



Mummies of Egyptian priests preserved in the Cairo Museum.

## QUESTION CORNER

Q. Thank you for showing me the photograph of the mummies of Egyptian priests. I was struck by how similar their positions are to the frontal image on the Shroud, particularly the location of the hands, which cover the pubic area in a very natural posture. Could this not throw some light on the often-disputed placement of the hands as seen on the Shroud? What could archeologists, or anatomists, tell us? Certainly, if Jesus' body, in rigor mortis, was bent forward and with the knees raised (as seems evident from the dorsal image, which is longer than the frontal), there should never have been any question about whether or not the hands could reach the pubic area. But these priests are laid out quite flat against their beds. Why don't you publish this photograph, to bring it to the attention of the experts?

J. CALDWELL

A. I only needed your prompting to publish this photograph, which first appeared in a travel book of the late XIX century. We now await the remarks of the experts.

D.C.