DRAWINGS

OF

SOME RUINS

AND

COLOSSAL STATUES

AT

THEBES IN *EGYPT*,

with an account of the ſame

IN A LETTER

TO

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

MDCCXLI.

TO

MARTIN FOLKES Esq;

PRESIDENT,

And to the Rest of the

COUNCIL and FELLOWS

OF THE

Royal Society of London,

FOR IMPROVING

NATURAL KNOWLEDGE.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Plates I have the honour to lay before you, are taken from four of the Drawings, which I made about four years since, by the command of His Majesty the King of *Denmark*, my Gracious and Royal Master, from some of the remains of antiquity, that are still found dispers'd, almost all over the kingdom of *Egypt*.

AND as these may possibly be of use to illustrate some passages in antient authors, who have taken notice of the Statue of *Memnon*; I have subjoined most of those passages, to which I have added, what I have met with in modern books also, relating to the same subject; together with an extract from my own journal, of what I observ'd on the spot, and wrote down there immediately after I had taken the drawings, for the more ready understanding the same.

I PRESENT them to you, Gentlemen, as to persons of the most extensive knowledge and learning, thereby qualified to judge of all works of antiquity, to compare one with another the diverse writings of the antients, and to correct the

ſeveral errors and unaccuracies, to which they, as well as the moderns may have been ſubject.

I LAY claim my ſelf to no erudition, and deſire you will only look upon what I ſay, as the report of a faithful traveller, and of one who pretends to no more, than having ſeen with ſome care, and related honeſtly what he has ſeen.

THE three firſt Drawings were executed upon the place juſt as you ſee them: I have not ſince been willing ſo much as to finiſh them; much leſs would I have ventured to add any thing by way of ornament or imbelliſhment. The laſt Drawing which exhibits the plan, was made ſince I came away, but from the sketch and meaſures I took alſo upon the ſpot, when I was at *Thebes*.

THE marvellous and the agreeable which frequently recommend works to the multitude, but which at the ſame time deſtroy the true fruit that ſhould be gathered from relations of this ſort, have always appeared to me unworthy of a traveller; and more particularly of one who treats of places ſo far diſtant, that it is very difficult for others to examine into the truth of his reports: for this reaſon, I am here deſirous to aſſure my readers, that in whatever I may hereafter have occaſion to publiſh of my obſervations on the places I have ſeen, it is my fix'd reſolution to purſue no other rule, than that of delivering with truth and ſimplicity, ſuch accounts as I am able to give of thoſe places, and of the things I have there thought beſt deſerving to be taken notice of.

IT is upon this account only, that I have thought theſe few Drawings worthy to be laid before you: and I flatter my ſelf, Gentlemen, that you will accept them as a ſmall token of my ſincere reſpect, and of my thankfulneſs for the honour you have been pleaſed to do me, in admitting me a member of your Illuſtrious Society; being with great truth,

GENTLEMEN,

London, the 7th of *January* 1741.

Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant,

F. L. NORDEN.

Paſſages from ancient and modern AUTHORS, *referred to in the foregoing Letter.*

STRABO *lib.* 17. *pag.* 816.

HIC cum duo Coloſſi eſſent de ſolido lapide inter ſe propinqui, alter adhuc extat, alterius vero ſuperiores a ſede partes corruerunt, terræ (ut fama eſt) motu.

CREDITUM etiam eſt, ſemel quotidie ſonitum quendam veluti ictus haud magni edi a parte, quæ in ſede ac baſi remanſit.

IPSE cum Ælio Gallo adeſſem, & cum reliqua multitudine amicorum, ac militum, qui cum eo erant, circiter horam primam ſonitum audivi: utrum a baſi, ſive a Coloſſo, an vero ab eam circumſtantium aliquo editus fuerit, non habeo affirmare: cum propter incertitudinem cauſæ quidvis potius credere ſubeat, quam ex lapidibus ſic compoſitis ſonum edi.

PLINIUS *lib.* 36. *cap.* 7.

NON abſimilis illi narratur in Thebis delubro Serapis, ut putant Memnonis ſtatuæ dicatus: quem quotidiano Solis ortu contactum radiis crepare dicunt.

TACITUS *Annal. lib.* 2. *cap.* 61.

