

THE PYRAMIDS.

Another Letter From the Land of the Pharaohs.

The Great Temple on Earth—The Ascent of Cheops—Some Fat Climbing—The King's Chamber—Some Relief of "Man's Greatest Folly."

From our own Correspondent.

"I asked of Time: To whom arose this high, majestic pile, here monitoring in decay. He answered not, but swifter sped his way. With ceaseless pinions winging the sky, I saw Obolivia stalk from stone to stone: "Dread Power," I cried, tell me whose vast design— He checked my further speech in sudden tone: "Waste once it was I care not now 'tis mine."

Many and strange have been the speculations and ideas propounded as to the use of these wondrous works of man, the pyramids. Granaries, temples, obelisks, standard of weights and measures, and tombs have all had their strong advocates, and at one time or another have been written on the Pyramids, English and German scholars were for a few years suffering from Pyramid-mania, with the result that it was pretty generally concluded that these mammoth piles were simply intended for tombs. Early morning found us on our way to the

THREE GREAT PYRAMIDS, situated nine miles from Cairo on the west side of the Nile, and just on the borders of the great Sahara Desert. The road is first class, winding in and out through the narrow streets of old Cairo, and around soldiers' barracks, public gardens, the Khedive's palace, now by a magnificent new bridge, the buttresses mounted by rampart lines, we cross the dirty muddy Nile, and away behind a pair of spanking gheys, that raised Egypt and the Egyptians fifty per cent in our estimation, we fly along a good turnpike road, well shaded with acacias and palm trees on either side. This embankment road was built by the Khedive in 1868, and the Prince and Princess of Wales were the first to pass over it to the Pyramids. A thousand Egyptian soldiers on their way to some southern part of their country, attended by about half as many camp followers, women and children, dogs and donkeys, the whole a woady crowd of half-starved, half-clad humanity, were obliged to give way to our landau and prancing steeds. Our carriage and pair for the day cost us the modest sum of sixteen francs, or about \$3, and anyone expending this amount on

A FASHIONABLE TURNOUT in this brightened land, seems to have the privilege of riding down all before them. It is well that Egyptian coachmen remain in their own land, for should they ever try to drive through the marching ranks in a civilized country they would stand a good chance of being run through on the spot. A little more than an hour's drive brought us to "those glorious works of fine intelligence," and as I stand gazing upward at the largest of the three great Pyramids, a strange mixture of admiration, wonder, speculation and disappointment comes over me. The calm of the desert, the deep blue of the sky, the unaccountable sense of heaviness all add to the admiration and marvelling, while the ornate picture of granite towering into the sky, like a monster stone terrace or giant stairway, fill me with wonder and speculation: and withal I am disappointed in the size and appearance. Overdrawn descriptions lead us to mentally picture an exaggerated size, and the cuts we generally see do not show the rough broken uneven outlines as they actually are.

THE GREAT PYRAMID is 480 feet high, and its base covers an area of 13 acres. It is built of blocks of granite, some measuring 30 feet long and 6 feet square, cemented together by a kind of concrete of a reddish color. A principal question is how these blocks were carried up to such a height. It is proved almost beyond a doubt that these pyramid builders were possessed of some mechanical powers unknown to our modern engineers, for in many of the blocks small square holes can be seen by which a hold was made on the immense stones, but what the power was that raised them 400 feet no one can tell. The method was supposed to have been as follows: A small pyramid of native rock to begin with, and gradually year after year as the monument lived and ruled, another tier of stones were added which increased the great pyramid to its present enormous size, when the then ruler, Cheops, had attained his hundredth year and then he died. There are altogether twenty-three pyramids of various sizes along the Nile valley. Those of Gizeh are the largest, and when reference is made to these ancient monuments these three are generally understood. They are named Cheops, Cephrenes and Mycerinus, after three powerful kings of Egypt who lived in the 4th dynasty, about 3,000 B. C., making these giant structures about five thousand years old. Cheops, the largest is 480 feet in height, covering about 13 acres; Cephrenes is 450 feet high, covering 11 acres; and Mycerinus 205 feet high, covering 3 acres. Having viewed the rough outlines of these three mountains of stone, situated all within a quarter of a mile of one another we determined on making

THE ASCENT OF CHEOPS.

