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ART. VI.—*Travels in Egypt, Nubia, Holy Land, Mount Lebanon, and Cyprus, in the Year 1814.* By Henry Light, Captain in the Royal Artillery. 4to. London 1818.

THE invasion of Egypt by the army under Buonaparte, and the consequences attending it, have made that country much more accessible than at any period before that event; and as far as the present pasha's authority extends, an Englishman may now travel without difficulty and without danger,—not always indeed secure from the impositions or the insults of its heterogeneous inhabitants—yet less liable to either, perhaps, than in any other country where Mahomedanism is the prevailing religion. In the days of Pococke and Norden a journey up the Nile was a serious and hazardous undertaking, whereas now, an English officer, with a few months' leave of absence, thinks he cannot pass them more pleasantly than by taking a trip to the farthest confines of Nubia, to snatch a glance at the wonderful remains of antiquity, or to sketch with a rapid pencil the ruins of the most stupendous and magnificent temples in the world. In his progress upwards as far as the northern limits of Ethiopia, by the aid of Pococke, of Denon, and of Hamilton, he knows the spot on which he is to look for the tombs and the temples, the pillars, the pyramids, and the colossal statues of Egypt, almost with as much precision as he knows the situation, from his road-book, of a gentleman's seat in England. But beyond Philæ he has no such sure guide. Norden, it is true, has given a general description of Nubia as high as Deir, and Legh a somewhat more particular one as far as Ibrim: but a detailed account of this valley of the Nile is still wanting,—a desideratum however, which, we are given to understand, will shortly be supplied by the journals of the late intelligent and indefatigable traveller Mr. Burckhardt, now preparing for publication.

Captain Light, of the Royal Artillery, is one of those officers who made a hurried journey up the Nile as far as Ibrim, the point which terminated also the travels of Mr. Legh. His progress was as rapid as the navigation of the Nile would admit; his object being to get as high up as practicable before the hot weather set in, and to reserve for examination, and for the exercise of his pencil, the ancient remains of cities, temples, catacombs and colossal statues, on his return. Accordingly on his journey downwards he visited most of those celebrated spots where the vast remains of antiquity invite the attention of the passing traveller, and couched at each of them a sufficient length of time to enable him to bring away, if we may judge from the specimens in his book, a very interesting portfolio of accurate and well-executed drawings. We cannot, however, say much for the prints, which are meant to decorate

decent as well as to exhibit the artist's skill. The drawings are in a coarse and heavy style, very inferior to the plates of Denon. At the same time it may be admitted that they are not so much a more just conception of the objects represented, than the plates selected from any verbal description, however minute. In fact, the most detailed descriptions of Egyptian antiquities, from the ruins to the mind so near and correct an impression of the objects as the presentation of the objects themselves does not afford, and the more laboured the attempt to describe in words the picture, the more the picture becomes confused, and the less likely to answer the purpose.

In this view, and in this only, would we venture to pronounce Captain Light's volume a valuable addition to the works already published on Egypt and Nubia. Having travelled at no great distance of time from Mr. Legh, and gone over the same ground, he comes rather at a disadvantage just after the journal of that gentleman has appeared before the public. Not that Mr. Legh filled up the measure of information regarding Egypt or Nubia, far from it; but that the account of his travels, notwithstanding its imperfections, abated the edge of curiosity. Captain Light however labours under a still greater disadvantage, of his own creating—he had already communicated the prominent features of his remarks on Nubia to Mr. Walpole, who has printed them in his 'Memoirs relating to European and Asiatic Turkey,' to neither of which, by the way, has this part of Captain Light's journal, which is purely *African*, any 'relation.' We conceive too that in his Syrian expedition the pencil of Captain Light will be found his best auxiliary. Indeed what could be said in a hurried journey through a country already traversed by Pococke and Maundrell, in addition to what had been told by those observant and intelligent travellers, whose facts and observations have been so largely amplified by another traveller of more modern date?

That which was most desirable in Nubia still remains a desideratum. Beyond Philæ, whose latitude and longitude were determined by Nouet, there is not a single spot of which the latitude has been ascertained; the geography therefore of the valley of the Nile to the southward of Philæ must necessarily be defective. Another point in which we are deficient is that of its natural history—the plants, and animals—the geological features, and mineral products—the probable elevation of the Nile above the level of the sea at the second cataract—these and other objects of physical research have been culpably neglected by former travellers, and have not in the slightest degree engaged the attention of Captain Light. In truth, we suspect that he never meant to publish the remarks committed

to his journal, which were made probably for his own satisfaction, or the amusement of his friends; we look in vain for that ardour and enthusiasm which generally mark the progress even of an antiquarian tourist; the following extract certainly shows none of it, the former part of which by no means accords with our ideas on the subject, nor indeed with the author's own feelings expressed in the concluding paragraph.

"On the 3d of June, I began to descend the Nile; and visit, in succession, the numerous remains of ancient Egypt, for whose description I refer the reader to Mr. Hamilton's work on the antiquities of that country, and to other writers on the same subject. I felt they wanted that charm or interest which is raised in other countries whose history is known, where the traveller ranges over the ground on which heroes and remarkable men, whose actions are familiar to him, once dwelt. But here, though treading the soil where sprang the learning, and genius, and arts, to which Europe has been indebted for its present superiority among nations; where the magnificence of ancient Egypt still remains to prove the existence of all these in perfection, he can only admire the—

—res antique laudis et artis."

without any sentiment of attachment to persons or times. He is lost in admiration, and has no idea but that of sublimity. A long night of oblivion has intervened, to cut off all but conjectures of their history. My wonder and surprise were continually excited at the enormous masses of building which had defied the ravages of time: I was astonished at the grand and beautiful designs, and fine taste in their execution, still seen in many of the buildings; at the exquisite symmetry and neatness with which the massive columns have been raised and formed of stones, whose size yet leaves our ideas of architecture in amazement.—pp. 102, 103.

Captain Light remained but a few days at Alexandria, where, he observes, every thing is eastern, though the residence of so many Franks. Crimes and punishments, under the government of the present Pasha, are stated to be rare.

"The only instance of capital punishment that had lately occurred was in an Arab, who possessed a garden among the ruins of the Arab village; he had been in the habit of deceiving people, particularly women, into his garden, as a place of intrigue; and, with the help of a woman, contrived to surprise and strangle them; this continued for some months many innocents were abused, and he was suspected. He was at last induced, from fear of discovery, to murder his accomplice, which led to his execution; he was punished, as is usual, by a public execution, and his head was set on a pole, and then drawn up by the Arab police, and the body buried."

Leaving Alexandria, on the 17th March, he proceeded to Rosetta, where he had a boat to carry him to Cairo. The first observations in the progress up the Nile are described as very agreeable; they

they interest from their novelty, for here an European finds himself in a new region—he observes a shore lined with a belt of palm trees, among which the mingled mosques, and tombs of sheiks meet the eye at every opening—as one unvaried scene, however, extends from Rosetta to Cairo, the sameness at length becomes tiresome. The villages are frequent and well peopled; and besides the boats on the river, numerous passengers on horses, asses and camels are every where seen skirting the shores of the Nile. Provisions appeared to Captain Light to be plentiful and cheap, yet beggars swarmed on every side. Blindness was very common, and every third or fourth peasant seemed to have a complaint in his eyes. The plague and ophthalmia are the principal diseases of Egypt, to both of which the inhabitants are perfectly resigned. The Arabs (no great philosophers, it must be confessed) consider the plague as a necessary evil to keep down the population to the level of the means of subsistence.

On the 22d March Captain Light reached Cairo. "I will not add," he says, "to the numberless descriptions of Cairo. Each year takes away from its population and adds to its ruin; nothing is repaired that grows old; but still it is an extraordinary city. The Pasha being absent, our traveller waited on the Kaya Bey, or prime minister.

"My interview with the Kaya Bey took place in the dewan of the citadel, where he sat daily to receive petitions, and administer the affairs of the country. I noticed a suit of apartments, filled with Albanian soldiers, through which I passed to enter the dewan, where the Kaya Bey was examining some black slaves who were brought for his inspection, such an employment for a prime minister is not so surprising to an Englishman. The grouping of the party present was remarkable: the rich and varied dresses, the warlike appearance of the attendants, their mute attention, the proud superiority of the chief, round whom the subordinate boys seemed to crouch with almost submission, riveted my attention. I turned round among them, who were fixed only by the breath of the man to whom I was introduced, when in his turn he prescribes the same sort of direct submission to the will of the Pasha. Fifteen hundred thousand inhabitants of Egypt, all the life of a single despot; and from the accounts I heard of him, there they seemed to be in the same state to which the people of Egypt resorted the people of Pharaoh!"—pp. 124, 25.

Captain Light left Boulae on the 1st April in a boat he had hired, of twelve or fourteen tons burden, and proceeded against the stream, by sailing or towing, as the wind served or not; but his progress was so slow that it was the 7th May before he reached Assouan; in the course of which time, he observes, "I had some trials of temper, a few privations and inconveniences, but I was rarely insulted, nor was I ever persecuted by the customs of the

native, or rather to meet with respect.' In some of the villages our traveller assisted the sick with medicine and advice—wrote for them Arabic sentences as charms to preserve the wearers from the evil angel. 'In one village,' he says, 'called Abou Gaziz, I was requested by a party of women to hold my drawn sword on the ground, whilst they went through the ceremony of jumping across it, with various ridiculous motions, to correct the well-known eastern curse of barrenness; and was rewarded by blessings and offerings of Durra cake.'

Some ancient excavations which have been described by Debon and others are all that remain of the city of Lycopoli; but at the foot of the Mokattam, a range of modern Mahomedan tombs runs for nearly a mile, in a grove of *lout*, or Egyptian thorn, (*misosa nilotica*?) bearing a tufted yellow flower. 'In this grove the mixture of the cupolas, Saracenic walls, and turrets of the tombs, either simply white-washed or rudely coloured, with the thick foliage of the trees, presents a singular and interesting scene, and attracted my attention more than any thing modern I had seen in Egypt.'—p. 44.

Siout is the intermediate mart between Semnair, Darfoot, and Cairo, at which caravans of *Gelubi*, or slave merchants, are constantly arriving. The remnant of one came in while Captain Light was at this place. Its fate had been most melancholy, having lost on the desert a vast number of men, women, and children, horses, camels, and other animals, to the amount, in the aggregate, of four thousand; notwithstanding which our traveller was offered a young well-formed negress, about seventeen years old, for the trifling sum of fifteen pounds. 'The *Gelabi*,' he says, 'like a horse-dealer, examined, pointed out, and made me remark what he called the good points of the girl in question. The poor wretch, thus exposed, pouted and cried during the ceremony; was chided, encouraged, and abused, according to her behaviour.' Another branch of commerce at Siout is that of eunuchs for the seraglio at Constantinople. In two boats were one hundred and fifty black boys, on their way to Cairo, who had been emasculated, and cured in a month, at a village in the neighbourhood. A Franciscan monk described the operation, though painful and cruel, as easily performed, and without much danger; eleven only having died out of one hundred and sixty. We have here a proof how difficult it is to get at the real truth from the *hurray* report of travellers. Mr. Legh, in speaking of the same operation, and the subsequent process of burying the victims in sand to stop the hemorrhage, observes that, according to calculation, 'one out of three only survives,' and that the operation 'is performed at a moment of distress, that the risk of mortality might be incurred at a time when the merchants could best spare their slaves.'

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In passing upwards Captain Light contested himself with one short visit to the temple at Luxor, and with viewing the mass of buildings which formed part of the ancient Apollinopolis Magna through a telescope from the Nile, the hieroglyphics on which he could plainly distinguish, though at the distance of a mile and a half. Elephantina, called Ghezir-et-Sag, or the 'flowery island,' is described as a perfect paradise.

'It must be confessed that we find beauty by comparison; and this most excuse all travellers in their particular praise of spots, which elsewhere would not, perhaps, call forth their eulogy. Though the season of the year was approaching to the greatest heat, shade was every where to be found amongst the thick plantations of palm-trees, which surrounded and traversed the island. Amongst these the modern habitations showed themselves, whilst the eye often rested on the ancient temples still existing. Every spot was cultivated, and every person employed; none asked for money; and I walked about, greeted by all I met with courteous and friendly salams.

'The intercourse I had with the natives of Assuan was of a very different nature; and in spite of French civilisation and French progeny, which the countenances and complexion of many of the younger part of the inhabitants betrayed, I never received marks of attention without a demand on my generosity.'—pp. 52, 53.

At Philæ our traveller first observed the ravages committed by the locusts, of which an immense swarm obscured the sky. In a few hours all the palm-trees were stripped of their foliage, and the ground of its herbage; men, women, and children were vainly employing themselves to prevent these destructive insects from settling; howling repeatedly the name of *Geraad*, (locust), throwing sand in the air, beating the ground with sticks, and, at night, in lighting fires—yet they blessed God that he had sent them locusts instead of the plague, which, they observed, always raged at Cairo when these insects made their appearance in Nubia, and which Captain Light says was, in the present instance, actually the case.

At Galabshee the Nile divided itself among several rocks and uninhabited islands; and here Captain Light says he had occasion to remark shells of the oyster kind, attached to the granite masses of these cataracts, similar to those often found in petrifications—whose presence he attributed to some communication of former times between the Nile and the ocean. At this place the inhabitants were more suspicious, and behaved with more incivility to our traveller than at any other which he had yet passed. They demanded a present before they would allow him to look at their temple. 'One more violent than the rest,' he says, 'threw dust in the air, the signal both of rage and defiance, ran for his shield, and came towards me dancing, bowling, and striking the shield with the head of his javelin,

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to intimidate me. A promise of a present pacified him, and enabled me to make my remarks and sketches.'

At Deir Captain Light met with excavations in the rocks, which had evidently been intended as burial places; their sides were covered with hieroglyphics and symbolic figures similar to those in the Temple of Cophet at Elephantina.

'The jealousy of the natives, who could not be persuaded I was not influenced by the desire to seek for treasures, prevented me from making those researches that might perhaps have led to the discovery of the connecting character between the hieroglyphic, Coptic, and Greek languages; for it cannot be supposed the two former were dropped at once; and that whilst the custom of preserving the bodies of the dead in the Egyptian manner was continued by the early Christians, there should not be some traces of the language of the people from whom it was copied. Such a discovery may be attempted by some future traveller.

'The sides of the openings are well finished. On one I traced a cross of this form  $\times$  preceding the following Greek characters:

ΑΝΟΚΙΑΤΛΑΘΕΙΟΕΙΖΑΙΝΑΙ

And, on another were these:

Ι+ΗΧΧ ΠΟΗΗΛΟΝ

ΤΩΝ ΤΟΤΑΙΟΥ

ΑΝΤΟΝΙΟΥ

which were the first inscriptions I had seen that appear, connected with Christianity.'—pp. 78, 79.

Beyond this point, and between Ibrim and Dongola, as we learn from Mr. Burckhardt's journal, the temples, which have been converted into Christian churches, become more frequent, so as to leave little doubt that it was by the line of the Nile that christianity found its way, at so early a period, into Abyssinia; and it certainly will become an interesting object of inquiry for some future traveller, well qualified, to trace its progress from Nubia into that country, where it still holds its ground, though greatly corrupted from its original purity.

From Deir Captain Light proceeded to Ibrim, where he made a short visit to the aga, a venerable old man, who prayed him, in the true patriarchal style, to 'tarry till the sun was gone down; to alight, refresh himself, and partake of the food he would prepare for the strangers.' It was served up on a clean mat spread under the shade of the wall of his house, and consisted of wheaten cake broken into small bits, and put into water, sweetened with date-juice, in a wooden bowl; curds with liquid butter, and preserved dates, and a bowl of milk. The aga's house was, like the rest, a mere mud hovel. The people flocked round the stranger, and inquired, as usual, whether

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ther he came to look for treasure, and whether Christians or Moslems, English or French, were the builders of the temples. Among the superstitions of the natives, which it appears is common in Egypt as well as Nubia, is that of spitting on any diseased part of the body as a certain remedy. 'At Erment, the ancient Hermonthis,' says Captain Light, 'an old woman applied to me for medicine for a disease in the eyes, and, on my giving her some directions she did not seem to like, requested me to spit on her eyes, which I did, and she went away, blessed me, and was well satisfied of the certainty of the cure.'

From Ibrim our traveller returned down the Nile, examined the temple of Seboo, called, by Legh, Sibhoi, and describes 'its avenues of sphinxes, its gigantic figures in alto-relievo, its pilasters and hieroglyphics.' At Ouffeddounee he discovered the remains of a primitive Christian church, in the interior of which were many painted Greek inscriptions and figures relating to scriptural subjects. The ruins of a temple at Deboo are minutely described. On the 1st June Captain Light reached Philæ, and thus sums up his observations on the natives of Nubia:—

'The people who occupy the shores of the Nile between Philæ and Ibrim are, for the most part, a distinct race from those of the north. The extent of the country is about one hundred and fifty miles; which, according to my course on the Nile up and down, I conceive may be about two hundred by water, and is estimated at much more by Mr. Hamilton and others. They are called by the Egyptians Goothi, meaning in Arabic the people of the south. My boatmen from Boosac applied *Goothi* generally to them all, but called those living about the cataracts Berber. Their colour is black; but the change to it, in the progress from Cairo, does not occur all at once to the traveller, but by gradual alteration to the dusky hue from white. Their countenance approaches to that of a negro; thick lips, flattish nose and head, the body short, and bones slender: the leg bones have the curve observed in negroes: the hair is curled and black, but not woolly. Men of lighter complexion are found amongst them; which may be accounted for by intermarriage with Arabs, or a descent from those followers of Selim the Second who were left here upon his conquest of the country. On the other hand, at Galabshee the people seemed to have more of the negro than elsewhere; thicker lips, and hair more tufted, as well as a more savage disposition.

'The Nubian language is different from the Arabic. The latter, as acquired from books and a teacher, had been of very little use to me in Egypt itself; but here, not even the vulgar dialect of the Lower Nile would serve for common intercourse, except in that district extending from Dukkey to Deir, where the Nubian is lost, and Arabic prevails again: a curious circumstance; and, when considered with an observation of the lighter colour of this people, leads to a belief of their being descended from Arabs. The Nubian, in speaking, gave me an idea of what

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what I have heard of the clucking of Hottentots. It seems a succession of monosyllables, accompanied with a rise and fall of voice that is not disagreeable.

I saw few traces among them of government, or law, or religion. They know no master, although the cashief claims a nominal command of the country: it extends no farther than sending his soldiers to collect their tax, or rent, called *Miri*. The Pasha of Egypt was named as sovereign in all transactions from Cairo to Assuan. Here, and beyond, as far as I went, the reigning Sultan Mahmoud was considered the sovereign; though the cashief's was evidently the power they feared the most. They look for redress of injuries to their own means of revenge, which, in cases of blood, extends from one generation to another, till blood is repaid by blood. On this account, they are obliged to be ever on the watch and armed; and, in this manner, even their daily labours are carried on: the very boys go armed. They profess to be the followers of Mahomet, though I rarely happened to observe any of their ritual observances of that religion. Once, upon my endeavouring to make some of them comprehend the benefit of obedience to the rules of justice for punishing offences, instead of pursuing the offender to death as they practised, they quoted the Koran, to justify their requiring blood for blood.

Their dress, for the men, is a linen smock, commonly brown, with red or dark coloured scull cap. A few wear turbans and slippers. The women have a brown robe thrown gracefully over their head and body, uncovering the right arm and breast, and part of one thigh and leg. They are of good size and shape, but very ugly in the face. Their necks, arms, and ankles, are ornamented with beads or bone rings, and one nostril with a ring of bone or metal. Their hair is anointed with oil of cassia, of which every village has a small plantation. It is matted or plaited, as now seen in the heads of sphinxes and female figures of their ancient statues. I found one at Elephantina, which might have been supposed their model. Their little children are naked. Girls wear round the waist an apron of strings of raw hide, and boys a girdle of linen.

Their arms are knives or daggers, fastened to the back of the elbow or in the girdle, javelins, tomahawks, swords of Roman shape, but longer, and slung behind them. Some have round shields of buffalo hide, and a few pistols and muskets are to be seen.—pp. 93—97.

The Thebaïd has been so often described, that, although every attentive traveller may find something new, the objects are mostly a repetition of what have before been observed—gigantic masses of stone, colossal statues, columns of immense magnitude, and deep caverns, excavated out of the living rock. At Luxor the diameters of some of the columns are upwards of eight feet, and their height forty; and they support masses of stone eighteen feet long and six square, which gives to each a weight from forty-five to fifty tons. Captain Light thus describes Carnac:—

My visit to Carnac, the ancient Diospolis, a ruined temple farther from

from the banks of the river, on the same side as Luxor, was equally gratifying. It was impossible to look on such an extent of building without being lost in admiration; no description will be able to give an adequate idea of the enormous mass still defying the ravages of time. Enclosure within enclosure, propylæa in front of propylæa; to these, avenues of sphinxes, each of fourteen or fifteen feet in length, lead from a distance of several hundred yards. The common Egyptian sphinx is found in the avenues to the south; but, to the west, the erio sphinx, with the ram's head, from one or two that have been uncovered, seems to have composed its corresponding avenue. Those of the south and east are still buried. Headless statues of grey and blue granite, of gigantic size, lay prostrate in different parts of the ruins. In the western court, in front of the great portico, and at the entrance to this portico, is an upright headless statue of one block of granite, whose size may be imagined from finding that a man of six foot just reaches to the patella of the knee.

The entrance to the great portico is through a mass of masonry, partly in ruins; through which the eye rests on an avenue of fourteen columns, whose diameter is more than eleven feet, and whose height is upwards of sixty. On each side of this are seven rows, of seven columns in each, whose diameter is eight feet, and about forty feet high, of an architecture which wants the elegance of Grecian models, yet suits the immense majesty of the Egyptian temple.

Though it does not enter into my plan to continue a description which has been so ably done by others before me, yet, when I say that the whole extent of this temple cannot be less than a mile and a half in circumference, and that the smallest blocks of masonry are five feet by four in depth and breadth, that there are obelisks of eighty feet high on a base of eighteen feet, of one block of granite; it can be easily imagined that Thebes was the vast city history describes it to be.—pp. 105—107.

Of the Memnonium and its statues, on the opposite side of the Nile, Captain Light says but little, and that little is incorrect. He is mistaken, for instance, in ascribing to Herodotus the information that the statues of Memnon and his queen were thrown down by the first Cambyzes. Herodotus never once mentions Memnon nor his queen; indeed this is the first time we ever heard of his queen from any author. It is Pausanias, and not Herodotus, who relates the fact of Cambyzes having cut down the statue of Memnon; but Strabo says it was thrown down by the shock of an earthquake. Again, in observing that 'the head of the female, described by Denon in such high terms, and by Mr. Hamilton, might be easily taken away,' he is mistaken in supposing that the latter describes any female head on the Memnonian side of the river. The male and female colossal statues seen by this intelligent traveller at Luxor have no relation to the head which Captain Light thinks 'might easily be taken away,' and which, in fact, has been taken away, and is now lodged in the British Museum.

Denon,

Denon, it is true, conjectures that the two sitting colossal statues near Medinet-Abou, one of which, from the numerous inscriptions on its legs, is justly considered, by Pococke, to be that of Memnon, are in fact the mother and the son, not of Memnon, but of Osymandias, a conjecture for which he has not the shadow of a foundation; but whether Osymandias or Memnon, or neither, these statues have no connection with the head in question, which has, unaccountably enough, been called 'the head of the younger Memnon.' It might have been as well to ascertain who the elder Memnon was, before a young one had been created. The 'youthful appearance' of a statue mentioned by Philostratus, being applicable to that beautiful specimen in the British Museum, which was found in what is now considered to be the Memnonium, may have suggested the idea of a younger Memnon: there can be little doubt, however, of its being an assumed name, wholly unauthorized by ancient history.

Captain Light crept into one of the mummy pits or caverns, which were the common burial places of the ancient Thebans. As it happened to be newly discovered, he found thousands of dead bodies, placed in regular horizontal layers side by side; these he conceived to be the mummies of the lower order of people, as they were covered only with simple teguments, and smeared over with a composition that preserved the muscles from corruption. 'The suffocating smell,' he says, 'and the natural horror excited by being left alone unarmed with the wild villagers in this charnel house, made me content myself with visiting two or three chambers, and quickly return to the open air.'

The Troglodytes of Goornoo, it seems, still inhabit the empty tombs or caverns; they derive their chief subsistence, he tells us, from the pillage of the tombs, of which they are constantly in quest. Whenever a new one is discovered, 'the bodies,' he adds, 'are taken out and broken up, and the resinous substance found in the inside of the mummy forms a considerable article of trade with Cairo.'

Captain Light mentions, what indeed we have frequently heard before, that the Sepoys, in their march to join the army of Lord Hutchinson, imagined they had found their own temples in the ruins of Dendyra, and were greatly exasperated at the Egyptians for their neglect of their deities; so strongly, indeed, were they impressed with the identity, that they performed their devotions in those temples with all the ceremonies practised in Hindostan. That there is a likeness, and a very striking one, between the massy buildings of India and Egypt, the monolithic temples, the excavated mountains, and even between some of the minor decorations and appendages, as the phallus, the lotus, the serpent, &c. no one will venture to deny; but, on the other side, there are points of disagreement,

ment, of sufficient weight to counterbalance the argument in favour of a common origin. With regard to the physical, moral, and religious character of the two people, there is nothing in common; and it does not appear that the Hindoos had at any time subterranean tombs or sarcophagi, or mummies, fresco paintings, or hieroglyphics. It may be urged perhaps, as on a former occasion we ourselves suggested, that the architects and artificers may have been a distinct race of people from either the Hindoos or the Egyptians, and that the decorative parts may have been adapted to the views and prejudices of the two nations, and derived from the products of beauty or utility peculiar to the two countries respectively. This however is entitled to be received only as conjecture; and we entirely concur with Captain Light in thinking that the only way to clear up the point of an ancient connection between the Hindoos and the Egyptians would be that of employing some traveller well versed in the antiquities of the one country, to examine accurately those of the other; and when the several species of architectural remains, and their concomitant decorations, shall have been brought together side by side in detail, then, and not till then, will it be safe to pronounce a decided opinion on the question. Mr. Hamilton, whose opinion is always deserving of attention, considers the architecture of the two countries to be very different when duly examined, and gives the preference in point of simplicity, symmetry, and taste, to the temples of Egypt.

In point of fact however, the temples of Nubia and of Egypt are in themselves essentially different; those above ground, in the former, being small, and mean and ill-constructed, when compared with those of the latter, while the excavations of the mountains, and the colossal statues hewn out of the living rock, are far superior to those of Egypt—of which it may be said that the structures above the surface are only equalled by those of Ethiopia below it. On a MS. map of the course of the Nile, from Essuan to the confines of Dongola, constructed by Colonel Leake, chiefly from the journal of Mr. Burckhardt, we have read the following note. 'The ancient temples above Philæ are of two very different kinds. Those excavated in the rock at Gyrse and Ebsambul rival some of the grandest works of the Egyptians, and may be supposed at least coeval with the ancient monarchy of Thebes. The temples constructed in masonry, on the other hand, are not to be compared with those of Egypt either in size or in the costly decorations of sculpture and painting; they are probably the works of a much later age.'

If we were to institute a comparison between the journal of Captain Light and that of Mr. Legh, we are not sure that, on the whole, we should not be disposed to give a preference to the former,

former, were it only on account of its numerous prints, and of the notices respecting the temples, catacombs, excavations, and statuary, in which Mr. Legh's was remarkably delicate; we ought not to conceal, however, that we found it somewhat dull and heavy, and particularly deficient in personal enterprise, which seldom fails to interest in a book of travels. It was in fact the well told tale of the subterranean adventure which communicated a charm to Mr. Legh's journal, and which tended more than any thing else to give it the stamp of public approbation. We have frequently been told that our review of that work contained more than was to be found in the book itself; if the additional matter charged upon us was of a novel and interesting nature, (as we flatter ourselves was, in some measure, the case), such a circumstance we apprehend will not be objected to us as a very grievous fault; and we trust that Captain Light will not complain if, on the present occasion, we should terminate our remarks with his Nubian journey, and confine the remainder of this article to African subjects which have not yet met the public eye.

We took an opportunity, in our last Number, to introduce to the acquaintance of our readers a Roman traveller of the name of Belzoni, who, in laying open the front of the great sphynx, had made some singular discoveries in Egyptian antiquities. The uncommon sagacity and perseverance displayed by this Italian are worthy of all praise; and we apprehend that we cannot conclude this Article in a more satisfactory way than by giving a summary account of what his recent discoveries have been, and what may yet be expected from him.

