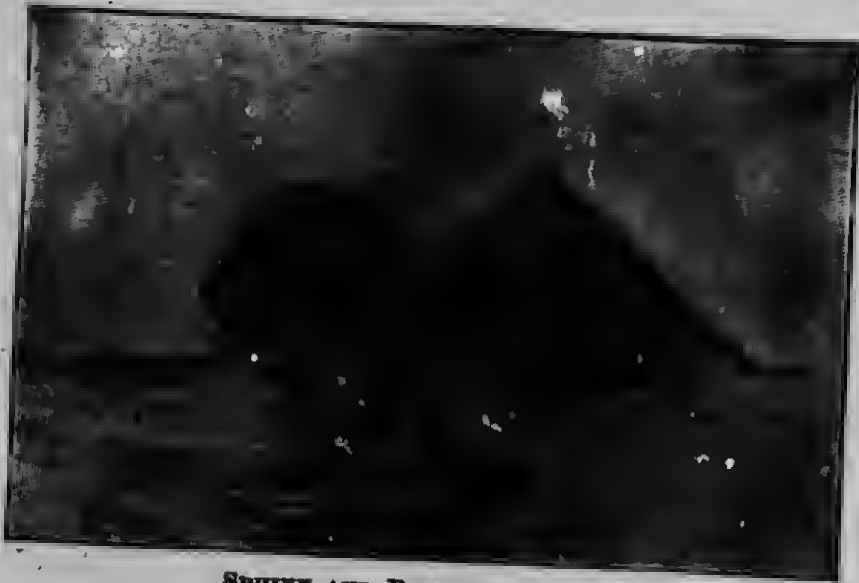


especially Herodotus, who visited Egypt in the fifth century B. C.; and, second, the Egyptian priest Man'etho, who lived in the third century B. C., and who wrote a history containing a list of the various dynasties and kings, but whose work has reached us only in fragments. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century, however, a vast amount of additional information regarding Egypt has been derived from the inscriptions which have been deciphered and the monuments which have been brought to light. With these sources many attempts have been made to reconstruct the chrono-



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logical history of Egypt. But scholars do not yet agree in regard to the dates of the early Egyptian history. The general divisions of Egyptian history and the most important dynasties may be briefly indicated as follows:

(1) *The Old Empire* (about 4000-2700 B. C.) extended from the first dynasty to the tenth inclusive, with the capital at Memphis. The founder of the first dynasty was Me'nes, who is supposed to be the first monarch to bring the whole country under a single government. During the time of the old empire the most important dynasty was the fourth,