About one in every ten who visit this world's wonder makes the ascent, so we concluded at all hazards to stand on the apex. About twenty Arabs by this time had surrounded us, seeming to spring from among the boulders or emerge from holes and cracks in the pyramid, and no human habitation is near at hand, and these fellows, we learn, live by assisting the travellers in the ascent and exploring the interior. No one is allowed on the pyramid unless one of the guides attend. So, agreeing with the stout or chief of the band for the attendance of three trusty men for each of our party of three, and after a free fight among the

twenty guides for who should be the nine to accompany us, we started heavily-armed. Leaving the sands at about the middle of the north side we gradually made our way to the north-east corner and then began a long, giddy, zigzag climb. An Arab taking each hand pulling, and one "boosting" us behind, slowly raising each of us over the great blocks of stone. Only those who are accustomed to

AN INGENUOUS CONTRIVANCE it had in the days of its usefulness for locking the lid. When complete the granite lid slid in two grooves like the lid of a wooden match box. But in the lower surface of each groove is a hole about 2 1/2 inches deep and the same diameter; the lid had two cylinders of the same size loosely placed in corresponding holes on the under surface of the massive lid which was placed in the grooves and shoved along to its proper place, when these two cylinders keys dropped into the holes thus effectually locking the box that no one, not even the maker, could ever get into it without destroying the lid. One corner of this old box has been broken off and carried away by ruthless travellers, and no doubt if the pyramids had been visited by tourists since they were built in the same yearly proportion as the last twenty years shows there would not be a single stone upon the another. Everyone makes it a point to carry off

SOME RELIC OF MAN'S GREATEST FOULY. Even the writer, who has a just appreciation and reverence for all things made sacred by age, could not resist the temptation of chipping off a corner of one of the high blocks of the Great Pyramid, and carrying it away with him. The fact that there still remains 85 millions of cubic feet for future travellers to wonder at, smothered the small voice within, and I have the satisfaction of showing this relic to my less-travelled friends to-day. This said relic, I may add, is very small to any relic of stone I might pick up, and my friends generally receive the story of its being a part of the Great Pyramid with a grain of salt, so it has only been a means of raising in the minds of my incredulous friends doubts as to my verity. D. E. McC.

Where Colors Come. A well known artist gave me some curious information the other day regarding the sources from which the colors one finds in a paint box are derived. Every quarter of the globe is ransacked for the material—animal, vegetable and mineral—employed in their manufacture. From the cochineal insects are obtained the gorgeous carmine, as well as the crimson, scarlet carmine and purple lakes. Sepia is the ink fluid discharged by the cuttle fish to render the water opaque for its concealment when attacked. Indian yellow is from the camel. Ivory black and bone black are made out of ivory chips. The exquisite Prussian blue is got by fusing borax, iron and other refuse animal matter with impure potassium carbonate. It was discovered by an accident. In the vegetable kingdom are included the lakes, derived from roots, barks and gums. Blue black is from the charcoal of the vine stalk. Lampblack is soot from certain resinous substances. From the madder plant, which grows in Hindoetan, is manufactured Turkey red. Gamboge comes from the yellow sap of a tree, which the natives of Siam catch in cocoon shells. Raw sienna is the natural earth from the neighborhood of Sienna, Italy. Raw umber is an earth from Umbria, and is also burned. To these vegetable pigments may probably be added ink, which is said to be made from burnt camphor. The Chinese, who alone produce it, will not reveal the secret of its composition. Mastic—the base of the varnish so called—is from the gum of the mastic tree, indigenous to the Grecian archipelago. Bitumen is the soot of wood ashes. Of real ultramarine but little is found in the market. It is obtained from the precious lapis-lazuli and commands a fabulous price. Chinese white is zinc, scintal is iodine of mercury and cinnabar, or native vermillion, is from quicksilver ore.

IN BRIEF, and to the Point.

Dyspepsia is dreadful. Disordered liver matters, indigestion is a foe to good nature. The human digestive apparatus is one of the most complicated and wonderful things in existence. It is easily put out of order. Greasy food, tough food, sloppy food, bad cookery, mental worry, late hours, irregular habits, and many other things which ought not to be, have made the American people a nation of dyspeptics. But Green's August Flower has done a wonderful work in reforming this sad business and making the American people so healthy that they can enjoy their meals and be happy. Remember—No happiness without health. But Green's August Flower brings health and happiness to the dyspeptic. Ask your druggist for a bottle. Seventy-five cents. cowly

Nature now displays its budding genius.

The largest strawberries are found in the illustrated catalogue.

A buckwheat cake and a home run depends largely upon the batter.

The baseball player does not slide more fiercely for the home plate than the small boy just out of school slides for the star knot-hole in the baseball fence. And, how sad the latter is when he discovers a square of tin nailed over it on the inside!

