LOG

Correspondence, pamphlet publications and photographs of J. Gordon Logan, (1866-1950), missionary and missionary administrator for Egypt General Mission

c.100 items, 1897-1951

Presented by Miss Alison Logan 10 December 2007 and April 2008 (Acc.20/4)

Catalogued by Sue Sutton August 2008 (LOG 3 in detail August 2011)
Individual descriptions substantially revised November 2016 and July 2017, including detail to LOG 1/2 and addition of LOG 4

These papers derive from the donor's father, John Gordon Logan (1866-1950). Logan was evidently a Scot who travelled to Belfast on business, where he met others who felt a strong call to missionary service, including six men, four of whom were among thirteen who had signed a declaration dedicating themselves to foreign mission in February 1897 (below LOG 1/1) and who answered the call to serve in Egypt articulated by Ann (Annie) van Somer following a visit there as 'missioner' for the Keswick Convention. Logan himself added his name to that declaration and joined them in 1898, thereby completing the complement of the ‘Original Seven’ of the Egypt Mission Band in imitation of the ‘Cambridge Seven’ Mission Band sent to China. The Egypt Band, subsequently joined by others of the thirteen signatories of the Belfast declaration, was the core of what became in 1903 the inter-denominational Egypt General Mission (EGM). From 1898 to 1914 Logan was in Egypt, establishing a book depot in Suez in 1901, then later working at Zeitoun, a village outside Cairo. In 1915 he returned home to become Secretary of the EGM in London in succession to the leader of the band, J. Martin Cleaver, who had died suddenly, eventually retiring to Scotland. He married in 1908 Jane (Jennie) Broom Millar (1878-1942) who played a prominent role in EGM, running a school and clinic and writing tracts on the role of women in a Muslim society. She later took on a parallel role to her husband as secretary 1917-42 of the cross-missionary society Fellowship of Faith for the Muslims (FFM), with which they were both involved and also took its inspiration in part from J. Martin Cleaver and Ann van Somer.

The Egypt General Mission, later Middle East General Mission, was one of the constituents of Middle East Christian Outreach (MECO) created in 1976 and in 2016 merged with Serving In Mission (SIM; offices in Wetheringsett, Stowmarket, Suffolk).

Further EGM-related material can be found in the Norman Anderson Collection (AND), including a biographical account of Logan in Egypt Mission Band Life Stories, pp.14-16. A history of the Mission, Blessed be Egypt by William J.W. Roome, one of the thirteen, is available at www.archive.org. There is also a published history by Irene Naish, Wonders in
Catalogued as follows:

LOG 1 Manuscript material 1897-1951

LOG 2 Minor Publications 1911-36

LOG 3 Photographic Prints c.1898-1925

LOG 4 Photographic Negatives etc. c. early 1920s

LOG 1 Manuscript material 1897-1951

LOG1/1. Photocopy of transcript of a notice ‘Belfast February 16 1897. Half Night of Prayer. ‘Definite Consecration for Foreign Missionary Service if he call’, committing signatories to put themselves at Lord’s disposal for ‘Foreign Missionary Work as soon as and whenever Thou callest me’


For William Bradley’s account of how this document came into existence see *Egypt Mission Band. Life Stories* (1902; copy in AND 2/5). * denotes those who were members of ‘The Original Seven’

[original presumably retained by donor as particularly precious]

LOG 2. A series of typescript extracts of journals of letters labelled at top ‘Egypt Mission Band’ recording Logan’s journey to and first few months in Egypt, each signed or subscribed by Logan. Presumably transcribed some time, perhaps years, later. 1898

LOG 1/2/1. ‘No.I’. John Logan’s account of his journey to Egypt, written on board S.S.Menes on departure from Algiers (reports anti-semitic riots, meeting with Lilias Trotter), on departure from Malta (‘a priest-ridden place….the devil makes them very like himself’), on arrival in Alexandria (immediate impressions). Typescript carbon copy, signed at end by Logan with note that it is ‘Extracts from private letter’. Cf the account of the same voyage by Elias Thompson in *Diary of Journey out and early days in Egypt* (AND 2/3).