Mr. Belzoni has already completed two journeys to Upper Egypt and Nubia, under the auspices of Mr. Salt, the British consul-general at Cairo. In the first he proceeded beyond the second cataract, and opened the celebrated but hitherto undescribed temple at Ipsambul, or, as it is called by Mr. Burckhardt, Ebsambul, and by Captain Light, Absimbul, being the largest and most extensive excavations either in Nubia or Egypt. More than two thirds of the front of this grand temple were completely buried in the sand, which, in some places, covered it to the height of fifty feet. Its site however is easily recognized by four colossal figures in front in a sitting posture, each of which is about sixty feet high; but one of the four has been thrown down, and lies prostrate in the sand, with which it is partially covered. It was this statue, we believe, from the tip of whose ear Mr. Banks could just reach to its forehead, and which measures, according to Burckhardt, twenty-one feet across the shoulders. Mr. Belzoni found this extraordinary excavation to contain fourteen chambers and a great hall: in the latter of which were standing erect eight colossal figures, each thirty feet

feet high; the walls and pillars were covered with hieroglyphics beautifully cut, and with groups of large figures in bas-relief, in the highest state of preservation. At the end of the sanctuary were four figures in a sitting posture, about twelve feet high, sculptured out of the living rock, and well preserved. In bearing testimony to the great merit of Mr. Belzoni for his researches in this temple, and for his exertions in clearing away the immense mass of sand, Mr. Salt observes, that the 'opening of the temple of Ipsambul was a work of the utmost difficulty, and one that required an ordinary talent to surmount, nearly the whole, when Mr. Belzoni first planned the undertaking, being buried under a bed of loose sand, upwards of fifty feet in depth.' This temple, he adds, 'is on many accounts peculiarly interesting, as it satisfactorily tends to prove that the arts, as practised in Egypt, descended from Ethiopia, the style of the sculpture being in several respects superior to any thing that has yet been found in Egypt.'

At Thebes Mr. Belzoni succeeded in making several very remarkable discoveries. Among other things, he uncovered a row of statues in the ruins of Carnac, as large as life, having the figures of women with heads of lions, all of hard black granite, and in number about forty. Among these was one of white marble, about the size of life, and in perfect preservation; which he conceived to be a statue of Jupiter Ammon, holding the ram's head on his knees. On his second visit to Thebes he discovered a colossal head of Orus, of fine granite. It measured ten feet from the neck to the top of the mitre, was finished in a style of exquisite workmanship, and is in a state of good preservation. He brought away to Cairo one of the arms belonging to this statue, which, with the head, he thinks would form an admirable specimen of the grandeur and execution of Egyptian sculpture; and as he succeeded so well in removing the head of the younger Memnon, as it is called, now deposited in the British Museum, we have no doubt he would be equally successful, if encouraged, in conveying the one in question to Alexandria. Speaking of the Memnonian bust—'He has the singular merit,' says Mr. Salt, 'of having removed from Thebes to Alexandria this celebrated piece of sculpture, to accomplish which it was necessary, after dragging it down upwards of a mile to the water side, to place it on board a small boat, to remove it thence to another djem at Rosetta, and afterwards to land and lodge it in a magazine at Alexandria—all which was most surprisingly effected with the assistance solely of the native peasantry, and such simple machinery as Mr. Belzoni was able to get made under his own direction at Cairo. In fact, his great talents and uncommon genius for mechanics have enabled him with singular success, both at Thebes and other places, to discover objects of the rarest value in antiquity,

antiquity, that had long baffled the researches of the learned, and with trifling means to remove colossal fragments which appear, by their own declaration, to have defied the efforts of the able engineers who accompanied the French army.\*

While thus employed in making researches among the ruins of Thebes, and occupied in his observations on the burial-grounds of the Egyptians, he conceived that he had discovered an infallible clue to the Egyptian catacombs; and such was the certainty of the indications which he had noticed, that, by following them, he discovered no less than six tombs in the valley which is known by the name of 'Biban El Moluck,' or the 'Tombs (or rather Gates) of the Kings,' in a part of the mountains which, to ordinary observers, presented no appearance that could possibly hold forth the slightest prospect of success. All of these are excavations in the mountains, and from their perfect state, owing to the total exclusion of intruders, and probably of the external air, they are said to convey a more correct idea than any discovery hitherto made of Egyptian magnificence and posthumous splendour. The passage from the front entrance to the innermost chamber in one of them measured 309 feet, the whole extent of which is cut out of the living rock; the chambers are numerous; the sides of the rock every where as white as snow, and covered with paintings of well shaped figures, *afresco*, and with hieroglyphics quite perfect. The colours of the paintings are as fresh as if they had been laid on the day before the opening was made. It was in one of the chambers of this tomb that Mr. Belzoni discovered the exquisitely beautiful sarcophagus of alabaster which we noticed in our last Number, and which he describes as being 'nine feet five inches long, by three feet nine inches wide, and two feet and one inch high, carved with and without with hieroglyphics and figures in intaglio, nearly in a perfect state, sounding like a bell, and as transparent as glass.' From the extraordinary magnificence of this tomb, Mr. Belzoni conceives that it must be the depository of the remains of Apis, in which idea he is more confirmed by having found the carcass of a bull embalmed with asphaltum in the innermost room.

'Of this tomb,' says Mr. Salt, 'I have forwarded some account to England. It consists of a long suite of passages and chambers, covered with sculptures and paintings in the most perfect preservation, the tints of which are so resplendent, that it was found scarcely possible to imitate them with the best water-colours made in England; and which in fact are executed on a principle and scale of colour that would make them, I conceive, retain their lustre

\* Description de l'Égypte. Antiquités, tom. six. livrais. 2. p. 210. We mentioned the attempt to blow off the side in our last Number. The right shoulder has actually been taken off, but it does not appear to have been done recently.

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even by the side of a Venetian picture. The sarcophagus of alabaster here discovered is a monument of the taste, delicate workmanship, and skill in cutting so fragile a material, which will perhaps remain for ever unrivalled.' In fact, Mr. Belzoni is so enraptured with the grandeur and magnificence with which this particular tomb has impressed his mind, that he has actually undertaken a third voyage up the Nile for the purpose of executing a perfect model of it in wax, with all the statuary, bas-reliefs, and paintings in their due proportions, in order that the European world may have the means of duly appreciating the splendour and the art displayed in the catacombs of the ancient Egyptians. We hope, however, that the trustees of the British Museum will spare no expense in procuring this extraordinary sarcophagus to place by the side of that which is supposed to have contained the remains of Alexander. We have no doubt of the ability of Mr. Belzoni to execute the task of getting it safely down the Nile.

We have already mentioned the discoveries made by Mr. Belzoni in uncovering the front of the Great Sphynx, and the several articles found between its legs and paws, and which are now deposited in the British Museum. 'Such,' says Mr. Salt, 'are the principal undertakings which have been accomplished by Mr. Belzoni in Egypt and Nubia; but besides these, he has been signally successful in removing many valuable pieces of antiquity—in the discovery of statues and other interesting objects—his researches being evidently carried on with a very superior judgment.' He adds, 'I feel great satisfaction in thus being able to certify the extraordinary ability of Mr. Belzoni, the result of whose operations I have had such frequent opportunities of admiring; and I am more particularly delighted by his discoveries, from the circumstance that they have added many new objects of attraction to European travellers, whose society is at all times agreeable in so remote and uncultivated a region as Egypt.' We have been thus particular in recording the testimony of Mr. Salt in favour of this foreigner, in consequence of an attempt which we perceive is making to depreciate his labours. It might have been expected that these discoveries, made in the true spirit of enthusiasm, but communicated without ostentation, would have escaped the acrimony of invidious criticism;—but it is not so: M. Jomard, a member of the French Institute, and one of the committee, we believe, who smuggled into Africa the traveller Balaïa, better known by the name of Ali Bey, has thought fit, in the 'Journal des Savans,' to attack (in a 'Note' as illiberal as it is unjust) Mr. Belzoni, for addressing a letter to the late M. Visconti, giving a brief sketch of his proceedings, and of the success which had attended his researches in Egypt. In this letter, written in a modest

\* From a MS. memorandum of Mr. Salt.

and unassuming tone, M. Jomard finds (as he is pleased to think) the author appropriating to himself, as new discoveries, those which belong to the French. Not content with claiming for his countrymen all the discoveries that are now making, and that may hereafter be made, M. Jomard appropriates to them all that have hitherto been made in Egypt. 'France,' he says, 'in preference to any other nation in Europe, ought to be interested in all new researches of which this classical country shall be the object, since she has made so many sacrifices in order to discover its monuments, to study its climate and productions, and to develop, for the first time, to the scientific world, all its antiquities, which, though the admiration of thirty ages, were not out of that account the better known.' And does M. Jomard expect to persuade 'the scientific world' that nothing was known of Egypt before the French savans, with an invading army at their heels, explored the ruins of Thebes, 'with its palaces and temples, its obelisks, its avenues of sphinxes, its colossal columns, its catacombs, and the tombs of its kings covered with paintings so brilliant, so well preserved?' Does he hope to persuade the world that a Pococke, a Norden, a Niebhur, or a Hamilton will shrink in a comparison with any one of those 'forty French savans' who remained so many months among the ruins of Thebes?—M. Jomard may flatter himself that he has made a wonderful discovery in proclaiming the statue sitting on the plain of Memnonium with the inscription on its legs to be the true Memnon—as if Pococke had not done the same thing long ago, and as if any one but Denon had ever doubted it. M. Jomard, however, is quite mistaken in supposing that Mr. Belzoni gave to the beautiful bust in the British Museum, (which we are indebted to his ingenuity for removing, after the French had tried to do it in vain,) the improper name of the 'young Memnon'—it is a hazardous and unauthorized term, about as well founded as the supposition that the head, which he and his brother-savans left with the face turned towards the heaven, 'when the time and events opposed themselves to their efforts of stirring still more than the enormous weight of the figure,'—but which, however, the efforts of a single Roman, aided by his own genius, easily accomplished, was that of Osymandias. For the rest, M. Jomard may make himself easy about the alabaster sarcophagus.—'This extraordinary morsel' will, we doubt not, come to Europe—but not to Paris: there are mineralogists in London who can examine and describe it with as much accuracy as if it were submitted to a committee of the French Institute.

Of M. Jomard's hostility towards M. Belzoni, or rather, we suspect, towards the English, under whose auspices he is prosecuting his discoveries in Egypt, the 'Note' bears ample testimony throughout; the presumption of the writer is no less conspicuous; and

and the concluding paragraph exposes his ignorance in a matter in which he ought to have better informed himself, before he attempted to strip another of the laurels so justly his due. 'The subterranean temple of Ipsambul,' says the critic, 'which M. Belzoni imagines himself to have discovered, had already been visited by many Europeans, particularly by Mr. Thomas Legh.' It happens that M. Belzoni, so far from pretending to have discovered it, merely says, 'I went to Nubia to examine the temple of Ipsambul,' and the only merit which he claims is that of having, 'by dint of patience and courage, after twenty-two days persevering labour, had the pleasure of finding himself in the temple of Ipsambul, where no European had ever before entered.' But it also happens that Mr. Thomas Legh not only did not visit Ipsambul, but was not within a day and a half's journey of it, and never once mentions its name,—we would therefore recommend M. Jomard to do justice to M. Belzoni, by frankly avowing that the first time he ever heard the name of Ipsambul was in that gentleman's letter to M. Visconti; for we are quite sure that he knows nothing of the discoveries made there by the late Sheikh Ibrahim and Mr. Banks, the only Europeans we believe, who have proceeded so far up the Nile in the present century.\*

But the most brilliant of M. Belzoni's labours, and perhaps the most arduous and extraordinary, is the opening of the second pyramid of Ghiza, known by the name of Cephrenes. Herodotus was informed that this pyramid had no subterranean chambers, and his information, being found in latter ages to be generally correct, may

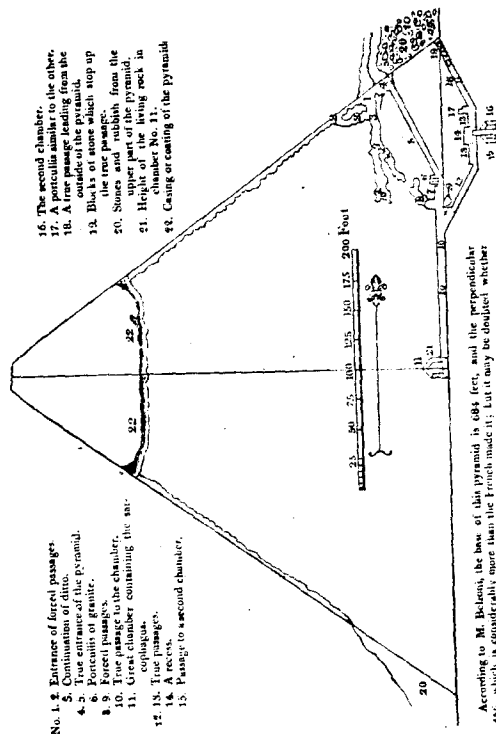
\* The government of France was at no one period more jealous of the power of England, than the members of the French Institute are at this moment of her progress in science and the arts; an instance of it occurred at one of its recent sittings, which appeared to us (for we happened to be present) quite ludicrous. An officer of naval engineers, of the name of Dupuy, having procured access to our docks, yards and laboratories, as well as to all the great manufactories of private individuals, presented to the Institute, on his return, 'An Essay on the Progress of Gunnery, Engineering, &c. in Great Britain,' in which he particularly dwelt on the grandeur, magnificence, and convenient arrangement of the arsenal of Woolwich. During the reading of this report by the Duc de Raguse, the whole Institute sighed most deeply; and when he spoke of the high degree of perfection to which the English had carried the steam-engine, the hydraulic press, and the different combinations of those two machines—adding that by the first the effect was produced of two or three hundred horses, without noise and without confusion—and that by means of the latter the transport of provisions and forage became so easy as to supply in the greatest abundance the army of Portugal, in presence of an adversary who was destitute of every thing—when these and the many advantages which England derived from the excellence of her machinery were enumerating, nothing was heard but groans from every corner of the room,—but when the reporter declared that it might be recollected that it was to a Frenchman the steam-engine owed its origin; that the hydraulic press was a French invention; that the mechanic Brunel was a Frenchman; and that he is at this moment charged with the principal works carrying on in England—and, in fact, that there is nothing which the genius of Frenchmen has not been able to produce—the groans ceased, the clouds were dispelled, and all became calm, cheerful, and serene.—(Rapport de l'Institut. Essai sur les Progrès de l'Artillerie, &c. Mars, 1818.)

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be supposed to have operated in preventing that curiosity which prompted the opening of the great pyramid of Cheops. M. Belzoni, however, perceived certain indications of sufficient weight to induce him to make the attempt, the account of which we are enabled to give in his own words: but first we shall quote Mr. Salt's observation on this most wonderful undertaking, from a letter which now lies before us. 'The opening of this pyramid had long been considered an object of so hopeless a nature that it is difficult to conceive how any person could be found sanguine enough to make the attempt; and even after the discovery with great labour of the forced entrance, it required great perseverance in Belzoni, and confidence in his own views, to induce him to continue the operation, when it became evident that the extensive labours of his predecessors in the enterprise had so completely failed. He himself has pointed out in some degree his motives for trying the particular point, where he came upon the true entrance, otherwise, on examining it, nothing can present a more hopeless prospect. The direct manner in which he dug down upon the door affords, however, the most incontestable proof that chance had nothing to do with the discovery. Of the discovery itself, M. Belzoni has given a very clear description, and his drawings present a perfect idea of the channels, chambers, and entrances. Of the labours of the undertaking, no one can form an idea. Notwithstanding the masses of stone which he had to remove, and the hardness of the materials which impeded his progress, the whole was effected entirely at his own risk and expense.'

The following is M. Belzoni's own account of his operations in penetrating to the centre of the pyramid of Cephrenes, which will the more readily be understood by a reference to the annexed diagram.



- No. 1. Entrance of forced passages.  
2. True entrance of the pyramid.  
3. Portals of granite.  
4. Forced passages.  
5. True passage to the chamber.  
6. Chamber containing the sarcophagus.  
7. True passage.  
8. A recess.  
9. Passage to a second chamber.

16. The second chamber.  
17. A particular chamber from the other.  
18. A chamber leading from the outside of the pyramid.  
19. Black of stone which stop up the true passages.  
20. Stones and stones from the true passages.  
21. Height of the living rock in chamber No. 11.  
22. Cause of coating of the pyramid.

According to M. Belzoni, the base of this pyramid is 684 feet, and the perpendicular axis, which is considerably more than the French made it; but it may be doubted whether any one before him worked down to the foundation.

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"On my return to Cairo, I again went to visit the celebrated pyramids of Ghiza; and on viewing that of Cephrenes, I could not help reflecting how many travellers of different nations, who had visited this spot, contented themselves with looking at the outside of this pyramid, and went away without inquiring whether any, and what chambers, exist within it; satisfied perhaps with the report of the Egyptian priests, "that the pyramid of Cheops only contained chambers in its interior." I then began to consider about the possibility of opening this pyramid; the attempt was perhaps presumptuous; and the risk of undertaking such an immense work without success deterred me in some degree from the enterprise. I am not certain whether love for antiquity, an ardent curiosity, or ambition, spurred me on most in spite of every obstacle, but I determined at length to commence the operation. I soon discovered the same indications which had led to the development of the six tombs of the kings in Thebes, and which induced me to begin the operation on the north side. It is true, the situations of the tombs at Thebes, their form and epochs are so very different from those of the pyramids, that many points of observation made with regard to the former, could not apply to the latter; yet, I perceived enough to urge me to the enterprise. I accordingly set out from Cairo on the 6th of February, 1818, under pretence of going in quest of some antiquities at a village not far off, in order that I might not be disturbed in my work by the people of Cairo. I then repaired to the Kaiya Bey, and asked permission to work at the pyramid of Ghiza in search of antiquities. He made no objection, but said that he wished to know if there was any ground about the pyramid fit for tillage; I informed him that it was all stones, and at a considerable distance from any tilled ground. He nevertheless persisted in inquiring of the Caschief of the province, if there was any good ground near the pyramids; and, after receiving the necessary information, granted my request.

"Having thus acquired permission, I began my labours on the 10th of February, at a point on the north side in a vertical section at right angles to that side of the base. I saw many reasons against my beginning there, but certain indications told me that there was an entrance at that spot. I employed sixty labouring men, and began to cut through the mass of stones and cement which had fallen from the upper part of the pyramid, but it was so hard joined together, that the men spoiled several of their hatchets in the operation; the stones which had fallen down along with the cement having formed themselves into one solid and almost impenetrable mass. I succeeded, however, in making an opening of fifteen feet wide, and continued working downwards in uncovering the face of the pyramid; this work took up several days, without the least prospect of meeting

meeting with any thing interesting. Meantime, I began to fear that some of the Europeans residing at Cairo might pay a visit to the pyramids, which they do very often, and thus discover my retreat, and interrupt my proceedings.

"On the 17th of the same month we had made a considerable advance downwards, when the Arab workman called out, making a great noise, and saying that he had found the entrance. He had discovered a hole in the pyramid into which he could just thrust his arm and a djerid of six feet long. Towards the evening we discovered a larger aperture, about three feet square, which had been closed in irregularly, by a hewn stone; this stone I caused to be removed, and then came to an opening larger than the preceding, but filled up with loose stones and sand. This satisfied me that it was not the real but a forced passage, which I found to lead inwards and towards the south;—the next day we succeeded in entering fifteen feet from the outside, when we reached a place where the sand and stones began to fall from above. I caused the rubbish to be taken out, but it still continued to fall in great quantities; at last, after some days labour, I discovered an upper forced entrance, (2), communicating with the outside from above, and which had evidently been cut by some one who was in search of the true passage. Having cleared this passage, I perceived another opening (3) below, which apparently ran towards the centre of the pyramid. In a few hours I was able to enter this passage, and found it to be a continuation of the lower forced passage (1), which runs horizontally towards the centre of the pyramid, nearly all choked up with stones and sand. These obstructions I caused to be taken out; and at half-way from the entrance I found a descent, (xx), which also had been forced; and which ended at the distance of forty feet. I afterwards continued the work in the horizontal passage above, in hopes that it might lead to the centre; but I was disappointed, and at last was convinced that it ended there, (x o), and that, to attempt to advance in that way would only incur the risk of sacrificing some of my workmen; as it was really astonishing to see how the stones hung suspended over their heads, resting, perhaps, by a single point. Indeed one of these stones did fall, and had nearly killed one of the men. I therefore retired from the forced passage, with great regret and disappointment.

"Notwithstanding the discouragements I met with, I recommenced my researches on the following day, depending upon my indications. I directed the ground to be cleared away to the eastward of the false entrance; the stones, encrusted and bound together with cement, were equally hard as the former, and we had as many large stones to remove as before. By this time my retreat had

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had been discovered, which occasioned me many interruptions from visitors, among others was the Abbé de Forbin.

"On February 28, we discovered a block of granite (at 4) in an inclined direction towards the centre of the pyramid, and I perceived that the inclination was the same as that of the passage of the first pyramid or that of Cheops; consequently I began to hope that I was near the true entrance. On the first of March we observed three large blocks of stone one upon the other, all inclined towards the centre: these large stones we had to remove as well as others much larger as we advanced, which considerably retarded our approach to the desired spot. I perceived, however, that I was near the true entrance, and, in fact, the next day about noon, on the 2d of March, was the epoch at which the grand pyramid of Cephrenes was at last opened, after being closed up for so many centuries, that it remained an uncertainty whether any interior chambers did or did not exist. The passage I discovered was a square opening of four feet high and three and a half wide, formed by four blocks of granite; and continued slanting downward at the same inclination as that of the pyramid of Cheops, which is an angle of 26°.—It runs to the length of 104 feet 5 inches, lined the whole way with granite. I had much to do to remove and draw up the stones which filled the passage (4, 5,) down to the port-cullis (6) or door of granite, which is fitted into a niche also made of granite. I found this door supported by small stones within 8 inches of the floor, and in consequence of the narrowness of the place it took up the whole of that day and part of the next to raise it sufficiently to afford an entrance; this door is 1 foot 3 inches thick, and, together with the work of the niche, occupies 6 feet 11 inches, where the granite work ends: then commences a short passage, (7) gradually ascending towards the centre, 22 feet 7 inches, at the end of which is a perpendicular of 15 feet: on the left is a small forced passage (9) cut in the rock, and also above, on the right, is another forced passage, (8) which runs upwards and turns to the north 30 feet, just over the port-cullis. There is no doubt that this passage was made by the same persons who forced the other, in order to ascertain if there were any others which might ascend above, in conformity to that of the pyramid of Cheops. I descended the perpendicular (x) by means of a rope, and found a large quantity of stones and earth accumulated beneath, which very nearly filled up the entrance into the passage below (12) which inclines towards the north. I next proceeded towards the channel (10) that leads to the centre and soon reached the horizontal passage. This passage is 5 feet 11 inches high, 3 feet 6 inches wide, and the whole length, from the above-mentioned perpendicular (x) to the great chamber (11) is 158 feet 8 inches. These passages

passages are partly cut out of the living rock, and at half-way there is some mason's work, probably to fill up some vacancy in the rock; the walls of this passage are in several parts covered with incrustations of salts.

"On entering the great chamber, I found it to be 46 feet 3 inches long, 16 feet 3 inches wide, and 23 feet 6 inches high; for the most part cut out of the rock, except that part of the roof towards the western end. In the midst we observed a sarcophagus of granite, partly buried in the ground, to the level of the floor, 8 feet long, 3 feet 6 inches wide, and 2 feet 3 inches deep inside, surrounded by large blocks of granite, being placed apparently to guard it from being taken away, which could not be effected without great labour; the lid of it had been opened; I found in it only a few bones of a human skeleton, which merit preservation as curious reliques, they being, in all probability, those of Cephrenes, the reported builder of this pyramid. On the wall of the western side of the chamber is an Arabic inscription, a translation of which has been sent to the British Museum.\* It testifies that "this pyramid was opened by the Masters Mahomet El Aghar and Otman, and that it was inspected in presence of the Sultan Ali Mahomet the 1st, Ugloch.† There are also several other inscriptions on the walls, supposed to be Coptic (qu. enchorial); part of the floor of this chamber had been removed in different places evidently in search of treasure, by some of those who had found their way into it. Under one of the stones I found a piece of metal something like the thick part of an axe, but it is so rusty and decayed that it is almost impossible to form a just idea of its form. High up and near the centre there are two small square holes, one on the north and the other on the south, each one foot square; they enter into the wall like those in the great chamber of the first pyramid. I returned to the before-mentioned perpendicular (x) and found a passage to the north (12) in the same inclination of 26° as that above: this descends 48 feet 6 inches, where the horizontal passage (13) commences, which keeps the same direction north 55 feet, and half-way along it there is on the east a recess (13) of 11 feet deep. On the west side there is a passage (15) 20 feet long, which descends into a chamber (16) 32 feet long and 9 feet 9 inches wide; 8 and 6 feet high; this chamber contains a quantity of small square blocks of stone, and some unknown inscriptions written on the walls. Returning to the original passage, (13) and advancing north, near the end of it is a niche (17) to receive a port-cullis like that above. Fragments of granite, of which it was made, are lying near the spot; advancing still to the north I en-

\* We cannot find that this inscription has yet reached its destination.

† A Tartane title, as Uley Bey, &c.

tered a passage (18) which runs in the same inclination as that before-mentioned, and at 47 feet 6 inches from the niche it is filled up with some large blocks of stone (19) put there to close the entrance which issues out precisely at the base of the pyramid. According to the measurements, it is to be observed that all the works below the base are cut into the living rock, as well as part of the passages and chambers before-mentioned. Before I conclude I have to mention that I caused a range of steps to be built, from the upper part of the perpendicular (x) to the passage below, for the accommodation of visitors.

It may be mentioned, that at the time I excavated on the north side of the pyramid, I caused the ground to be removed to the eastward between the pyramid and the remaining portico which lies nearly on a line with the pyramid and the sphinx. I opened the ground in several places, and, in particular, at the base of the pyramid; and in a few days I came to the foundation and walls of an extensive temple, which stood before the pyramid at the distance of only 40 feet. The whole of this space is covered with a fine platform which no doubt runs all round the pyramid. The pavement of this temple, where I uncovered it, consists of fine blocks of calcareous stone, some of which are beautifully cut and in fine preservation; the blocks of stone that form the foundation are of an immense size. I measured one of 21 feet long, 10 feet high, and 8 in breadth (120 tons weight each); there are some others above ground in the porticoes, which measured 24 feet in length, but not so broad nor so thick. Thus far Belzoni.

By the opening of this pyramid, and the discovery of human bones within the sarcophagus buried in the central chamber, (which were wanting in that found in the first pyramid), the question as to the original design of those stupendous fabrics is, we should suppose, completely set at rest. It is quite certain, as M. Pauw has observed, that if they were intended for gnomons or sun-dials, as some have thought, the authors of them, had they studied how to make a bad sun-dial, could not well have contrived a worse than a pyramid; a stile of this form, placed in the latitude of Lower Egypt, must, for a great part of the year, and the greater part of the day, devour its own shadow, which, falling on its side and within its base, would consequently be useless. As little probability is there that they were intended to fix a permanent meridian, or to ascertain if the poles of the earth changed their place. As well might some future antiquarian of a new race of people conjecture, from observing the four sides of our church steeples to face the four cardinal points of the compass, that they had been built under the direction of mathematicians and astronomers, and that the whole nation was therefore particularly addicted to those sciences. It might happen

happen with regard to the builders of the pyramids, as with European churches, that some superstitious notions, connected with the east and the rising sun, may have determined the position of their faces, but that this position had any connection with science is a modern conjecture which has served at least to exercise the ingenuity of the learned. If any reasonable doubt could ever have been entertained of their original purpose, we think there are now sufficient grounds to pronounce them the mere monuments of post-humous vanity; a more civilized and artificial modification of the rude tumulus or cairn, to preserve in security, or perhaps to mark the spot where, the remains of some despot have been deposited, for which purpose they were prepared in his lifetime, or may have been raised to the memory of some favourite chief, after his death, by his faithful followers. The history of the pyramids of Egypt, obscure as it is, is in favour of the former supposition. The extraordinary care that was taken in the preservation of the body after death from violence and corruption, was quite consistent with the opinion of the Egyptians, that the soul never deserted the body while the latter continued in a perfect state. To secure this union, Cheops is said to have employed three hundred and sixty thousand of his subjects for twenty years\* in raising over the 'angusta domus,' destined to hold his remains, a pile of stone equal in weight to six millions of tons, which is just three times that which the vast Breakwater, thrown across Plymouth Sound, will be when completed; and to render his precious dust still more secure, the narrow chamber was made accessible only by small, intricate passages, obstructed by stones of an enormous weight, and so carefully closed externally as not to be perceptible.—Yet how vain are all the precautions of man! Not a bone was left of Cheops either in the stone coffin or in the vault when Shaw entered the gloomy chamber; a circumstance which led him to conclude, hastily enough, that the pyramids were never intended for sepulchral monuments; and the learned Bryant, having settled them to be temples consecrated to the Deity, had no difficulty in transforming the sarcophagus into a water-trough to hold the sacred element drawn up from the Nile—a conception about as felicitous as that which would have converted the supposed sarcophagus of Alexander into a bathing-tub; a proof of which was in the holes in the bottom to let out the water! Belzoni however has gone far to prove that Strabo and Diodorus Siculus knew better, and that these ancient authors had good grounds for asserting the Egyptian pyramids to be sepulchral monuments.

The discovery now made of the Saracens having opened the second pyramid is, we believe, perfectly new.

\* Herodotus, lib. ii.

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We do not suppose that Mr. Belzoni is a man of much education or deep science; but he certainly possesses considerable talent for research, and unwearied perseverance; the very requisites which are calculated to explore and bring to light the hidden treasures of antiquity. From the exertions of such a man, the British Museum is likely to become the first repository in the world for Egyptian art and antiquities; and we trust that every possible encouragement will be given to those exertions by rewarding him liberally for what he has done, and by promises of future rewards proportioned to the value of his discoveries; for if we are rightly informed, he is not in circumstances to incur expense without the chance of remuneration.

