

inconceivable place, which gives a general impression of everything having been thrown at the figure, and stuck there by some magnetic power.

The Hon. Lewis Wingfield, *Under the Palms in Algeria and Tunis*, 1868, vol. II, pp. 42-6

I now suggested that the dancing should begin, and our Semitic M.C. hurried the ladies on by shouting *Hati jemalsin*, 'Bring a couple of camels'; for under this choice metaphor the fair sex is always addressed on such occasions. Presently 'the camel' appeared, and commenced what Burckhardt has described as 'graceful and delicate motions', but which reminded me forcibly of a top-heavy hollyhock, the dancer remaining on one spot, and merely swaying herself to and fro in a ridiculous and awkward manner.

E. H. Palmer, *The Desert of the Exodus*, 1871, vol. I, pp. 186-7

Some of the principal inhabitants were present to meet us, and the entertainment of the evening consisted of coffee and pipes, with minstrels and dancing girls. The performances of the latter were more curious than edifying, and to see them once is sufficient.

Sir W. G. Armstrong, *A Visit to Egypt in 1872*, 1874, p. 141

Some gipsy men now entered, and, squatting down on the carpet, began to tune their lutes. One of their party carried a fearful instrument. It was rather like the bagpipes. He at once commenced a wild and discordant blast. The musicians were followed by the dancers.

The chief of the gipsy women was provided with a tambourine. She was attired in a blue jacket, underneath this was a purple waistcoat, slashed with gold embroidery, a pair of very loose, yellow trousers covered her extremities. Massive gold earrings had stretched the lobes of her ears, they reached nearly to her shoulders, and by way of making herself thoroughly beautiful, and doing fit honour to the occasion, she had stained her teeth and finger-nails with some red dye. Her eyebrows had been made to meet by a line drawn with a piece of charcoal. Gold spangles were fastened to her black locks. Massive brass rings encircled her ankles, the metal jingling as she waddled around the room.

The two girls who accompanied her were in similar costumes, but