

Festivals.—There are several old Egyptian and Coptic holidays which have the advantage of being on fixed dates, and can therefore be easily seen by reference to guide-books. But the purely Mussulman functions take place according to the Mohammedan calendar, the year of which is $11\frac{1}{4}$ days less than our own. The following dates are an approximate guess at the principal feasts; but it must be remembered that the actual date is often changed either as a matter of convenience, or to cause the chief holiday to fall upon the eve of Friday—

		1890.	1891.
Moolid of Rifáee	about	Feb. 6	Jan. 29
Moolid of Seyyideh Zeynab	„	March 5	Feb. 25
Night of the Ascension	„	March 16	March 5
Night of Half Shaaban	„	April 3	March 23
Ramadan begins	„	April 19	April 8
Night of Power	„	May 14	May 3
Little Bairam	„	May 19	May 8
Procession of Kisweh	„	May 25	May 14
Start of the Mahmal	„	June 10	May 30
Bairam feast	„	June 26	June 15
Martyrdom of Hussein	„	Aug. 25	Aug. 14
Return of the Mahmal	„	Sept. 20	Sept. 9
Birthday of Mahomed	„	Sept. 25-Oct. 2	Sept. 19-26
Birthday of Hassan and Hussein	„	Dec. 9	Dec. 3