ART. VII.—*Endymion: A Poetic Romance.* By John Keats. London. 1818. pp. 207.

REVIEWERS have been sometimes accused of not reading the works which they affected to criticise. On the present occasion we shall anticipate the author's complaint, and honestly confess that we have not read his work. Not that we have been wanting in our duty—far from it—indeed, we have made efforts almost as superhuman as the story itself appears to be, to get through it; but with the fullest stretch of our perseverance, we are forced to confess that we have not been able to struggle beyond the first of the four books of which this Poetic Romance consists. We should extremely lament this want of energy, or whatever it may be, on our parts, were it not for one consolation—namely, that we are no better acquainted with the meaning of the book through which we have so painfully toiled, than we are with that of the three which we have not looked into.

It is not that Mr. Keats, (if that be his real name, for we almost doubt that any man in his senses would put his real name to such a rhapsody,) it is not, we say, that the author has not powers of language, rays of fancy, and gleams of genius—he has all these; but he is unhappily a disciple of the new school of what has been somewhere called Cockney poetry; which may be defined to consist of the most incongruous ideas in the most uncouth language.

Of this school, Mr. Leigh Hunt, as we observed in a former Number, aspires to be the hierophant. Our readers will recollect the pleasant recipes for harmonious and sublime poetry which he gave us in his preface to 'Rimini,' and the still more facetious instances of his harmony and sublimity in the verses themselves; and they will recollect above all the contempt of Pope, Johnson, and such like poetasters and pseudo-critics, which so forcibly contrasted itself with Mr. Leigh Hunt's self-complacent approbation of

— 'all

— 'all the things itself had wrote,  
Of special merit though of little note.'

This author is a copyist of Mr. Hunt; but he is more unintelligible, almost as rugged, twice as diffuse, and ten times more tiresome and absurd than his prototype, who, though he impudently presumed to seat himself in the chair of criticism, and to measure his own poetry by his own standard, yet generally had a meaning. But Mr. Keats had advanced no dogmas which he was bound to support by examples; his nonsense therefore is quite gratuitous; he writes it for its own sake, and, being bitten by Mr. Leigh Hunt's insane criticism, more than rivals the insanity of his poetry.

Mr. Keats's preface hints that his poem was produced under peculiar circumstances.

'Knowing within myself (he says) the manner in which this Poem has been produced, it is not without a feeling of regret that I make it public. —What manner I mean, will be quite clear to the reader, who must soon perceive great inexperience, immaturity, and every error denoting a feverish attempt, rather than a deed accomplished.'—*Preface*, p. vii.

We humbly beg his pardon, but this does not appear to us to be quite so clear—we really do not know what he means—but the next passage is more intelligible.

'The two first books, and indeed the two last, I feel sensible are not of such completion as to warrant their passing the press.'—*Preface*, p. vii.

Thus 'the two first books' are, even in his own judgment, unfit to appear, and 'the two last' are, it seems, in the same condition—and as two and two make four, and as that is the whole number of books, we have a clear and, we believe, a very just estimate of the entire work!

Mr. Keats, however, deprecates criticism on this 'immature and feverish work' in terms which are themselves sufficiently feverish; and we confess that we should have abstained from inflicting upon him any of the tortures of the 'fiery hell' of criticism, which terrify his imagination, if he had not begged to be spared in order that he might write more; if we had not observed in him a certain degree of talent which deserves to be put in the right way, or which, at least, ought to be warned of the wrong; and if, finally, he had not told us that he is of an age and temper which imperiously require mental discipline.

Of the story we have been able to make out but little; it seems to be mythological, and probably relates to the loves of Diana and Endymion; but of this, as the scope of the work has altogether escaped us, we cannot speak with any degree of certainty; and must therefore content ourselves with giving some instances of its diction and versification:—and here again we are perplexed and puzzled. —At first it appeared to us, that Mr. Keats had been amusing himself



knights acquaintance of the Sword, Polar Star, and Seraphim—Sir Herman of Lasholm, K. P. S., Sir Charles Frederick von Breda, K. V., Sir Charles Axel Lindroth, K. P. S. &c.—it does not therefore follow that he is inclined to treat the nobility of Sweden 'with insolence and contempt;' nor can any proof be brought of such a feeling on his part.

In spite of Mr. Brown's long dissertation on the merits and performances of Sergell, we are not inclined to entertain any very exalted opinion of his taste in the fine arts, or of his acquaintance with their professors. That Sweden should not be able to boast of painters equal to the highest walks of the art, and that Sergell should not rival Phidias, is by no means surprising. Whatever may have been the progress of the other arts and sciences in the civilized world, in painting and statuary a falling off has unquestionably taken place; and this, we conceive, is the only 'implication' which Mr. James intended when, speaking of the professors of the arts in Sweden, he wound up the sentence on Sergell with the 'morceau' so offensive to Mr. Brown. Of the general merits of the artists of Sweden, Mr. James always thought with respect and spoke with liberality.

'Falcrantz as a painter of landscapes,' he says, 'stands the first in reputation, and, indeed, may fairly be ranked among the best artists of the present day.'—p. 122.

Again, 'There is no country in Europe which, in proportion to her numbers, has contributed so largely to the advancement of science as Sweden, and none in which it is still more steadily and successfully pursued.'—p. 125.

From the display made by Mr. Brown of his knowledge of the Swedish language, and his perpetual blunders in every other, we suspect that his studies, like his travels, have not been very extensive. Under such an *alias* as that by which she is described, we have had some difficulty in recognizing a well known statue twice mentioned by Mr. Brown under different titles—'Venus du belle fesses,' and 'Venus de belles fesses.' We would venture also to hint to him, that 'Tu Marcellus eris' can never be 'Thou shalt be Marcellus.' The strictures upon Mr. James and Dr. Thomson, the one for mispelling the town 'Abo,' and the other for designating the stream which flows into the sea at Gottenburgh as 'the River Gotha,' appear to be pedantic and absurd. Obo is spelled as it is pronounced, and although the Gotha in its course goes by two other names, we shall continue to follow Mr. Coxe and Mr. James in giving it that title until it shall be proved that the Thames should be styled the Isis or the Tame. The stream which is called Chara before it merges in the Wenern Lake, on quitting it takes the name of the province through which it flows, and becomes the Gotha.—But we must have done with Mr. Brown.

ART.

ART. VIII.—*Observations relating to some of the Antiquities of Egypt, from the Papers of the late Mr. Davison. Published in Walpole's Memoirs. 1816.*

IF some of our consuls have merited the reproach of having made their public station subservient to their private interests, and of wholly neglecting those researches into objects of literature or science which their situation might have brought fairly within their reach, the names of Bruce, Davison and Salt may safely be mentioned as honourable exceptions from it. Mr. Bruce has nobly rescued his own name from any inattention to objects of scientific research;—so has Mr. Salt, as we shall presently see:—and to Mr. Walpole the literary world is now indebted for bringing forward a small part of the discoveries and observations of Mr. Davison in Egypt, which had been hitherto known only to a few of his friends.

In the year 1763, Mr. Davison, then consul at Algiers, accompanied Wortley Montague to Egypt. He resided (Mr. Walpole informs us) eighteen months at Cairo; made frequent visits to the pyramids of Gizeh, Saccara and Dashour, and several excursions in the vicinity of Alexandria with the Duke de Chaulnes, with whom he afterwards embarked for Europe. While performing quarantine in the Lazaretto at Leghorn, the duke contrived, by means of a false key, to get possession, and to take copies, of Mr. Davison's papers and drawings. On coming to London, a few years afterwards, he advertised a publication of his own researches, with drawings by Mr. Davison, whom he had the impudence to designate as his secretary. Whether he knew that Mr. Davison was still alive does not appear; but on the very day (Sept. 9th, 1783) which he had appointed for an engraver to wait on him, he received a written remonstrance, on the part of that gentleman, which obliged him to relinquish his design. He had then the effrontery to propose a joint publication, which Mr. Davison indignantly declined. Mr. Walpole adds, that there are two plates in Sonnini's travels, from drawings of Mr. Davison, which could only have been communicated by the Duke de Chaulnes.

The papers now first published, from the journals of Mr. Davison, consist of his measurements of the pyramid of Cheops, by taking that of each individual step or altar from the base to the summit, and subsequently with the theodolite—an account of his descent into the 'Well,' (as it is usually called), which is mentioned by Pliny as being eighty-six cubits in depth—of his discovery of a room over the chamber containing the sarcophagus, which had escaped Maillet, though he had been forty times within the pyramid; which Niebuhr could not find, though told of it by Mr. Meynard, who accompanied Mr. Davison; and which had not

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been visited by any other traveller until last year. There is, besides, a correspondence between him and Professor White, on the subject of Abdallatif's account of the pyramids; and a description of the catacombs of Alexandria, of which very little seems then to have been known, as they scarcely appear to have been noticed by preceding travellers. The only portion of these Papers which it is our intention to examine, is the account of the Well and the new chamber in the great pyramid, as preliminary to some recent and unpublished discoveries, which we are about to lay before our readers.

In a short but comprehensive letter addressed to M. Varsy, the author observes that, as he conceived the supposed Well to be of vast depth, he provided himself with a large quantity of rope, which turned out to be no useless precaution—for though he found a sort of steps or holes in the rock, yet the lower part of them were so worn away, as to risk a fall and consequent destruction by trusting to them alone. To avoid so calamitous an event, Mr. Davison tied a rope round his middle; and previously to his descent, let down a lantern attached to the end of a small cord, which, on finding it soon to stop, he prepared to follow. With much persuasion he prevailed on two of his servants and three Arabs to hold the rope;—the Arabs assured him there were ghosts below, and that he never could hope to return. Mr. Davison laughed at their timidity; and taking with him a few sheets of paper, a compass, a measure, and another lighted candle, commenced the descent, and soon reached the bottom of the first well or shaft. Here he found, on the south side, at the distance of about eight feet from the first shaft, a second opening which descended perpendicularly, to the depth of five feet only; and at four feet ten inches from the bottom of this, a third shaft, the mouth of which was nearly choked up with a large stone, leaving only a small opening, barely sufficient to allow a man to pass. Here he thought it prudent to let down his lantern, not only to discover to what depth he was about to proceed, but also to ascertain if the air was pernicious. The shaft, however, was so tortuous that the candle soon became invisible; but Mr. Davison was not to be discouraged—nothing less than a journey to the bottom would satisfy his eager curiosity: the difficulty was how to prevail on the Arabs to come down and hold the rope. To all his entreaties they only answered, that, a few years before, a Frank having got to the place where he then was, let down a rope to discover the depth, when the devil caught hold of it, and plucked it out of his hands. 'I was well aware,' says Mr. Davison, 'to whom they were indebted for this story—the Dutch consul swore that the thing happened to himself.' After many prayers, and threats, and promises

promises of money, and of all the treasure that might be discovered at the bottom of the well, the avarice of one man got the better, in some degree, of his terrors, and he ventured to descend;—'on reaching the bottom,' says Mr. Davison, 'he stared about him, pale and trembling, appearing more like a spectre than a human being.'

Our enterprising adventurer now hastened on his journey, with the rope round his body; and the sight of the lantern, which he had let down, convinced him that this well was somewhat deeper than the first. Having proceeded a little farther than half-way down to the spot where the candle rested, as it afterwards appeared, he came to a grotto, about fifteen feet long, four or five wide, and about the height of a man: from this place the third shaft or well was sloping, and by throwing down a stone he ascertained it to be of much greater depth than the others: pushing the lantern a little before him, he set out afresh on his journey; and calling to the Arab to loosen the rope gently, with the help of the little holes made in the rock, he gradually proceeded, without the least appearance of reaching his journey's end. At length the shaft beginning to incline a little more to the perpendicular, brought him speedily to the bottom, where he ascertained it to be completely closed by sand and rubbish.

Having reached this point, Mr. Davison now began to reflect on two circumstances which had not before occurred to him, and neither of which was very consoling. The first was, that the multitude of bats which he had disturbed might put out his candle; and the second, that the immense stone in the mouth of the shaft might slip down and close the passage for ever. On looking about the bottom, he found a rope ladder, which, though it had lain there sixteen years, was as fresh and strong as if perfectly new. It had been used, as it seems, by Mr. Wood (who published an account of the ruins of Balbec and Palmyra) to aid his descent; but he had stopped short at the grotto. When Mr. Davison, on his return, had reached the bottom of the first shaft, the candles fell and went out;—then, says he, 'the poor Arab thought himself lost. He laid hold of the rope as I was about to ascend, declaring that he would rather have his brains blown out than be left alone there with the devil. I therefore permitted him to go before, and though it was much more difficult to ascend than to descend, I know not how it was, but he scrambled up a hundred times more quickly than he had come down.'

The depth of the first shaft was 22 feet; of the second 29; and of the third 99; if the five feet between the first and second shaft be added, the whole depth will be found to be 155 feet.

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Of his discovery of a second chamber in the great pyramid, Mr. Davison gives the following account.

The chief reason of my returning now to the pyramid was to endeavour, if possible, to mount up to the hole I had discovered at the top of the gallery the last time I was there. For this purpose I had made seven short ladders in such a manner as to fasten one to another by means of four wooden pins, the whole together, when joined, being about twenty-six feet long. As soon as the rubbish was cleared from the straight passage at the bottom, I caused the ladders to be brought in by two carpenters who accompanied me. When they had conveyed them to the platform at the top of the gallery, tying two long canes together, I placed a candle at one end, and gave it to a servant to hold near the hole in question. The platform being very small there was no thinking of fixing the ladders on the ground, as it would have been very difficult, not to say impossible to raise them. We took the only method which seemed practicable; namely, that of placing the first ladder against the wall; two men raising it up, a third placed another below it, and having fastened them together by the wooden pins, the two together were raised from the ground, and the rest in the same manner fixed one after another. The ladder entered enough into the hole, when all parts were joined together, to prevent it from sliding on the side of the gallery. I then instantly mounted, and found a passage two feet four inches square, which turned immediately to the right. I entered a little way, with my face on the ground, but was obliged to retire, on account of the passage being in a great measure choked with dust, and bats' dung, which, in some places, was near a foot deep. I first thought of clearing it by throwing the dirt down into the gallery, but foreseeing that this would be a work of some time, besides the inconvenience of filling the gallery with rubbish, and perhaps rendering the descent more difficult, I determined to make another effort to enter, which was accompanied with more success than the first. I was enabled to creep in, though with much difficulty, not only on account of the lowness of the passage, but likewise the quantity of dust which I raised. When I had advanced a little way I discovered what I supposed to be the end of the passage. My surprise was great, when I reached it, to find to the right a straight entrance into a long, broad, but low place, which I knew, as well by the length as the direction of the passage I had entered at, to be immediately above the large room. The stones of granite, which are at the top of the latter, form the bottom of this, but are uneven, being of unequal thickness. This room is four feet longer than the one below; in the latter, you see only seven stones, and a half of one, on each side of them; but in that above, the nine are entire, the two halves resting on the wall at each end. The breadth is equal with that of the room below. The covering of this, as of the other, is of beautiful granite; but it is composed of eight stones instead of nine, the number in the room below. One of the carpenters entered with me, and Mr. Meynard came into the passage, near the door, but being a good deal troubled with the dust, and want of air, he retired.

retired. Having measured and examined the different parts of it we came out, and descended by the ladder.—pp. 354—356.

This brief account of Mr. Davison's discoveries will enable us to appreciate the labours of another enterprising traveller, of whose extraordinary exertions, courage, and perseverance, and the brilliant discoveries to which they led, we have been favoured with a very interesting account, drawn up roughly by our consul-general, Mr. Salt, by whose zeal, personal exertions, influence with the pashaw, and great pecuniary liberality, many of the hidden treasures of Egypt have been brought to light; some of which have already found their way, and others are following, to that magnificent depository of nature and art, the British Museum.

The person to whom we allude is Mr. Caviglia, the master and, we believe, owner of a mercantile vessel in the Mediterranean trade, 'who,' Mr. Salt informs us, 'was most actively employed, for a period of nearly six months, in carrying on his researches with a disinterested zeal that merits general admiration, and will ensure him the gratitude of all who take pleasure in the studies of the antiquarian.' In tracing the progress of those researches, we cannot do better than adhere as closely to the words of Mr. Salt as our necessarily abridged narrative will admit.

Mr. Caviglia (who is described as a gentleman with whose amiable character is blended an ardent enthusiasm for such pursuits) had long entertained an opinion that, among the antiquities so justly celebrated in Egypt, much yet remained to be explored that might throw a light upon the peculiar rites and usages of its ancient inhabitants; and as nothing had excited his attention more than the stupendous pyramids of Gizeh, he had determined, whenever the opportunity occurred, to exert his utmost efforts in clearing up the mystery which still hangs over the real intention of the numerous passages and the interior chambers of those venerable structures. With this determination he set out from Alexandria for Cairo, where he arrived on the 26th December, 1816, and immediately entered into an arrangement with two gentlemen of the names of Kabiziet and La Fuentes, in consequence of which they were to accompany him, with ropes and other necessary apparatus, to the grand pyramid; this they accordingly did on the 8th January following.

The first object which Mr. Caviglia had in view was to examine the 'Well' in the chamber of the great pyramid, the descent of which, as it would seem, both he and Mr. Salt considered as an enterprize never yet accomplished;—that Well (it is Mr. Salt who speaks) 'which had so long baffled all research, and respecting which various rumours had been propagated of persons having been let down at different times, who never had returned to explain the mystery

mystery in which it was enveloped, a circumstance that had deterred many others from what was so generally considered as a desperate attempt.'

Mr. Caviglia, on reaching the chamber into which the mouth opens, fixed a rope round his waist, and, with a lamp in his hand, immediately began to descend, his friends remaining above to secure the ropes. He describes the several shafts of this Well pretty nearly in the same terms as Mr. Davison; and he met with the same difficulty in persuading an Arab to go down and assist him in the removal of several stones of granite which had choked up the second shaft. The only novelty which we perceive is the fact of the shaft being lined with masonry above and below the grotto, to support, as was supposed, one of those insulated beds of gravel which are frequently found in rock, and which the masons call *flats*. There was no difficulty in reaching the bottom; but the heat was found to be excessive, the air very impure; and the lamp soon began to burn with a faint and glimmering light. Finding nothing there but a collection of loose stones and rubbish, he hastened to return to his companions, but had scarcely time to reach the grotto, when all the lamps went out in rapid succession;—a circumstance that occasioned considerable alarm, and obliged the whole party to make a precipitate retreat.

On their arrival at Cairo, Mr. Salt says, they were overwhelmed with congratulations from those who had blamed their rashness and predicted their failure: 'those,' he adds, 'who have visited the pyramids and have seen the stoutest men faint in getting up even to the gallery, who have experienced the enervating effect of the foul air in these subterranean channels, and have heard the various histories current at Cairo of persons supposed to have formerly perished in the attempt, will know how to appreciate the firmness of nerve, undaunted resolution, and admirable presence of mind displayed through this adventure; the rare union of which could alone have brought it to a successful termination.'

Mr. Caviglia, however, was by no means satisfied with the result of this supposed first discovery of the bottom of the Well; but from the circumstance of the ground giving a hollow sound under his feet, he was satisfied that there must be some concealed outlet. With the view of making further discovery, he pitched his tent in front of the entrance of the great pyramid, determined to set about excavating the bottom of the Well. He hired some Arabs to draw up the rubbish with baskets and cords; but from the extreme reluctance of these people to work, notwithstanding the enormous wages given to them, he was compelled to suspend his operations and give up the enterprize, till an order from the Kaya-bey had been procured, which had the effect of subduing their indolence, and, to a certain degree,

degree, of removing their prejudices. 'It is still,' says Mr. Salt, 'almost inconceivable how he could so far surmount the prejudices of these people as to induce them to work in so confined a space, where a light, after the first half hour, would not burn, and where, consequently, every thing was to be done by feeling and not by sight; the heat at the same time being so intense and the air so suffocating that, in spite of all precautions, it was not possible to stay below an hour at a time without suffering from its pernicious effects. At length, indeed, it became so intolerable that one Arab was brought up nearly dead, and several others, on their ascending, fainted away; so that at last, in spite of the command laid upon them, they almost entirely abandoned their labour, declaring that they were willing to work but not to die for him.'

Thus discouraged, Mr. Caviglia next turned his attention to the clearing of the principal entrance or passage of the pyramid which, from time immemorial, had been so blocked up as to oblige those who entered to creep on their hands and knees; hoping by this to give a freer passage to the air. He not only succeeded in carrying his purpose into effect, but, in the course of his labours, made the unexpected discovery that the main passage, leading from the entrance, did not terminate in the manner asserted by Maillet, but (having removed several large masses of calcareous stone and granite, apparently placed there to obstruct the passage) that it still continued in the same inclined angle downwards, was of the same dimensions, and had its sides worked with the same care, as in the channel above, though filled up nearly to the top with earth and fragments of stone. Having proceeded to the length of 150 feet in clearing out this passage, the air began to be so impure and the heat so suffocating that he had the same difficulties again to encounter with regard to the working Arabs. Even his own health was at this time visibly impaired, and he was attacked with a spitting of blood; nothing, however, could induce him to desist from his researches.

By the 14th March he had excavated as low down as 200 feet in the new passage without any thing particular occurring, when shortly afterwards a doorway on the right side was discovered, from which, in the course of a few hours, a strong smell of sulphur was perceived to issue. Mr. Caviglia having now recollected that when at the bottom of the Well, in his first enterprize, he had burned some sulphur for the purpose of purifying the air, conceived it probable that this doorway might communicate with it, an idea which, in a little time, he had the gratification of seeing realized, by discovering that the channel through the doorway opened at once upon the bottom of the Well, where he found the baskets, cords and other implements which had been left there on his recent attempt at a further excavation. This discovery was so far valuable

as it afforded a complete circulation of air along the new passage, and up the shaft of the Well into the chamber, so as to obviate all danger for the future from the impurity of the atmosphere. Mr. Salt, after this, made the tour of the long passage, and up the shaft into the great gallery, without much inconvenience.

It will be seen, on referring to our Thirty-third Number, that our notions respecting this Well were tolerably correct, though we could not at that time exactly appreciate the accuracy of Dr. Clarke's experiment of throwing down the stone, nor the validity of his reasoning upon it. We have now the means of estimating the value of both; and they must be allowed to form a very curious instance of the force of imagination bolstering itself up on ancient authority. This ingenious traveller says, 'We threw down some stones, and observed that they rested at about the depth which Greaves has mentioned (twenty feet); but being at length provided with a stone nearly as large as the mouth of the well, and about fifty pounds in weight, we let this fall, listening attentively to the result from the spot where the other stones rested. We were agreeably surprised by hearing, after a length of time which must have equalled some seconds, a loud and distinct report, seeming to come from a spacious subterranean apartment, accompanied by a splashing noise as if the stone had been broken into pieces, and had fallen into a reservoir of water at an amazing depth.' 'Thus,' continues the Doctor, 'does experience always tend to confirm the accounts left us by the ancients! for this exactly answers to the description given by Pliny of this well.' Now it is quite obvious, from Messrs. Davison and Caviglia's better 'experience,' that Dr. Clarke's 'large stone' could not, by any possibility, travel an inch beyond the bottom of the first shaft, or about twenty feet; unless we are to suppose that, on reaching the first bottom, it took a horizontal roll due south eight feet, dropped down the second shaft of five feet; then took a second roll of about five feet, and finally tumbled down the third shaft: but even thus there would be no 'splashing,' though 'the inundation of the Nile was nearly at its height,' as a new chamber, discovered by Caviglia, which is even lower than the bottom of the Well, is stated to be thirty feet above the level of the Nile at its greatest elevation. Of this chamber we have now to give some account.

The new passage did not terminate at the doorway which opened upon the bottom of the Well. Continuing to the distance of twenty-three feet beyond it, in the same angle of inclination, it became narrower, and took a horizontal direction for about twenty-eight feet farther, where it opened into a spacious chamber, immediately under the central point of the pyramid. This new chamber is sixty-six feet long by twenty-seven feet broad, with a flat roof, and, when

when first discovered, was nearly filled with loose stones and rubbish, which, with considerable labour, Mr. Caviglia removed. The platform of the floor, dug out of the rock, is irregular, nearly one half of the length from the eastern entrance end being level, and about fifteen feet from the ceiling; while in the middle it descends five feet lower, in which part there is a hollow space bearing all the appearance of the commencement of a well or shaft. From hence it rises to the western end, so that at this extremity there is scarcely room between the floor and the ceiling to stand upright, the whole chamber having the appearance of an unfinished excavation; though Mr. Salt thinks, after a careful comparison of it with other subterranean chambers which have been discovered by the combined effects of time and the rude hands of curious inquirers, that it may once have been highly wrought, and used, perhaps, for the performance of solemn and secret mysteries. Some Roman characters, rudely formed, had been marked with the flame of a candle on the rock, part of which having mouldered away rendered the words illegible. Mr. Salt says, he had flattered himself that this chamber would turn out to be that described by Herodotus as containing the tomb of Cheops which was insulated by a canal from the Nile; but the want of an inlet, and its elevation of thirty feet above the level of the Nile at its highest point, put an end to this delusive idea. He thinks, however, from an expression of Strabo, purporting that the passage from the entrance leads directly down to the chamber which contained the *hna*, (the receptacle of the dead,) that this new chamber was the only one known to that author. Whatever might have been the intention of this deeply excavated chamber, no vestige of a sarcophagus could now be traced. 'It was left for a Mussulman,' says Mr. Salt, 'to discover the real sanctuary and to despoil the tombs of their contents. Al Mamoun, the son of Haroun al Raschid, prompted by the treasure-seeking spirit of the age, effected this laborious undertaking, which, though not so arduous as it is described to have been by Maillet, might well defy any efforts but those of a sovereign enthusiastic in the pursuit.' To Dr. Clarke, who, in defiance of numerous authorities, affects to consider the researches of the early Arabs within the pyramids as a legendary tale, we recommend the perusal of the Arabic inscription found by Belzoni in the chamber of the pyramid of Cephrenes.

On the south side of this irregularly formed or unfinished chamber, is an excavated passage just wide and high enough for a man to creep along on his hands and knees, continuing horizontally in the rock for fifty-five feet—where it abruptly terminates. Another passage at the east end of the chamber commences with a kind of arch, and runs about forty feet into the solid body of the pyramid.

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Mr. Salt alludes to some other passage noticed by Olivier, in which the names of 'Paisley' and 'Munro' were now found inscribed at its extremity.

The next enterprise of Mr. Caviglia was to examine the chamber first discovered by Mr. Davison, which he effected from the great gallery by means of a rope-ladder. This discovery being noticed in our manuscript memoir as mentioned only by the travellers Niebuhr and Bruce, proves, as we suspected, that Mr. Salt had not seen Mr. Walpole's late publication. The sides and roof of this chamber are described as being coated with red granite of the finest polish; and Caviglia ascertained that the unevenness of the floor was occasioned by its being formed of the individual blocks of granite which constituted the roof of the chamber below; they must therefore be wedged in on the principle of the arch. Mr. Davison mentions the same thing; and the bats' dung of a foot deep, with which the floor was in his time covered, was now increased to eighteen inches.

The laborious exertions of Mr. Caviglia in clearing out these tunnels and chambers and passages do not appear to have been rewarded with any new discovery of antiquities; nor does he seem to think that any new light has been thrown on the long contested question, as to the original intention of those stupendous fabrics. But the main object was to cover the remains of their projectors, of the priests, or both, there seems to be no reasonable grounds for doubt; and we trust, that before the contents of the sarcophagus, recently discovered in the pyramid of Cephrenes, shall be dispersed abroad, the fact will be ascertained whether the bones of a human being have not been mixed with those of a cow. Neither can we doubt that many other secret passages and chambers yet remain to be discovered in those gloomy mansions of mystery and wonder. We conjecture of Pauw to be by no means improbable, that the *rapum* or temple of Serapis, which Strabo places to the west of Memphis, is the central spot which protects and covers the grand entrance to all the numerous adits or galleries leading to the foundations of the pyramids of Gizeh; and, perhaps, to those of Saïa and Dashour, between which and the Delta, Memphis is sorted by the ancients to have been situated, and its ruins recognized, near Metrahenny, by Pococke, Davison, and other modern travellers. In fact, it appears that the whole intermediate space between the borders of the lake Mariis and Gizeh is so completely occupied by subterranean catacombs, temples, pyramids and mausoleums, as to render the supposition most probable of its being a vast cemetery, the centre of which was occupied by the celebrated city of Memphis; and that subterranean communications existed between the several edifices, from the pyramid of Cheops

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to the labyrinth with its three thousand chambers, one half of which, being buried in the excavated rock, the Father of history was not permitted to visit. Mr. Caviglia has to a certain degree determined a long disputed point,—how far the living rock had been made an auxiliary in the construction of the pyramids. This rock, which shews itself externally at the north-eastern angle, appears in the main passage, and again close to the mouth of the well, the highest projection into the body of the pyramid being about eighty feet from the level of its external base.