COETERUM Germanicus aliis quoque miraculis intendit animum, quorum præcipua fuere Memnonis ſaxea effigies, ubi radiis Solis icta eſt vocalem ſonum reddens.

PAUSANIAS *Attic. cap.* 42.

EUM certe in fabricandis muris ab Apolline adjutum Megarenſes affirmant, atque eum de quo dixi lapidem ubi citharam depoſuit, pro teſtimonio habent. Reddit enim, calculo ſi quis eam percuſſerit, eundem quem pulſæ fides ſonum: quæ mihi res plane admirabilis viſa eſt: quanquam Coloſſum qui Thebis Ægyptiis eſt trans Nilum, non longe ab eo loco, quæ Syringes appellantur, majore utique cum admiratione ſpectavi.

STATUA ibi eſt ſedentis hominis; eam multi Memnonis nominant: quem ex Æthiopia in Ægyptum veniſſe, ac Suſas etiam uſque penetraſſe tradunt. At ipſi Thebani Memnonem eſſe negant, nam Phamenophem fuiſſe indigenam hominem dicunt. Audivi etiam qui Seſoſtris illam ſtatuam eſſe dic erent: eam Cambyſes diffidit: & nunc etiam ſuperior pars a vertice ad medium truncum humi neglecta

neglecta jacet: reliquum adhuc ſedere videtur, ac quotidie ſub ipſum Solis ortum, ſonum edit, qualem vel citharæ vel lyræ nervi, ſi forte dum tenduntur rumpantur.

PHILOSTRATUS *de vita Apollonii, lib. 6. cap. 3.*

LOCUM enim ubi templum fundatum fuerat, antiquo foro ſimilem dicunt eſſe. Extant ejuſmodi fora quædam in vetuſtiſſimis civitatibus, ubi & columnarum viſuntur fragmenta, & parietum quædam veſtigia. Præterea ſedes & limina & Mercurii ſimulachra, partim manu, partim vetuſtate conſumpta, illic etiam conſpici dicunt. Ipſius vero Memnonis ſtatua adoleſcentis impuberis imaginem referens, ad Solis radios converſa eſt. Eſt autem ex nigro lapide fabricata, atque utroque pede ſolum attingens juxta Dædali ſtatuariam artem: erectæ autem manus ſedi innituntur hominis ſurgere volentis ſimilitudinem exprimentes.——Cum vero Solis radius ſtatuam attingeret (id autem circa ſolis ortum evenire perhibent) tum vero ſupra modum admirabilis viſa eſt. Tunc enim ſtatuam loqui perhibent, ubi primum Solis radius ad ejus os pervenit.

PHILOSTRATUS *Iconum lib. 1.*

IPSE autem Memnon in nigrum transformatus eſt in Æthiopia lapidem, & figuram quidem ſedentis: ſpeciem vero illam puto, & ſolis radii ſtatuam petunt. Sol enim Memnonis os veluti plectro percutiens, inde vocem elidere, loquacique ſophiſmate invento diem ſolari videtur.

LUCIANI *Toxaris ſeu amicitia.*

MEMNONEM autem vocem edere exoriente Sole.

LUCIANI *Philopſeudes.*

QUUM in Ægypto verſarer adhuc adoleſcens, a parte videlicet doctrinæ gratia tranſmiſſus, cupiebam navigio profectus in Coptum, illinc adiens Memnonem, miraculum illud audire, eum videlicet ſonum reddentem ad orientem Solem. Illum igitur audivi non hoc vulgari modo quo audiunt alii ſonum quempiam inanem, ſed mihi oracula etiam edidit Memnon ipſe aperto ore ſeptem verſibus: quod niſi eſſet ſupervacaneum, ipſos vobis verſus recenſerem.

TZETZES *Chiliad 6. Hiſt. 64.*

In patriam autem relatus, ſepultus eſt domi.
Et columna huic fuit rubri varii lapidis
Fabrefacta, lætum autem die mittit cantum,
Velut lætatus matris præſentia.
Noctu autem flebile quoddam contra canit carmen.

DIONY-

DIONYSII *Periegesis. v.* 249.

Thebas priscas centum portas habentes, ubi resonans
Memnon exorientem suam salutat Auroram.

JUVENALIS *Sat.* 15.

Dimidio magicæ resonant ubi Memnone chordæ.

