egypt, while Mohammed Ali was still Viceroy. The impression made on Mr. Murray by the abilities and work of that ruler, and the high opinion he formed of the general advantage of his policy, caused him to write down his impressions at the time, and they retain peculiar value to this day, owing to the author's deep insight into Oriental character, and his profound study of Oriental languages and history.

Among Mr. Murray's notes the following sombre narrative occurs, showing that Mohammed Ali's methods of government were not entirely in harmony with approved modern system.

"On the evening of February 7th, 1852, I had a long conversation with Abbas Pasha, on the history of his family, and gleaned a great many curious facts illustrative of Turkish character and

manners. His Highness spoke entirely without reserve, and mentioned as an undisputed fact that his own father, Toussoun Pasha, had been poisoned by Mohammed Ali. I said I had heard the story before, but never gave credit to it, as I had always understood that Toussoun was Mohammed Ali's favourite son.

“ ‘He was so,’ replied the Viceroy, ‘for a long time, but at last M. Ali grew jealous of my father’s popularity with the army, and considered his own safety thereby endangered, wherefore he ordered him to be poisoned. Toussoun one evening gave a banquet to a large company, at which, having drunk freely, dancing girls were introduced, and during their performance Toussoun drank two glasses of brandy or liqueur, into which the poison had been inserted. He complained soon after of head-ache, went to bed and was dead in six hours.’

“ I asked his Highness if he had ever heard of any proofs tracing this tragedy to the orders of Mohammed Ali.

“ ‘Yes,’ said he, ‘I can tell you one very conclusive proof. The news of his death was conveyed by a swift courier to Cairo and was first communicated to M. Ali’s chief officer, who being ignorant of his master’s intention, and afraid of the effect which might be produced upon him by the sudden announcement of the death of his favourite son, proceeded to break

the intelligence to him cautiously, and entering the Viceroy's room, said,

“‘Sir, news has arrived of Toussoun Pasha.’

“ M. Ali starting, replied, ‘When, how did he die?’ and proceeded to feign the most extravagant grief.

“‘How,’ continued Abbas, ‘could he have known from the words of the officer that his son, who was a young man in perfect health, had died unless he had himself decreed it?’

“ I confessed that the confirmation was strong, and dropped the subject.

“ Finding his Highness in a communicative mood, I asked him to enlighten me on the oft disputed question, whether Ibrahim had really been Mohammed Ali's son.

“‘ You know,’ replied he, ‘that Ibrahim was never a friend of mine. Mohammed Ali always made us hate each other, and he wished to take my life, but I will not tell an untruth regarding his parentage. The story generally received, as to his mother having been a widow, with child by a former husband at the time of her marriage with Mohammed Ali, is a mere fabrication. I know all the circumstances from a very old woman who was about the harem during my childhood, and who, having been nurse to my father was very fond of me. She told me that M. Ali had named his wife a virgin, and that her first child by him was a *daughter*, who died