But much more, we are fully persuaded, yet remains to be discovered within the pyramids. We have now the knowledge of three distinct chambers in that of Cheops, all of which had evidently been opened by the Saracens, (perhaps by the Romans, long before the arrival of the former in Egypt;) but for any thing that is known to the contrary, there may be three hundred, and might be ten times three hundred such chambers yet undiscovered. The magnitude of those stupendous masses makes no very striking impression on the mind from a mere contemplation of their dimensions in figures; and travellers mostly agree in their expressions of disappointment on first approaching them; being able with difficulty to persuade themselves of their vast bulk till some familiar object occurs to enable them to make the comparison. When we stated the pyramid of Cheops (supposing it solid throughout) to contain six times the mass of stone that will be contained in the great Break-water across Plymouth sound, it was a comparison of one gigantic accumulation of materials with another somewhat less gigantic, and helped only to give a comparative view of the labour, and quantity of materials respectively consumed in these two great fabrics—but, to assist the mind to form a just idea of the immensity of the mass, let us take the great chamber of the sarcophagus, whose dimensions (it being about 35½ feet long, 17½ broad, and 18½ high\*)—are those of a tolerably large sized drawing-room—which, as the solid contents of the pyramid are found to exceed 85,000,000 cubic feet, forms nearly 1/100 part of the whole; so that, after leaving the contents of every second chamber solid by way of separation, there might be three thousand seven hundred chambers, each equal in size to the sarcophagus chamber, within the pyramid of Cheops. How little then do we yet know of the real state and disposition of the interior of this stupendous edifice!

The next operations of Mr. Caviglia were directed to a minute examination of those numerous ruined edifices and tumuli which, when viewed from the top of the great pyramid, appear in countless multitudes, scattered without order among the other

\* These are the measurements of Mr. Caviglia.

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pyramids, as the graves in a church-yard round the church, and extend on the north and on the south along the left bank of the Nile, as far as the eye can reach. These remains of antiquity have been noticed by Pococke and other travellers, but we believe never examined with that attention which they are now found to deserve. The successful efforts of Mr. Caviglia in laying open the interior apartments of several of these will give them a new interest in the eyes of future travellers. The stone buildings, which Mr. Salt supposes to be mausoleums, are generally of an oblong form, having their walls slightly inclined from the perpendicular inwards, the peculiar characteristic of ancient Egyptian architecture; flat-roofed, with a sort of parapet round the outside, formed of stones, rounded at the top and rising about a foot above the level of the terrace. The walls are constructed of large masses of stones, of irregular shape, seldom rectangular, though neatly fitted to each other somewhat in the manner of the Cyclopean buildings in various parts of Greece. Some have door-ways ornamented above with a volute, which is covered with hieroglyphics, while others have only square apertures in the sides, gradually narrowing inwards, for the purpose of admitting light into the chambers. These doors and windows are found invariably on the northern and eastern sides—perhaps because these two sides are the least liable to be incommoded by the sand from the Libyan desert.

The first of these edifices, examined by Mr. Caviglia, when freed of the sand and rubbish with which it was choked, was found to have the inside walls covered with stucco and embellished with rude paintings, one of which, though much defaced, evidently represented the sacred boat, and another a procession of figures, each carrying a lotus in his hand. At the southern extremity were several mouldering mummies laid one over the other in a recumbent posture, with a few fragments of wooden cases. Many of the bones remained entire, and among the rest was a skull with part of its cloth covering inscribed with hieroglyphics.

The second edifice he examined had no paintings, but contained several fragments of statues, both of calcareous stone and granite. In one of the chambers were found two pieces composing the entire body of a figure almost as large as life, in the act of walking, with the left leg stretched forwards, and the two arms hanging down and resting on the thighs. From the position of this statue, and from that of a pedestal, and the foot of another statue in a different chamber, both facing the openings into the respective chambers, Mr. Salt is of opinion that they were so placed for the express purpose of being seen by the friends of the deceased from an adjoining corridor, the statues themselves bearing, as he thinks, evident marks of being intended as portraits of the persons whom they were meant

ment to represent. The several parts were marked with a strict attention to nature and coloured after life, having artificial eyes of glass, or transparent stones, to give them the air of living men. A head was discovered, but it did not exactly fit the statue in question, though it probably belonged to the foot and pedestal. 'This head,' says Mr. Salt, 'even in its present state, I consider as extremely valuable from its similarity in style and features to that of the Sphinx, having the same facial line, the same sweetness of expression and marking in the mouth, and the same roundness and peculiarity which characterize the rest of the features, circumstances which tend to prove its almost equal antiquity.' In removing the fragments, eight hours were employed in enlarging the opening of the chamber, to enable the workmen to force them through; so that the statue must have been placed in its cell prior to the finishing of the edifice. Many of the granite and alabaster fragments found in these chambers give a higher idea of Egyptian sculpture than has usually prevailed; a close attention, it seems, being shown to the marking of the joints and muscles. In the fragment of a leg, Mr. Salt observed 'a fullness of the parts, and strictness of proportion not unlike the school of Michael Angelo'—'while,' he adds, 'the alabaster fragments evince that the Egyptians, in finishing, were not behind even the sculptors of Greece.' Nor is Mr. Salt singular in bearing this honourable testimony to the skill of the ancient artists of Egypt. Mr. Hamilton, after giving an animated description of the sculptures which cover the eastern wing of the propylon of the temple of Luxor, observes, 'It was impossible to view and to reflect upon a picture so copious and so detailed as this I have just described, without fancying that I here saw the original of many of Homer's battles, the portrait of some of the historical narratives of Herodotus, and one of the principal ground-works of the description of Diodorus: and, to complete the gratification, we felt that had the artist been better acquainted with the rules and use of perspective, the performance might have done credit to the genius of a Michael-Angelo or a Julio Romano.'

In another of these stone edifices was a boat of a large size, sculptured, with a square sail, different from any now employed on the Nile. In the first chamber of this building were paintings, in bas-relief, of men, deer, and birds—men engaged in planning and preparing certain pieces of furniture, hewing blocks of wood, and pressing out skins either of wine or oil. The top of the second chamber is hollowed out in the form of an arch. 'In this apartment,' says Mr. Salt, 'the figures and hieroglyphics are singularly interesting and beautiful; on the right is represented a quarrel between some boatmen, executed with great spirit; and a little farther

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on, a number of men engaged in the different pursuits of agriculture—plowing, boeing up the ground, bringing in their corn on asses, stowing it in the magazines, and in other similar occupations. On the west are several vases painted in the most vivid colours; and on the south side a band of musicians, playing on the harp, flute, and a species of clarinet, together with a group of dancing women, tinged of a yellow colour, as is the case in most of the temples of Upper Egypt.' In the same building are two other chambers, one unembellished, the other having carved on its walls a variety of figures and hieroglyphics. In a fifth chamber were several hieroglyphics on a thick coat of white plaster, executed, as it would appear, with a wooden stamp or mould.

Many others of these oblong buildings were cleared out, and found to consist of different numbers of apartments, variously disposed, but similarly decorated with bas-reliefs and paintings, according, perhaps, to the wealth or caprice of those who erected them; one in particular, from the delicacy of its colours, its general pleasing effect, and superior style of execution, was deemed deserving of the closest attention. Mr. Salt observes that in all the mausoleums which they opened were found fragments of bitumen, great quantities of mummy-cloth and of human bones, which seemed to remove all doubt of their having served the purpose of entombing the dead. A very important circumstance yet remains to be noticed. In one apartment or another of all these monumental edifices was a deep shaft or well, from the bottom of which a narrow passage conducted to a subterranean chamber. One of these shafts, cleared out by Mr. Caviglia, was sixty feet deep, and in the chamber a little to the south of the lower extremity, was standing, without a lid, a plain but highly finished sarcophagus, of the same dimensions nearly as that in the chamber of the pyramid of Cheops, but of a superior polish. This discovery supplies a strong argument in favour of the pyramids being tombs. In summing up the result of the researches made in these mansions of the dead, (if such they really be,) Mr. Salt observes, 'I shall here venture to offer a few cursory remarks on the very peculiar specimens of sculpture-painting above described, which may fairly be considered as presenting the most ancient examples of art now extant in the world.'

'The objects in which the artists have best succeeded are the animals and birds, several instances of which may be pointed out that are executed with a boldness of outline, and an attention to nature in the form, which evince a considerable progress in design. The human figures, it is true, are, in general, drawn sadly out of proportion, though the action in which they are engaged is almost always intelligibly and, sometimes, energetically expressed.

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'The colours in many of the chambers retain all their original freshness, and present (from their being generalized, perhaps, by the reflexions of the surrounding sand, pale-coloured stones, and clear-blue sky) a softened and harmonious effect, notwithstanding their vivid colours, that is very grateful to the eye. In one chamber in particular, I have remained for hours contemplating with peculiar delight the effects of these singular and early efforts in art; the combination of bas-relief and of colouring after life serving to embody the forms, and to present a species of reality that mere painting can with difficulty produce.'

'A considerable portion of the pleasure derived from these paintings must undoubtedly be attributed to the association of ideas arising from local circumstances connected with them; but let a man divest himself, if possible, of these feelings, and he must still allow that their simplicity, the highly-finished manner in which they are executed, the unbroken tints which are employed, the variety of subjects which are delineated, and the occasional elegance of form, together with the infinite variety of hieroglyphics used to balance and fill up the several designs, display a rich assemblage of ornament that renders this style of art particularly adapted for the embellishment of apartments.'

An examination of the catacombs in the neighbourhood tended to confirm these general remarks on Egyptian art, as far as refers to the correct delineation of animals: the composition of the gazelle in particular, being stated to be in every respect beautiful, both in the natural simplicity of the action, the correctness of the form, and the admirable feeling which pervades the design. This subject, Mr. Salt observes, became afterwards a favourite one among the Romans in adorning their walls, as is evinced by the several examples of it at Herculaneum and Pompeii, which contributes to prove that, even in painting, the Romans did not disdain to copy from the Egyptians.

Mr. Salt seems to entertain a different opinion from most writers as to the antiquity of these buildings, and to consider the spot as a place of sepulchre for the ancient kings of Egypt anterior to the construction of the pyramids, and connected with the city of Heliopolis before the seat of empire had been transferred to Memphis. We should rather think the contrary to be the case, and that many of these edifices have been constructed from the dilapidated casing of the pyramids. That they were so cased we are told by Herodotus; and, in fact, the casing of the upper part of the second pyramid remains to this day. From the same authority we learn that an inscription was engraved on the pyramid of Cheops. Abdallatif says that he saw a prodigious number of hieroglyphical inscriptions

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on the two great pyramids, as many as, if copied, would fill, perhaps, 10,000 volumes. Other authors mention Syrian, Greek, and even Latin inscriptions on the faces of the pyramids—nothing of which is now to be found. The remains of the covering of the third pyramid are still scattered about its base, and particularly near the angles; they are of red granite: the covering near the top of the second pyramid is of a whitish calcareous stone, which has usually been called marble, but is, in fact, a fine close-grained limestone, susceptible of a high polish.

It seems by no means improbable, therefore, that the walls of these tombs have been constructed from the casings of the pyramids, as they consist of the same kinds of stone, and as many of the fragments are covered with hieroglyphics, particularly the parts round the door-ways, and those of which is formed a sort of rude entablature carried round many of these buildings. A circumstance mentioned by Mr. Salt tends to corroborate this idea; one of the stones, (he says,) bearing an inscription of hieroglyphics, and figures, is built into the walls upside down, which proves, beyond a doubt, that it had constituted part of some other edifice previously to being placed in its present position. It is probable that the tumuli, or little mounds, are nothing more than similar buildings of higher antiquity mouldered away to their present shape; or that they were constructed originally of more perishable materials; like the brick pyramid of Dashour, which has every appearance of gradually changing its form into that of the rude tumulus; though Dr. Clarke had erroneously persuaded himself, that its shape marked a superior antiquity to that of the pyramids of Gizeh. On this point, as on all others where Herodotus speaks from his own knowledge, we are willing to take him as the surest guide. He reports that on this pyramid, which no one ever doubted to be that of Asychis, was the following remarkable inscription: 'Do not compare me with the pyramids of stone; for I excel them, as much as Jupiter excels the other gods: for those who built me thrust poles into a lake, and collecting the mud which adhered to them, they made bricks of it, and thus they constructed me.' When this was written, which was most likely at the completion of the building, it is obvious that the stone pyramids were in existence, otherwise the comparison could not have been made; and the supposed excellence was probably grounded on the novelty or the difficulty of the undertaking.

Before we take leave of this vast cemetery, we must advert to a circumstance which is too remarkable to be passed over. In all the pyramids that have been opened, which at Gizeh and Saccara amount at least to six, the entrance has been found at or near the

the centre on the northern face, and the passage thence to proceed invariably in a slanting direction downwards; the angle of the inclination being always the same. Greaves, in his *Pyramidographia*, makes that of Cheops 26°, and Caviglia 27°, which, he says, is common to all the sloping passages within the pyramid of Cheops. He found the same angle on opening one of the small pyramids to the south of that of Myzerinus, at the end of the passage of which were two chambers, leading one out of the other, both empty. Belzoni estimates the sloping passages of the pyramid of Cephrenes at 26°. Now it is quite impossible that this coincidence could be accidental; it must have been the work of design, executed for some special purpose. What this could be, unless it was connected with some system of astronomy, we are not prepared to assert; but we do not apprehend that such a supposition will be considered to militate against the general idea, of the pyramids being intended as sepulchres. Even admitting Pauw to be right in considering the obelisks and pyramids as temples raised to the god of day, because one of their faces is turned to the east, it would still prove nothing against the assertions of those who lived nearer the time in which they were built, as we find in all ages and among almost all people the temple and the tomb associated. 'All the learning of the Egyptians' was vested in the priests. Their knowledge of astronomy is not merely hypothetical.—If nothing more remained than the exact position of the four faces of the pyramids, corresponding with the four cardinal points of the compass, the marking out of the twelve signs of the zodiac, the traces of which are still visible at Esné and Dendera, and the naming and classification of a multitude of other stars into constellations, it would be abundantly sufficient to stamp the ancient Egyptians with the character of astronomers: but when we find that all the learning of Thales, by which he was enabled to calculate eclipses and determine the solstitial and equinoctial points, was acquired from the Egyptian priests six hundred years before the Christian era; that, at a later period, Eratosthenes, under the sanction of the Ptolemies, was enabled to measure a degree of the meridian, and from it to deduce that of the circumference of the earth to an extraordinary degree of accuracy, by the unerring principles of geometry; and that the day of the summer solstice was then, and probably much earlier, so nicely observed, by means of a well dug at Syene,\* from whose surface (on that day) the sun's disc was reflected

\* Respecting this 'Well,' the late Bishop of St. Asaph, in a note furnished by him to Dr. Vincent, (*Nearchus*, p. 385.) has commented one of the most extraordinary over-sights that could be supposed to happen to so able an astronomer and mathematician.

reflected entire,—we are compelled to concede to the ancient Egyptians a very high degree of astronomical knowledge.

It is therefore quite consistent to suppose, that the priests, in the construction of these stupendous monuments, would avail themselves of the means thus offered of connecting their sacred duties with their favourite study, and of combining religion with astronomy. Among other benefits which this union has conferred on posterity, is that of having fixed with precision the faces of the pyramids, from which, as Pauw has observed, 'we know that the poles of the earth have not changed.' But we are inclined to think that the pyramids were made subservient to a more immediate and important use in the science of astronomy—to correct their measurement of time. This point of astronomical utility might, we conceive, have been in contemplation when the main passages leading from the northern faces were constructed. These adits, as we have observed, are invariably inclined downwards, in an angle of about 27°, more or less, with the horizon, which gives a line of direction not far removed from that point in the heavens, where the north polar-star now crosses the meridian below the pole. The observation of the passage of this or some other star across this part of the meridian would give them an accurate measure of sidereal time: a point of the first importance in an age when no other instruments

\* The well, says Dr. Horsley, 'besides that it was sunk perpendicularly with the greatest accuracy, was, I suppose, in shape an exact cylinder. Its breadth must have been moderate, so that a person, standing upon the brink, might safely stoop enough over it to bring his eye into the axis of the cylinder, where it would be perpendicularly over the centre of the circular surface of the water. The water must have stood at a moderate height below the mouth of the well, far enough below the mouth to be sheltered from the action of the wind, that its surface might be perfectly smooth and motionless, and not so low but that the whole of its circular surface might be distinctly seen by the observer on the brink. A well formed in this manner would afford, as I apprehend, the most certain observation of the sun's position to the zenith that could be made with the naked eye; for when the sun's centre was upon the zenith, his disc would be seen by reflection in the water in the very middle of the well,—that is, at a circle perfectly concentric with the circle of the water; and I believe there is nothing of which the naked eye can judge with so much precision as the concentricity of two circles, provided the circles be very nearly equal, and the inner circle very small in proportion to the outer.'

Now it is obvious, that if the head of the observer was placed over the cylindrical well, the shadow of it would prevent the reflection of the sun's disc from the water, and if not placed over it, the sun's disc, when in the zenith, could not be reflected to his eye; but at a certain depth, probably about 60 feet, the head of an observer looking down the well would throw a shadow centrally on the very spot where the reflected image of the sun's disc must appear, and instead of it, the appearance to the eye of the observer would be similar to that of an annular eclipse of the sun when a concentric luminous ring surrounds the opaque body of the moon.

This well was probably a perpendicular tube, below the mouth of which was a polished mirror or smooth stone, so that a spectator standing below might observe the moment of the sun's passage over the zenith. It may be observed, however, that Syene is in latitude 24° 8', which is more than a whole diameter of the sun to the northward of the tropic of cancer.

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than rude solar gnomons, or something still more imperfect, were in use. Indeed, we know not of any method that could more effectually be adopted for observing the transit of a star with the naked eye, than that of watching its passage across the mouth of this lengthened tube; and some one or more of these luminaries, when on the meridian below the pole, must have been seen in the direction of the angular adits.

We were led to this suggestion from an incidental remark of Caviglia, in a short memorandum of his measurements:—'one ceases (he says) to see the pole-star at the spot where the main passage ceases to continue in the same inclination, and where one begins to mount.' From this expression, we should be inclined to think that he had actually seen the pole-star when at the bottom of the main passage; and if so, we have not yet got the true measure of the angle which these passages form with the horizon. This would be very desirable, as it might lead to most important results; especially if it should be found that the difference in the angles of the adits of the pyramids of Gizeh, Saccara, and Dashour corresponded with the difference of the latitudes of those places; for we might then be almost certain that they were intended to observe the passage over the meridian of some particular star, whose altitude, when below the pole, was equal to the angle of the adit. If this suggestion should be well founded, it would not be difficult, by calculation, to determine which of the stars (in *Ursa Major* most probably) might be seen to pass across the mouth of the shafts about the supposed time of building the pyramids, and thereby fix with more precision the period at which these stupendous edifices were erected.

But by far the most brilliant of Mr. Caviglia's discoveries are owing to the laborious process of uncovering the great Androsphinx in front of the pyramid of Cephrenes, in which, says Mr. Salt, 'he displayed an indefatigable perseverance that became the astonishment of every person who witnessed his labours.'

It will not be necessary for us to enter into a minute detail of all the operations of Caviglia throughout this grand enterprise. It is sufficient to observe, on the difficulty of the undertaking, that in digging a very deep trench on the left, or northern side, near the shoulder, of about twenty feet wide at the top and three only at the base, it became dangerous to the workmen; and that, in spite of all

\* We were led into a mistake in ascribing (in our last Number) the operation of uncovering the Sphinx to Belzoni—he had no concern in this enterprise. It is due also to Mrs. Belzoni (who, we believe, is an English lady) to state that it was she who dug up the statue of Jupiter Ammon with the ram's head on his knee, during the absence of her husband in Nubia.

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their planking, the wind drove back at night more than half of the sand which they had cleared away in the day. By this trench, however, he ascertained that the external surface of the body below was composed of irregular shaped stones, built up with much care, and covered with red paint, (which at first seemed to militate against the assertion of Pococke, of its being cut out of the solid rock,) and that the joints mentioned by some authors were nothing more than veins in the stones. The masonry, however, seems to be confined to those projecting ledges which Mr. Salt thinks might be intended for the lines of the mantle or dress, and that they were added by the Romans.

This first attempt not being satisfactory to Caviglia, he again set seriously to work directly in front; commencing in the early part of March, and continuing without interruption till the end of June. With the assistance of from sixty to a hundred persons every day, he succeeded in laying open the whole figure to its base, and exposing a clear area extending a hundred feet from its front. 'It is not easy,' says Mr. Salt, 'for any person unused to operations of this kind, to form the smallest idea of the difficulties which Captain Caviglia had to surmount, more particularly when working at the depth of the base; for, in spite of every precaution, the slightest breath of wind, or concussion set all the surrounding particles of sand in motion, so that the sloping sides began to crumble away, and mass after mass to come tumbling down, till the whole surface bore no unapt resemblance to a cascade of water. Even when the sides appeared most firm, if the labourers suspended their work but for an hour, they found on their return that they had the greater part of it to do over again. This was particularly the case on the southern side of the paw, where the whole of the people were employed for seven days without making any sensible advance, the sand rolling down in one continual and regular torrent.'

The discoveries to which these operations led may briefly be stated. On the stone platform in front, and centrally between the outstretched paws of the Sphinx, was found a large block of granite, fourteen feet high, seven broad, and two thick. The face of this stone, which fronted the east, was highly embellished with sculpture in bas-relief, the subject representing two Sphinxes seated on pedestals, and priests holding out offerings, beneath which was a long inscription in hieroglyphics, most beautifully executed; and the whole design was covered at top, and protected as it were, with the sacred globe, the serpent, and the wings. Two other tablets of calcareous stone, similarly ornamented, were supposed, with that of granite, to have constituted part of a temple, by being placed one on each side of the latter and at right angles to it. One of them, in fact,

fact, was still remaining in its place of the other, which was thrown down and broken, the fragments are now in the British Museum. A small lion couchant in front of this edifice had its eyes directed towards the Sphinx. There were besides several fragments of other lions rudely carved, and the fore part of a Sphinx, of tolerable workmanship, all of which, as well as the tablets, walls, and platform on which the little temple stood, were ornamented with red paint, a colour which would seem to have been here, as in India, appropriated to sacred purposes. In front of the temple was a granite altar, with one of the four 'horns' still retaining its place at the angle. From the effects of fire evident on the stone, this altar, it would seem, had been used for burnt-offerings. On the side of the paw of the great Sphinx were cut several indistinct inscriptions in Greek characters, addressed to different deities, one of which appeared to be a mere play upon words; another commencing with the usual phrase, *το προσκύμα* (adoration), ended with the name of Aurora; and a third contained the word *παχα*, one of the Egyptian months. On the second digit of the paw was sculptured in pretty deep characters an inscription in verse, of which the following is as exact a copy as could be taken.

ΖΩΝ ΔΕΜΑΣ ΕΠΙ ΑΓΥΟΝ ΓΕΥΣΑΝΟΙΟΝΙΟΝ ΕΝΘΟΝΤΕΣ  
ΥΕΙΣ ΑΜΕΝΟΙ ΧΩΡΗΤΥΡΙΔΑΜΑΖΟΜΕΝΗΣ  
ΣΜΕ ΣΟΝΕΥΘΥΝΑΝΤΕΣ ΣΑΡΟΥΘΑΙΟΙΟΥ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΗΣ  
ΝΗΣΟΥ ΠΕΤΡΑΙΝΣΥΑΜΜΟΝΑΠΟCΑΜΕΝΟΙ  
ΓΕΙΤΟΝΑΠΥΡΑΜΙΔΩΝ ΤΟΙΗΝΘΕCΣΑΙ ΟΡΑCΘΑΙ  
ΟΥΤΗΝ ΟΙΔΙΠΟΔΟ. ΕΡ. ΘΟΚΤΟΝΟΝΩCΕΙΠΙΘΗΣΑΙ  
ΙΓ' ΙΛΕΟΕΛΛΗΤΟΠΙΟCΠΟΛΟΝΑΓΝΟΤΑ  
ΤΙ ΥΙΟΤΗΡΟΥCΑΝ ΠΕΠΟΗΜΗΝΟΝΕCΕΛΟΝΟΙ ΙΙΔ  
ΓCΙ ΗCΑΙΓΥΠΤΙΟC CCE. ΑCΜΙΟΝΗΓΗΤΗΡ  
ΥΡΑΝΟΝ ΜΕΙ Ι. ΙΤΟΜΙΝ ΙΙΙΙΙ.....  
ΙΚΚΕΛΟΝΕΦΑΙCΙΩΙ Ι..... ΤΟΙ ΙΝΙΟΥ  
CΙCΟΤΑΝΟΚΕΜΟΚCΙ ΜΟΙΧΛΙΝΙΟΙΜΙ  
ΓΑΙΑΝΙCΗΥΡΩ. ΟΛΙ..... ΝΙΙΙΙ.....  
ΑΡΡΙΑΝΟC.

Which has thus been restored by Dr. Young, with his usual skill and judgment in clearing away the difficulties of imperfect inscriptions in ancient languages. The reader is also indebted to this gentleman for the translations that accompany the inscription, which, thus happily restored, seems neither deficient in courtliness nor ingenuity.

Σιν

Σὸν θεῖμας ἐπαγλὸν τοῦτον θεῶ αἰὲν ὄντες,  
Φισάμνοι χάρις τῆριδα μαλ' ἑμίνης·  
Εἰς μέσον εὐδυνάστε ἀρουαίσι τραπίζης,  
Νήσου πετρῆας ψάμμου ἀπασμῶναι·  
Γείτονα πυραμίδων τοῖον θέσας εἰσδράσασθαι,  
Οὐ γὰρ Οἰδ' ἔκβας βροτῶντων, ἀς τε' ὀφθαλμοῖς,  
Τῇ δὲ θεῇ Ἀγροῖ προσέτολιν ἀγνῶτα,  
[Εὖ μάλα] τηρεῖται πεπιδυμένη ἐκ δόλον ἀνιστά,  
Γαίης Αἰγυπτίῳ σφάλλοντι ἡγήτορα,  
Οὐράνῳ μέγας αὐτεμύλοντι, [Ζεῶνι θυμῶν.]  
Εὐκλειαν Ἡδαιοῦ, μεγαλήτορα, [Συρακόωντα]  
[Ἀλκιμον ἐν πόλει, καὶ ἱεραῖον ἐν πολήταις]  
Γαίαν ἀδύρωσθαι [πᾶσις θαλάσσι κίλοντα].  
ΑΡΡΙΑΝΟΣ.

Tuum corpus stupendum struxerunt dii sempiterni,  
Parcentes terræ triticum pinsenti.  
In medium erigentes arvensis tabule,  
Insulæ petrosæ arenam detrudentes.  
Vicinam pyramidibus talem te posuerunt visu:  
Non Cædipodis homicidam, sicut ad Thebas;  
Sed deæ Latonæ famulam purissimam,  
[Sedulo] observantem desideratum bonum regem,  
Terræ Ægyptiæ venerandum ductorem,  
Cælestem magnam imperatorem [diis affinem]  
Similem Vulcano, magnanimum [fortissimum]  
[Validum in bello, et amabilem inter cives]  
Terram lætari [omnigenis epulis jubentem].

ΑΡΡΙΑΝΟΣ.

Thy form stupendous here the gods have placed,  
Sparing each spot of harvest-bearing land;  
And with this mighty work of art have graced  
A rocky isle, encumber'd once with sand;  
And near the pyramids have bid thee stand:  
Not that fierce Sphinx that Thebes erewhile laid waste,  
But great Latona's servant mild and bland;  
Watching that prince beloved who fills the throne  
Of Egypt's plains, and calls the Nile his own.  
That heavenly monarch [who his foes defies],  
Like Vulcan powerful [and like Pallas wise].  
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ΑΡΡΙΑΝΟΣ.

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The signature gives it a more than common interest, which will not be weakened, if it should be decided that it is to be ascribed to the celebrated historian whom Gibbon has dignified with the epithet of the 'elegant and philosophical Arrian.'

On the digits of the southern paw were only discovered a few of the usual dedicatory phrases in homage of Harpocrates, Mars, and Hermes. One inscription gives, as Mr. Salt reads it, to the Emperor Claudius the extraordinary appellation of 'αγαθός, δαίμων,' an instance of flattery which can only be outdone by that of another inscription, lately discovered in Upper Egypt, where Caracalla is styled 'piusissimus,' on the very same stone from which the name of his murdered brother Geta had, probably, been erased by his own orders. On another small edifice in front of the Sphinx was an inscription with the name of Septimius Severus, in which the name of Geta was erased, as in the former, and as it also is in the triumphal arch erected by the same emperor at Rome. The former inscription however is not to Claudius, but to his successor ΝΕΡΩΝ, as may be distinctly traced in the first line through the imperfect erasure. Mr. Combe observes, that on some of the coins of this emperor, which were struck at Alexandria, he is flattered with the title of

ΝΕΟΣ. ΑΓΑΘΟΣ. ΔΑΙΜΩΝ.