VANSLEB *Relation d'un Voyage d'Egypte*, pag. 410. where he gives the following Remark from *Father Portais.*

A UNE lieue deça il y a une ancienne ville appellée *Habu*, ou l'on voit aussi plusieurs belles curiosités, & entre autre des momies. On y decouvre de fort loing 2 statues, l'une d'un homme, & l'autre d'une femme, les gens du pais appellent celle la *Sciama* & celle-ci *Fama:* elles paroissent etre pour le moins, aussi grandes que *l'Abulhon* ou le *Sphinx* qui est vis a vis *du Cayre.* Prés de ce lieu il y a un village ou l'on decouvre du *Nil* deux statues, qui paroissent si nouvelles, qu'a les voir on diroit, que l'ouvrier vient de les achever.

MAILLET *Descript. de l'Egypte, lettre* 8me, speaking of *Thebes*;

PERSONNE n'ignore que c'etoit dans cette ville que se voyoit cette celebre statue de *Memnon* dont il est tant parlé dans l'histoire. Quoiqu'il en soit il ne reste pas plus de traces de ce Colosse que *Cambyses* fit dit on mettre en piéces.

Memoires des Missions de la Compagnie de Jesus dans le Levant, tom. 5me.

PLAN d'un ouvrage sur *l'Egypte* ancienne & moderne, par le *Pere Sicard*, Chap. XI.

AU couchant du Nil.

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3. LES deux Colosses, dont parle *Strabon*, chargez d'Inscriptions *Grecques* & *Latines.*

4. RESTES du Palais de *Memnon* & sa statue colossale.

ESTAMPES.

PLAN des deux Colosses au couchant du palais de *Memnon*, & de sa statue.

TOM. 7me.

Discours sur *l'Egypte*, par le Pére *Sicard* de la C. de J. Chap. 7.

THEBES.

——————— Sans parler des temples de *Venus* & de *Memnon*, des galleries pleines de hieroglyphes, et des colonnes, il y a des choses que l'on peut dire étre uniques dans le monde; scavoir les sepulchres des Rois de *Thebes*, & trois statues colossales, les deux premieres dont a tant parlé *Strabon* sont remplies d'une vingtaine d'inscriptions soit *Grecques* soit *Latines:* la troisiéme est la statuë du Roi *Memnon*, qui, selon la tradition des anciens *Egyptiens*, rendoit un son au lever du soleil.

Extraet

Extract from my own Journal, containing part of what paſſed on the 12th of December 1737, N. S. *being the 25th day ſince my departure from* Grand Cairo.

LAST night about ſun-ſet, we had made faſt on the weſtern ſhore of the *Nile*, over-againſt *Luxorene*, accounted diſtant from *Cairo*, 135 *French* leagues: and this morning at break of day, I got out to ſee if there were any remains of the ancient city of *Thebes*, yet to be met with on this ſide the river. I preſently perceived two Coloſſal Figures, which I at firſt took for thoſe deſcrib'd by *Strabo*; tho' I had ſoon after reaſon to believe the ſtatues mentioned by that Author, were others I afterwards met with.

I THEN returned to the veſſel for my arms, and ſuch company as were willing to go with me, which the *Reys*, or maſter of the veſſel, no ſooner perceived but he began to do all he could to prevent our deſign. He firſt would have frighted us with notions of danger, but when he ſaw no body attended to his repreſentations of that ſort, he had recourſe to his moſt preſſing argument, which was ſwearing that if we all went on ſhore, he would go away with the boat, and leave us to ſhift as we could. I had him told we had taken our reſolution, and that if he dar'd to leave us, we ſhould certainly be able to come up with him again, when he muſt expect to pay dearly for his inſolence. When this fail'd, he began to pray and beg of us not to go for his ſake; for, ſaid he, if you are ſo happy as to eſcape, you will however expoſe me to the utmoſt danger, for if I am ever forced to land here again, I ſhall certainly be murder'd for having brought you hither, from whence the inhabitants will be aſſur'd you have carried off the hidden treaſures. I had before heard ſo much of this ſort of ſtuff, as to be very little moved by it; beſides that I grew ſolicitous to ſet out, that I might have the more time on ſhore. My *Janiſary* alſo, who thought himſelf more privileged to talk than the reſt, ſeemed pleaſed with my reſolution, began to threaten and talk big to the *Reys*, and preſently jump'd on ſhore with me; the reſt of the company and my ſervants immediately followed. We travers'd the plain, directing our ſteps towards the two Coloſſal Figures, which were not above a league off, if we could have gone directly to them; but we found the grounds ſo divided by channels,

