

A NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION

I have tried to use a system of transliteration that would provide some ease to the reader who has no familiarity with the Arabic language. When transliterating words and phrases from Egyptian spoken Arabic, I have retained the language in its original form. As for words familiar to a foreign reader, I have used spellings that are more familiar rather than those that are technically correct. Otherwise, I have deleted the initial hamza, notation of long vowels, and diacritics in the hope that the speaker of Arabic will already recognize the words under discussion and that the non-Arabic speaker will be able to read with less puzzlement. At the time of this fieldwork, the value of the Egyptian pound was approximately 3.3 LE for one U.S. dollar.