The inscription, as far as can be made out from the stone now in the British Museum, is as under:

ΑΓΑΘΗ ΤΥΧΗ.  
ΕΠΕΙ ΝΕΡΩΝ ΚΛΑΥΔΙΟΣ ΚΑΙCΑΡ CΕΒΑCΤΟC  
ΓΕΡΜΑΝΙΚΟC ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ Ο ΑΓΑΘΟC ΔΑΙΜΩΝ ΤΗΣ  
ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΗΣ CΥΝΑ ΠΑCΙΝΟΙC ΕΥΕΡΓΕΤΗΣ ΕΝ ΑΓΑ-  
ΘΟΙC ΤΗΝ ΑΙΓΥΠΤΟΝ ΤΗΝ ΕΝΑΡΤΕCΤΑΤΗΝ ΠΡΟΝΟΙ  
5. ΑΝΠΟΙΗCΑΜΕΝΟC Ε... ΕΝ ΗΜΕΙΝ ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΝ ΚΛΑΥΔ-  
ΟΝ ΒΑCΙΛΕΥΟΝ ΗΓΕΜΟΝΑ ΔΙΑ ΔΕ ΤΑC ΤΟΥΤΟΥΧ...  
ΡΙΤΑC ΚΑΙ ΕΥΕΡΓΕΤΙΑC ΠΛΗΜΥΡΟΥC ΑΠΑCΙΝ ΑΓΑΘΟΙCΗ  
ΑΙΓΥΠΤΟC ΤΑC ΤΟΥ ΝΕΙΛΟΥ ΔΩΡΕΑC ΕΠΑΥΞΟΜΕ-  
ΝΑC ΚΑΤΕΤΟC ΘΕΩΡΟΥCΑ ΝΥΝ ΜΑΛΛΟΝ ΑΠΕΛΛΥ  
10. CΕ ΤΗΣ ΔΙΚΑΙΑC ΑΝΑΒΑCΕΩC ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ ΕΛΘΕC  
ΤΟΙC ΑΠΟ ΚΩΜΗΣ ΒΟΥCΕΙΡΕΩC ΤΟΥ ΑΗΤΟΓ...  
ΤΟΥ ΠΑΡΟΙΚΟΥCΙ ΤΑΙC ΠΥΡΑΜΙΔΙ ΚΑΙ ΤΟΙC ΕΝΑΥΤ...  
ΚΑΤΑΓΕΙΝΟΜΕΝΟΙC ΤΟΠΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΥCΙ ΚΑΙ ΚΩ-  
ΜΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΥCΙ ΨΗ... ΑCΘΑΙ ΚΑΙ... ΓΑ ΘΕΙΝΑΙ...  
15. CΤΗΛΗΝ ΛΙΘΙΝΗΝ ΠΑ...  
... ΑΡΜΑΧΕΙ



... ΑΡΜΑΧΕΙ ΕΚ ΤΩΝ ΕΙ... ΚΕΧΑΡ...  
... ΟΝΤΗ... Ο... Ε...  
ΕΩΝΕ...  
ΑΙΓΥΠΤΟΝ ΚΑΛΟΚ...  
20. ΖΕΙ ΓΑΡ ΤΑΣ ΙΣΘΕΟΥ ΕΑΥΤΟ... ΣΤΗΛΕΙ  
ΔΩΜΕΝΑΣΤΟΙΣΙΕΡΟΙΣΓΡΑΜΜΑΣΙΝΑΙΩΝΜΗΜΟ...  
ΝΕΥΕΣ... ΕΘΙΑ ΓΕΝΟΜΕΝΟΣ ΓΑΡ ΗΜΩ...  
ΕΙΣ ΤΟΝ ΝΟΜΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΡΟΣΚΥΝΗΣΑΣ ΤΟΝ ΗΛΙΟ...  
... ΙΝΕΠΟΤΗΝΚΑΙΣΩΤΗΡΑΤΗΤΕΤΩΝΠΥΙ...  
25. ... ΝΝΕΙ... ΕΙΟΤΗΤΙΣΑΙΥΠΕΡΘΥΓΑΤΕΡΦΘΕΙΣ...  
... ΑΜΕΝΟΣ Τ... ΠΛΕΙΣΤΗΣ Χ... ΟΥ ΔΙΑ ΤΟ ΜΗΡΟ...  
ΤΟΥ... Ν... ΕΠΙ... ΕΩΝ... ΜΑΤΑΠΡΩΤΟΣ...  
(Cetera desunt.)

(Under a winged globe.)  
With good fortune.

(1) Whereas the Emperor [Nero] Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, the Good Genius of the world, besides all other services which he has rendered to Egypt, taking the most especial care of its (5) interests, has appointed us [for] Tiberius Claudius Balbillus for a prefect; and by his favours and benefits, abounding with all good things, Egypt has seen the gifts of the Nile increasing from year to year, and has now still more fully (10) enjoyed [the] due ascent of the deity: it has seemed fit to the inhabitants of the village of Busiris in the Letopolitan district... living near the pyramids, and to the local scribes and village scribes among them, to pass a decree, and to erect a (15) stone column... (20) to celebrate his divine virtues, engraved in the sacred character, by which [the] it is customary to record them: for having been present at our lawful rites, and having worshipped the sun, the overseer and saviour of the world: and... being excessively delighted with the... of the py...

The following inscription, found near the same spot as the preceding, is also in the British Museum. It appears to have been placed there in the reign of Antoninus Pius and his son Verus.

ΑΓΑΘΗ ΤΥΧΗ.  
Ε Σ ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟΥ  
ΚΑΙ ΟΥΗΡΟΥ ΤΩΝ  
ΚΥΡΙΩΝ ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΩΝ  
ΗΓΕ... ΥΟΝΤΟΣ ΦΑ  
ΤΙΤΙΑΝΟΥ ΕΠΙΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΟΥΝ

ΤΟC

ΤΟC ΛΟΥΚΚΗΙΟΥ ΟΦΕΛΙΑΝΥ  
ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΟΥΝΤΟC ΤΟΥ ΝΟ  
ΜΟΥ ΘΕΩΝΟC ΑΠΟ  
ΚΑΤΕΣΤΗCΕΝ ΤΑΤΙ  
ΧΗ ΕΠΑΘΩ Ι  
ΠΑΧΩΝ ΙΕ.

With good fortune.

[In the sixth year] of Antoninus and Verus, the sovereign emperors, in the prefecture of Flavius of Titianus, Luceius Ofellianus being commander in chief, and Theon general of the nome; he rebuilt the walls for a good purpose.

Pachon XV. (May 11.)

The walls here alluded to were uncovered by Caviglia, and appear to have been intended to inclose the Sphinx. The edifices on which the inscriptions appeared were on two elevated platforms, on the outside of the altar, and directly in front of the animal, accessible by two flights of steps. The wall was of brick, but cased on the interior side with stone. Mr. Salt supposes that, from the commanding position of the two edifices above-mentioned, they were intended as stations for the Roman emperors or the prefects to view the solemn rites performed in the temple and at the altar in front of the Sphinx.

The annexed sketch will convey to the reader the disposition of the ground, and the objects by which it was occupied, in front of the Sphinx and between its paws, in which

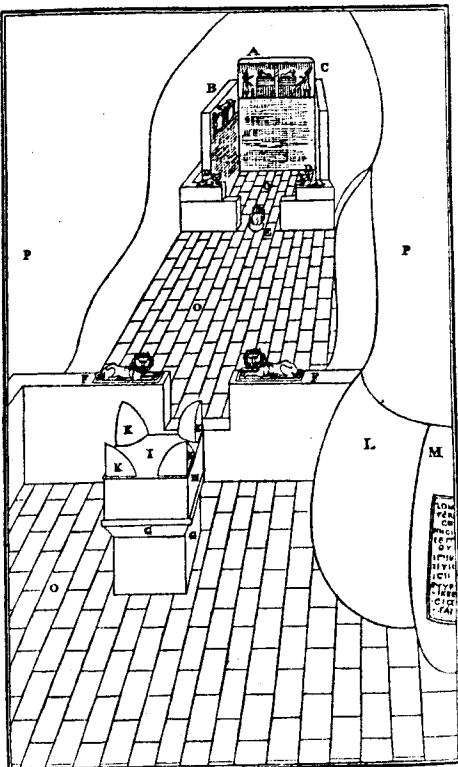
- A. Is the granite tablet, 14 feet high, 7 feet wide, and 2 feet thick.
- B. The side tablet, still standing.
- C. The tablet fallen, which has been sent to the British Museum.
- D. Two small Sphinxes, supposed to have stood in these places, fragments of them having been found near.
- E. Statue of a lion, of the best Egyptian sculpture.
- F. Two lions of ruder sculpture supposed to stand here, being found near the spot.
- G. The granite basement of an altar.
- H. The upper part of the altar.
- I. Top of the altar, bearing the marks of burnt sacrifices.
- K. The horns of the altar, one of which was found in its place.
- L. The first digit of the Sphinx's paw.
- M. The second.
- O. The pavement.
- PP. Parts of the two fore legs of the Sphinx.

Of all the monuments of antiquity, the Sphinx is perhaps that which has most generally excited the admiration of the lovers of art, notwithstanding its mutilated condition. 'The contemplative turn of the eye,' (it is an artist who speaks,) 'the mild expression of the mouth, and the beautiful disposition of the drapery at the angle of the forehead, sufficiently attest the admirable skill of the artist in its execution. Yet there is no attention paid to these proportions we are accustomed to admire, nor does the pleasing impression which it produces result from any known rule adopted in its execution; it may rather be attributed to the unstudied simplicity in the conception of the breadth, yet high finish, of the several parts, and the stupendous magnitude of the whole.' Denon's description of this mysterious colossus is equally strong. 'L'expression de la tête est douce, gracieuse et tranquille, le caractère en est Africain; mais la bouche, dont les lèvres sont épaisses, a une mollesse dans le mouvement et une finesse d'exécution vraiment admirables; c'est de la chair et de la vie.'

Such are the sentiments which a repeated view of this colossal piece of sculpture is capable of inspiring into the minds of artists. 'I confess,' says Mr. Salt, 'that I felt, like many other travellers, that the praises lavished by Norden, Denon, and others, were greatly exaggerated; but the more I studied it at different hours of the day, and under different effects of light and shade, the more I became satisfied that they had barely done justice to its real merits. It must be allowed, however, that the drawings, by both the gentlemen above-mentioned, but faintly accord with their encomiums, being two very wretched performances—but after having repeatedly attempted a likeness of it myself with little success, I am compelled to admit that the difficulties which attend the undertaking are sufficient to baffle any one not professionally dedicated to the arts.'

Mr. Salt had the great advantage of contemplating at his leisure this grand object of art, when laid open in front to its very base; with the fragments of its enormous beard resting beneath its chin; its huge paws stretched out fifty feet in advance from the body, which is in a cumbent posture; with all the appendages of a temple, granite tablet, and altar, spread out on a regular platform immediately in its front: and he admits that these interesting objects, which had for ages been buried deep in the sand, undoubtedly tended to exalt the main figure in his estimation.

We cannot dismiss the subject of this wonderful piece of sculpture hewn out of the living rock, without noticing an assertion of Dr. Clarke, which is calculated to convey very false impressions as to the real nature of one of the most extraordinary works of ancient art now in existence. Speaking of the Sphinx, he says, 'The French have



(1)

have uncovered all the pedestal of this statue, and all the cumbent or leonine parts of the figure: these were before entirely concealed by sand. Instead, however, of answering the expectations raised concerning the work upon which it was supposed to rest, the pedestal proves to be a wretched substructure of brick-work, and small pieces of stone, put together like the most insignificant piece of modern masonry, and wholly out of character, both with respect to the prodigious labour bestowed upon the statue itself, and the gigantic appearance of the surrounding objects. Now all this must either be the workings of the Doctor's imagination, like the 'splashing of the great stone' in the dry Well of the pyramid; or, he must have listened to some such idle story from the Arabs as that which they told to Mr. Caviglia,—that the French had discovered a door in the breast of the Sphinx, which opened into its body, and passed through it into the second pyramid. The French never uncovered more than the back of the Sphinx; they never saw the pedestal—they never pretended that they saw it—there is, in fact, no pedestal, no brick-work in any way connected with the statue of the Sphinx. M. Denon saw nothing but the head and neck; and M. Gubert, who was constantly stationed at the pyramids, says in his memoir, 'I succeeded in uncovering its back sufficient to determine its measurement; and he affirms it to be cut out of a salient angle of the mountain, and to be, what it really is, one single piece of rock. It is true that the paws, which are thrown out fifty feet in advance, are constructed of masonry,' but neither 'insignificant,' nor in the least resembling 'modern; this however could not have been known either to the French or to Dr. Clarke.

We have now taken a rapid view of the labours and discoveries of Mr. Caviglia. This enterprising man, after the most persevering exertions for ten months, in consequence of exposing himself too much to the sun, was unfortunately seized with an attack of ophthalmia, which compelled him to suspend his labours; and shortly after he returned to his ship at Alexandria. The expense incurred by all these operations amounted to about 18,000 piastres, a share of which was contributed by Mr. Salt and two or three other gentlemen, who liberally engaged that the disposal of whatever might be discovered should be left wholly to Mr. Caviglia; and he, on his part, generously requested that every thing might be sent to the British Museum, as a testimony of his attachment to that country, under the protection of whose flag he had for many years navigated the ocean. Mr. Salt very justly observes, that 'the unexampled circumstance that these operations were carried on by a single individual, attended occasionally only by one soldier, without the slightest molestation being offered, or unpleasant circumstance occurring, notwithstanding that numerous parties of idle soldiers went every

every day to inspect his labours, and thousands of Arabs during part of the time were encamped in the neighbourhood, presents the most unequivocal proof of the tranquillity now reigning in Egypt, and does honour at the same time to the liberality of Mahomed Ali Pashaw, who, on this occasion, as on many others, exerted himself to facilitate the researches carried on by Europeans connected with science.'

Recent travellers have had the strongest proof of this. Lord Belmore and his family, in their visit to Nubia as far as the second cataract of the Nile, met with every possible attention and assistance, in every part of their tour, from the agas and other officers in command; and we are glad to find that his lordship's brother, Captain Corry, of the navy, had with him an excellent sextant, and availed himself of the opportunity of determining with accuracy the latitudes of every place at which they halted: this was a desideratum in Nubian geography, as no actual observation had before been made beyond Syene, the latitude of which, as determined by M. Nouet, he found to be correct to a second; whereas the record which the French savans left engraved on the Propylæon at Carnac makes it different full three miles: the same or greater errors prevail in all the latitudes which they have registered at this place.

And here we cannot avoid reverting\* to M. Jomard, who would appropriate to the French nation, or rather to the savans of the French Institute, all the antiquities of Egypt which either have been or may be discovered, as their legitimate patrimony. We shall know soon on what grounds these extravagant pretensions are founded. Meanwhile, M. Jomard would not, perhaps, do very unwisely to be somewhat more tender of his censures on an unprotected individual, or one whom he considered as such, since blunders of no common kind (as we shall presently shew) have crept even into that colossal work on Egypt compiled under the auspices of 'Napoléon le Grand;' nay, under the signature of 'Jomard,' as a voucher for their accuracy.

The plate, No. 83, is supposed to represent the judgment of souls after death. Osiris is seen sitting on a throne, before whom stands a person with a pair of scales, who is meant no doubt to personate Justice. Several human figures are marching up the steps of the throne to receive their final doom for the deeds they have committed in this life. On the right, a little above, is a boat with a pig in it, driven away by a monkey and preceded by another. M. Jomard is not sure whether the pig be a pig or a river-horse, but either animal will suit his speculations on the scene, which he thus deciphers. The monkey is Mercury under the figure of a cy-

\* See our last Number, p. 193.

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nocephalous ape; and the pig or hippopotamus is a damned soul which he is driving back to the nether world, to suffer the punishment of being shut up in the body of this filthy animal. In the left corner of the same plate are represented four birds with human heads, like the childish pictures of cherubs, in the act of flapping their wings, which M. Jomard very happily conjectures to be so many souls of the blessed joyfully fluttering on their way to their final abode, after having passed the ordeal of the judgment-seat.—All this is very pretty, and might be very probable, if there was any truth in the copy of the original design in the tomb of the kings from which it purports to be taken. But it happens, that a gentleman, on whose accuracy and veracity we can fully rely, visited this tomb, and, unfortunately for M. Jomard's fidelity, these 'sweet little cherubs,' on being examined with a lighted torch, turned out to be the four heads of goats reversed, (not an unusual representation on the tombs), the horns of which were mistaken by the French artist for the legs of birds, the ears for their tails, and the neck, where it is separated from the head, for their wings;—this, it must be confessed, trenches a little on the boasted accuracy of the savans, and, what will grieve them still more, on the beautiful theory which had been so delightfully engrafted on the basis of this painting, pronounced by M. Jomard to be 'le dogme de la métempsychose mixte en action.'

Our information further states, that every thing contained in that work, from the tombs of the kings—and that part only had been compared on the spot—was exceedingly bad, both in the designs and in the colours, but especially in the latter, which, in the few prints that are coloured, are most perversely the direct contrary to what they are in the originals. For instance, in the two large prints of the Harp tomb, which bear the names of Jollois and Devilliers as vouchers for their accuracy, there is not a single tint of colouring as it ought to be. In the upper print the dress of the Harper is black, which ought to be white; the lines running down it, instead of being white, ought to be red. The colours of the harp itself are all wrongly disposed; and the face of the capped head upon the instrument which is red, should be yellow; the cap, instead of yellow, should be red, and the beard, instead of being red, should be black. The ornament  $\mathcal{S}$  on the cap they have made blue, which ought to be red. The figure of the hero seated, which we are told was drawn on a scale, ought to be at least one-third higher, his head-dress mingling with the line of the blue at top. The figure itself, in the original, is of a black shade throughout, with the eye-brows, nails of the hands, &c. picked out in white: the French thought red a more appropriate colour; and where, in the original, the naked black of the arms and legs is exhibited without ornament, M. Jollois

M. Jollois and Devilliers have supplied their hero with a fine blue jacket and a pair of pantaloons of the same colour. The yellow body-dress ought to be blue, and the white breeches should have been yellow; the drapery behind the chair, red instead of blue. The side of the chair is not chequered with red, blue, and white squares, as the two 'Ingénieurs des ponts et chaussées' have represented it, but ornamented with horizontal stripes of blue and black with a dotted line intervening; and the border at the bottom is as unlike that which the French have made it as black is to white. In fact, there is nothing in all Egypt similar to this imaginary border; neither is there any such dress in the original as the red close-sleeved waistcoat and close pantaloons which are given in the lower print of the French savans, nor indeed does it appear that any such dress was ever in use among the ancient Egyptians. We also observe, on comparing Major Hayes's sketches of the painting in the ruins of Memnonium, which represents the storming of a fort, with the same subject as treated in the French work, that the men who have a sort of petticoat drapery in the one, are naked in the other, and vice versa: which of the two is right, and which most perversely wrong, we may be able hereafter to determine; but from the specimens given above, we can have little doubt on the subject.

Such is the boasted accuracy of that splendid and expensive work which was to supersede all that had been or ever should be written on the ancient arts, the sciences, and the antiquities of Egypt! Without wishing to derogate from its real merits, we venture to assert that there will be found more learning, science, and faithful description in Mr. Hamilton's 'Egyptiaca,' and more taste, feeling, and accuracy in the unpretending sketches of Major Hayes, which accompany it, than the whole corps of savans, engaged in that magnificent and unrivalled monument of literary vanity, have yet been able to produce.

The paintings on the king's tomb at Thebes, containing the matchless sarcophagus now on its way to England, and which we stated to have been discovered by M. Belzoni, under the auspices of Mr. Salt, are described by the latter gentleman, who visited the tomb, as exquisitely beautiful. Assisted by Mr. Beechey, the son of the well-known artist of that name, he has, with great labour and a minute attention to outline and colouring, copied several of the paintings, which were coloured within the tomb by torch-light; when these shall be made public, we may be enabled to form a more correct opinion of the real state of ancient painting among the Egyptians, more especially as the freshness of these fresco paintings in this tomb is such, that, Mr. Salt says, 'there is no necessity to improve or restore:—on the contrary, with every attention and effort, he found it impossible to equal the originals; which, he adds, as far as colours

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go, throw all others completely in the back ground. The following remarks deserve to be recorded.

'The most minute attention and painful labour are not equal to give a faithful idea of the fascinating objects of these designs. The scale of colour in which they are painted is that of using pure vermilion, ochres, and indigo; and yet they are not gaudy, owing to the judicious balance of the colours, and the artful management of the blacks. It is quite obvious that they worked on a regular system, which had for its basis, as Mr. West would say, the colours of the rainbow; as there is not an ornament throughout their dresses where the red, yellow, and blue are not alternately intermingled, which produces a harmony that in some of the designs is really delicious.'

From the brief statement which we have given it will be seen that Mr. Salt has been indefatigable in his own researches, and spared no expense in encouraging those of others; we rejoice to find that, in return, he has possessed himself of a rich harvest of long buried treasures. Among others he has got down to Cairo the famous French stone with eight sculptured figures; another beautiful head of granite, not so large as that named the Young Memnon, but with a finer polish, and quite perfect; a sitting figure as large as life, of marble, and of exquisite workmanship; several statues of basalt, besides thirty rolls of papyrus, and an innumerable list of smaller articles.

It is an interesting fact, that, on opening one of the tombs at Thebes, two statues of wood, a little larger than life, were discovered as perfect as if newly carved, the only decayed parts being the sockets to receive the eyes, which had been of metal, probably of copper.

We have a few words to add respecting Belzoni, whose death has been announced, prematurely we hope, in the public prints. Every inquiry which we have been able to make leads us to believe that the report is not correct; it was brought from Constantinople, and must probably meant to refer to the lamented Burckhardt: we trust therefore, that it is not yet time to insert his name in the obituary of those valuable men who have lost their lives in the hazardous career of African enterprise. Our readers may, perhaps, not be displeased to learn a little of the history of this extraordinary man. Belzoni was born, we believe, in the Papal states. Of his youth no particulars have come to our knowledge; but about nine years ago he was in Edinburgh, where he exhibited feats of strength, experiments in hydraulics, musical glasses, and phantasmagoria. He repeated the same course of experiments in Ireland and the Isle of Man; whence he proceeded to Lisbon. Being then about twenty-five years of age, of the extraordinary height of six feet seven inches, well made and stout in proportion, with an animated and prepossessing

serious countenance, he was at once engaged, by the manager of the theatre of San Carlos, to appear in the play of *Valentine and Orson*, and again, during Lent, in the sacred drama of *Sampson*; in both of which, by feats of strength and activity, he gained the highest applause. At Madrid he performed before the king and the court. Leaving Spain he proceeded to Malta, where he fell in with Ismael Gibraltari, the agent of the Pashaw of Egypt, who persuaded him to visit Cairo. Here the pashaw engaged him to construct a machine for raising water out of the Nile to irrigate his gardens, for which he was to be paid at the rate of 800 piastres per month, besides a considerable reward, provided it should finally be found to answer the purpose. In the course of three months it was put in operation. The pashaw attended; and three Arabs, with an Irish lad whom Belzoni had brought from Edinburgh, as a servant, were put into the large wheel to walk round and keep it in motion: at the second or third turn the Arabs became giddy and jumped out; the wheel, wanting its counterpoise, flew back, and the Irish servant, in attempting to escape, broke his thigh, and must have been killed, had not Belzoni caught hold of the circumference of the wheel, and, by his extraordinary strength, stopped its motion.

This accident was equivalent to a failure; and Belzoni now determined to try his fortune in search of antiquities in Upper Egypt; but just as he was preparing to depart, Mr. Salt arrived at Cairo. This gentleman, on the representation of Sheikh Ibrahim, who had witnessed his extraordinary powers, conceived him at once to be the person most proper to employ in the arduous attempt of bringing down the head of the Young Memnon from Thebes. Belzoni, after some consideration, accordingly relinquished the plan of travelling on his own account, and engaged himself to Mr. Salt and the Sheikh, on an enterprise that was by many deemed hopeless, but which, as we formerly stated, he succeeded in accomplishing (after six months of unremitting exertions) by his uncommon dexterity in the management of the Arab peasantry, by whom alone he was assisted. From this time he was regularly employed by Mr. Salt in making discoveries, the result of which we have already communicated.

An instance of his determined perseverance, and of the confidence which he inspires in others, well deserves to be mentioned. In his Nubian journey he was accompanied by Mr. Beechey. The front of the temple of Ipsambul, with its colossal statues just raising their gigantic heads above the mass of sand in which the whole front was nearly buried, was too tempting an object to be left unexplored. He immediately engaged a party of natives to set about uncovering it; they laboured at it a few days, making very little progress, when they stopped, alleging that the feast of Rhamadan had commenced.

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commenced.

commenced, and that it was unlawful to work: the sheik, or aga, who had permitted him to engage these people, corroborated this statement; and it soon appeared that no argument would prevail on them to continue their labour. Belzoni, therefore, with Mr. Beechey and the Irish servant, determined to set about the laborious operation themselves; but they soon discovered that the aga, to deter them from the further prosecution of the enterprise, had prohibited the supply of provisions of every description, hoping by this measure to induce them to depart, and return the following season to spend more money among his people. Recollecting, however, that they had still remaining in their boat a bag of durrah (millet), the little party determined to persevere in their work, and after twenty-one days of very severe labour, during which they had nothing but durrah and Nile water to live upon, they succeeded in uncovering and penetrating into the interior of the temple of Ipsambul,—which M. Jomard is pleased to say had been previously visited by Mr. Thomas Legh, though Mr. Thomas Legh, when he wrote his book, was as unconscious of its existence, as M. Jomard himself was, until he read the account of it in the letter of Belzoni to M. Visconti.

ART. IX.—*Lectures on the English Poets. Delivered at the Surrey Institution. By William Hazlitt. 8vo. pp. 331. London. 1818.*

MR. Hazlitt seems to have bound himself, in imitation of Hannibal, to wage everlasting war, not, indeed, against Rome, but against accurate reasoning, just observation, and precise or even intelligible language. We have traced him in his two former predatory incursions on taste and common sense. He has now taken the field a third time, and with a more hostile aspect than ever. Had he written on any other subject, we should scarcely have thought of watching his movements. But though his book is dull, his theme is pleasing. Interests in spite of the author. As we read we forget Mr. Hazlitt, to think of those concerning whom he writes. In fact, few works of poetical criticism are so deplorably bad, as not to be perused with some degree of pleasure. The remarks may be true, or paradoxical, or unintelligible; they may be expressed in a vague and inanimate style; but the mind is occasionally awakened and relieved by the recurrence of extracts, in which the powers of taste and genius are displayed.

This is the case with Mr. Hazlitt's book. We are not aware that it contains a single just observation, which has not been expressed by other writers more briefly, more perspicuously, and more elegantly. The passages which he has quoted are, with one

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or two exceptions, familiar to all who have the slightest acquaintance with English literature. His remarks on particular quotations are often injudicious; his general reasonings, for the most part, unintelligible. Indeed he seems to think that meaning is a superfluous quality in writing, and that the task of composition is merely an exercise in varying the arrangement of words. In the lately invented optical toy we have a few bits of coloured glass, the images of which are made to present themselves in an endless variety of forms. Mr. Hazlitt's mind appears to be furnished in a similar manner, and to act in a similar way; for its most vigorous operations are limited to throwing a number of pretty picturesque phrases into senseless and fantastic combinations.

Mr. Hazlitt's work may be regarded as consisting of two parts; first, of general reasonings on poetry, under which we include his remarks on the characters of particular poets; secondly, of minute remarks upon the passages which he has quoted. The greater part of the volume belongs to the first of these classes; for though many fine extracts are given, little pains have been employed to bring their latent beauties into view. Looking upon such a task as too humble for his genius, Mr. Hazlitt prefers appearing chiefly in the character of a philosophical reasoner. In this choice he is unfortunate; for his mode of thinking, or rather of using words, is most singularly unphilosophical. Some vague half-formed notion seems to be floating before his mind; instead of seizing the notion itself, he lays hold of a metaphor, or of an idea connected with it by slight associations: this he expresses; but after he has expressed it, he finds that he has not conveyed his meaning; another metaphor is therefore thrown out, the same course is trodden over and over again, and half a dozen combinations of phrases are used in vague endeavours to express what ought to have been said directly and concisely in one. The mischief, thus originating in indistinctness of conception, is increased by the ambition of the writer. Mr. Hazlitt wishes to dazzle: but with no new matter to communicate, without an imagination capable of lending new force to old observations, and without skill to array them in appropriate language, he can only succeed (as Harlequin does with children) by surprising us with the rapid succession of antic forms in which the same, or nearly the same thought is exhibited. He is ever hovering on the limits between sense and nonsense, and he trusts to the dimness of the twilight which reigns in that region, for concealing the defects of his arguments and increasing the power of his imagery. There is no subject on which it is of more importance that those terms only should be used whose meaning is well fixed, than in treating of the emotions and operations of the mind; but Mr. Hazlitt indulges himself in a rambling inaccuracy of expression, which would not

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If all unheard the bridal song awoke  
 Our hearts' full echoes, as it swell'd on high;  
 Aliter heard the sudden dirge, that broke  
 On the glad strain, with dread solemnity.  
 If the land's rose unheeded wore its bloom,  
 Alike unfelt the storm that swept it to the tomb.  
 And she, who, tried thro' all the stormy past,  
 Severely, deeply proved, in many an hour,  
 Watch'd o'er thee, firm and faithful to the last,  
 Sustain'd, inspired, by strong affection's power;  
 If to thy soul her voice no music bore,  
 If thy closed eye, that fondly would explore  
 No light from looks, that fondly would explore  
 Thy mien, for traces of responsive thought;  
 Oh! thou wert spared the pang that would have thrill'd  
 Thine inmost heart, when death that anxious bosom still'd.  
 Thy lov'd ones fell around thee—manhood's prime,  
 Youth, with its glory, in its fulness, age,  
 All, at the gates of their eternal clime  
 Lay down, and closed their mortal pilgrimage;  
 The land wore ashes for its perish'd flowers,  
 The grave's imperial harvest. Thou, meanwhile,  
 Didst walk unconscious thro' thy royal towers,  
 The one that wept not in the tearful isle!  
 As a tired warrior, on his battle-plain,  
 Breathes deep in dreams amidst the mourners and the slain.  
 And who can tell what visions might be thine?  
 The stream of thought, though broken, still was pure!  
 Still o'er that wave the stars of heaven might shine,  
 Where earthly image would no more endure!  
 Tho' many a step, of once familiar sound,  
 Came as a stranger's o'er thy closing ear,  
 And voices breathed forgotten tones around,  
 Which that paternal heart once thrill'd to hear,  
 The mind bath senses of its own, and powers  
 To people boundless worlds, in its most wandering hours.  
 Nor might the phantoms, to thy spirit known,  
 Be dark or wild, creations of remorse;  
 Unstain'd by thee, the blameless past had thrown  
 No fearful shadows o'er the future's course;  
 For thee no cloud, from memory's dread abyss,  
 Might shape such forms as haunt the tyrant's eye;  
 And closing up each avenue of bliss,  
 Murmur their summons, to "despair and die!"  
 No! e'en tho' joy depart, tho' reason cease,  
 Sull virtue's ruin'd home is redolent of peace.  
 They might be with thee still—the loved, the tried,  
 The fair, the lost, they might be with thee still!

