



PART I

1 View of the Great Pyramid, North and West flanks (See page 4).

THE GREAT PYRAMID is the chief of the "Seven Wonders" of the ancient world. It is the only one of the seven which has survived the ravages of time. For forty-one centuries that mighty monument has kept silent watch over the delta of the Nile. Its majestic appearance commands the respect of all who visit Egypt. A veil of mystery seems always to have shrouded the Great Pyramid from the day of its erection. The builders themselves did not appear to understand the purpose of the work they were engaged upon.

2 Near view of the lower part of the Northern flank of the Great Pyramid.

Even the architect, if we are to believe the records of history, directed operations under "sealed orders" from a higher authority. As the result of this general lack of knowledge, many theories have been advocated to account for the existence of the Great Pyramid, some reasonable, and some fanciful. The early Egyptians evidently regarded the structure as a great sepulchre; for in most of *their* later-built pyramids the familiar sarcophagi have been discovered. So recently as 1837, Col. Howard Vyse found mummies in a few of these stone coffins.

3 North-west Angle of the Great Pyramid, showing full height of Monument. The tombic theory of the Great Pyramid has thus naturally received most favour. But however true it may be that some, probably all, of the other pyramids were intended to serve as tombs, careful modern investigation has demonstrated that the Great Pyramid, at all events, was not erected for this purpose. Owing principally to the learned researches of Professor C. Piazzi Smyth, Astronomer Royal for Scotland, it is fully recognised that the Great Pyramid contains numerous scientific truths.

4 North flank of Great Pyramid, showing Edgars' Tents in the near foreground. It is not generally known that this ancient monument is referred to in the Bible. Few realise that the Scriptural plan of salvation is corroborated by the symbolism of the building. Our claim is that the Great Pyramid, while constructed by man, is like the Bible, of Divine origin. Like the Tabernacle in the wilderness, and the Temple in Jerusalem, we believe that the Great Pyramid was designed for the purpose of testifying to the truth of God's infinite justice, power, love, and wisdom. The more complete our knowledge of the plan of salvation becomes, the more our appreciation of the Great Pyramid increases.

5 Map of the Pyramids, Temples, and Tombs of the Hill of Gizeh (See page 16). Regarding the location of the Great Pyramid: It is one of a group of nine, known as the nine pyramids of Gizeh. The rocky plateau of Gizeh lies about ten miles to the west of the modern city of Cairo. The Great Pyramid is the most northern of the group.

6 Second Pyramid, showing the remnant of the Casing-stones at the summit. The Second Pyramid, although very large, is nevertheless much smaller than the Great Pyramid. Yet, from some view-points it appears to be the higher of the two. It stands on a higher level of rock, and a large area of the summit is still covered with the original casing. Quite thirty feet of the summit of the Great Pyramid is missing.

7 Third Pyramid of Gizeh; showing also North-west corner of Second Pyramid. The Third Pyramid is much smaller than its two giant neighbours. But although comparatively little, it is considered to have been very expensive to build, owing to the fact that granite was used to cover a large area of its four sides.

8 The Pyramids of Gizeh, as viewed from South of the Third Pyramid. It is not possible to accurately judge of the true sizes of the Gizeh Pyramids by simply looking at them. When viewed from the south, the Third Pyramid and the Great Pyramid appear to be the same height. The perspective gives a false impression.

9 Near view of the Sphinx, showing the Great Pyramid in the background. That great "dumb idol," the Sphinx, is generally depicted in such a way as to make it appear to be almost as huge as the Great Pyramid. Here again the perspective gives a false impression: most pictures are taken close up to the Sphinx, and thus its relative proportion is unduly magnified.

10 The Great Pyramid and the Sphinx, as viewed from a distance (See page 4). When we view these two monuments from a distance, however, the contrast in size is more apparent. By this method of comparison one can form a truer conception of the immense bulk of the Great Pyramid; for the Sphinx is itself very large.