26 January – 2 February 1898

LOG 1/2/2. ‘No. II’. Typescript ‘extract from letters’ signed at end by Logan. Records experiences of mission at Mustapha Barracks amongst Irish Fusiliers (‘Irish R.C’s and of a very low type’) and connections with Coptic Church including Bishop. Written at Maison Degiarde, Moharren Bey, Alexandria 5 March 1898

LOG 1/2/2. ‘IV’ Learning Arabic. Arrival of David Barron, missionary; mission among soldiers, including conversion of ‘best football player’; ‘Keswick Day’. Written at Maison Degiarde, Moharren Bey, Alexandria 12 March 1898.
LOG 1/2/4A-B. ‘IV a’. Records converts among Druze, Irish Fusiliers and Moslems; learning Arabic. Written at Maison Degiarde, Moharren Bey, Alexandria, 19 March 1898 (2 copies)

LOG 1/2/5. ‘No 5’. Work among Arabs at railway works, distributing gospels with Miss Law, and with Mr Shimmin the Sailors’ missionary. Conversion of Jewish girls, Written at Maison Degiarde, Moharren Bey, Alexandria, 9 April 1898.

LOG 1/2/6. [unnumbered]. Visit of C.M.S. missionaries (Dr and Mrs Hall, Revd and Mrs Hollins) from Cairo, reporting Hollins’ work among ‘Shieks in Mohammedan university, with anecdote of shopkeeper convert whose shop was attacked in consequence and required intervention of Chief of Police. Mission to Moslems, especially policemen, at North African Mission. Written at Beit-el-Hand (‘House of Praise’), Moharren Bey, 15 May 1898

LOG 1/2/7. [unnumbered]. Considering engagina ‘a splendid young Sheikh’ from Cairo University (introduced to them by Rev. W. Hollis (see 2/4). Conversion of Arian, a Coptic Christian. Dated 21 May [1898].

LOG 1/2/8. ‘7’. Distributing gospels and tracts to Mediterranean Fleet and to Arab policemen at Hadra and salt works at Meks. Expected arrival of Mahommed, Hollins’ acolyte, from Azhar University (‘the very centre of Islam’). Meeting with German atheist and the German missionary Kumm. Visit to Christian catacombs. Written at Beit-el-Hand, Alexandria, 4 June 1898

LOG 1/2/9. Relates visits, walking great distances, to missions among Druze in Lebanon and Syria, accompanying Miss Taylor to Barklean and ‘Miss Prout’s establishment’ [?Church of England school and hospital], and to Revd Mr Bird’s and Mr Doolittle’s American Mission at Abeih and Deir el Konn. Written from Ainzahalt, Lebanon, 17 September 1898

LOG 1/2/10. Describes Miss Taylor’s work among Druze girls in Beirut (cf. LOG 3/6) Success of the Plymouth Brethren. Journey to Haifa and Jaffa. Missions there with Thompson and Swan, while Bradley and Cleaver (see LOG 1/1) proceeded to Jerusalem, and mission in Beirut facilitated by Miss Thompson of British Syrian Mission. Written at Beit-el-Hand[sic], 29 October 1898

LOG 1/2/11. Stories of conversion of Roman Catholic Arab and of well-educated Englishman who had lived life of dissipation in South Africa, and of Moslems. Teaching English to Arabs including Iman of Moharren Bey. Arrival of Revd. J.S.B. Hollins’ young sheik (see above). Miss Mills and Miss White’s school for Moslem children, including presents from Christmas tree. Written at Beit El Hamd, 19 November and at new house, ‘El Chardala’ (grain of mustard seed), [Bat Sidia], 2 and 24 December 1898

LOG 1/3. Carbon copy of circular letter to ‘Friends’ of John Gordon Logan, giving story of conversion of Syrian atheist and of Syrian teacher in Hasbeza reported by Bradley. Written from from Moharren Bey, Alexandria, 29 December 1899
LOG 1/4. ‘Diary of a trip to Assiout, January 11-23rd 1899’, with note ‘Written by M. Cleaver?’, one of the Belfast signatories (see LOG 1/1). Carbon copy, more carefully typed than other transcripts.