More

More nobly seen, in radiance purified  
 From earth's dim vapours, and terrestrial ill;  
 Long after earth received them, and the name  
 Of the last requiem o'er the dust was paid,  
 As passing sunbeams o'er thy soul might float,  
 Those forms, from us withdrawn, to thee restore!  
 Spirits of holiness, to light reveal'd,  
 To commune with a mind whose source of tears was seal'd—p. 9

It is time to close this article. Our readers will have seen, and we do not deny, that we have been much interested by our subject: who or what Mrs. Hemans is, we know not; we have been told that, like a poet of antiquity,

Solatur centum—  
 Tristitia vixit

if it be so (and the most sensible breasts are not uncommonly nor unnaturally the most bitterly wounded), she seems from the tenor of her writings to bear about her a higher and a sorer balm than the praises of men, or even the 'sacred muse' herself can impart. Still there is a pleasure, an innocent and an honest pleasure, even to a wounded spirit, in fame fairly earned; and such fame as may wait upon our decision, we freely and conscientiously bestow:—in our opinion all her poems are elegant and pure in thought and language; her later poems are of higher promise, they are vigorous, picturesque, and pathetic.

ART. VI.—1. *Narrative of the Operations and Recent Discoveries within the Pyramids, Temples, Tombs, and Excavations in Egypt and Nubia, and of a Journey to the Coast of the Red Sea, in search of the Ancient Berenice; and another to the Oasis of Jupiter Ammon.* By G. Belzoni. London. With a Portrait. 4to. pp. 503. 1820.

2. *Forty-four Coloured Plates, illustrative of the Researches and Operations of G. Belzoni, in Egypt and Nubia.* Folio.

THE name of Belzoni must be familiar to the readers of our journal. We may, indeed, take credit for having brought before the public eye whatever has appeared, (prior to the present publication,) of the important researches and discoveries made by this distinguished and meritorious individual, from information with which we were exclusively favoured from the scene of his operations. Mr. Belzoni has now, very properly, told his own story in his own way, and we may add, pretty nearly in his own words; having, as we understand, declined all literary assistance beyond that of the individual employed to copy out his manuscript and correct the press. 'As I made my discoveries alone,' he says, 'I have been anxious to write my book by myself, though in so doing the reader will

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will consider me, and with great propriety, guilty of temerity; but the public will, perhaps, gain in the fidelity of my narrative what it loses in elegance. I am not an Englishman; but I prefer that my readers should receive from myself, as well as I am able to describe them, an account of my proceedings in Egypt, in Nubia, on the Coast of the Red Sea, and in the Oasis; rather than run the risk of having my meaning misrepresented by another: if I am intelligible, it is all that I can expect." In this last respect, we may safely assure him that he has fully succeeded: he details with perspicuity, and, we have no doubt, with accuracy, all the occurrences which befel him in the prosecution of his discoveries; he describes, with great simplicity, the means he employed for effecting his various operations; the nature of the intercourse he held with the several natives with whom he was brought in contact, as well as the rooted prejudices which he had to combat, and the various difficulties created by the intrigues, the treachery, and the avarice of the Turkish chiefs; and, we regret to add, the jealousy of certain Europeans, of whose conduct he bitterly complains, and apparently not without reason: and on the whole, we may venture to say that he has produced a very instructive and entertaining volume.

Mr. Belzoni makes no pretension to classical literature or science of any kind. "I must apologize," he modestly says, "for the few humble observations I have ventured to give on some historical points; but I had become so familiar with the sight of temples, tombs, and pyramids, that I could not help forming some speculation on their origin and construction. The scholar and learned traveller will smile at my presumption; but do they always agree themselves in their opinions in matters of this sort, or even on those of much less difficulty? It is not to him, therefore, that we are to look for erudite historical disquisitions, or antiquarian elucidations; but, what is probably of more real value and importance, we may implicitly trust his pen and his pencil in what he has described and delineated. But though no scholar himself, he may justly be considered as the pioneer, and a most powerful and useful one, of antiquarian researches; he points out the road and makes it easy for others to travel over; and, we may venture to say, in elucidation of this remark, and without the most distant intention of derogating one iota from the merit of Mr. W. Banks, (whose labours, we have reason to believe, cannot be too highly appreciated,) that we owe some of the most interesting and brilliant discoveries of that gentleman (we allude to the drawings and inscriptions of the Temple of Ipsambul) to the bold and Herculean task undertaken in this instance by Belzoni, and finally accomplished by the personal exertions of himself and his fellow labourers.

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The slight sketch of the life of Mr. Belzoni (No. XXXVIII.) is, we believe, tolerably correct in the main. In this we stated the cause of his going to Egypt. He was accompanied to that country by Mrs. Belzoni, whom he had married in England, and by an Irish lad of the name of James Curtin; and reached Alexandria just as the plague was beginning to disappear from that city, as it always does on the approach of St. John's day, when, as almost every body knows, 'out of respect for the saint,' it entirely ceases. The state of the country was still very alarming, yet Mr. Belzoni and his little party ventured to land, and performed quarantine in the French quarter; where, though really very unwell, they were wise enough to disguise their situation: 'for the plague is so dreadful a scourge,' he observes, 'and operates so powerfully on human fears and human prejudices, that, during its prevalence, if a man be ill, he must be ill of the plague, and if he die, he must have died of the plague.' 'He died of the plague,' is the general cry, whatever may be the disease; and as hundreds perish daily, this is the time for getting rid of rich or troublesome relations, as all who die are carried away to be buried without distinction and without inquiry.

On arriving at Cairo, Mr. Belzoni went to the house of Mr. Baghos, interpreter to Mahommed Ali, to whom he had been recommended, and who immediately prepared to introduce him to the Pasha, that he might come to some arrangement respecting the hydraulic machine, which he proposed to construct for watering the gardens of the seraglio, and which was in fact the main object of his visit to Egypt. As they were proceeding towards the palace, through one of the principal streets of Cairo, a brutal Turk struck Mr. Belzoni so fiercely on the leg with his staff, that it tore away a large piece of flesh. The blow was so severe, and the discharge of blood so copious, that he was obliged to be conveyed home, where he remained under cure thirty days before he could support himself on the wounded leg. When able to leave the house, he was presented to the Pasha, who received him very civilly; but on being told of the misfortune which had happened to him, condescended himself with coolly observing, 'that such accidents could not be avoided where there were troops.'

An arrangement was immediately concluded for erecting a machine which was to raise as much water with one ox, as the ordinary ones do with four. Mr. Belzoni soon found, however, that he had many prejudices to encounter, and many obstacles to overcome, on the part of those who were employed in the construction of the work, as well as of those who owned the cattle engaged in drawing water for the Pasha's gardens. The fate of a machine which had been sent from England, taught him to anger no good

for that which he had undertaken to construct. Though of the most costly description, and every way equal to perform what it was calculated to do, it had failed to answer the unreasonable expectations of the Turks,—because ‘the quantity of water raised by it was not sufficient to inundate the whole country in an hour! which was their measure of the power of an English water-wheel.’

When that of Belzoni was completed, the Pasha proceeded to the gardens of Soubra to witness its effect. The machine was set to work, and, although constructed of bad materials, and of unskilful workmanship, its powers were greater than had been constructed for; yet the Arabs, from interested motives, declared against it. The Pasha, however, though evidently disappointed, admitted that it was equal to four of the ordinary kind, and consequently according to the agreement. Unluckily, he took it into his head to have the oxen removed, and, ‘by way of frolic,’ to see what effect could be produced by putting fifteen men into the wheel. The Irish lad got in with them; but no sooner had the wheel begun to turn than the Arabs jumped out, leaving the lad alone in it. The wheel, relieved from its load, flew back with such velocity, that poor Curtin was flung out, and in the fall broke one of his thighs, and, being entangled in the machinery, would, in all probability, have lost his life, had not Belzoni applied all his strength to the wheel, and stopped it. The accident, however, was fatal to the project and to the future hopes of the projector. On this subject, we have the testimony of one whose testimony can never be given in vain: ‘Belzoni,’ says Mr. Burckhardt, ‘who is known in England as an hydraulic engineer, and is married to an English woman, who has accompanied him to Egypt, entered last year the service of the Pasha as a mechanic; but not being able to contend with the intrigues of a Turkish court, and too honourable to participate in them, he was dismissed as unfit for his business, and five months of pay still remain due to him.’ Mr. Burckhardt elsewhere describes Belzoni ‘as enterprising as he is intelligent, high-minded, and disinterested.’

Belzoni's residence at Soubra gave him an opportunity of seeing and learning something of the habits and character of Mahomed Ali. He is a man, he says, full of projects, always busied in something new, and perpetually in motion. Few of them, however, have hitherto answered, and one had nearly proved fatal to himself. He took it into his head to have his troops trained in the European exercise,—which produced a mutiny. This at least is the cause assigned for it by Burckhardt and Belzoni, though we suspect it was more from the arrears of pay that were due to them. Cairo on this occasion is said to have been given up to plunder for several days by the Albanian soldiers, who were at length quelled by the

the exertions of the Syrian cavalry which had remained faithful to the Pasha. The desolation and death-like silence that prevailed in this great city during the revolt, are well described by our author. Mr. Burckhardt says, that the Pasha did not deem it advisable to adopt any strong measures of punishment; ‘but in order to conciliate the good-will and, in case of need, the assistance of the town's people, he reimbursed to them, out of his own pocket, the whole amount of their loss, calculated at four millions of piastres.’ On this occasion many of the Franks were ill-treated, and others fired at, by the Turkish soldiers, even after the plundering of the town had ceased. What kind of discipline these troops are under in Egypt, Mr. Belzoni had but too many opportunities of seeing.

During my stay at Soubra, a circumstance took place, which I shall remember as long as I live, and which shewed me plainly the country I was in, and the people I had to deal with. Some particular business calling me to Cairo, I was on my ass in one of the narrow streets, where I met a loaded camel. The space that remained between the camel and the wall was so little, that I could scarcely pass; and at that moment I was met by a Bimbashi, a subaltern officer, at the head of his men. For the instant I was the only obstacle that prevented his proceeding on the road; and I could neither retreat nor turn round, to give him room to pass. Seeing it was a Frank who stopped his way, he gave me a violent blow on my stomach. Not being accustomed to put up with such salutations, I returned the compliment with my whip across his naked shoulders. Instantly he took his pistol out of his belt; I jumped off my ass; he retired about two yards, pulled the trigger, fired at my head, singed the hair near my right ear, and killed one of his own soldiers, who, by this time, had come behind me. Finding that he had missed his aim, he took out a second pistol; but his own soldiers assailed and disarmed him.

A great noise arose in the street, and, as it happened to be close to the seraglio in the Esbakie, some of the guards ran up; but on seeing what the matter was, they interferred and stopped the Bimbashi. I thought my company was not wanted, so I mounted my charger, and rode off. I went to Mr. Baghos, and told him what had happened. We repaired immediately to the citadel, saw the Bashaw, and related the circumstance to him. He was much concerned, and wished to know where the soldier was, but observed, that it was too late that evening to have him taken up. However, he was apprehended the next day, and I have never heard or knew any thing more about him. Such a lesson on the subject was not lost upon me; and I took good care, in future, not to give the least opportunity of the kind to men of that description, who can murder an European with as much indifference as they would kill an insect.

Some little time after this, another circumstance took place, which I cannot omit relating. A charming young lady, about sixteen years of age, daughter of the *Chevalier Bocty, now consul-general of Sweden*, went out of her house, in company with her mother, sister, and some other

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other ladies, to go to a bath. They formed a cavalcade on asses, as is the custom of the country; and had not proceeded far from their door when they met a soldier, a monster I should say, who took a pistol from his belt, and, with the greatest coolness, fired and killed the young lady. She was one of the most amiable creatures, both in her manners and person, that ever lived; and was most deservedly lamented by every one who knew her. This is quite enough, surely, to invite young European ladies to that country! I must say, to the honour of Mahomed Ali, that the monster was taken and executed: but what satisfaction could this be to her afflicted parents?—pp. 20, 21.

The project of the water-wheel having totally failed, Mr. Belzoni began to turn his thoughts towards Upper Egypt. In this voyage he seems at first to have had no definite object in view: but, on the suggestion of Mr. Burckhardt, and the encouragement of Mr. Salt, he readily undertook to remove the enormous bust, to which these gentlemen have given the name of the ‘Younger Memnon,’ from the neighbourhood of Thebes, down the Nile to Cairo. In his account of this transaction, Mr. Belzoni manifests some indignation at the statement which has gone forth, of his being employed on this task by Mr. Salt; and declares that ‘he had no other idea than, that all the researches he was about to make for antiquities were for the benefit of the British Museum.’ We can know nothing, of course, of what passed between him and the British Consul; but with regard to the bust of Memnon, we have always understood that it was a joint present of Messrs. Burckhardt and Salt to the Museum, and that they indemnified Mr. Belzoni for all expenses in getting it down to Alexandria, and made him besides a remuneration for his trouble. Burckhardt indeed says, in a letter now before us, ‘Mr. Salt and myself have borne the expenses jointly, and the trouble of the undertaking has devolved upon Mr. Belzoni, whose name I wish to be mentioned, if ever ours shall on this occasion, because he was actuated by public spirit, fully as much as ourselves.’ And, in the same letter, he says, ‘although upwards of 100 fellahs were occupied for many days with our Memnon, and that we paid £100 for the boat only, and made a present to Mr. Belzoni, small indeed, but as much as our circumstances permitted, the total expense incurred by us, as far as Alexandria, does not amount to more than £200.’ We regret to perceive any feeling of irritation on a matter which appears to us of no importance, and on a point too wherein the merit of our author has never been called in question. The name of Belzoni alone is coupled with the bust of Memnon in the Museum, and this, we think, ought to satisfy him. There is no discredit in the two gentlemen having employed him at their joint expense, to undertake a task which he most ably and honourably performed, and to then en-

tire satisfaction. Let him recollect, that it was by the pecuniary assistance of Mr. Salt, Mr. Briggs and some others, that Captain Caviglia was enabled to uncover the Sphinx. If there should unfortunately subsist any difference on other points respecting his researches, between him and the Consul, we sincerely regret it; being quite satisfied that both were actuated by the same zealous endeavour to promote the extension of antiquarian knowledge, and to add to the unrivalled collection of the works of ancient art in the British Museum.

We are much pleased with the handsome manner in which our author speaks of Mr. Burckhardt.

‘The first hour of my arrival (at Cairo) I had the pleasure of seeing my good and much lamented friend, Burckhardt, whose death has been a great loss to me. He was the most candid, disinterested, and sincere being I have ever met with; totally free from that invidious and selfish disposition, which is so often to be found in travellers, who wish to be alone in one quarter of the world, to relate their story agreeable to the suggestions of their own imagination to the people of another. But Burckhardt had none of that littleness of mind; he was a true explorer, and a hardy one, without pride, or the ambition to be thought more than he was.’—p. 134.

Travellers possessing little of that ardour which distinguishes Mr. Belzoni, have broke forth into raptures on their first view of the gigantic ruins of Thebes; and we have no doubt that our author is quite correct in the following account of ‘the city of the hundred Gates.’

‘On the 22d, we saw for the first time the ruins of great Thebes, and landed at Luxor. Here I beg the reader to observe, that but very imperfect ideas can be formed of the extensive ruins of Thebes, even from the accounts of the most skilful and accurate travellers. It is absolutely impossible to imagine the scene displayed, without seeing it. The most sublime ideas, that can be formed from the most magnificent specimens of our present architecture, would give a very incorrect picture of these ruins; for such is the difference, not only in magnitude, but in form, proportion, and construction, that even the pencil can convey but a faint idea of the whole. It appeared to me like entering a city of giants, who, after a long conflict, were all destroyed, leaving the ruins of their various temples as the only proofs of their former existence. The temple of Luxor presents to the traveller at once one of the most splendid groups of Egyptian grandeur. The extensive propylon, with the two obelisks, and colossal statues in the front; the thick groups of enormous columns; the variety of apartments and the sanctuary it contains; the beautiful ornaments which adorn every part of the walls and columns, described by Mr. Hamilton; cause in the astonished traveller an oblivion of all that he has seen before. If his attention be attracted to the north side of Thebes by the towering remains, that project a great height above the wood of palm trees, he will gradually



enter that forest-like assemblage of ruins of temples, columns, obelisks, colossal sphinxes, pyramids, and an endless number of other astonishing objects, that will convince him at once of the impossibility of a description. On the west side of the Nile, still the traveller finds himself among wonders. The temples of Gournou, Memnonium, and Medinet Aboo, attest the extent of the great city on this side. The unrivalled colossal figures in the plains of Thebes, the number of tombs excavated in the rocks, those in the great valley of the kings, with their paintings, sculptures, mummies, sarcophagi, figures, &c. are all objects worthy of the admiration of the traveller; who will not fail to wonder how a nation, which was once so great as to erect these stupendous edifices, could so far fall into oblivion, that even their language and writing are totally unknown to us.—pp. 37, 38.

Mr. Belzoni observes, that the water of the Nile reaches quite to the propylon of the Memnonium; and he considers this as a proof, that the bed of the river has risen since this temple was erected. There can be no doubt of it—the beds of all rivers are gradually rising, from the constant deposit of that part of the alluvial materials brought down from the higher lands, which has been left within the banks, while these and the bordering plains have been raised in proportion. This deposit has buried many of the ruins of Egypt, and thus strengthened the proof of their great antiquity. The bust of Memnon, the immediate object of our author's research, soon caught his eye; it was lying with its face upwards, and, apparently smiling on me," he says, "at the thought of being taken to England."

It will readily be imagined, that in a country, destitute of the arts like Egypt, and with a people, semi-barbarous like the Arabs, Belzoni had a thousand difficulties to overcome before he could succeed in moving this bust of ten or twelve tons weight one inch from its bed of sand. The chiefs eyed him with jealousy, and conceived, as usual, that he came in quest of hidden treasures; and the Fellahs were with difficulty set to work, having made up their minds that it was a hopeless task. When these simple people saw it first move, they all set up a loud shout, declaring it was not their exertions, but the power of the devil, that had effected it. The enormous mass was put in motion by a few poles, and palm-leaf ropes, all the means which they could command, and which nothing but the ingenuity of our traveller could have made efficient. But these materials, poor as they were, created not half the difficulty and delay occasioned by the intrigues of the Cachefs and Kaimakans, all of whom were desirous of extorting as much money as they possibly could, and of obstructing the progress of the work, as the surest means of effecting their purpose. Even the labourers, on finding that money was given to them for removing a mere mass of stone, took it into their heads that it must be filled with gold, and

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turned through the passages, by which we had come; and, after some time, I succeeded in reaching the place, where, as I mentioned, were many other cavities. It was a complete labyrinth, and all these places bore a great resemblance to the one which we first entered. At last being one, which appeared to be the right, we proceeded through it in a long way; but by this time our candles had diminished considerably; and I feared, that, if we did not get out soon, we should have to remain in the dark; meantime it would have been dangerous to put one out, save the other, lest that which was left should, by some accident, be extinguished. At this time we were considerably advanced towards the outside, as we thought; but to our sorrow we found the end of that way without any outlet. Convinced that we were mistaken in our conjecture, we quickly returned towards the place of the various openings, which we strove to regain. But we were then as perplexed as ever, and were both exhausted from the ascents and descents, which we had been obliged to go over. The Arab seated himself, but every moment of delay was dangerous. The only expedient was, to put a mark the place out of which he had just come, and then examine the others in succession, by putting also a mark at their entrance, so as to know where we had been. Unfortunately, our candles would not last long enough; however, we began our operations.

On the second attempt, when passing before a small aperture, I thought I heard the sound of something like the roaring of the sea at a distance. In consequence I entered this cavity; and as we advanced noise increased, till I could distinctly hear a number of voices all one time. At last, thank God, we walked out; and, to my no small surprise, the first person I saw was my interpreter. How he was to be there I could not conjecture. He told me, that, in proceeding with the Arab along the passage below, they came to a pit, which they did not see; that the Arab fell into it, and in falling out both candles. It was then that he cried out, "Mon Dieu! je suis perdu!" as he thought he would have fallen into the pit; but, raising his head, he saw at a great distance a glimpse of daylight, and which he advanced, and thus arrived at a small aperture. He then scrambled away some loose sand and stones, to widen the place where he came out, and went to give the alarm to the Arabs, who were at the other entrance. Being all concerned for the man who fell to the bottom of the pit, it was their noise that I heard in the cave. The way by which my interpreter got out was instantly widened; and in confusion the Arabs did not regard letting me see that they were united with that entrance, and that it had lately been shut up. I was not long in detecting their scheme. The Arabs had intended to leave the sarcophagus, without letting me see the way by which it had been taken out, and then to stipulate a price for the secret. It was this view they took me such a way round about.—pp. 51, 54.

Mr. Belzoni now determined to proceed up the Nile, as far as the second cataract. In his progress, he visited all the ruins which occur, and appears to have paid the most minute attention to the

and agreed that so precious an article ought not to be taken out of the country. Under all these difficulties, Mr. Belzoni appears to have conducted himself with great patience and docility, and unabating perseverance.

It was eighteen days from the commencement of the operation before the colossal bust reached the banks of the Nile, but no boat was yet prepared to receive it. Belzoni therefore, by way of passing the time, engaged the Arabs to conduct him to a cavern in the mountains of Gournou, where was a sarcophagus which Dravettin, the French Consul, after a vain attempt to get it out, had presented to him. The subterranean adventure is not quite equal in horror to that told by Mr. Legh, though somewhat of the same description. The cavern was entered by our traveller, two Arabs and an interpreter.

Previous to our entering the cave, we took off the greater part of our clothes, and, each having a candle, advanced through a cavity in the rock, which extended a considerable length in the mountain, sometimes pretty high, sometimes very narrow, and without any regularity. In some passages we were obliged to creep on the ground, like crocodiles. I perceived, that we were at a great distance from the entrance, and the way was so intricate, that I depended entirely on the two Arabs, to conduct us out again. At length we arrived at a large space, into which many other holes or cavities opened; and after some consideration and examination by the two Arabs, we entered one of these, which was very narrow, and continued downward for a long way, through a craggy passage, till we came where two other apertures led to the interior in a horizontal direction. One of the Arabs then said, "this is the place." I could not conceive how so large a sarcophagus, as had been described to me, could have been taken through the aperture, which the Arab now pointed out. I had no doubt, but these recesses were burial places, as we continually walked over skulls and other bones; but the sarcophagus could never have entered this recess; for it was so narrow, that on my attempt to penetrate it, I could not pass. One of the Arabs, however, succeeded, as did my interpreter; and it was agreed, that I and the other Arab should wait till they returned. They proceeded evidently to a great distance, for the light disappeared, and only a murmuring sound from their voices could be distinguished as they went on. After a few moments, I heard a loud noise, and the interpreter distinctly crying, "*O mon Dieu! mon Dieu! je suis perdu!*" After which, a profound silence ensued. I asked my Arab, whether he had ever been in that place? He replied, "Never." I could not conceive what could have happened, and thought the best plan was to return, to procure help from the other Arabs. Accordingly, I told my man to show me the way out again; but, stating at one like an idiot, he said he did not know the road. I called repeatedly to the interpreter, but received no answer; I watched a long time, but no one returned; and my situation was no very pleasant one. I naturally re-

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the decorative part of the ancient temples; but as no description can convey an adequate idea of this, we must refer our readers to the interesting and important volume of plates which accompanies this work, and which has been executed with great neatness, chiefly at the lithographic press.\*

Furnished with letters to the three brothers who govern in Nubia, he passed Deir and Ibrim without molestation.

"I cannot omit," he says, "mentioning the hard labour the boatmen had on this occasion. They were continually in the water; and, though good swimmers, they had great trouble in wading against the current to pull the rope from under the trees, which cover the banks of the Nile in such a manner, that it is impossible to track it along on the shore. They are a people living very hardily, and eat any thing in the world. They chew the rock salt, or natron, mixed with tobacco, putting the mixture between the front teeth and the lower lip. The natron is found in several parts of Egypt, and is one of their articles of trade. The Laplanders are said to be very filthy in their food, and I am sure these people are not unlike them in that respect. When we killed a sheep, I had sometimes the pleasure of seeing the entrails opened, pieces of which, dipped once into the water, were eaten by them raw. The head and feet, with the skin, wool, hoofs, and all, were put into a pot, which is never washed, to be half-boiled, when they drank the broth and devoured the rest."—pp. 78, 79.

It was on this voyage that he conceived the idea of uncovering the great temple of Ipsambul, first discovered and brought into notice by the lamented Burckhardt. On approaching it, however, the hope he had formed vanished at once; for the accumulation of sand was such, that it appeared an impossibility ever to reach the door. The exact spot where he had fixed the entrance to be, was determined in his own mind from observing the heat of a hawk, of such a monstrous size that, with the body, it could not be less than twenty feet high; this bird he concluded to be over the door-way; and as below the figure there is generally a vacant space, followed by a frieze and cornice, he calculated the upper part of the door-way to be about thirty-five feet below the summit of the sand. The strong and ardent desire to enter a sanctuary which, for so many ages, had been closed against all the world, gave, he says, a stimulus to his hopes; and having made some rough calculations as to the expense, he set out for the village of Ipsambul, to deliver his letters to the governor, and to inquire on what terms he could procure labourers for his extraordinary undertaking.

Having desired to see Ossey Cacheff, for some time I received no answer; but at last was told, that he who sat there was Daoud Cacheff, his son. I saw a man about fifty years of age, clad in a light

\* We should remember, that the lithography more clear, distinct, and soft, than the portrait of Belzoni at the head of the present volume.

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blue gown, with a white rag on his head as a turban, seated on a raised mat, on the ground, a long sword and a gun by his side, with about twenty men surrounding him, who were well armed with swords, spears, and shields. A younger brother, of much inferior rank and dignity, was among them, who behaved very roughly towards me. Some had garments, others had none, and they altogether formed a ragged assembly, by no means of most encouraging aspect. These people have no other employment, than to gather the insects of their master from the poorer sort of natives. The Cacheff himself has nothing to do but to go from one place to another to receive his revenues; and in every place to which he goes he has a house and a wife. He is absolute master to do what he pleases: there is no law to restrain him; and the life of a man here is not considered of so much worth as that of a cat among us. If he have not what he wants, he takes it wherever he can find it: if refused, he uses force; if resisted, the opponent is murdered: and thus the Cacheff lives!—p. 81.

Mr. Belzoni found, he says, these barbarians to be unacquainted with the use of money. We confess we were rather startled at such a discovery; knowing that wherever Europeans have penetrated, the value of the Spanish dollar is fully understood; and that the three Cacheffs of Nubia are familiar with Egypt and its currency; besides, Mr. Burckhardt, who ascended by the same route to the very borders of Dongala, and, in a second journey, far beyond Dongala, among tribes much more barbarous than the Nubians, always found that the nature of money was perfectly well comprehended by them. Be this as it may, the people of Ipsambul soon became very apt scholars, and learned to measure diourra against dollars as well as their instructors. Parting hence, he continued his voyage up the Nile, to the second cataract, which, like the first, he found to be formed by a number of granite masses, or islets, that obstruct the current. Mr. Belzoni talks of several thousands of them, with as many different falls of water running rapidly onward, while counter-currents return with equal velocity, exhibiting an appearance truly grand. On one of these, about an eighth of a mile in length, he landed in the dusk of the evening.

We saw fires and people at a distance; but when we arrived we could not find any one. Their huts were left, with all they had, which consisted only of dry dates, and a kind of paste made of the same, which they kept in large vases of clay baked in the sun, and covered with baskets made of palm-leaves. A baking stove and a mat to sleep on were the whole of their furniture. They had pots and leathern bags to bring water from the Nile for their lands. Their settlement consisted of four men and seven women, with two or three children. They have no communication with the main land, except when the water is low, for at any other time the current, being immediately under the cataract, is so rapid, as to render it impossible to ford it; and boats never go to these islands, seldom passing further than Wady Halfa. They

They are poor but happy, knowing nothing of the cares and toils of the world, and resting content with what Providence supplies in the reward of their industry. There is a few acres of land, which furnish them with milk and the produce of the soil, and the best part of land they have are well cultivated, producing a fine quantity of wheat, which forms their yearly stock of provision. The wood they use is the acacia, wood the threads round little stones, and these are put in a large stock fixed in an horizontal position between two trees, to form a sieve; and by passing another thread alternately between the acacia, there are a kind of coarse cloth, with which they cover the lower part of their bodies!—pp. 87, 88.

