

accurate a picture of early Christian worship as can anywhere be found. Some of them still have convents adjoining, and are surrounded by thick walls like a fortress, telling tales of old persecution about the days of the fifth century, when the Bible was translated into the Coptic tongue.

Besides some of the usually visited churches in old Cairo, a Copt should be engaged to take the visitor to the Church of the Virgin, near the Mouski, where may be seen the original type of the Coptic basilica, with a *baldacchino* supported by four columns and semicircular stone seats arranged round the apse, and indeed much else of interest.

The modern Coptic cathedral is only worth visiting to see the service, such as on Easter Eve or Easter Day; but it must be remembered that their festivals sometimes take place according to our calendar, and sometimes by the Old Style, twelve days later.

A riding or driving excursion will of course be made to the necropolis of Kait Bey, and to the so-called tombs of the Memlooks.

The palaces of Shoobra, Ghezireh, and Ghizeh are all worth visiting if a permit can be obtained, because they have lovely gardens, and remind one of the former glories of late Khedives. It is to the last of these three that the Boulak Museum is now being transferred.