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and ſo covered with *Turkiſh* corn, and were forced to take ſo many turns, that three hours were ſpent, before I got near enough to the ſtatues to take my firſt Drawing of them. As ſoon as I had finiſh'd that, I came up to them as near as was neceſſary to draw the Hieroglyphical Figures that are cut on one ſide of the ſtone, upon which one of the Coloſſal Statues is repreſented as ſitting, and I at the ſame time copied ſome of the *Latin* Inſcriptions, and one of the *Greek* ones, with which the legs and part of the breaſts of both the Figures are almoſt cover'd.

When we firſt came on ſhore we ſaw nobody, either near or at a diſtance; but I had not finiſh'd my firſt Drawing when we were already ſurrounded with above fifty *Arabs*, who, at firſt only ſaluted us, and ſeemed under ſome ſurpriſe; but were moſt of all troubleſome to me with their curioſity to find what I was doing. When they had paſſed about half an hour in this manner, they began to ask for the *Backſich*, that is for money, as all the *Arabs* ordinarily do: we thought it neceſſary to refuſe them, as the complying might only have drawn on greater inconveniencies. They then grew very noiſy and inſolent, whilſt I follow'd my Drawing as cloſe as I could; leaving the Reverend Father Miſſionaries to appeaſe them, and the ſervants to cavil as well as they were able, while the *Janiſary*, who had a loud voice and a heavy ſtaff, ſupported me by his bawling and threats, taking care however not really to ſtrike any of the people he was wrangling with. I meaſured as far as I could reach of the Coloſſal Figures with a pole, and gathered their whole heights by their ſhadows. While I was here, arrived a man on horſeback, preceded by another carrying a long pike, to whom the *Arabs* gave the title of *Sheik Arab*; he came up with a ſtern countenance, and asked the *Jew* ſervant what we did here, and who had given us leave. The *Jew*, who was as inſolent as himſelf, returned a rough anſwer, asking by what authority he enquired; and one word drawing on another, things went ſo high, that the *Sheik* declared if we did not go off inſtantly, he would drive us away by force: upon which the *Janiſary* went up to him, and told him, as in confidence, that he ſhould be careful what he did, ſince we were ſo well provided with fire-arms, and ſo good at the uſe of them, that any ſuch attempt might happen to coſt him his life. This diſcourſe ſeemed to have its effect, and the *Sheik* was ſome time ſilent; he nevertheleſs preſently returned to the charge, and threatned, that if we did not retire, he would burn our boat, and plunder all that was in it. The *Janiſary* ſtill perſiſted in his threats, and finding the other not ſo reſolute as he would have appeared, went on ſwearing in a terrible manner, that if he attempted the leaſt inſult, himſelf would be the man ſhould kill him like a dog. At this the *Sheik* ſeemed to ſmile, but wiſh'd us a good day, and went off with all the people after him,

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leaving us however in ſome uncertainty, if he was not gone to the boat, or to lie in wait for us at our return; tho' in the main very well pleaſed to be rid of ſo troubleſome a company. I had in the mean time finiſh'd my meaſures of the two Great Statues, after which we went on towards the ruins that lie to the north of the figures, of which I alſo made the general Drawing, and took ſuch dimenſions as I thought neceſſary for the laying down the Plan, *&c.*

Remarks, which I made, and wrote down on the Place, for the better underſtanding of the Drawings.

The Firſt PLATE.

ABOUT a league from the weſtern ſhore of the *Nile*, where the plain begins to riſe with dry burning ſand, which ſlopes upward for a quarter of a league further weſt, to the foot of the mountains, dividing *Egypt* from *Lybia*; are ſcituated the two ſitting Coloſſal Figures, mark'd A and B.

THEY face to the eaſt, and northward from them at the diſtance of 200 paces are the Ruins, and overturned Coloſſal Statues mark'd C, D, E, F, G, H, I, of which more will be ſaid in the obſervations on the third Plate.