He now returned to Ipsambul, and as he had succeeded in procuring from the Cacheff as many labourers as he could employ, he set about clearing away the sand from the front of the temple. The only condition made with the Cacheff was that all the gold and jewels found in it should belong to him, as chief of the country, and that Belzoni should have all the statues. At the end of four or five days his funds were entirely exhausted; he, therefore, after obtaining a promise from the chief that no one should molest the work in his absence, resumed his voyage down the river. At Thebes he made such observations on the valley of the Bebau el Molook, or Tombs of the Kings, as afterwards enabled him to effect the most magnificent excavation that had yet been seen in Egypt; and having succeeded in embarking the bust of Memnon in safety, he set off with it for Cairo,\* whence he conducted it to Alexandria, and lodged it in the Pasha's magazine; he then returned to the capital; and, accompanied by Mr. Beechy, immediately proceeded up the Nile, with the determination, if possible, to accomplish the opening of the great temple of Ipsambul. At Philæ the party was reinforced by Captains Irby and Mangles of the Royal Navy.

Having conciliated the two Cacheffs by suitable presents, Mr. Belzoni agreed to give the workmen (eighty in number) three hundred piastres for removing the sand as low down as the entrance: at first they seemed to set about the task like men who were determined to finish the job; but at the end of the third day they all grew tired, and under the pretext, that the Khannadan was to commence on the next day, they left us, says Mr. Belzoni, 'with the temple, the sand and the treasure, and contented themselves with keeping the three hundred piastres.' The travellers were now convinced, that if the temple was to be opened at all, it must be by their own exertions; and accordingly, assisted by the crew of the boat, they set to work, and, by dint of perseverance and hard

\* In order to depreciate the undertaking, Count Forbin has asserted, that Mr. Belzoni was six months in getting the bust into the boat! In fact, he was no more than eighteen days in transporting it to the Nile, and a single day in embarking it.

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labour, for about eighteen days, they arrived at the door-way of that temple, which Mr. Belzoni considers as 'the finest and most extensive excavation in Nubia, and one that can stand a competition with any in Egypt, except the tomb newly discovered in Bebau el Molook.' As the temple of Ipsambul has, in all probability, been covered with sand two thousand years, or more, our readers will not be displeased with the description of it.

From what we could perceive at the first view, it was evidently a very large place; but our astonishment increased, when we found it to be one of the most magnificent of temples, enriched with beautiful intaglios, paintings, colossal figures, &c. We entered at first into a large promade, fifty-seven feet long and fifty-two wide, supported by two rows of square pillars, in a line from the front door to the door of the sekos (See Plate 43). Each pillar has a figure, not unlike those at Medinet Aboo, finely executed, and very little injured by time. The tops of their turbans reach the ceiling, which is about thirty feet high; the pillars are five feet and a half square. Both these and the walls are covered with beautiful hieroglyphics, the style of which is somewhat superior, or at least bolder, than that of any others in Egypt, not only in workmanship, but also in the subjects. They exhibit battles, storming of castles, triumphs over the Ethiopians, sacrifices, &c. In some places it is to be seen the same hero as at Medinet Aboo, but in a different posture. Some of the columns are much injured by the close and heated atmosphere, the temperature of which was so hot, that the thermometer must have risen to above a hundred and thirty degrees. The second hall is about twenty-two feet high, thirty-seven wide, and twenty-five and a half long. It contains four pillars about four feet square; and the walls of this also are covered with fine hieroglyphics in pretty good preservation. Beyond this is a shorter chamber, thirty-seven feet wide, in which is the entrance into the sanctuary. At each end of this chamber is a door, leading into smaller chambers in the same direction with the sanctuary, each eight feet by seven. The sanctuary is twenty-three feet and a half long, and twelve feet wide. It contains a pedestal in the centre, and at the end four colossal sitting figures, the heads of which are in good preservation, not having been injured by violence. On the right side of this great hall, entering into the temple, are two doors, at a short distance from each other, which lead into two long separate rooms, the first thirty-eight feet ten inches in length, and eleven feet five inches wide; the other forty-eight feet seven inches, by thirteen feet three. At the end of the first are several unfinished hieroglyphics, of which some, though merely sketched, give fine ideas of their manner of drawing. At the lateral corners of the entrance into the second chamber from the great hall is a door, each of which leads into a small chamber twenty-two feet six inches long, and ten feet wide. Each of these rooms has two doors leading into two other chambers, fifty-three feet in length, and ten feet eleven inches wide. There are no benches in them, apparently to sit on. The most remarkable subjects in this temple are, 1st, a group of captive Ethiopians, in the western

western corner of the great hall: 2d, the hero killing a man with his spear, another lying slain under his feet, on the same western wall: 3d, the storming of a castle, in the western corner from the front door.—pp. 211—213.

Such is the interior. The description of the exterior follows.

The outside of this temple is magnificent. It is a hundred and seventeen feet wide, and eighty-six feet high; the height from the top of the cornice to the top of the door being sixty-six feet six inches, and the height of the door twenty feet. There are four enormous sitting colossi, the largest in Egypt or Nubia, except the great sphinx at the pyramids, to which they approach in the proportion of near two-thirds. From the shoulder to the elbow they measure fifteen feet six inches; the ears three feet six inches; the face seven feet; the beard five feet six inches; across the shoulders twenty-five feet four inches; their height is about fifty-one feet, not including the caps, which are about fourteen feet. There are only two of these colossi in sight, one is still buried under the sand, and the other, which is near the door, is half fallen down, and buried also. On the top of the door is a colossal figure of Osiris twenty feet high, with two colossal hieroglyphic figures, one on each side, looking towards it. On the top of the temple is a cornice with hieroglyphics, a torus and frieze under it. The cornice is six feet wide, the frieze is four feet. Above the cornice is a row of sitting monkeys eight feet high, and six across the shoulders. They are twenty-one in number. This temple was nearly two-thirds buried under the sand, of which we removed thirty-one feet before we came to the upper part of the door. It must have had a very fine landing-place, which is now totally buried under the sand. It is the last and largest temple excavated in the solid rock in Nubia or Egypt, except the new tomb.—p. 213, 214.

Mr. Belzoni observes that the heat on first entering this temple was so great that they could scarcely bear it, and the perspiration from their hands was so copious as to render the paper by its dripping unfit for use. On the first opening that was made by the removal of the sand, the only living object that presented itself was a toad of prodigious size. The inanimate objects within were the figures of two lions with hawks' heads, as large as life, and a small sitting human figure.

We took occasion in a former article to mention the Greek inscription found by Mr. Bankes on the leg of the Colossus in front of this most magnificent excavation, and gave it as our opinion that it was the first Psemmiteus, that is to say the Psemmiteus who introduced the Ionians and Carians into Egypt, in honour of whom it was written. There are, however, those who contend (from the employment of the Greek  $\Psi$ ) that the inscription must be of much later date. We cannot agree with them until it shall be proved that the Ionians or the Carians never used the  $\Psi$  in the place

place of  $\pi$ , and that Simonides, who is said to have added it to the Greek alphabet, did not himself borrow it from some of the people of Greece. But we leave Mr. Banks to elucidate this difficulty, which we have no doubt he is well able to do.

The party now retired to Thebes, where they found M. Drovetti busily employed in digging among the rocks for mummies and other reliques of antiquity, assisted by two Piedmontese, one of them a renegade who had served in the French army. As that gentleman had already played Mr. Belzoni some scurvy tricks, he determined to avoid him, and retired into the 'vale of the tombs of the kings,' being satisfied, he says, that there still remained some interesting discoveries to be made in that quarter. Three new tombs were opened by him, but in none of them did there appear any thing to prove that they had been intended for the sepulchre of the kings of Egypt. Some were only passages and staircases leading to painted rooms. In one of these was a sarcophagus of granite with two mummies in it, covered with hieroglyphics in an unfinished state, and a statue standing erect, six feet six inches high, and beautifully cut out of sycamore. There were besides many little images of wood well carved, some with the head of a lion, others of a fox, and others of a monkey. In another tomb were mummies in their cases lying flat on the ground; the bodies were covered with linen of different degrees of fineness, and, as Mr. Belzoni thinks, wrapped round them at different and distant periods of time: so careful were the ancient Egyptians in their attentions to the dead! Some of the tombs had paintings beautifully executed, others were quite plain. In one chamber were discovered two naked bodies without either wrappers or case; they were females, with hair of considerable length, and well preserved. In some of the chambers the mummies of cows, sheep, monkeys, crocodiles, bats, and other animals, were intermixed with human bodies; and one tomb was filled with nothing but cats, carefully folded in red and white linen, the head covered by a mask representing the cat, and made of the same linen.

The Egyptians were certainly well acquainted with linen manufactures to a perfection equal to our own; for, in many of their figures, we observe their garments quite transparent; and among the folding of the mummies, I observed some cloth quite as fine as our common muslin, very strong, and of an even texture. They had the art of tanning leather, with which they made shoes as well as we do, some of which I found of various shapes. They had also the art of staining the leather with various colours, as we do Morocco, and actually knew the mode of embossing on it, for I found leather with figures impressed on it, quite elevated. I think it must have been done with a hot iron while the leather was damp. They also fabricated a sort of coarse glass, with which they made beads and other ornaments.

\* Besides

\* Besides enameling, the art of gilding was in great perfection among them, as I found several ornaments of the kind. They knew how to cast copper as well as to form it into sheets, and had a metallic composition not unlike our lead, rather softer, but of greater tenacity. It is much like the lead which we see on paper in the tea-chests from China, but much thicker. I found some pieces of it covered on both sides with a thin coat of another metal, which might be taken for silver, but I cannot believe it to be so. It certainly is a proof of the scarcity of this metal in Egypt, where, in my opinion, it was less common than gold; for it is seldom found, whereas the latter is quite common on the ornaments.—p. 173, 174.

It seems also that sufficient proofs were procured of their skill in varnishing on baked clay, and that this art was carried to great perfection: all their colours, especially the red, blue, green, and yellow, still remain, after so many ages, as brilliant and as beautiful as when first laid on.

The inconvenience, and, we may add, the hazard of visiting these sepulchres, can only be duly appreciated by those who have made the experiment; and nothing but an extraordinary degree of enthusiasm for researches of this kind could have supported our traveller in the numerous descents which he made into the mummy pits of Egypt, and through the long narrow subterraneous passages, particularly inconvenient for a man of his size. His own account of these difficulties is extremely interesting.

\* Of some of these tombs many persons could not withstand the suffocating air, which often causes fainting. A vast quantity of dust rises, so fine that it enters the throat and nostrils, and chokes the nose and mouth to such a degree, that it requires great power of lungs to resist it and the strong effluvia of the mummies. This is not all; the entry or passage where the bodies are is roughly cut in the rocks, and the falling of the sand from the upper part or ceiling of the passage causes it to be nearly filled up. In some places there is not more than the vacancy of a foot left which you must contrive to pass through in a creeping posture like a snail, on pointed and keen stones, that cut like glass. After getting through these passages, some of them two or three hundred yards long, you generally find a more commodious place, perhaps high enough to sit. But what a place of rest! surrounded by bodies, by heaps of mummies in all directions; which, previous to my being accustomed to the sight, impressed me with horror. The blackness of the wall, the faint light given by the candles or torches for want of air, the different objects that surrounded me, seeming to converse with each other, and the Arabs with the candles or torches in their hands, naked and covered with dust, themselves resembling living mummies, absolutely formed a scene that cannot be described. In such a situation I found myself several times, and often returned exhausted and fainting, till at last I became inured to it, and indifferent to what I suffered, except from the dust, which never failed to choke my throat and nose; and though, fortunately,

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fortunately, I am destitute of the sense of smelling, I could taste that the mummies were rather unpleasant to swallow. After the exertion of entering into such a place, through a passage of fifty, a hundred, three hundred, or perhaps six hundred yards, nearly overcome, I sought a resting-place, found one, and contrived to sit; but when my weight bore on the body of an Egyptian, it crushed it like a hard-box. I naturally had recourse to my hands to sustain my weight, but they found no better support; so that I sunk altogether among the broken mummies, with a crash of bones, rags, and wooden cases, which raised such a dust as kept me motionless for a quarter of an hour, waiting till it subsided again. I could not remove from the place, however, without increasing it, and every step I took I crushed a mummy in some part or other. Once I was conducted from such a place to another resembling it, through a passage of about twenty feet in length, and no wider than that a body could be forced through. It was choked with mummies, and I could not pass without putting my face in contact with that of some decayed Egyptian; but as the passage inclined downwards, my own weight helped me on; however, I could not avoid being covered with bones, legs, arms, and heads falling from above. Thus I proceeded from one cave to another, all full of mummies piled up in various ways, some standing, some lying, and some on their heads. The purpose of my researches was to rob the Egyptians of their papyrus; of which I found a few hidden in their breasts, under their arms, in the space above the knees, or on the legs, and covered by the numerous folds of cloth, that envelop the mummy. The people of Gournou, who make a trade of antiquities of this sort, are very jealous of strangers, and keep them as secret as possible, deceiving travellers by pretending, that they have arrived at the end of the pits, when they are scarcely at the entrance. I could never prevail on them to conduct me into these places till this my second voyage, when I succeeded in obtaining admission into any cave where mummies were to be seen.—p. 156—158.

The tombs in the Belbau el Molook were more capacious. The first that was opened had a staircase eight feet wide and ten feet high, at the foot of which were four mummies in their cases, flat on the ground, with their heads towards the stairs; further on were four more in the same direction; one of them had a covering thrown over it exactly like the pall on the coffins of the present day.

I went through the operation of examining all these mummies one by one. They were much alike in their buildings, except that which had the painted linen over it. Among the others I found one, that had new linen, apparently, put over the old rags; which proves, that the Egyptians took great care of their dead, even for many years after their decease. That which was distinguished from all the rest, I observed was dressed in finer linen, and more neatly wrapped up. It had garlands of flowers and leaves, and on the side over the heart I found a plate of the metal which I have already described, soft like lead, covered with another metal, not unlike silver leaf. It had the eyes of a row, which so often represents Isis, engraved on it; and in the centre

of the breast was another plate, with the winged globe. Both plates were nearly six inches long. On unfolding the linen, we still found it very fine, which was not the case with the other mummies; for, after three or four foldings, it was generally of a coarser kind. At last we came to the body, of which nothing was to be seen but the bones, which had assumed a yellow tint. The case was in part painted; but the linen cloth covering it fell to pieces as soon as it was touched, I believe owing to the paint that was on it, which consisted of various devices and flowers.—p. 223, 224.

Our traveller, however, considers himself amply rewarded by the discovery of a new tomb, in the Vale of the Tombs of Kings, for all the inconveniences and sufferings he underwent. 'On the 16th,' says he, 'I recommenced my excavations in the valley of Belbau el Molook, and pointed out the fortunate spot which has paid me for all the trouble I took in my researches. I may call this,' he adds, 'a fortunate day, one of the best perhaps of my life; from the pleasure it afforded me of presenting to the world, a new and perfect monument of Egyptian antiquity, which can be recorded as superior to any other in point of grandeur, style and preservation;—appearing as if just finished on the day we entered it; and what I found in it,' he adds, 'will shew its great superiority to all others.' Certain indications had convinced him of the existence of a large and impenetrable sepulchre. Impressed with this idea he caused the earth to be dug away to the depth of eighteen feet, when the entrance made its appearance. The passage, however, was choked up with large stones, which were with difficulty removed. A long corridor, with a painted ceiling, led to a staircase twenty-three feet long, and nearly nine feet wide. At the bottom was a door twelve feet high; it opened into a second corridor of the same width, thirty-seven feet long, the sides and ceiling finely sculptured and painted. 'The more I saw,' he says, 'the more I was eager to see.' His progress, however, was interrupted at the end of this second corridor by a pit thirty feet deep and twelve wide. Beyond this was perceived a small aperture of about two feet square in the wall, out of which hung a rope reaching probably to the bottom of the well; another rope fastened to a beam of wood stretching across the passage on this side also hung into the well. One of these ropes was unquestionably for the purpose of descending on one side of the well and the other for that of ascending on the opposite side. Both the wood and the rope crumbled to dust on being touched.

By means of two beams Mr. Belzoni contrived to cross this pit or well, and to force a larger opening in the wall, beyond which was discovered a third corridor of the same dimensions as the two former. Those parts of the wood and rope which were on the further

her side of this wall did not fail to dust, but were in a tolerably good state of preservation, owing, as he supposes, to the dryness of the air in these more distant apartments. The pit he thinks, was intended as a sort of reservoir to receive the wet which might drain through the ground between it and the external entrance.

The sepulchre was now found to open into a number of chambers of different dimensions, with corridors and staircases, the arrangement of which can only be understood by inspecting the plan contained in the *Atlas*. Of the chambers, the first was a beautiful hall, twenty-seven feet six inches by twenty-five feet ten inches, in which were four pillars each three feet square. Mr. Belzoni must describe the rest.

'At the end of this room, which I call the entrance-hall, and opposite the aperture, is a large door, from which three steps lead down into a chamber with two pillars. This is twenty-eight feet two inches by twenty-five feet six inches. The pillars are three feet ten inches square. I gave it the name of the drawing-room; for it is covered with figures, which, though only outlined, are so fine and perfect, that you could think they had been drawn only the day before. Returning into the entrance-hall, we saw on the left of the aperture a large staircase, which descended into a corridor. It is thirteen feet four inches long, even and a half wide, and has eighteen steps. At the bottom we entered a beautiful corridor, thirty-six feet six inches by six feet eleven inches. We perceived, that the paintings became more perfect as we advanced farther into the interior. They retained their gloss, or a kind of varnish over the colours, which had a beautiful effect. The figures are painted on a white ground. At the end of this corridor we descended ten steps, which I call the small stairs, into another, seventeen feet two inches by ten feet five inches. From this we entered a small chamber, twenty feet four inches by thirteen feet eight inches, to which I gave the name of the Room of Beauties; for it is adorned with the most beautiful figures in basso relievo, like all the rest, and painted. When standing in the centre of this chamber, the traveller is surrounded by an assembly of Egyptian gods and goddesses. Proceeding further, we entered a large hall, twenty-seven feet nine inches by twenty-six feet ten inches. In this hall are two rows of square pillars, three on each side of the entrance, forming a line with the corridors. At each end of this hall is a small chamber: that on the right is ten feet five inches by eight feet eight inches; that on the left, ten feet five inches by eight feet nine inches and a half. This hall I termed the Hall of Pillars; the little room on the right, Isis' Room, as in it a large cow is painted, of which I shall give a description hereafter; that on the left, the Room of Mysteries, from the mysterious figures it exhibits. At the end of this hall we entered a large saloon, with an arched roof or ceiling, which is separated from the Hall of Pillars only by a step; so that the two may be reckoned one. The saloon is thirty-one feet ten inches by twenty-seven feet. On the right of the saloon is a small chamber without

without any thing in it, roughly cut, as it intended, and without painting; on the left we entered a chamber with two square pillars, twenty-five feet eight inches by ten feet ten inches. This I called the Sileb and Roman, as it has a prospect of three feet in form of a sileb and all round, which was perhaps intended to contain the articles necessary for the funeral ceremony. The pillars are three feet four inches square, and the whole beautifully painted as the rest. At the same end of the room, and facing the Hall of Pillars were entered by a large door into another chamber with four pillars, one of which is fallen down. This chamber is forty-three feet four inches by seventeen feet six inches; the pillars three feet seven inches square. It is covered with white plaster, where the rock did not cut smoothly, but there is no painting on it. I named it the Bull's, or Apis' Room, as we found the carcass of a bull in it, embalmed with asphaltum, and also, scattered in various places, an immense quantity of small wooden figures of mummies six or eight inches long, and covered with asphaltum to preserve them. There were some other figures of fine earth baked, coloured blue, and strongly varnished. On each side of the two little rooms were some wooden statues standing erect, four feet high, with a circular hollow inside, as if to contain a roll of papyrus, which I have no doubt they did. We found likewise fragments of other statues of wood and of composition.

'But the description of what we found in the centre of the saloon, and which I have reserved till this place, merits the most particular attention, not having its equal in the world, and being such as we had no idea could exist. It is a sarcophagus of the finest oriental alabaster, nine feet five inches long, and three feet seven inches wide. Its thickness is only two inches; and it is transparent, when a light is placed inside of it. It is minutely sculptured within and without with several hundred figures, which do not exceed two inches in height, and represent, as I suppose, the whole of the funeral procession and ceremonies relating to the deceased, united with several emblems, &c. I cannot give an adequate idea of this beautiful and invaluable piece of antiquity, and can only say that nothing has been brought into Europe from Egypt that can be compared with it. The cover was not there; it had been taken out, and broken into several pieces, which we found in digging before the first entrance. The sarcophagus was over a staircase in the centre of the saloon, which communicated with a subterranean passage, leading downwards, three hundred feet in length. At the end of this passage we found a great quantity of bats' dung, which choked it up, so that we could go no further without digging. It was nearly filled up too by the falling in of the upper part.'—pp. 234—236.

The whole of the figures and hieroglyphics in this wonderful excavation are sculptured in bas relief and painted over, except in one chamber, where the outlines only are given. Great care appears to be taken to have these accurate; as several sketches were observed on the walls in red lines, which had afterwards been traced with corrections in black; the stone was then cut away from the side

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side of the chamber all round the black lines, leaving the figure raised to the height of half an-inch or more, according to its size. A coat of whitewash was then passed over it, which Mr. Belzoni says is still so beautiful and clear, 'that his best and whitest paper appeared yellowish when compared with it.' The painter who next and finished the figure in colours, which after more than 1900 years still retain all their original brilliancy. Among the numerous representations of figures in various positions, one group is singularly interesting, as describing the march of a military and triumphal procession with three different sets of prisoners, who are evidently Jews, Ethiopians, and Persians. The procession begins with four red men with white kirtles followed by a hawk-headed deity; these are Egyptians apparently released from captivity and turning home under the protection of the national deity. Then follow four white men in striped and fringed kirtles, with black rards, and with a simple white fillet round their black hair; these are obviously Jews, and might be taken for the portraits of those, who, at this day, walk the streets of London. After them come three white men with smaller beards and curled whiskers, with wide-spreading plumes on their heads, tattooed, and wearing robes or mantles spotted like the skins of wild beasts; these are Persians or Chaldeans. Lastly, come four negroes with large circular earrings, and white petticoats supported by a belt over the shoulder; these are Ethiopians.

The plates descriptive of this catacomb deserve some further notice from us. We consider them indeed of the highest importance as they tend to elucidate, in a wonderful manner, a point of great history, which is the more interesting from the extraordinary incidence of the same event related in the Sacred writings and Herodotus.

Doctor Young, to whose indefatigable and successful researches are mainly indebted for the illustration to which we have just alluded, has observed, that 'the sepulchral inscriptions constitute the most considerable part of the Egyptian literature which remains; that the general tenor of them, as might be expected from the testimony of Herodotus, appears to be the identification of the deceased with Osiris, and, if a female, with Isis; and that the subject of the most usual representations seems to be the resurrection of this new personage by the principal deities.'

By a diligent and accurate comparison of a great number of these hieroglyphical and pictorial representations, he has succeeded in retaining the names of the principal deities and of several of the Kings of Egypt, as well as the meaning of the epithets attached to them; and from the hieroglyphic of the name, and other corroborating

borating circumstances, he entertains no doubt whatever that the principal figure (Plate 1.), taken from the wall of the catacomb in question, is meant for Psammis, who, according to Herodotus, was the son of Necos or Nechao. On a square tablet, suspended from the neck of this personage, is the figure of an obelisk, allusive most probably to his having erected one of those afterwards placed by Augustus in the Circus Maximus, but which now stands near the Porta del Popolo, at Rome; and which, according to Pliny, was the work of Sennesevterus or Sennesytraeus (the Psammis of Herodotus) who reigned in Egypt when Pythagoras visited that country. The inscription Dr. Young conceives to be to this purpose—*The good God, the Giver of comfort to both the regions, the Protector of religious rites, the King Osiris Psammis, the son of Nechao, the companion of the Sun and of Osiris.*

The tutelary vulture (plate 2.) bears an inscription over each of its wings, which are both expanded; the purport of that over the left wing is—*The good God, the Giver of comfort to both regions, Psammis the brilliant and joyful, the living; and of that over the right—The son of the dispenser of delight, Nechao the companion of the Sun.*

In plates 3, 4, and 5, the names of Psammis appear with various epithets, sometimes in connexion with Osiris, and sometimes with Nechao, so as to leave no doubt whatever of the Catacomb being either the burying-place of Psammis, or erected by him to receive the remains of his father, Nechao.

But the three next plates (6, 7, and 8) exhibit the most remarkable feature in the embellishments of this catacomb. They contain the procession (which is mentioned above) of native Egyptians, and of captive Ethiopians, Jews, and Persians, each distinctly and characteristically marked in feature, colour and dress; an event which we shall find to accord with the history of the times: for we know from the great source of all authentic information relating to ancient history, the Bible, that Necho, the father of Psammis, carried on war against the Jews and Babylonians; and Herodotus notices his expedition against the Ethiopians; so that this procession may very naturally be considered as consisting of the three descriptions of captives made in his wars. In turning to the 35th chapter of the 2d Chronicles, we shall find this painting of the catacomb most strikingly elucidated by the following remarkable passage: 'After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho, king of Egypt came up to fight against Charchemish, by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him. But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, what have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste; forbear thee from meddling with God, who

her side of this wall did not fall to dust, but were in a tolerably good state of preservation, owing, as he supposes, to the dryness of the air in these more distant apartments. The pit he thinks, was intended as a sort of reservoir to receive the wet which might drain through the ground between it and the external entrance.

The sepulchre was now found to open into a number of chambers of different dimensions, with corridors and staircases, the arrangement of which can only be understood by inspecting the plan contained in the Atlas. Of the chambers, the first was a beautiful hall, twenty-seven feet six inches by twenty-five feet ten inches, in which were four pillars each three feet square. Mr. Belzoni must describe the rest.

'At the end of this room, which I call the entrance-hall, and opposite the aperture, is a large door, from which three steps lead down into a chamber with two pillars. This is twenty-eight feet ten inches by twenty-five feet six inches. The pillars are three feet ten inches square. I gave it the name of the drawing-room, for it is covered with figures, which, though only outlined, are so fine and perfect, that you could think they had been drawn only the day before. Returning into the entrance-hall, we saw on the left of the aperture a large staircase, which descended into a corridor. It is thirteen feet four inches long, even and a half wide, and has eighteen steps. At the bottom we entered a beautiful corridor, thirty-six feet six inches by six feet eleven inches. We perceived, that the paintings became more perfect as we advanced farther into the interior. They retained their gloss, or a kind of varnish over the colours, which had a beautiful effect. The figures are painted on a white ground. At the end of this corridor we descended ten steps, which I call the small stairs, into another, seventeen feet two inches by ten feet five inches. From this we entered a small chamber, twenty feet four inches by thirteen feet eight inches, to which I gave the name of the Room of Beauties; for it is adorned with the most beautiful figures in basso relievo, like all the rest, and painted. When standing in the centre of this chamber, the traveller is surrounded by an assembly of Egyptian gods and goddesses. Proceeding further, we entered a large hall, twenty-seven feet nine inches by twenty-six feet ten inches. In this hall are two rows of square pillows, three on each side of the entrance, forming a line with the corridors. At each side of this hall is a small chamber: that on the right is ten feet five inches by eight feet eight inches; that on the left, ten feet five inches by eight feet nine inches and a half. This hall I termed the Hall of Pillars; the little room on the right, Isis' Room, as in it a large cow is painted, of which I shall give a description hereafter; that on the left, the Room of Mysteries, from the mysterious figures it exhibits. At the end of this hall we entered a large saloon, with an arched roof or ceiling, which is separated from the Hall of Pillars only by a step; so that the two may be reckoned one. The saloon is thirty-one feet ten inches by twenty-seven feet. On the right of the saloon is a small chamber without

without any thing in it, roughly cut, as it understood, and without painting; on the left we entered a chamber with two square pillars, twenty-five feet eight inches by ten feet ten inches. This I called the Shrine and Room, as it has a piece of it three feet in form of a shield-board all round, which was perhaps such as to contain the articles necessary for the funeral ceremony. The pillars are three feet four inches square, and the whole beautifully painted as the rest. At the same end of the room, and facing the Hall of Pillars were entered by a large door into another chamber with four pillars, one of which is fallen down. This chamber is forty-three feet four inches by seventeen feet six inches; the pillars three feet seven inches square. It is covered with white plaster, where the rock did not cut smoothly, but there is no painting on it. I named it the Hall of, or Apis' Room, as we found the carcass of a bull in it, embalmed with asphaltum, and also, scattered in various places, an immense quantity of small wooden figures of minims six or eight inches long, and covered with asphaltum to preserve them. There were some other figures of fine earth baked, coloured blue, and strongly varnished. On each side of the two little rooms were some wooden statues standing erect, four feet high, with a circular hollow inside, as if to contain a roll of papyrus, which I have no doubt they did. We found likewise fragments of other statues of wood and of composition.