11 Very near view of the Sphinx, showing its great size. Chambers have not yet been found inside the Sphinx. Col. Howard Vyse, at much expense, pierced its huge body with a boring rod in the hope of discovering chambers, but without success. Since his day no competent investigator has examined this monument. Nothing of value has been learned from it. The Sphinx was carved in the rock centuries after the Great Pyramid was built.

12 Bird's-eye view of Lower Egypt, showing the Nile, Pyramids, etc. We believe that the Great Pyramid is referred to in the Bible. In Isaiah xix, 19, 20 we read: "In that day there is an altar to Jehovah in the midst of the land of Egypt; even a pillar at the border thereof to Jehovah, and it shall be for a sign and witness to Jehovah of hosts in the land of Egypt." This utterance of the prophet fully applies to the Great Pyramid.

13 Map showing the symmetrical position of the Great Pyramid (See page 18). The Great Pyramid is in the hub or geometric centre of Egypt's curved shore-line. It thus may be said to stand in the "midst of the land." Yet it is also "at the border thereof," for it is situated at the edge of the desert, on the southern limit of the cultivated land of Lower Egypt.

14 Map of the World, showing the Great Pyramid's central position on the Earth. Geographically, the Great Pyramid stands in the centre of the land-surface of the earth. The area of land north and south, and also east and west, of the building, are equal. The ancient Greeks claimed that their city Athens marked the centre of the earth; but with our better knowledge of geography, we find that the facts really favour the Great Pyramid with this honour.

15 Diagram of the Great Pyramid on its Rock Foundation (See page 6). Professor Smyth discovered that the exact dimensions of the Pyramid bear a proportionate ratio to the size of the earth and to the solar system. The *Pyramid cubit* is the even 10-millionth part of half the earth's polar axis. This is much more scientific than the unit of the modern French metric system, which is based upon the even 10-millionth part of the curved surface-line from the North Pole to the Equator. The *Pyramid inch* is the 25th part of a *cubit*. Pyramid inches, measured along the building's passage-ways, represent years in the scrolls of history.

16 A Solid Pyramid, with the Top-stone detached, illustrating Christ's Headship. We now direct attention to the fact that, in the imagery of the Bible, the pyramidal structure is used to illustrate the exalted pre-eminence of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus himself alluded to this when he said: "Did ye never read in the scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes'?" (Matt. xxi, 42). The figurative language of Jesus can properly apply only to a pyramid; for in this type of building we find one stone which is distinctive as *the* corner-stone, the *head* of the corner.

17 An Example of one of the Ruined Pyramids of Abusir. There are 38 pyramids in Egypt, most of which are now merely ruinous mounds. None of the other pyramids show such fine workmanship as the Great Pyramid. It is the Great Pyramid, and not the others, which was erected under God's supervision.

18 An Example of one of the Ruined Pyramids of Sakkara. The numerous other pyramids are entirely ignored by the Scriptures. The Great Pyramid is referred to in the Bible, though in hidden language. In Job xxxviii, 4-7, we read: "Where wast thou

