

PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VI.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 16, 1886.

No. 21.

EGYPT AND ITS PYRAMIDS.

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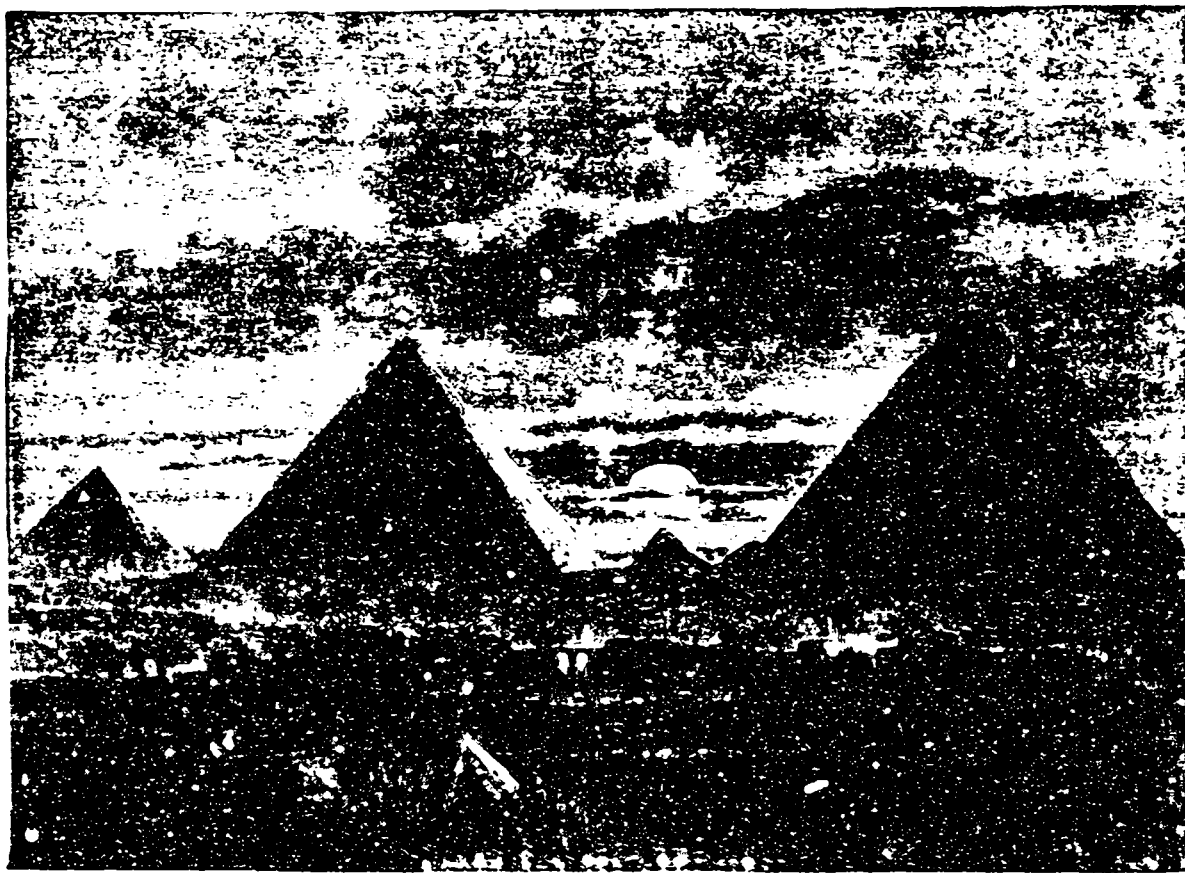
EGYPT is a country wonderful in its history. The principal events in the life of Joseph took place here. Whenever we think of Joseph we are reminded of Egypt. Here the Jewish people grew up into a nation, and began their wonderful history, and here it was that the Infant Saviour found refuge from the blood-thirsty Herod, who was seeking to destroy him.

the most famous of these are known as "the pyramids of Ghizah." There are three of these, of which our picture only represents two. The largest of these is known as "The Great Pyramid." It is situated on the banks of the river Nile, about twelve or fifteen miles from the city of Cairo. The height of this pyramid is four hundred and fifty feet. This gives it an elevation as great as that of two or three ordinary church steeples placed one on top of the other. The sides of this pyramid at its base measure each

been that they were built to be the monuments of the kings who were engaged in building them. Let us suppose that this was so, and then the pyramids suggest some valuable lessons between working for self, as those then did, and working for Jesus, as we are called upon to do when we become Christians. We might draw out the comparison or contrast in many points, but we have only room now to speak of two.

In the first place, working for Jesus is easier than working for self, as the

But if we are working for Jesus, instead of for ourselves, how different our position is from that of the builders of the pyramids! In working for Jesus we are working from love, and not from the fear of the task master's lash, and that which is done from love is always easy work to do. And, then, not only the motive which influences us in working for Jesus, but the help we get in doing the work, makes it easy. God says to every one who is working for Jesus, "I will help thee" (Isa. 41: 10); and if we only have



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But when Egypt is spoken of, what it always especially reminds us of is the pyramids. It is the land of the pyramids, and there is so much that is interesting about those wonderful buildings that we never get tired of reading or speaking about them. The picture connected with this article gives us a good view of two of the pyramids and that wonderful piece of gigantic statuary near them known as "The Sphinx."

A few words about the pyramids, and some of the lessons they teach us, is all we can attempt to-day. The number of the pyramids given by Piazzi Smyth is thirty-eight. These are arranged in different groups; but

seven hundred and forty-six feet, so that it occupies a square space nearly the size of a thirteen-acre field. This immense space to the height above stated is built up of solid stones, excepting a small chamber in the interior, with a passage-way leading down to it. It is built on the original rock. The stones of which it is built are of great size, and are cemented firmly together. It is one of the largest and oldest works of man to be found anywhere in our world.

A great deal has been said and written about the pyramids, but nobody can give their history or tell with any certainty for what purpose they were built. The common opinion has

builders of the pyramids worked. They had very hard work to do. The stones employed in building the great pyramid were brought a long distance, from some quarries east of the Nile. Herodotus, the oldest historian in the world outside of the Bible, says that a new road had to be made for transporting those stones, and that a hundred thousand men were employed in making that road. Another writer, Diodorus Siculus, tells us that three hundred and sixty thousand men were employed for twenty years in getting out the stones for the great pyramid and in finishing the building of it. How much hard work those poor men had to do!

this help, it is enough to make any thing we have to do for him easy. And this teaches us that working for Jesus is easier than working for self, as the builders of the pyramids did.

And then from the history of the pyramids we learn that working for Jesus is more useful than working for self. It is impossible to calculate the amount of money that was spent in building the pyramids. Herodotus says that sixteen hundred talents of silver were spent in buying the onions and garlic used by the workmen employed on the great pyramid. And if all the other expenses of the work were reckoned up, how the great sum of them would be! And what was it all