

## THE PYRAMID OF CHEOPS.

BY BRO. ROBT. MORRIS, L. L. D.

To follow the thoughts inaugurated in a preceding paper, I give the *measurements* of this gigantic monument in a formal plan to every reader. Walking on a certain occasion with a friend, in Chicago, and desiring to afford him a basis for an *idea* of this subject, I told him, "Measure this Court House square twice, and set three such steeples upon each other, yet the Great Pyramid would totally engulf them!"

Follow me while I take you as an amateur dragoman through this edifice, 2,300 years old, when the Man of Calvary suffered. It stands "on the brow of the hill," 120 feet high, a hill lying deep in loose desert sand and not over-easy to climb. Walking round it we find it measures 764 feet on a side, or 3056 feet in circumference. This is something over 1000 yards, nearly two-thirds of a mile; and, ankle-deep in sand, is quite a walk.

Having finished our circumambulation, taking care, like good Masons, to leave the pyramid *on the riget*, and go around it "the way the sun does," the way that "Jack casts his ropes," we must next mount to the top by the aid of as many of the natives as can get their hands on you. I had thirteen pair of hands, I remember, on one leg, and should have "gone up" in a double quick, had I not vowed by Jupiter Ammon (my irrevocable oath) that "if they didn't let go of me, all but ten or fifteen, I wouldn't give them a para of backsheesh." The hight of the pyramid, *measuring the slope*, is 611 feet, but reckoned vertically 480 feet, (I am using the figures that represented its original dimensions.) The top, which forms below seems, as it does in all photographs, *mere points*, proves to be thirty feet square, quite a platform indeed, and the view we enjoy from that elevated place in a clear day comprises about everything that Lower Egypt affords of historical association.

Returning to the base, and eating a bountiful meal to fortify ourselves against the excessive fatigue, heat and foul aia, that our explorations of the interior will subject us to, we now go round to the north side and climb to the (perpendicular) hight of forty-nine feet to the entrance. A grand massive gateway it is, but disfigured by some modern inscription, eulogistic of a German king, which inscription we should like to see knocked down and kicked into the Nile.

Stooping, we enter into an avenue about fort-five inches square, and descend at an angle of twenty-seven degrees. The light of day is left behind us; so are the breezes. "Oh how dark it is!" says one; "oh how hot it is!" says the other. The stones on each side and above us are of polished marble, large, well-fitted, no danger of this thing caving in. On, on, down, down, we go, to the full distance of 320 feet, due south, till we find the passage level under our feet. By a little