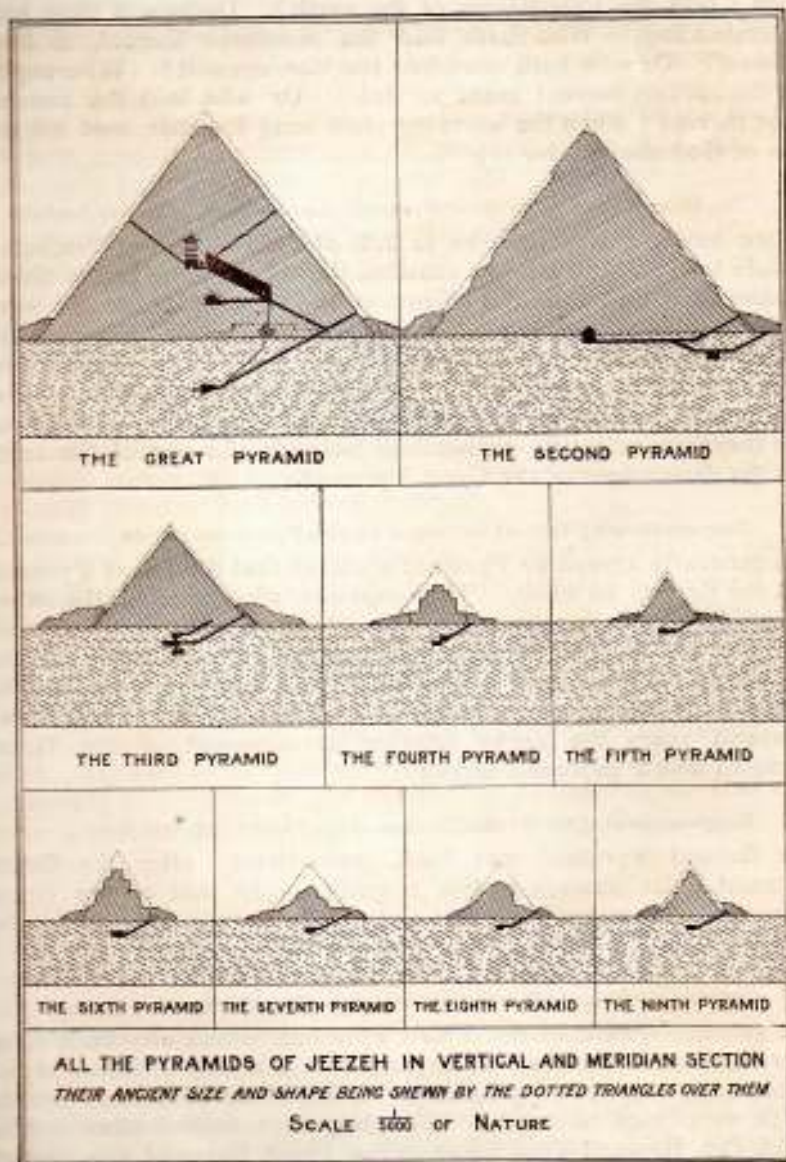
when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the sockets thereof made to sink? Or who laid the corner-stone thereof; when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

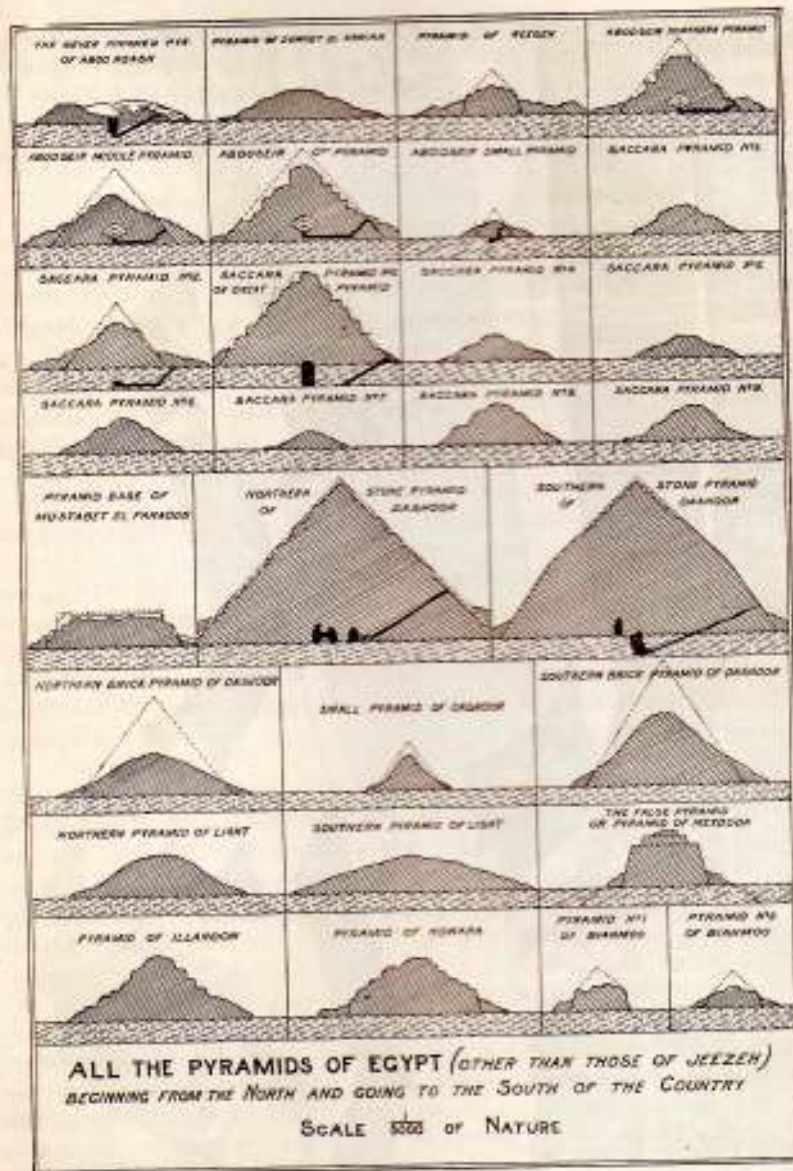
19 The Ground Plan of the Great Pyramid, showing the four Corner Sockets. Notice how the Lord speaks to Job about foundation "sockets" "made to sink." When we examine the foundations of the Great Pyramid we find that the stones at the four base corners were made to sink into corresponding sockets in the rock. None of the other pyramids throughout Egypt possess such socket-foundations. Thus, although the passage in Job speaks of the earth, it is also referring to the Great Pyramid. Professor Smyth has pointed out that there are scientific connections between the size of the earth and the dimensions of the Great Pyramid.

