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THE PYRAMIDS.

We sometimes hear of men preparing their monuments before death, and of others who have the excessive forethought of having engraved thereon the epitaphs, leaving blank only the dates of death. But all other arrangements in view of death are insignificant beside those of the Egyptian Monarchs of five thousand years ago. The first act of an Egyptian Monarch was to begin to prepare what he would call his future eternal abode. For this purpose he would have hollowed in the rock a shaft the size of the intended sarcophagus, or stone coffin, inclined downward so that the sarcophagus might be lowered with ease, and at a convenient depth a chamber was excavated out of the solid rock. Over this chamber a mass of solid masonry of stone or bricks was built, leaving the orifice of the shaft open. As long as the monarch lived additions were made to this mass, both in height and breadth, and by layer after layer of blocks being raised on the outside, and at his death the sides were smoothed off and the tomb was completed. Thus the longer a king reigned, the larger his tomb. The largest and most famous pyramid is that of Cheops, which was built four hundred and eighty feet nine inches high, and at the base was seven hundred and sixty-four feet square. Here the granite sarcophagus of the King Cheops was laid. It was seven feet six and one-half inches long, three feet three inches broad, and three feet five inches high. On the death of the king his body was embalmed and laid in it, and the entrance closed with huge masses of granite and a wall. For between thirty and fifty years a hundred thousand men were employed on this huge monument and sepulchre, and still after all this care it was not the eternal abode of King Cheops. The stranger found an entrance and carried off the mummy and all that was valuable about it. King Shapo's pyramid, the second in size, measured originally four hundred and fifty-four feet three inches in height, and seven hundred and seven feet nine inches on the sides. The third pyramid was only three hundred and fifty-four and one-half feet square and two hundred

and three feet high. It was explored in 1837 by Col. Vyse who discovered several apartments, in one of which he found a mummy case bearing the name of King Menkara and the body of a workman. The two mummies are now shown together in the British Museum.

WHAT THEY LIVED ON.

Twenty-one years ago it was supposed that persons could live for a certain length of time upon alcohol, and one of the hardest nuts we have had to crack has been to meet this statement. It was very common to give to persons weak and feeble wine and strong

clution and knowledge that a man may go on for days and weeks, and may live as it were upon himself, if you will simply supply him with a sufficient quantity of water. Take the case of the Welsh miners. They were placed in a cell, away from all the world for many days, and deprived of all food. If they had had as much as a few ounces of brandy, only an ounce per man, all those who are opposed to us would have cried out, "Behold, what a little quantity of alcohol has done;" but, as if the experiment had been intended for the scientific development of our cause, there was not a drop of anything containing spirit among them,

been maintained solely on water. To those unfortunate people who for some reason or another are unable to take food at all, and who can only drink small quantities of fluid, there is nothing so injurious as the administration of stimulant in any form. For months they will live on water and milk, and live a comparatively comfortable life, but touch them with this stimulant, make the waste go on faster, make their hearts beat quicker, and then directly they are as if they had had to perform a work of labor for which they had no strength. These people who are said to have lived on alcohol have in reality lived on the water in spite of the alcohol.—*Dr. Richardson.*



MONEY WELL SPENT.

"The first piece of money I ever had," said a gentleman, showing us into his library, "I spent for a book. It was the Pilgrim's Progress. I well remember how pleased I was. The pictures, the reading, the blank leaves, were mine, and my name was written on one of the blank leaves at the beginning. That book laid the foundation of my library. All the pennies my uncle gave me I saved for books. Every book I bought I longed to read, and that prevented my time as well as my money from being wasted; for the books which I bought I consulted old friends about, and they were worth reading. And I would say to every boy and girl, do not foolishly spend all your pocket money in other things, but lay the foundation of a good library with it. 'Good and faithful companions.'" —*Visitor.*

ON THE ROCK.

"I recollect," says Spurgeon, "an anecdote of James Smith. He visited one of his members who was dying. He said to her, 'You are ailing.' 'Yes,' said she. 'Do you feel sinking?' She replied, 'What did you say, Mr. Smith?' He asked her whether she was sinking. She said, 'No! my dear minister! never ask such a question of a child of God. Did you ever know a sinner sink through the rock? If I was standing upon the sand, I might sink; but I am upon the Rock of Ages!'"

drink, and they lived upon that, as it seemed, so well that nobody could be convinced for many years that this was not good in certain cases of weakness and exhaustion and want of other fluid. As we have thought over the matter the facts have come out, that what is most wanted by these starving people, that which keeps them alive, is not the alcohol but the water that is co-mingled with it. This person who is said to take a bit of rusk, and with that so much gin and water or champagne, has not been living by virtue of the alcohol or spirit, but by virtue of the water that has been taken with that limited fare, and we have come to a positive con-

clusion that there was in that dark cave at the feet of these imprisoned men a little spring or rill, and they laved at that, and drank it, and upon that they lived through long trial. They lived comparatively well, and they came out almost unscathed—a proof beyond any that could be brought to light by experimental research, that it is possible to live for a long period of days under the greatest imaginable excitement and anxiety of mind, in the greatest possible melancholy, on this one fluid which has been distilled in the rivers and in the clouds for our use and for our life. I have myself known an instance where for fifty-three days life has