



# COLNAGHI

Charles-Théodore Frère,  
*Encampment along the Nile*

J. W. FRÈRE.



# COLNAGHI

CHARLES-THÉODORE FRÈRE  
(Paris 1814 -1888)

*ENCAMPMENT ALONG THE NILE*

Signed lower left.

Oil on canvas  
46 x 61 cm; 18 x 24 in.

---

# COLNAGHI



---

LONDON

NEW YORK

MADRID

BRUSSELS

# COLNAGHI

Dazzling Nile sunsets were a subject of predilection for Charles-Théodore Frère, the most talented of the French Orientalist landscapists. This mesmerising oil on canvas is a particularly beautiful example of an Egyptian encampment along the Nile. Backlit by a stylised sky coloured in yellows, purples and blues; with impressionistic cloud patterns, a small group of Bedouins and camels rest along the Nile, accompanied by their tents. Palm trees and low buildings on the far bank provide a backdrop. Despite all being rendered in silhouette, the composition has a definite feeling of depth and recession.

Charles-Theodore Frère was born in Paris in 1814, as the son of a music publisher and the older brother of genre painter Pierre-Edouard Frère. Charles-Theodore studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts under Camille Roqueplan and Leon Cogniet, and after his studies, embarked upon a tour of Alsace, Normandy and Auvergne to gather inspiration for landscape paintings. He returned to Paris and exhibited these landscapes in the 1834 Paris Salon, before turning his attention to gathering inspiration from much further afield.

Frère first became fascinated by the 'Orient' during a lengthy stay in Algeria from 1836 to 1839. On his return to Paris, he exhibited two views of Algiers at the Salon. From 1851 to 1854 Frère travelled through Egypt, Greece, Turkey, Syria and Palestine. Of all these regions, it was Egypt which spoke to the artist above all, so much so that in 1853 Frère established a studio in Cairo. Favoured by members of the Egyptian government, Frère was awarded the honorific title of 'bey'. After multiple journeys, Frère visited Egypt for the final time in 1869 to witness the opening of the Suez Canal.

From 1839 to 1887 Frère exhibited over one hundred and twenty North African, Egyptian and Near Eastern landscapes, becoming one of the most prolific and influential of the Orientalist painters of his day. Notable for their vivid and luminous palette, Frère's works were immensely popular with European collectors of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He was lauded by artists and critics too, praised by Claude Monet and Théophile Gautier alike.

# COLNAGHI

## COLNAGHI *London*

26 BURY STREET, LONDON SW1Y 6AL  
UNITED KINGDOM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
10AM-6PM

+44 (0)20 7491 7408

[contact@colnaghi.com](mailto:contact@colnaghi.com)

## COLNAGHI *Madrid*

CALLE GENERAL CASTAÑOS 9  
PLANTA BAJA, DCHA.  
28004 MADRID

MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
BY APPOINTMENT

[spain@colnaghi.com](mailto:spain@colnaghi.com)

## COLNAGHI *New York*

23 EAST 67TH STREET, FOURTH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10065  
USA

MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
10AM-6PM

+1 (917) 388-3825

[newyork@colnaghi.com](mailto:newyork@colnaghi.com)

## COLNAGHI *Brussels*

RUE JACQUES JORDAENS 30  
1000 BRUXELLES  
BELGIUM

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

[brussels@colnaghi.com](mailto:brussels@colnaghi.com)