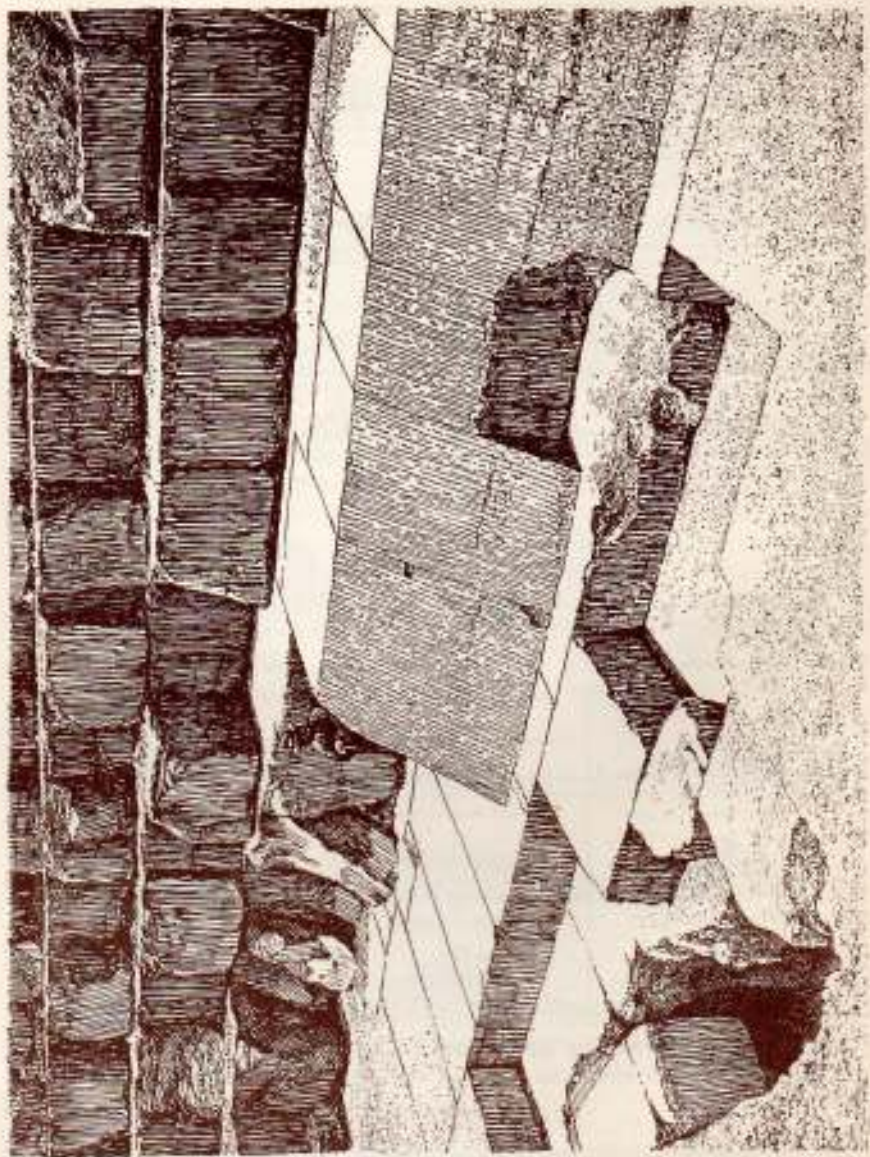
20 Diagram showing Vertical Sections of all nine Pyramids of Gizeh (See page 22). It is generally agreed by Pyramid students that the Great Pyramid was the first to be built. This explains why none of the other pyramids possess an upper system of passages. History shows that the builders of the other pyramids were unaware of the ascending passages and chambers constructed high up in the masonry of their great model. And for no less than three thousand years the upper interior arrangement of the Great Pyramid was a profound secret.