LOG 1/5. Papers about mission to Suez

LOG 1/5a. Copy of circular letter by Logan to ‘Fellow Helpers’, Suez 15 October 1902

LOG 1/5b Copy of circular letter by W. Cash to ‘Friends’, Suez, 15 October 1902

LOG 1/5c-d. Photocopies of letter of Ibrahim Nabih Bey, Governor of Suez to John Gordon Logan, Suez, 21 October 1902, and of a typed translation

LOG 1/5e. Carbon copy of circular letter of John Logan Gordon to ‘Dear Friends’ Suez, 9 December 1902

LOG 1/5f. Pages 3-6 (altered to 1-4) of a letter [despite the attached label probably by Logan – see LOG 1/10] commencing ‘The only other matter on my heart is the question of advance into “the regions beyond”, recording attempts to get an entrance into the Red Sea Service, interviews with Governor at Port Sudan and sub-governor (Mohamet Barbari) at Port Suakin and resistance to allowing mission to Moslems ‘as they have good enough religion of their own’, with a tiny note apparently referring to this labelling it ‘(?)(?)Geo Mullens’ Testimony’.

LOG 1/5g. A photograph of Sheikh Salem el [?]Khuma, within an envelope with notes by Logan, ‘Vizier to the Sultan of Lahej, baptised by JC Young in 1901 Came to me at Suez for 2 years afterwards.’ and ‘Went to Zanzibar, of which he was a native, on his father’s death, not heard of since’. Previously catalogued as part of the previous item but with no obvious connection

LOG 1/5h. Handwritten carbon copy (pp.71-6 extracted from a letter-book) of circular letter (i.e. to supporters of the Band) of Logan reporting on the year, with anecdotes of converts, etc., 9 December 1902

LOG 1/5i. Envelope which formerly held LOG 1/5a-b and h, addressed to Logan at Cults, Aberdeen in 1947.

LOG 1/6. Photocopy of circular letter of John Gordon Logan to ‘Friends’, written whilst on furlough for family reasons (an added note explains that his father James died 2 July 1903), asking for prayers for work of Swan and Bradley in Belbeis and his own work in Suez in temporary care of local convert Istefanus. Pleasantfield, Prestwick, Ayrshire, 27 May 1903 [original retained by donor presumably for its family history interest]
LOG 1/7. Letter of John Gordon Logan to his mother, Zietoun, 19 November 1913

LOG 1/8. Photocopy of address to Mr and Mrs Logan from various signatories upon their departure from Egypt, thanking them especially for their work for YMCA in the camps.

YMCA, Cairo, 31 March 1915.

LOG 1/9. Printed circular newsletter of John Gordon Logan to ‘Friends’ on behalf of EGM.

London, December 1918

LOG 1/10. Letter of John Gordon Logan to ‘My darling wife [Jane Logan], Suakin, Egypt, 19 March 1921. With an account of an interview with Col. Wilson, Governor, corresponding to that in LOG 1/5f

LOG 1/11. Letter of W.H. S. Gardner to Mrs Logan, CMS Buloc, Cairo, 21 July 1927

LOG 1/12. Letter of ‘George [Swan]’ to Mr Logan, Belbeis, 18 April 1928


LOG 1/14. Letter of Marcus Abdel Masih to ‘Dearest parents in Christ’, Danish Mission, Beirut, 6 November 1936


LOG 1/16. Letter of Frances Paterson to John Gordon Logan, Bishop’s Stortford, 16 October 1942, offering condolences on the death of Jane Logan and enclosing a photograph

LOG 1/17. Letter of Kathleen Hamilton to ‘Uncle John’, Bournemouth, 16 March 1945

LOG 1/18. Letter of S. Mansour, to ‘My Sister in the Lord’ [daughter of John Gordon Logan, presumably the donor Alison, following her father’s death], thanking her for suit from Miss Warander and offering consolation on father’s death. EGM, Belbies, 22 March 1950


LOG 1/20. Letter of Katie Warender to Miss Logan, reporting on events in Belbeis since the treaty (riots, etc.) and their flight. Recalling peace of staying with them in Scotland. EGM, Zeitoun, 4 November 1951.

With two photographs of Katie Warender

LOG 2. Minor publications (often called ephemera) by or about the Egypt General Mission

LOG 2/1. A Brief Account of the Egypt General Mission (Egypt General Mission c.1940s)

LOG 2/2. Why do the Moslems need the Gospel (Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems, c.1940s).
LOG 2/3. *Rich Towards God* (Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems.) (?) pre-1942, as address given is that of Mrs Logan

LOG 2/4. *Just Trusting* (Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems, similar date to previous).