THE *Nile* paſſes eaſtward, and about half a league to the ſouthward are more Ruins both ancient and modern, the latter are call'd by the name of *Medinet-Habou*, and the former were part of the old city of *Thebes*.

THE two great Coloſſal Figures A and B, are each in height near * 50 *Daniſh* feet, from the baſes of the pedeſtals to the top of the heads, which meaſure I determined from their ſhadows; but as from the ſole of the foot of one of the figures to juſt below the knee, I found by my pole 15 feet; it ſhould follow, from the ordinary proportion of a man, that their height is about 52 feet with the pedeſtals.

THE almoſt cubical ſtones on which they ſit, are 15 feet in height, and as much in breadth, taking in the *Iſiac* Figures that ſerve for ornaments at the two foremoſt corners of each. Behind, thoſe ſtones are a foot and a half higher.

* The *Daniſh* foot is larger than the *Engliſh*, in the proportion nearly of 103 to 100.

THE pedeſtals are 5 foot high, 36 and a half long, and 19 and a half wide.

THE diſtance between the two Statues is 21 ordinary paces.

THE Statues themſelves are made of ſeveral blocks of a ſandy ſort of ſtone, taken moſt probably from ſome of the Grotts, which appear very numerous in the neighbouring mountains.

THEIR breaſts and legs are covered with a vaſt number of *Greek* and *Latin* inſcriptions, grav'd in the time of the *Romans*.

THE ſeats or chairs on which they ſeem to ſit, are covered behind and on each ſide with Hieroglyphical Figures, which in their general diſpoſition are much alike, but differ in the particular compoſition of the characters.

THESE ſeats, which appeared to me each of one piece, ſeem of the ſame ſort of ſtone as the Statues, though ſomewhat more brown and hard.

THE two *Iſiac* Figures before mentioned, which finiſh the foremoſt corners of both ſeats, appeared to me much whiter and of a finer grain than the reſt; which might make one ſuſpect, that though adjuſted to the old *Egyptian* taſte, they may have been carved long ſince the building of the Coloſſal Statues themſelves.

THE Pedeſtals are yet harder and browner than the ſeats, they are inſcribed with only one line of Hieroglyphicks, which has alſo been much defac'd by the injury of time, and the violence that has been uſed.

THE bodies of the Coloſſal Figures have ſuffered nothing from the hand of man, and all disfigur'd as they are, do not appear to have receiv'd a ſingle ſtroke; it is Time only that has defac'd them and wore away their extreme parts.

The Second PLATE

GIVES the particular Drawing of one ſide of the ſeat of the Coloſſal Figure markt A, in the former plate.

OF

OF the Hieroglyphicks here repreſented, I have nothing to ſay, but that they are very neatly wrought and extremely well preſerv'd; they are hollow'd into the ſtone with a flat bottom, only the two figures which draw the knot are workt in bas-relief, but in ſuch a manner that their higheſt parts are only rais'd to the ſame height as the ſmooth ſuperficies of the ſtone. I have already ſaid, that the other ſides of the ſeats are adorn'd in the ſame manner.

THE ſmall figures in bas relief upon the towers, that the *Iſiac* Statues above-mentioned carry on their heads, have not the appearance of *Egyptian* work, and are contrary to the reſt rais'd above the ſurface of the ſtone.

THE ſeveral *Latin* inſcriptions, and the *Greek* one, added to this plate, were copied from ſome of thoſe that are on the legs of the Coloſſus markt *B*, in the firſt Plate.

AS I copied theſe in great haſte, being willing to loſe as little time as I could from my drawing; I dare not anſwer for the greateſt exactneſs in them, and for the *Greek* one, being in a language I do not underſtand, I doubt whether it may be found intelligible. I choſe upon the whole rather to give them juſt as I took them, than to attempt the having them corrected.

The Third PLATE

REPRESENTS more at large, what was ſeen at a diſtance in the firſt, and under the letters C, D, E, G, H, and I.

THE beautiful remains of the ancient building at C, are only repreſented here from their ſituation, ſo cloſe to the other things I have now propos'd to give an idea of: for which reaſon, I omit any account of their fine diſpoſition and architecture, as well as of the hiſtorical and other figures, and hieroglyphicks hollowed out and painted upon the walls; what I took notice of relating to them, will be ſpecified ſome other time in another place.

