

south, as are all the others. On the northern front, about 50 feet from the base, the entrance to the great pile was discovered. It was a narrow opening of three feet and a half in width and four feet and a half in height. This tunnel descends into the interior at an angle of 26 degrees; and at about 320 feet from the mouth it opens into a subterranean chamber called the *well*, right under the apex of the pyramid, and far beneath its base, being cut out of the solid rock on which it stands. But in addition to this descending channel, another ascending passage opens into the tunnel at about 60 feet from the mouth. This conducts up an inclined plane to what is called the "queen's chamber," an apartment 17 feet long, 14 wide and 12 high. A similar passage leads to "the king's chamber"—34 feet long—17 wide and 19 high. This chamber is lined with slabs of beautifully polished granite. Here was found a sarcophagus, or stone coffin, of red granite 7 feet and a half in length and 3 feet 3 inches in breadth. It was found tenantless—the lid shattered—the body of the king gone—an unknown robber had violated the royal tomb perhaps many centuries before. No inscriptions were found on the sarcophagus; but, on some of the stones in the interior were found some rude hieroglyphics, the scribbling it is thought, of the masons who built it; and the name of Shup-hoo or Cheops has been deciphered among them—thus confirming the historic account which ascribed the pyramid to this monarch.

The second of the three large pyramids was built by a king called Cephrenes, and stands at a short distance from the first. In structure it resembles the former, and when entered by the celebrated Belzoni in 1816, a sarcophagus was found sunk in the floor containing the bones of a bull—doubtless one of those sacred animals through whose form the Egyptians worshipped a divinity. What a commentary is this on the degraded religious condition of this great people; when in the debasements of their brute-worship they raised this splendid mausoleum for the bones of a bull! Immense sums were lavished on the burial-rites of these sacred animals. Alas, without a revelation to what depths will man sink—to "the worship of four-footed beasts and creeping-things of the earth!" The plundering Arabs had been in the interior before Belzoni and despoiled it of any objects of interest it contained.

The third pyramid was opened by Colonel Vyse, and its sarcophagus, weighing three tons was, after much labour, got out and shipped for England. Unfortunately the vessel in which it was embarked was wrecked; and now it lies in ocean's rocky