LOG 2/5. *A Challenge to Faith* by I. Lilias Trotter of (Christian Literature Crusade for Algiers Mission Band

LOG 2/6. *Man’s Day* by Jennie B. Logan (Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems, date as LOG 2/4).

LOG 2/7. Photocopy of article ‘Egypt and the Gospel. Interview with Mr and Mrs J.G. Logan’ from *The Christian 21 September 1911*

LOG 2/8. J. Gordon Logan, printed EGM newsletter under text of ‘The battle is not yours, but God’s’, from 'Ezbet El Zeitoun, July 1914’


LOG 2/11. ‘Moslems at Prayer’, perhaps by Logan, pages extracted from a magazine c. 1911

LOG 2/12. Note on letterhead of *Fellowship of Faith for Moslems* notepaper, Mrs Logan being secretary and J.Gordon Logan and Miss A van Somer constituting the Advisory Committee. C.1930s

LOG 3. *Photographic Prints c. 1898 - 1925*

*These photographs were filed in photographic sleeves and boxed separately in acetate sleeves in July 2011. Two packets of negatives and three envelopes appear to have been ignored in that process, and have now been catalogued as LOG 4/1-5.*

Identifications taken from those on the backs, where given in mirror image.

LOG 3/1. Group studio photograph of a group of men holding bibles. Belfast
Group includes, standing: John Gordon Logan, T.E. (‘Ned’) Swan, Elias Thompson, John Martin Cleaver; seated: A.W. Vance, J. Pim, unidentified clergyman, George Grubb, George Swan, F. Cooney. With later envelope dating this to 1898

LOG 3/2. ‘Left to right Cleaver, Bradley, Macowan, G. Swan’ and John Logan, with note that Oliver Macowan, Tralee was leader of YMCA in Europe during First World War. C.1897-8

LOG 3/3. ‘Capt Crawford Browne MF, W. Fulton, A. Vance all of Belfast’

LOG 3/5. Group including John Logan (top left). Paul Barnes identifies lady on left as Annie van Somer and says it is of the Mission Band before departure for Egypt. But there are eight men and two women, and building has a Mediterranean appearance. Perhaps taken during a visit by Miss van Somer to Egypt. C.1900


LOG 3/7. A large group at ‘Brumana 1898’


LOG 3/10. A group of European women with hats and umbrellas by a wall ‘Mrs Jacob (Dublin), Mrs Liggins, Miss Ladkin, J.B.M. (Logan), Miss White A happy party at Mex last Spring – Sept 1905’


LOG 3/12. ‘1st Ismailia Girls’ School about 1904, including Governor’s son.

LOG 3/13. ‘JGL’s Dispensary at Bilbeis 1906

LOG 3/14. Modern copy of photograph of J.G. Logan’s mother Elizabeth Logan on a camel in Egypt (presumably visiting her son) 1906

LOG 3/15. ‘The persons are: Mr N. Nazitoff, converted Turk, Mr Herm co-labourer from Germany, Mr Scrosseur co-labourer from Switzerland, Mr Veneff, co-labourer, myself [John Logan], Mr Ibrahim Hussein, Turk, who found the Saviour in the prison here’.

LOG 3/16. ‘Miss White (Pasiby Y.W), Mrs Liggins, Miss Ladkin (Mrs Cash) at Paupey’s Pillar School, Alexandria

LOG 3/17. ‘Fairhaven [Cairo rest home for missionaries] Balcony EGM Conference

LOG 3/18. ‘Back Door dispensary Zeitoun’ ‘Yousef, Ibrahim Cook’ and Jenny Logan dispensing Epsom salts. c.1910

LOG 3/19. ‘Backdoor dispensary. Ibrahim sitting cook. Yousef standing Table boy’ and Jenny Logan c.1910

LOG 3/20. Tel el Kel in School House’ ‘Man who wore the soles off his boots walking from Luxor to Zeitoun preaching the Gospel’
LOG 3/21. ‘Mrs Logan in the prayer room at Fairhaven’

LOG 3/22. Elizabeth Logan at ‘Fairhaven 1909’

