

Farmers drawing water from the Nile

Edward Lear

Sold



Description

Edward Lear (1812-1888)
Farmers drawing water from the Nile

signed with monogram lower left, with collector's mark lower right
watercolour heightened with bodycolour on grey paper
9.9 by 20.2cm., 3 ¾ by 8 inches

This studio work (see note to previous lot) shows local people drawing water from the Nile to irrigate the surrounding area. The cliffs on the far bank of the Nile are reminiscent of those at Kasr-es-Saad (now Kasr-es-Saiyyad) which Lear described in a letter of 18th January 1854 to his sister Ann:

`Imagine immense cliffs, quite perpendicular about as high as St Paul's & of yellow stone - rising from the most exquisite meadows all along the river! While below them are villages almost hidden in palms' (quoted in Vivien Noakes, Edward Lear 1812-1888, exhibition catalogue, 1985, p.155). Lear painted an oil of the subject in 1877 (see Noakes, op. cit., no.62, p.155)

Provenance:
Spencer Family, Althorp