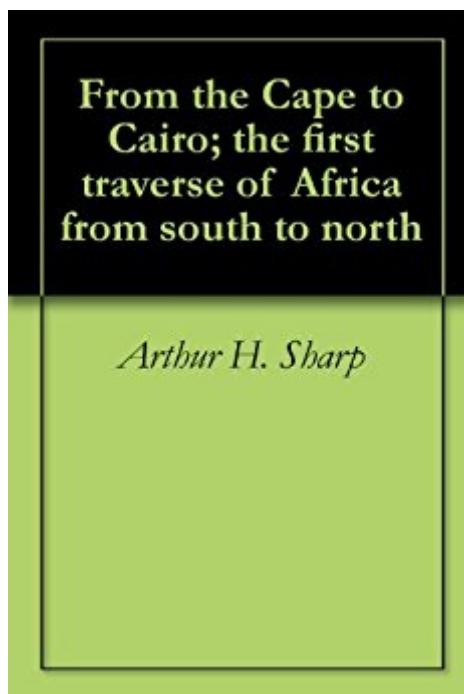


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From The Cape To Cairo; The First Traverse Of Africa From South To North



Synopsis

From the Cape to Cairo; the first traverse of Africa from south to north. 424 Pages.

Book Information

File Size: 3397 KB

Print Length: 416 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: March 8, 2014

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Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,674,005 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #50
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Customer Reviews

Just about to begin...book, pictures all seem good...looking forward to the story; however, even with 20/20 vision, text on numerous pages is "washed out" as well as maps at the end. An enjoyable adventure needs good maps (for myself) if not, I have to run over to the E. Britannica or In-ternet to figure out where exactly the story and individuals are. Possibly my rating would have been different at stories conclusion, but to begin, 3 stars.

So glad to find this book on ! My order came in great shape, quickly, and was exactly what I ordered. The book itself is a challenge to read as it is written in 1898 English verbage, long sentences and round about. The subject is fascinating though! The author has a way of twisting events in a wry sort of humor even simple things like running away from a charging lion. I am unimpressed with the unnecessary killing of animals for sport he reports about, but at the time that is what they did. I am hoping as they get further into Africa that they will stop doing that except for

food. I attended a book reading by another author recently about this book so I sort of know how the story goes. One less star for the killing of the lions and the wordy language, but an interesting read.

An affordable print on demand of the classic 1900 edition by Ewart S. Grogan. Reproductions of photographs are too dark and the two maps from the original edition are missing, otherwise a good volume of an adventurous journey by foot from the Cape of Good Hope to Cairo by two young men, Grogan and Sharp. Grogan wanted to impress his would be father in law by doing this. His book became a best seller in 1900 and several reprints were published ever since. Yet, the original 1900 edition is still sought after by collectors worldwide, costing as much as \$1000.

A thousand dollars collector's item in hard copy, but if you can stand the dark pictures and maps and the overly florid language and the heedless killing of animals, you can save \$999 and enjoy this young man's efforts to win his sweetheart. Grogan was the first to travel on foot from Capetown to Cairo, or at least the first Englishman to do so. He had been expelled from Winchester College and Cambridge, although he did finish art school. He fell in love with Gertrude Watt, the sister of a Cambridge classmate, but her stepfather disapproved of the match; Grogan was from a respectable family, but those expulsions hurt. For some reason, Gertrude's stepfather thought the journey entitled Grogan to Gertrude's hand in marriage. Gertrude apparently concurred; she went along with the marriage but didn't go along on the journey. Grogan was very much a racist by today's standards. "A good sound system of compulsory labour would do more to raise the [African] in five years than all the millions that have been sunk in missionary efforts for the last fifty." In 1908, he and four friends flogged two of his so-called rickshaw boys so viciously for so long that one died, while the other was hospitalized for three months. Grogan was initially charged with murder, but ended up being convicted of "common assault" and served two months hard labor. He spent most of the remainder of his life in Kenya, and died at 92. In 2007, an American writer Julian Smith retraced Grogan's route from South Africa to southern Sudan, and wrote about it in the book *À Crossing the Heart of Africa: An Odyssey of Love and Adventure* (2010). A much better book, frankly, American jingoism aside. Still, Grogan's account of the original journey has its charms. Robert C. Ross February, 2015

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