21 Diagram showing the Vertical Section of the Second Pyramid. The Second Pyramid was built immediately after the Great Pyramid. Its passage-system is quite unlike that of the Great Pyramid. It has two entrance passages, and only two chambers, all cut out in the rock for the most part.

22 Diagram showing the Vertical Section of the Third Pyramid. The passage-system of the Third Pyramid, which was built soon after the Second Pyramid, is arranged in a totally different style, without any attempt at symmetry. It has three chambers, two of which were used as tombs. The large ornamental stone coffin which Col. Howard Vyse found in the Third Pyramid was lost at sea during transit to Britain.







Drawn by A. Vaughan

Remnant of the Casing-stones, at the northern base of the Great Pyramid

23 Diagram of Vertical Sections of all other Pyramids of Egypt (See page 23).
As with the Second and Third Pyramids of Gizeh, so with all the other pyramids of Egypt, their internal arrangements do not display any definite design. They are apparently without meaning. The passage-ways and chambers of these other pyramids, also, are mostly hewn in the rock.

24 Diagram of Vertical Section of the Great Pyramid (See page 6).
In these respects, therefore, the Great Pyramid stands unrivalled. Its Descending Passage is by far the longest of any, measuring nearly 350 feet. Its large Subterranean Chamber lies 100 feet vertically below the base-line. The whole internal arrangement of the Great Pyramid is very symmetrical, highly scientific, and full of significance. As we have mentioned, the upper system of the Great Pyramid was a profound secret for three thousand years. It was discovered by accident. It is recorded that in the year 820 A.D., a Caliph of Bagdad, Al Mamoun by name, journeyed to Egypt with a company of men, intent upon plundering the treasure supposed to be hidden in the Pyramid.

25 Casing-stone Remnant at Northern base of Great Pyramid (See page 24).
At that time the four sides of the building were encased with beautiful smooth casing-stones. All of these casing-stones have long since been stripped off by the Arabs to build houses. The Entrance of the low narrow Descending Passage was then closed by a stone door.

26 Casing-stone Remnant of the Great Pyramid: the principal four, front view.
There is no door now, but we know there was one originally, because the ancient geographer, Strabo, who lived in the first century before Christ, saw it and wrote about it. This stone door was the same size as many of the casing-stones, and hence very difficult to detect.

27 Casing-stone Remnant of the Great Pyramid: end view of largest three.
In passing, we point out that the few casing-stones which now remain at the northern base of the monument, serve the useful purpose of indicating the exact ancient height of the Pyramid. The angle of their outer face, which is clearly defined, proves that the Great Pyramid is endowed with many wonderful scientific features.