LOG 3/23. Postcard ‘Signal Station Alexandria’ Dated 17/1/9

LOG 3/24. ‘Snap taken at the “Spinney” on the day of the picnic’

LOG 3/25. ‘Pastors’ Conference Zeitoun 1909

LOG 3/26. ‘Abou Kebir School’

LOG 3/27. ‘The Sum’

LOG 3/28. ‘Some of the Boys & Girls at Tel el Kebir School. Habib & Ginges in Centre’

LOG 3/29. ‘Tel el Kebir School’

LOG 3/30. ‘The Tent. Ramleh. 1910’

LOG 3/31. ‘Conference of Women Workers at Zeitoun, April 1910’

LOG 3/32. ‘Zeitoun 1910’ ‘John and Jenny Logan standing left’

LOG 3/33. ‘Zeitoun Girls’ School’

LOG 3/34. ‘Mousa (a boy) Before O.B.’

LOG 3/35. ‘Mousa after O.B.’

LOG 3/36. ‘Capt McKay & Rev I.H. Blythe’

LOG 3/37. Studio portrait of a young man written on back, ‘From Mikail Abu Leif Fayum to Mrs Leguin’

LOG 3/38. Studio portrait of a young man written on back, ‘Falium Mikail Fayoumy’

LOG 3/39. ‘Marcus’

LOG 3/40. ‘AbdulFadq with Pastor Marcus’. Pastor Marcus is a Moslem Convert pray for him & for physical strength & guidance for Mr Upson & return photo after mtgs J.G.L.’

LOG 3/41. ‘Sheik Salem’

LOG 3/42. Jenny Logan seated at a piano on a stage with banner behind her ‘….World to Save Sinners’ and her dog ‘Judy’ (see LOG 3/9)

LOG 3/43. ‘Mr and Mrs Ashby King on Wedding Day at Zeitoun Compound. I gave bride away - JGL. Marriage in Army Tent. Rev Arthur Bradley Officiated’
LOG 3/44. [? John Logan’s] 'study table in the book depot at Zeitoun'. [I do not see any reason for identifying this as Zeitoun and may be Suez]

LOG 3/45. ‘Miss Pim (Mrs Graham later)’

LOG 3/46. ‘Miss Libleck’

LOG 3/47. ‘Egypt General Mission. Doing up parcels. Jenny and John Logan in Group’

LOG 3/48. Large group photograph. ‘Xmas 1913’. ‘Maud Piecey, Marie Reimer, Ann Maid with my mother’ John and Jenny Logan is the group

LOG 3/49. Large group photograph. ‘Mas Ren e Salam’ Esbel el Zeitoun 1914 Dec about first party of Heart of Africa Mission led by NJN Roome on way to join CT Studd. Left to right back Grace, S.U.N. Miss Arnold, --- Rivington Bishop of Sudan, chaplain myself (John Logan), Richardson, Roome, (front) Miss Harrison B.S.M. my secretary, Frances Steame, my wife [Jane Logan] Miss ---[illegible], Mrs Richardson, Judy

LOG 3/50. ‘Group of Moslem Converts at Zeitoun Conference March 1921’ Group includes Upson, George Swan, John Logan, Rustom, Rev N.L. McCluchan, A.W. Beadly, Douglas Parten and Marcus

LOG 3/51. Large group photograph apparently of a conference meeting. ‘Jerusalem 1924’ ‘Front row Bishop McInnes, John Mott, Prof Onarcoliouth, Kennedy YMCA, Basil Mathews, Mrs Mott behind him’

LOG 4 Photographic Negatives

These items were omitted from original catalogue. Contained within an envelope with West Kilbride address and note, ‘Some negs not printed. EGM girls school’.

LOG 4/1. One half of a Kodak photograph wallet containing sixteen 4 x 2½ in. negatives (10 portrait, 6 landscape, mainly agricultural or domestic scenes, with some apparently of children and one outside E.G.M. School. c. early 1920s Need cleaning and scanning to enable use.

LOG 4/2. Small envelope containing seven 4 x 2½ in. negatives, one a large group, another of six women, four of individual or pairs of women. c. early 1920s Need cleaning and scanning to enable use.

LOG 4/3. An Egypt General Mission envelope with instructions to printer including colouring dress. I cannot reconcile the instructions with any of the existing negatives or prints – PS, Archivist.