A pleasing conceit for the library table is a clever representation of an open fire-place. It is made of polished brass, and a red coal is placed in the book to imitate a pen or real fire. The solid covers as a pen or real, and a small clock rests upon the mantel.

handsome men. Mrs. Frank Leslie Gives Her Definition of Male Beauty. To call a man charming, in face, or lovely, or beautiful, or pretty, is to minimize—almost to insult him—writes Mrs. Frank Leslie. A man can only be called handsome, and very, very few men can be called that. A handsome man must be manly in figure, convey the idea of strength and energy under the most reposeful exterior. He must have the shapely hands, feet and all that tell of good blood and cultivated progenitors; he must have his nose well shaped, well set and well carried. Coloring does not much matter, so that there be no red upon the cheeks, and not too much in the lips, and perhaps the mezzo tint lend themselves most satisfactorily to manly beauty, but above all, the handsome man must never be stout. The heavy throat which overflows the shirt collar never carried with it an air of refinement, whatever it may do of strength. A blonde man runs the risk of weakness and insipidity, and a black bearded man is handsome, even though he be a trifle melodramatic, but still golden-haired and black-haired men have been very attractive the world over. Of course, below this grand climacteric in the thoroughly handsome man there are ranks after ranks of good-looking, attractive, pleasant-faced men—some upon whom one loves to look and find sweet content in contemplating faces and forms far from faultless, and yet quite satisfactory. And here we come upon one of the most strange and almost cruel conditions of our being. A man may or may not be handsome, he may or may not have physical attractiveness whatever, but he likes, and he likes, the less for the deficiency, he never finds it a barrier in his career, a source of failure in his life; women love him and men approve of him just as readily as if he is handsome; in fact the woman or woman who love him and him down as handsome in the serene debance of the rules of beauty or the opinion of the world.

A Severe Trial. Frances S. Smith, of Emerald, Muskoka, writes—"I was troubled with vomiting for two years and I have vomited as often as five times a day. One bottle of Buckle's Bitters completely cured me."

Maloni's Mistake. A New York millionaire who owns a number of tenement houses, and who is rather a severe landlord, is looking for a new valet. He has just discharged the one he had because he drank too much wine the night of a party, and became impatient to his employer. The discharged valet was an Italian, by the name of Maloni.

"Maloni," said the millionaire, as he searched all his pockets a few days ago, "did you find a five-dollar bill in any of my pockets when you were brushing this suit yesterday?" "No, sir, it's that same I did not."

"Very strange! Wonder what I did with it. If I may make so bold, I'd suggest that maybe in some of your absent-minded generosity, you gave it to some poor widdy woman to help her pay her rent in wain o' yer houses."

Maloni is now driving an ash cart.

A Good Offer. Yellow Oil, who have long offered to repaid for that remedy for Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sore Throat and all painful complaints for which it is recommended.

More Room. When every nook and corner seems full, consider the walls. A great many things may be hung on a strip of wood running across your bedroom or kitchen wall, covered from dust by a oil-cloth curtain. Envelopes, bags, straightened ropes or lath strips, may hang anywhere to hold aprons, collars, hats, newspapers, everything. Packing boxes may be placed one above another and shelved and curtained, or small ones may be padded like ottomans and used for seats and cases to hold bed linen or underclothing. A few yards of bright chintz adorns a room wonderfully in the way of curtains, chair covers and scrap bags.

Veranda Screens. They are usually made for the ends of verandas, rarely for the front. Measure the length from the joint under the roof to the top of the rail, and then get a piece of matting as long, but as wide as liked and of whatever color you prefer, although the white is best on account of not fading. Paint a bold design in oils on the side that is to show on the inside, sew rings on the upper end, run a rod through them, and screw two sockets on the joint for the rod to rest in. Have a cord at each lower corner, and one in the centre, with which to make it fast to the veranda rail, and by this simple contrivance you can secure a shady spot on the warmest day, and it would take more than two minutes to lift it down and roll up when a shower threatened.

The best regulators for the stomach and bowels, the best cure for biliousness, sick headache, indigestion, and all affections arising from a disordered liver, are without exception, Johnson's Tonic Liver Pills. Small in size, sugar coated, mild, yet effective. 25 cts. per bottle sold by Goode, druggist, Albion block, Goderich, sole agent.

FARM AND GARDEN.

A sow should not be allowed to produce but one litter before she is two years old. Sheep graze close to the ground, and therefore should not be on long grass. They will not do well on tall clover.