28 The Entrance of the Great Pyramid.

In its present dilapidated condition, the Entrance of the Great Pyramid can easily be discerned even from a distance. But, as we have said, in the days of Caliph Al Mamoun, it was extremely difficult to locate. Casing-stones covered all the Pyramid at that time, and the stone door which closed the Entrance looking like another casing-stone. The Caliph seems to have known that the door was situated somewhere near the central line of the northern flank, but it is evident that he did not know of its exact position.

29 Outer opening of Al Mamoun's forced passage into the Great Pyramid.

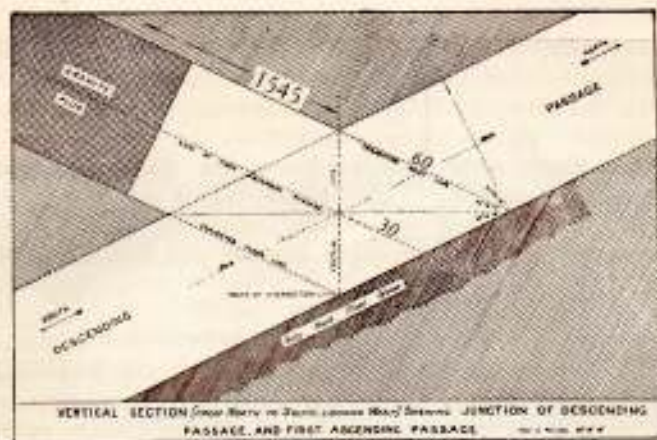
Not being able to find the Entrance, the Caliph directed his men to force a passage into the building. The large dark outer opening of this forced passage is very conspicuous. It lies nearly midway between the ground and the true Entrance above, but several feet further to the west.

30 Near view of the outer opening of Al Mamoun's forced passage.

After working their way inward for about 120 feet without making any hopeful discovery, the men were nearly giving up their labour in despair, when one day they heard a noise. It sounded as if some heavy object had fallen inside the building. They immediately worked with renewed energy in the direction of the noise, and soon broke into the Descending Passage. This was a happy chance, for they did not know they were working so near the building's Entrance Passage.

31 Diagram: Junction of the Descending and Ascending Passages (See page 27).

There, lying on the floor of the Descending Passage, they saw an angular-shaped stone. On examining the roof they observed an opening from which, apparently, the stone had fallen, thus causing the noise. This stone had been fitted in even with the general line of the roof of the Descending Passage, and looked like the other roof-stones. It had, therefore, effectually concealed the lower opening of the First Ascending Passage. Thus all the earlier explorers in the centuries before the Caliph, although they apparently possessed knowledge of the swinging stone door of the outside Entrance, and were therefore able to make their way down the Descending Passage to the Subterranean Chamber, were nevertheless ignorant of the Ascending Passages and upper Chambers.



32 The lower Butt-end of the Granite Plug (See page 34).

But the Caliph found it impossible to go up this newly discovered Ascending Passage. Immediately behind the dislodged roof-stone is a series of three granite stones which still block the way. They are known collectively as the "Granite Plug." Seeing that the Granite Plug is wedged into its place, and cannot be taken out, the Caliph instructed his men to force a passage round it through the soft limestone.

33 Al Mamoun's Cavity, showing the West side of the Granite Plug (See page 36). There is now, therefore, a large cavity round the west side of the obstructing Granite Plug. By taking advantage of this cavity access is now gained to the First Ascending Passage. We can picture to ourselves the expectation of the Caliph's men when, on reaching the passage above, they made their way up its steep and slippery floor, and began an eager exploration of the dark mysterious passages and chambers, sealed up three thousand years before by the ancient builders, and now visited for the first time.

34 Near view of the West side of the Granite Plug, in Al Mamoun's Cavity. Surely, they would think, great hoards of wealth must lie somewhere in this wonderful place! But their expectations were doomed to disappointment; the Pyramid's treasures are not of the kind to appeal to Arabian adventurers—they are the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

