

ANCIENT EGYPT

Long ago on a fertile plain
Three thousand years before Jesus came
On the banks of the Nile where the great floods rage
King Menes began his rule.

Two great kingdoms were joined by his force
Upper Egypt in the South; Lower Egypt in the North
With the desert for protection Egypt's power grew
Three great ages Ancient Egypt knew
First the Old Kingdom; then the Middle; then the New
For three thousand years she grew.

The Pharaoh was king. He was the God who ruled
With the help of the Priests and the educated few
And the rest all obeyed his golden rule
The scribes and the goldsmiths and the masons too.
The workers in the field and the quarry-men knew
They were slaves to the Pharaoh's rule.

We mined limestone and granite for the Pyramids
No greater architects have ever lived
And none are ever likely to.
Without much wood we built with stone and sun dried brick
To build our temples, towns and obelisks
To build the monuments in Memphis; Aswan; Saqqara and Thebes
(To name a few).

Long ago on a fertile plain
Down along the Nile where the Pyramids lay
Amen-Ra - Brightest of all stars
Shone upon Egyptian tombs.

We were more than simple savages
We knew the stars and mathematics well
We dug the Suez Canal for Red Sea passages
Of Egyptian ships in search of southern wealth.

Ebony and Ivory; Myrrh and Gold and incense trees
Cinnamon; Leopard skin; eye-paint and beads
Brought back from Punt and along the Red Sea
All these things to the Valley of the Kings
To adorn our Egyptian tombs.

When our great ones die we have them mummified
Put into Sarcophagi
Buried with the wealth they had.
With some food and drink laid by their side
They meet Osiris in the after life
With the 'Book of the Dead' their only aid
Their only help and guide.

Long ago, far away
On the west side of the Nile where the Pyramids lay
Amen-Ra - Brightest of all stars
Shone upon Egyptian tombs.

Two hundred kings in thirty-one dynasties
Three thousand years of Egyptian rule
From Nubia to the great Euphrates.
I am Egypt. Africa's brightest jewel.

Long ago, far away
On the west side of the Nile where sixty Pyramids lay
Long ago on a fertile plain
Down along the Nile where the Papyrus sways
I scribed in Hieroglyphics on a scroll to you
Isis and Osiris both assure me it's true
Amen-Ra - Brightest of all stars
Still shines upon Egyptian tombs.