A merino ram crossed on a common sheep will double the yield of wool in the first cross alone, thus paying for himself the first season. The lambs first in market command the highest prices. Fit the market then as soon as possible. The dam must be kept in good condition. With the present outlook of supply and demand, pigs should be put forward as rapidly as possible, so as to secure the largest possible growth while the season is favourable.

With common stock the annual possession the largest amount of vitality usually mark the offspring. If a mistake is made with the first litter the effects will show for some time after. Farmers who have not heretofore kept sheep may find this a good time to begin. Try a few at first, and give them good care, and increase the flock as you see that good returns can be made. Young pigs ought to be well sheltered whenever we have a heavy rain. They are easily drowned, and hard beating rains, such as we often have at this season of the year, will prove too much for them. Mulching continuously is a dangerous practice, as it draws the roots too near the surface, so they lose their hold on the soil. Mulching currants at time of fruiting is to be commended. This fruit does best in partial shade. If the pigs are to have the run of the orchard or a good pasture where the habit of rooting is objectionable, the safest plan is to ring them early. If they are turned out on the range or good pasture, keep the rings out, and let them root.

I honestly think, says T. D. English, that a healthy and able-bodied rod of industrious habits will get away with and digest his own weight of insects in twenty-four hours. If you will be of an insecticidal turn of mind, turn out by daylight and watch the toads getting breakfast. It is a poor policy to economize on eggplants. They are not as valuable unless the soil is made as rich as possible, and an expert gardener, who invariably grasps the first prizes for his fruit every year, says he forms a shallow basin around each plant to receive a weekly dose of liquid manure. The breeding sow may be allowed to have pigs when she is a year old. If she is thrifty and vigorous, she will produce young at eight or nine months old, but a year old is young enough. If allowed to breed younger, sows are apt to get stunted, and will never recover from it. The pigs will also be dwarfed in size and of inferior quality. One of the most serious hindrances in onion growing is the onion maggot, the larva of a small fly resembling the house fly, but smaller. No positive remedy is known, but it is a common belief among gardeners that when the maggot be comes troublesome it is a good plan to change the land, which otherwise would not be done, for, unlike cabbage and many other crops, onions thrive well year after year on the same land. It is always bad policy to crop bearing orchards, and one reason for this is that it generally prevents their pasturing by pigs, which are the best scavengers for destroying wormy fruit, with its contents. The apples in our markets would be far finer if pigs had the range of apple orchards, and the pigs themselves would be more healthy for it. If kept right, pigs will give an orchard all the ploughing it needs, with no danger or injury to tree roots. Each owner of a garden may have abundant raspberries. Cathbert for red, and Gregg for black, will, in most cases, give entire satisfaction. The descriptions of new varieties read well, and the illustrations are captivating, but the largest yield after all is from such as are freely, and do not crowd the plants. Set the reds very shallow, and the blacks deep. Partial shade is no detriment, and slight mulching in hot weather beneficial. Cut away the old canes as soon as the crop is gathered. A horizontal chesp truss is better than tying closely to single stalks. "They have a larger sale in my district," says a well known druggist, "than any other pill on the market, and give the best satisfaction for sick headache, biliousness, indigestion, etc., and when combined with Johnston's Tonic Bitters, perform what no other medicine has done before for suffering humanity." Pills 25 cents per bottle. Bitters 50 cents and \$1 per bottle. Sold by Goode, Druggist, Albion block, Goderich, sole agent.

On the subject of multiplying potatoes, a correspondent of Popular Gardening writes: "When these new brag varieties come out, for which we pay from 50 cents to \$1 per pound, it is an object to make the most of them. To do this, treat them the same as we do sweet potato, taking off the sprouts when six inches high. The first Early Rose potatoes I ever got were seven medium sized tubers, from which I took the sprouts, then cut these up and planted each piece that had an eye in it. The result was just three bushels of splendid potatoes. In taking off the sprouts, be careful not to disturb the potato's germ."

How a Dog Caught Cold. A slim young man in the height of fashion was violently sneezing in a street car, when a companion remarked, "Aw, Charles, dear boy, how'd yeh catch that dreadful cold." "Aw, d'ye fella, left my nose in the lower half tother day, and in sucking the ivory handle, so dreadful cold, it chilled me almost to death." If Charles had used Dr. Harvey's Red Pine Gum his cold would not trouble him very much. For sale at J. Wilson's prescription drug store.

Occasional Doses of a good cathartic like Buckle's Pills are necessary to keep the blood pure and the body healthy. Im

Via S. S. "OREGON."

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