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wledge makes the as certainly great. tury B. C., were the h, the approximate tary system round ation studies is un- a. It was an Egyp- Cæsar, the Julian h century A. D.).

The high perfection reached in **geometrical science** is implied in the construction of the pyramids and temples. (Euclid, the Greek geometer of the 3d century B. C., was a resident of Alexandria.) No buildings, excepting those of the Greeks and the Phœnicians, taught by Egyptian art, have ever exhibited the same accuracy and delicacy of masonry construction.

Blocks of stone over 100 feet in length were quarried in certain obelisks. An obelisk 90 feet high is still erect at Thebes. The still standing statues of Amenophis III., at Thebes, are 50 feet high in the solid block, resting on a solid pedestal 10 feet high. The roofing blocks of the Great Hall of Karnak have been mentioned. In the great pyramids, blocks 20 feet long are common. Herodotus tells of a single stone hewn into the aspect of a small temple, which was moved from the quarry at Assonan, at the First Cataract, to the Delta of the Nile. Its dimensions were 21 feet by 31½ feet, and 18 feet high. He says that the architect engaged in moving the stone, which was destined to stand in the court of a temple, heaved so deep a sigh when it had reached the outer entrance, that the king in pity ordered the workmen to leave it standing there. This block was seen and described by an Arabian physician, Abdulatief, in the 13th century after Christ. It has since disappeared.

The method by which heavy blocks were raised is in dispute, but the use of cranes and derricks appears sufficiently certain. The blocks were moved from the quarries on wooden sledges. These were drawn by man power on tramways of wood, which were greased. A picture at Beni Hassan



Thothmes III. Colossal Head of Red Granite, British Museum.