

A Few Remarks

made to a Class in Ancient History from
the Laguerre Seminary, before the Case
of Egyptian mummies in the Public Library.

In introducing you to the
Mummy before us, I must first
inform you that it is a Lady and
I can hear your natural question,
"How old is she?" Now I have been
fairly intimate with her for some
time past and have never presumed
to ask that question — for, it is
said, Ladies are reticent to give
their ages. But as a few centuries,
more or less, make little difference
in the long run, I will gently
whisper to you that she lived for
perhaps five hundred years before
the Christian Era, and was probably
a much sought after Belle in the
Beautiful Fayum, where in a tomb

her body was placed by loving hands.

We cannot stop in sentiment over the rifling of that Tomb or even the further desecration of bearing her body away from the oldest to the newest quarter of the globe. She now lies before us to teach us such lessons as we can gather.

The ancient Egyptians in several thousand years before Christ believed in the immortality of the Soul and the resurrection of the body. For this reason the latter was embalmed in preservation. It was visited by the Soul and we may think of the Soul finding its way to this distant land, to still watch over the precious body before us.

When the body was embalmed with costly spices it was wrapped about with countless bands of linen,

which was beautifully done, as you see it here. Over the face and chest was laid a specially prepared basket - often made, it is said, to resemble the features of the dead.

When the Greeks came to Egypt, some centuries before the Christian Era, they introduced more beauty and in elaborating these baskets and the glass eyes, which you notice her Ladyship has, is evidence of Greek skill.

Unfortunately the face of the basket is damaged. She has not been in a fight or a Rail Road accident, but the damage was done in transporting to America.

It was the habit to bury with the dead, little amulets - representations of the Gods, especially Osiris, the father of the gods - Bead necklaces, Bracelets and jewelry, often of extreme