'But the description of what we found in the centre of the saloon, and which I have reserved till this place, merits the most particular attention, not having its equal in the world, and being such as we had no idea could exist. It is a sarcophagus of the finest oriental alabaster, nine feet five inches long, and three feet seven inches wide. Its thickness is only two inches; and it is transparent, when a light is placed inside of it. It is minutely sculptured within and without with several hundred figures, which do not exceed two inches in height, and represent, as I suppose, the whole of the funeral procession and ceremonies relating to the deceased, united with several emblems, &c. I cannot give an adequate idea of this beautiful and invaluable piece of antiquity, and can only say that nothing has been brought into Europe from Egypt that can be compared with it. The cover was not there; it had been taken out, and broken into several pieces, which we found in digging before the first entrance. The sarcophagus was over a staircase in the centre of the saloon, which communicated with a subterranean passage, leading downwards, three hundred feet in length. At the end of this passage we found a great quantity of bats' dung, which choked it up, so that we could go no further without digging. It was nearly filled up too by the falling in of the upper part.'—pp. 234—236.

The whole of the figures and hieroglyphics in this wonderful excavation are sculptured in bas relief and painted over, except in one chamber, where the outlines only are given. Great care appears to be taken to have these accurate; as several sketches were observed on the walls in red lines, which had afterwards been traced with corrections in black; the stone was then cut away from the side

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side of the chamber all round the black lines, leaving the figure raised to the height of half an-inch or more, according to its size. A coat of whitewash was then passed over it, which Mr. Belzoni says is still so beautiful and clear, 'that his best and whitest paper appeared yellowish when compared with it.' The painter came next and finished the figure in colours, which after more than 1000 years still retain all their original brilliancy. Among the numerous representations of figures in various positions, one group is particularly interesting, as describing the march of a military and triumphal procession with three different sets of prisoners, who are evidently Jews, Ethiopians, and Persians. The procession begins with four red men with white kirtles followed by a hawk-headed deity; these are Egyptians apparently released from captivity and turning home under the protection of the national deity. Then follow four white men in striped and fringed kirtles, with black rards, and with a simple white fillet round their black hair; these are obviously Jews, and might be taken for the portraits of those, who, at this day, walk the streets of London. After them come four white men with smaller beards and curled whiskers, with blue-spreading plumes on their heads, tattooed, and wearing robes mantles spotted like the skins of wild beasts; these are Persians or Chaldeans. Lastly, come four negroes with large circular earrings, and white petticoats supported by a belt over the shoulder; these are Ethiopians.

The plates descriptive of this catacomb deserve some further notice from us. We consider them indeed of the highest importance as they tend to elucidate, in a wonderful manner, a point of ancient history, which is the more interesting from the extraordinary incidence of the same event related in the Sacred writings and Herodotus.

Doctor Young, to whose indefatigable and successful researches we are mainly indebted for the illustration to which we have just alluded, has observed, that 'the sepulchral inscriptions constitute the most considerable part of the Egyptian literature which remains; that the general tenor of them, as might be expected from the testimony of Herodotus, appears to be the identification of the deceased with Osiris, and, if a female, with Isis; and that the subject of the most usual representations seems to be the apotheosis of this new personage by the principal deities.'

By a diligent and accurate comparison of a great number of these hieroglyphical and pictorial representations, he has succeeded in retaining the names of the principal deities and of several of the Kings of Egypt, as well as the meaning of the epithets attached to them; and from the hieroglyphic of the name, and other corroborating

borating circumstances, he entertains no doubt whatever that the principal figure (Plate 1.), taken from the wall of the catacomb in question, is meant for Psammis, who, according to Herodotus, was the son of Necos or Necho. On a square tablet, suspended from the neck of this personage, is the figure of an obelisk, allusive most probably to his having erected one of those afterwards placed by Augustus in the Circus Maximus, but which now stands near the Porta del Popolo, at Rome; and which, according to Pliny, was the work of Sennesevretus or Sennesyrtacus (the Psammis of Herodotus) who reigned in Egypt when Pythagoras visited that country. The inscription Dr. Young conceives to be to this purpose—*The good God, the Giver of comfort to both the regions, the Protector of religious rites, the King Osiris Psammis, the son of Necho, the companion of the Sun and of Osiris.*

The tutelary vulture (plate 2.) bears an inscription over each of its wings, which are both expanded; the purport of that over the left wing is—*The good God, the Giver of comfort to both regions, Psammis the brilliant and joyful, the living; and of that over the right—The son of the dispenser of delight, Necho the companion of the Sun.*

In plates 3, 4, and 5, the names of Psammis appear with various epithets, sometimes in connexion with Osiris, and sometimes with Necho, so as to leave no doubt whatever of the Catacomb being either the burying-place of Psammis, or erected by him to receive the remains of his father, Necho.

But the three next plates (6, 7, and 8) exhibit the most remarkable feature in the embellishments of this catacomb. They contain the procession (which is mentioned above) of native Egyptians, and of captive Ethiopians, Jews, and Persians, each distinctly and characteristically marked in feature, colour and dress; an event which we shall find to accord with the history of the times: for we know from the great source of all authentic information relating to ancient history, the Bible, that Necho, the father of Psammis, carried on war against the Jews and Babylonians; and Herodotus notices his expedition against the Ethiopians; so that this procession may very naturally be considered as consisting of the three descriptions of captives made in his wars. In turning to the 35th chapter of the 2d Chronicles, we shall find this painting of the catacomb most strikingly elucidated by the following remarkable passage: 'After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho, king of Egypt came up to fight against Charchemish, by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him. But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, what have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war; for God commanded me to make haste; forbear thee from meddling with God, who

is with me, that he destroy thee not. Nevertheless Josiah would turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and harkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo. And archers shot at King Josiah; and the king said to his servants, 'I am sore wounded.' His servants therefore hid him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot he had; and they brought him to Jerusalem and he died, and buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah. And again in chap. 36. When the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, made him king in his father's stead in Jerusalem. Jehoahaz twenty and three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And the King of Egypt put him down at Jerusalem, and condemned the land in an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold. And the King of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and called his name to Jehoikim. And Necho took Jehoahaz his brother and carried him into Egypt.

These passages prove the power and the conquests of Necho; and according to Herodotus we shall find a wonderful agreement with many of the particulars. 'Now Necos was the son of Psammetichus, and reigned over Egypt; it was he who began the canals, and he employed himself in warlike pursuits, building galleys, on the Mediterranean and on the Red Sea, the traces of his navy-yards still existing; and these he used when he had occasion for them. And Necos joined battle with the Syrians in Magdona and conquered them, and after the battle he took Cadytis, a large city of Syria. And having reigned in the whole sixteen years, he died, and left the throne to his son Psammis.' Cadytis is mentioned by Herodotus in the third book, as 'belonging to the Syrians of Palestine,' and 'as a city not less than Sardes'; so there is little doubt it meant Jerusalem, which was sometimes called Kadesh, or the Holy.

Surprised at the discovery of this magnificent sepulchre, Mr. Belzoni determined not to leave Egypt until he had taken models and wax of every thing within the apartments, and fac-similes of all the sculptures and paintings on the walls: this he effected with the assistance of an Italian artist of the name of Ricci, after an unobtrusive application of more than twelve months. Of the labour and conception may be formed when we state that the number of figures as large as life amounted to 182; and those of a smaller size, from one to three feet, to 800; and that the hieroglyphics, which amount to about 500, were all of them repeated four times in as many different sizes. These impressions and drawings, together with the ground

ground plan of the tomb, Mr. Belzoni has brought to England, and intends, if sufficient encouragement be given to him, which we cannot doubt, to arrange the whole in their proper places, and, in short, to construct an exact model of the 'tomb of Psammetichus.' The alabaster sarcophagus was brought away, with some of the images and paintings on stucco, which peeled off from the wall on the admission of damp. They are intended for the British Museum, and had long since reached Alexandria in safety.

We pass over the operations of Mr. Belzoni in bringing away one of the granite obelisks of Philæ, about 25 feet in length. 'He handles,' says Burckhardt, 'masses of this kind with as much facility as others handle pebbles; and the Egyptians who see him a giant in figure, for he is six feet and a half high, believe him to be a sorcerer.' It was the ease with which he contrived to move these large masses, that induced him to suggest the practicability of removing the fallen obelisk at Alexandria, well known to travellers as one of 'the needles of Cleopatra.' Through the medium of Mr. Briggs, whose liberality in assisting to procure works of ancient art is above all praise, the Pasha of Egypt has presented this obelisk to his Majesty; and we trust that, ere long, we shall see it erected in the centre of Waterloo Place, as an appropriate trophy, to commemorate and perpetuate the glorious struggle which humbled the pride, and defeated the projects of the French army in Egypt.

Our traveller's next operation was to open the second pyramid of Ghizeh, of which we have already given a pretty detailed account (No. XXXVII.). This we conceive to have been the most arduous and enterprising of all his undertakings. With incredible labour, and, we must say, with no small degree of fortitude, he succeeded in penetrating into the very heart of this structure. It was here, in the central chamber, that he discovered the granite sarcophagus, which contained the bones that had been deemed human, until examined in London, when they were found to be those of a cow—Mr. Belzoni, indeed, will have them to belong to an animal of the masculine gender; and is not a little indignant at 'some consequential persons,' who, he says, 'would not scruple to sacrifice a point in history rather than lose a *bon mot*;' and who 'thought themselves mighty clever in baptizing the said bones those of a cow, merely to raise a joke.' Who these consequential persons may be, we pretend not to divine; we are ready however to plead guilty to so much dullness as not to be able to discover either the *joke* or the *bon mot* which has excited our traveller's ire. In mentioning the cow, nothing more was probably intended than to designate the *genus* of the animal, without regard to the *gender*. If the allusion be meant to apply to us, we can assure him that this was our case.

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Belzoni has certainly more reason to be angry with Count Forbin than with Mr. Salt. This gentleman, during his month's residence in Egypt, made discoveries, no observations, no drawings; but fled from us as we had occasion to mention on his own authority, at the spectacle of an English waiting-maid in a rose-coloured dress. Count Forbin purchased some statues from Mr. Belzoni, and supplied him with a copy of the plan of the second pyramid which he had just succeeded in opening. On the return of Count Forbin to France, instead of conveying the articles to the Museum, from whom he procured these articles, he inserted the following information on various subjects, he inserted the following in one of the journals of that country:

4th of April, Mr. Le Comte de Forbin, Director General of the Museum of France, landed at the lazaretto of Marseilles, from Alexandria, and his passage was very stormy. He passed through Crete, Syria, and Upper Egypt. By a happy chance, before his departure from Cairo, he succeeded in penetrating into the pyramid of Ghizeh. Mr. Forbin brings the plan of his discovery, as well as much information on the labours of the Museum, and on those which Mr. Salt, the English Consul, has with the greatest success in the valley of Beban el Medinet Aboo. The Museum of Paris is going to purchase with some of the spoils of Thebes, which Mr. Forbin has brought with him.—p. 254, 255.

It is an observation of no hieroglyphics being found, either on the pyramids, or on the sides of their long corridors, or on the walls of the chambers, or on the only corroborates the opinion of those who hold that the pyramids were constructed antecedently to hieroglyphics to any other species of writing. Though we are to the existence of that external coating of the two pyramids, on which Abdallatif affirms he saw as much writing as would cover 10,000 volumes, yet we are not able to say that some kind of casing was occasionally employed. The first or largest pyramid, he says, has an external coating of a little p, but none below; towards the base of the third, a considerable accumulation of enormous blocks of granite, evidently formed the coating; a part of which (it is said) remained in its place. But on this subject we beg to refer to an Article in our XXXVIIIth Number, as of Egypt.

stone bearing hieroglyphics and figures, which are on the walls of the contiguous mausoleums, and that these last are of much more recent date than the

the dilapidated structures, from the materials of which they have been built; and probably also, that the builders were ignorant of hieroglyphics; but no evidence has yet been produced that these sculptured stones ever formed any part of the pyramids. Ages, indeed, may have passed away, generation on generation may have perished, and large and populous cities disappeared, between the building of the pyramids, and the surrounding cemeteries. Mr. Belzoni, however, appears to think that no inference can be drawn as to the antiquity of the pyramids from their having no hieroglyphics. It may be so; but we cannot help surmising that, if at the time of the erection of these extraordinary monuments, the art of writing had been known, some record of their founder or of their design, would have had its appropriate place on some part of the gigantic structure.

We consider another opinion of his entitled to more consideration,—that which assigns the position of the true Memnonium to a spot immediately behind the two Colossal statues on the plain, and between the ruined temple usually called the Memnonium, and Medinet Aboo. We never could persuade ourselves that these huge statues should have been seated on a plain, entirely insulated and unconnected with some sacred edifice. The magnificent ruins of such an edifice have actually been discovered. Close to these statues, Mr. Salt caused the ground to be excavated, when the pedestals of immense columns, worthy of the gigantic Memnon, made their appearance, together with many colossal fragments of breccia and other calcareous stone, of lion-headed statues, and every indication of the ground behind the two sitting figures having been the site of a most glorious temple. Mr. Belzoni dug near the same spot, and discovered the fragments of an immense statue, resembling in all points the great colossus of Memnon, with the same hieroglyphics on the side of its chair which are to be seen on the chair of Memnon—we mean of that colossal figure on whose leg the ancients have recorded their visits in Greek and Latin, and which none but the savans of the Institute ever doubted to be the real Memnon. He also discovered between the two colossal statues, and what he considers to be the portico of the ancient temple, another enormous colossus thrown down and buried, all but the back of its chair. Among the columns of the portico were found a multitude of fragments of colossal statues of granite, breccia, and plain calcareous stone, and so many remains of standing and sitting lion-headed statues of smaller dimensions, that, says he, 'I can boldly state, that these ruins appear to me to have belonged to the most magnificent temple of any on the west side of Thebes.' The want of funds, and above all, the fear of poaching on Mr. Salt's manor (for Drovetti and he, it seems, have partitioned

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the whole country around Thebes between them) prevented Mr. Belzoni from prosecuting his researches in this quarter. But he strongly recommends it to the particular attention of the future antiquarian traveller, as a spot which would amply repay the labour of digging the ground.

The researches of our traveller were abruptly terminated by an attempt on his life on the part of the agents, as he supposes, of *M. Thovaut*; who, of course, denies it; but we cannot forbear observing that, however this gentleman may stand acquitted of abetting the renegades in his employ, in so atrocious an act, he was on the spot at the time, and instead of facilitating, appears to have done all in his power to suppress inquiry, and to obstruct the course of justice. In spite, however, of every obstruction, Mr. Belzoni's collection of antiquities is far superior to that of his rancorous and jealous rival; and would have been still more so, had he been permitted to remain longer in Egypt, with any prospect of personal safety. A conviction to the contrary hastened his departure.

Previously, however, to his quitting the country, he made two journeys not wholly devoid of interest—these we have also slightly mentioned in a former Number. The one was to the borders of the Red sea in search of the ruins of ancient Berenice, the emporium of Indian commerce with Egypt—the other to Elloah (e. Wah—the little Oasis) to examine the temple of Jupiter Ammon, supposed to have stood in that neighbourhood; and the remains of which are still extant. Mr. Beechy accompanied our traveller in the first expedition. In passing up the Nile, they witnessed one of those dreadful calamities, to which the natives of certain districts of Egypt are occasionally subject. The river, in 1818, rose three feet and a half above the highest mark left by the preceding inundation, and with such rapidity that many villages, with their inhabitants, were entirely swept away. 'I never saw,' says Mr. Belzoni, 'any picture that could give a more correct idea of a deluge than the valley of the Nile in this season. The cottages, being built of earth, could not stand one instant against the current, and no sooner did the water reach them, than it levelled them with the ground. The rapid stream carried off all that was before it; men, women, children, cattle, corn; every thing was washed away in an instant, and left the place where the village stood without any thing to indicate that there had ever been a house on the spot.' It was one vast ocean, out of which arose numerous islands and many magnificent ruins. 'On our right,' says Belzoni, 'we had the high rocks and the temples of Gournou, the Memnonium, the extensive buildings of Medinet Aboo, and the two Colossal statues which arose out of the water like the light houses on some of the coasts of Europe. On our left, we had the

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vast ruins of Carnak and Luxor, to the east of which, at a distance of eight miles, ran the Mokattam chain of mountains, forming the boundaries of this vast lake, as it appeared from our boat.' Such, however, is the bounty of nature, that the damage in this country is speedily repaired. 'On our way down,' he observes, 'it was pleasing to see the difference of the country; all the lands that were under water before, were now not only dried up, but were already sown; the muddy villages carried off by the rapid current were all rebuilt; the fences opened; the fellahs at work in the fields, and all wore a different aspect; yet, it was then only fifteen days since the waters had subsided.'

No desert can be more dreary, and no people more wretched, than those which present themselves between the upper part of the Nile and the Red Sea. The Ababde Arabs, who rove these wilds with their few sheep and camels, as miserable as themselves, are described 'as badly made, of small stature, and nearly naked'—their long hair was so entangled as to defy the teeth of a comb—lumps of fat were therefore put into it and left to be melted by the sun. In spite of all this, however, they had still, as Joinson says, a *conceit in their misery*, and refused with equal pride and scorn to form any alliance with the Turks.

Not satisfied by any means with the discovery of the miners' huts, which are about to be described by Mous. Caillaud, (with plans, sections, and elevations) as the remains of the ancient Berenice, the party proceeded to the coast of the Red Sea, and directing their course to the southward, fell, all at once, among those kinds of heaps which point out the remains of ancient towns in Egypt. In this broken surface were the walls of a temple, about a hundred feet in length by forty in width. They were adorned with hieroglyphics, and with sculptures in bas relief, and very well executed, of figures two feet in length. The site of the town, as well as they could trace the outlines, occupied a space of about 2000 square feet; and, from the general size of the buildings, whose walls yet remained, might have contained about two thousand houses. The neighbouring rocks were much excavated, and had apparently been used as burying places. The plain on which the ruins stood was extensive, and capable of cultivation; and the communication with the sea was by an easy slope. Here, too, was a good harbour for small vessels. The position agreed so nearly with that assigned by D'Anville

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for the ancient Berenice, that our travellers had little doubt of having discovered the remains of this once flourishing emporium. They were confirmed in this opinion by tracing afterwards several ruins of what might have been the stations of the caravans, in their passage to and from Coptos.

In our notice of Mr. Belzoni's journey into the El Wah, we must be very brief; indeed we have already mentioned the only two points of any interest in this quarter, the ruins of the temple of Jupiter Ammon, and the fountain of the Sun, both of which he conceives he found in this Oasis;—so very jealous, however, were the natives, that he was only allowed to approach the temple within a certain distance, and consequently was unable to examine any part of it. The source of the fountain of the Sun he was permitted to visit. It is an overflowing well about eight feet square at the top, and above sixty deep, (how he ascertained this we are not told); it is situated not far from the temple, in the centre of a beautiful wood of palms and other trees. Mr. Belzoni tells us, that he visited this well at noon, evening, midnight, and morning. He had no thermometer; but he supposes a proportionate scale of the temperature of the water, or rather of his feelings, at the several periods of the day; thus, he says, 'if we were to suppose the water to have been at 60° in the evening, it might be at 100° at midnight, and in the morning at about 80°; but when I returned at noon, it appeared quite cold, and might be calculated, in proportion to the other, at 40°.' We are not satisfied with these vague calculations, and if the apparent change in the temperature be occasioned by the mere change in that of the atmosphere, while the water of this deep and shaded well remains the same, as we suggested in a former article, Mr. Belzoni's scale exhibits, we are quite certain, far too violent changes. If the account of this fountain, as given by Herodotus, were correct, the explanation of the change of temperature, by the different action of the air and water on the human body, would not hold good, for he makes it cold both at noon and midnight; but Herodotus was never in the Oasis himself; and having nothing to guide his judgment in recording this supposed miracle, might easily have misunderstood his informant.

In taking leave of this work, it is but justice to Mr. Belzoni to observe, that we have limited our notices to a few only of the more important parts of his operations and discoveries; and purposely

posely avoided entering upon any detailed account of his intercourse and adventures with the various natives of Egypt, Nubia, and Lybia, and of the manners, characters, and condition of those tribes with whom he had to deal. These are subjects, however, which will be found both amusing and interesting to the general reader.

ART. VII.—*An Inquiry into certain Errors relative to Insanity; and their Consequences, physical, moral and civil.* By George Man Burrows, M.D. F.R.S. 8vo. pp. 320. London.

WE have more than once intimated our design to abstain from discussing topics purely professional, under the feeling that they can only be interesting to a comparatively small number of our readers; and are therefore more properly the province of journals exclusively devoted to technical science. The subject now before us, however, is one of very general concern; for it is of the highest moment that 'the physical, moral and civil' consequences of errors relative to mental sickness be made matter of public canvas and scrutiny. In the course of the investigation, on which we are about to enter, it will indeed be seen that much good has already been effected by inquiries directed to these important points, and that the foundation has been laid, upon which hopes may be built of still more extended improvement.

Of the various spectacles of misery which the great drama of life continually presents, that of madness excites the most painful combination of feelings; and one reason of the especial horror with which mental alienation is contemplated, may be its want of obvious source in the physical organization. Delirium, as a consequence of fever, is a temporary mania, and the manifestations of this disordered condition are sometimes exceedingly painful to the beholder; but in this case there seems to be something to which the hallucination can be referred; and we expect its disappearance with the cessation of its exciting cause. But genuine madness—that is, madness not dependent upon any bodily change which immediately meets the eye—we are naturally disposed to consider essentially different from mere physical derangement, and therefore to put a kind of metaphysical or moral construction upon the whole series of melancholy concatenations by which it is characterized.

Another distressing source of perplexity connected with the contemplation of maniacal wanderings is constituted by the difficulty often experienced in drawing the line of demarcation between voluntary or responsible, and involuntary or insane acts; in ascertaining how much appears to arise from actual disease, and what part should be attributed to passions associated with,

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Fahrenheit's Therm.				Barom. in. pts.	Weather.	Fahrenheit's Therm.				Barom. in. pts.	Weather.
Day of Month.	At 6 o'clock.	At 12 o'clock.	At 6 o'clock.			Day of Month.	At 6 o'clock.	At 12 o'clock.	At 6 o'clock.		
Feb. 26	48	51	43	30.37	fair	Mar. 12	45	55	49	29.94	fair
27	44	52	44	30.37	fair	13	50	61	54	29.99	fine
28	48	47	41	29.92	cloudy	14	54	60	48	30.14	fine
29	41	45	40	30.00	fair	15	46	49	49	29.96	fine
M. 1	42	49	40	30.11	cloudy	16	54	63	58	30.17	cloudy
2	41	48	46	30.07	cloudy	17	54	58	50	30.04	cloudy
3	47	50	45	29.90	cloudy	18	51	57	50	29.94	h. wind
4	42	48	29	28.98	cloudy, snow	19	52	58	40	30.37	h. wind
5	33	38	32	29.34	fair	20	46	49	43	30.14	rain
6	38	48	40	30.00	cloudy	21	46	51	39	29.93	hail
7	40	54	48	29.89	cloudy	22	44	41	36	29.93	hail
8	50	56	48	29.89	fine	23	45	48	37	29.94	fine
9	52	58	49	29.87	fine	24	41	46	37	30.00	cloudy
10	52	59	49	30.00	fine	25	41	46	35	30.04	cloudy
11	45	55	47	30.10	fair						

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From February 26, to March 27, 1828, both inclusive.

Fk. & M. Stock.	8 per Ct. Reduced.		5 per Ct. Consols.		25 per Ct. Reduced.		New 4 per Cent.		4 per Cent. Long Annuities.		India Stock.		Int. Bank.		Ex. Bills, 1000l.		Ex. Bills, 500l.	
	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 27
98/107	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
98/106 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
100/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
98/107 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
4/106 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
5/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
6/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
7/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
8/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
9/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
10/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
11/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
12/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
13/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
14/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
15/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
16/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
17/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
18/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
19/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
20/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
21/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
22/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
23/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
24/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
25/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
26/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.
27/108 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	104 1/2	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.	55 57 pm.

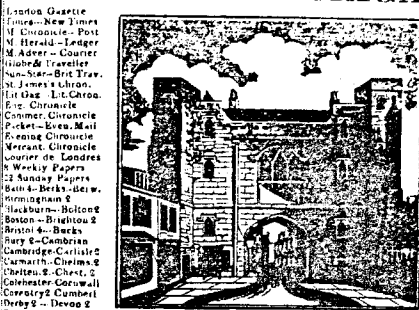
South Sea Stock, Feb. 29, 92 1/2. — New South Sea Anna, March 14, 82 1/2.

Old South Sea Anna, March 3, 82 1/2.

J. J. ARNULL, Stock Broker, Bank-buildings, Cornhill, late Richardson, Goodluck, and Co.

J. B. NICHOLS and SON, 25, PARLIAMENT STREET.

# THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE



APRIL, 1828.

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By SYLVANUS URBAN, GENT.

Printed by J. B. NICHOLS and SON, CECIL'S HEAD, 25, PARLIAMENT STREET, Westminster, where all Letters to the Editor are requested to be sent, Post-Paid.

## MINOR CORRESPONDENCE.

J. G. N. remarks: "The branch of the family of Erskine which has now succeeded to the Earldom of Kellie (see p. 269), is totally omitted in all the Pocket Peerages. The present Earl had an uncle of his own name, who died at Bromley in Kent in 1186, and to whom the following epitaph has been placed on an altar-tomb on the south side of the church-yard there:—Sacred to the memory of Stewart Erskine of Bromley Lodge, in the County of Kent, who lived a bachelor, of the noble family of Erskine, Earls of Kellie. He departed this life on the 31st day of July, 1826, aged 74 years."

D. D. remarks: "Your Correspondent L. N. p. 218, after describing the edition of the New Testament in Greek and English, published in 1739, gives the different names ascribed to the editor, and inquires who and what he was, how he lived, and how he died. I have a copy of this now scarce and curious work: in the title-page of the first volume is written in MS. 'By Mr. Mace,' and at the bottom of page 7, the end of the dedication, after the signature 'The Editor' is also written in MS. Mace (as it is supposed), Professor of Civil Law of Gresham College.—I transmit this circumstance, as it may perhaps enable your Correspondent to make some further inquiries, and perhaps trace out a fuller answer to his question. I have above added the epithet 'curious' to this work, as it gives the means of instituting a comparison as to the originality of the lately published Socinian edition of the New Testament. Trevellick's learned and judicious critique upon the edition of 1739, may also supply some useful observation to the answers that may be given to the more recent Greek Testament. Should L. N. obtain any further particulars, I trust he will communicate them."

P. R. observes: "In the year 1773, Isaac Charles Vallancey (an Englishman) published an Essay on the Antiquity of the Irish Language; and in the same year there appeared in the London Chronicle (a paper then in great estimation) remarks on the Author's work. Both the essay and remarks were reprinted in Dublin in the year 1781, and formed the 6th number of the 'Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis.' It is known by whom the Remarks were written. They appear to me to possess a considerable merit as a composition, and I should not wonder if they were from the pen of that great writer Dr. Goldsmith."

W. L. says: "In p. 210, an inquiry is made respecting the pedigree of the Tipping family. I have heard say that Bartholomew Tipping, esq. of Woolley Park, Berks, was the last surviving Tipping; his estates came to the Rev. Bartholomew Wroughton, who married Mr. Tipping's niece (a Miss Mugrave), by whom he had issue two sons, Bartholomew, and another, whose name I forget. Bartholomew Wroughton is dead; his widow is living, and so are the two sons. Your Correspondent may hear, I should think all he requires from the Wroughtons."

Dr. Mercurius says: "The Rev. Mr. Duke is no doubt quite right respecting the inscription at Bath. My copy of Lysons's work being in Herefordshire, I hastily quoted from memory."

P. remarks: "With respect to the exact style of a Marquis, noticed in p. 194, above, is no doubt on the subject, provided the King's Commission be admitted as an authority to decide the question. In the House of Lords, when the Royal Assent is given by Commission, a Marquis is called *most honorable*, while a Duke alone is styled *most noble*."

A Friend having been informed that it is in contemplation to raise by subscription a Fund for establishing an Hospital, to be attached to the London University, for the express purpose of instructing *Mental Patients*, observes, the purpose for which Hospitals should be established, ought to be for the cure of that portion of our diseased fellow creatures, who from poverty or other misfortune cannot have proper medical attendance at home; and he has reason to fear that, if an Hospital should be established chiefly for the instruction of *Paupers*, that most serious evils will occur to patients."

L. N. writes: "You may add to your account of the Dayrolles family, that Mary, who was married to Richard Croft, esq. in 1748, and died in 1754, was the prototype of the spirituality and amazing *Miss Lardner*, as delineated by Miss Burney in her novel 'Cecilia.' It was stated at the time that Miss Dayrolles was very indignant at the liberty which was thus taken with her, but her friends, 'good-natured friends,' all agreed that she was drawn to the life."

A Correspondent writes to know in what year, and where, the celebrated leechmaster Sir Henry Morton died, and whether he left a will?

ERNAULT.—P. 216, l. 20, *del.* "were cutting the ice," and read "saw nothing of the ice."—P. 279, note 1, for "1827" read "1827."—P. 297, l. 20, for *Roaston* read *Roaston*.

