

start the building of their tombs and monuments, while living, in order to leave some lasting memorial.

The colossal marble statue of old Rameses II. lying oblong on the bare ground is a wonderful piece of work, ugly in facial expression, but otherwise quite properly proportioned. His statue was not as bad as many of the other rulers of pre-historic times, who invariably built their monuments with the heads of various gods, or the god of their dynasty which was in the shape of an animal, invariably ugly and sometimes very hideous. This is why you see so many grotesque statues in the various European museums. Another popular custom in vogue in the burial of these old monarchs in their huge sealed tombs of stone or marble, was to place a large quantity of articles which might be required in the next world, such as gold and silver trumpets and other valuables, as well as eatables, and thousands of small figures, supposed to represent soldiers, which the deceased would certainly want to fight his battles in which ever place he was destined to. These small statutes, ranging in size from half an inch to several inches, are offered for sale in the bazaars and other tourist stores, but there is considerable deception in this trade, as in many others in Cairo, and one has to be careful in purchasing anything there. The best place to buy this class of souvenirs is at the museums, which are controlled by the Government and where the original statues