THE Ruins markt D and E, I cannot paſs over, ſince one of the * authors above quoted, ſeems to make mention of them in his account of *Memnon's* Temple.

THE

* *Philoſtratus de Vita Apollonii.*

THE four pillars at D, are built of the above-mention'd ſandy ſtone, and conſiſt of ſeveral pieces, as may be obſerv'd in the Plate. Each pillar has before it a ſort of † *Terme* with croſs'd arms, and holding a kind of hook in his right hand; their heads have been broke off, only there ſtill remains part of the common *Egyptian* head-dreſs on the ſhoulders; the repreſentations of ſomewhat like clubs over where the heads were, I have nothing to ſay to, only that I ſaw ſuch there.

THREE great blocks of ſtone cover theſe four pillars, and the whole is covered with hieroglyphicks, hollowed into the ſtones and painted: thoſe repreſented in the Drawing are only to ſhew there are ſuch, for time did not allow me to take the particulars exactly.

AT, E, are four other pillars equal to the former, and adorn'd in the ſame manner; they face the others, and have behind them a wall now very ruinous, but which is yet partly joined to the Colonade by large flat ſtones on the top, ſo that there muſt formerly have been a walk there ſhaded from the ſun: and the Stone at D, which remains upon thoſe covering the firſt mention'd four pillars, ſhows there was a like walk on that ſide alſo.

THE diſtance between the ſeveral pillars at D and at E, is too large to have been ever covered; whence it appears, that if this was the place where anciently the ſtatue of *Memnon* ſtood, it muſt have been expos'd to the open air; which ſeems alſo moſt reaſonable, as it was hereby more capable of receiving the rays of the ſun.

AT, G, there remains a broken Coloſſus, overturn'd and half buried; by what remains, it may be judg'd to have been made ſitting, and in the ſame attitude as thoſe at A and B in the firſt plate. All the upper part is wanting, and ſeems to me to have been thrown off by violence, of which marks ſtill remain: it has been all of a piece, and is of black granite marble, which is the hardeſt ſort.

NOTHING but the pedeſtal, whoſe baſe preſents it ſelf in the Drawing, appears any ways preſerv'd, upon which alſo may be ſeen ſome hieroglyphicks of knives, half rounds, *&c.* Otherwiſe the figure is ſo mutilated and ſpoilt, that

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† *Terminus. Hermes.*

I could not take any exact meaſure, though to the beſt of my judgment, it muſt have been about twenty foot high, when it ſtood in its place.

FROM all theſe indications, this is what I take for the remains of the famous vocal Statue of *Memnon*, of which the ſeveral ancient authors above quoted have given their deſcriptions: But I leave the determination of the truth to thoſe that are more learned than my ſelf, if they ſhall think it worthy of their conſideration.

I STRUCK the remains of this figure with a key, but being ſolid, it gave no other ſound than any other block of Granite that reſts firmly on the ground. The Sepulchral Cheſt in the firſt Pyramid, though it reſts on its whole baſe, yet ſounds like a bell: but it muſt be obſerv'd that that is hollow. Whether the ſtones of the wall of *Megara*, mention'd by *Pauſanias*, were of this, or any other ſort of ſtone, is not my buſineſs to enquire; but certain it is, that this maſſy piece of a Coloſſus, as I have ſaid, would give no ſound in its preſent ſituation.

AT, H, is another Coloſſus of one ſingle piece of granite marble, but only of a middling height; it now lies on the face, and half buried in the ground: what appears, does not at all ſeem damaged, and the attitude is the ſame as that of the others, of which I have been ſpeaking.

AT, I, is a very fine Coloſſal Head of black Granite, dreſs'd after the *Egyptian* manner. I meaſur'd it to be two foot long; the body muſt have been loſt or cover'd by the ſand, for there now remains nothing viſible to which it could belong.

The Fourth PLATE

EXHIBITS the Plan of the Ruins of that part of ancient *Thebes*; repreſented in the preceding Drawings.

A and B, are the two great Coloſſal Statues.

AT, C, are the Ruins of a Temple all cover'd with great ſtones, which are not here expreſſed, in order to ſhew the Columns that remain on the inſide.

AT

A T, D, are the Pillars with the *Termes*, above deſcrib'd in the third Plate.

A T, E, are the other Pillars of like make, with the wall behind them.

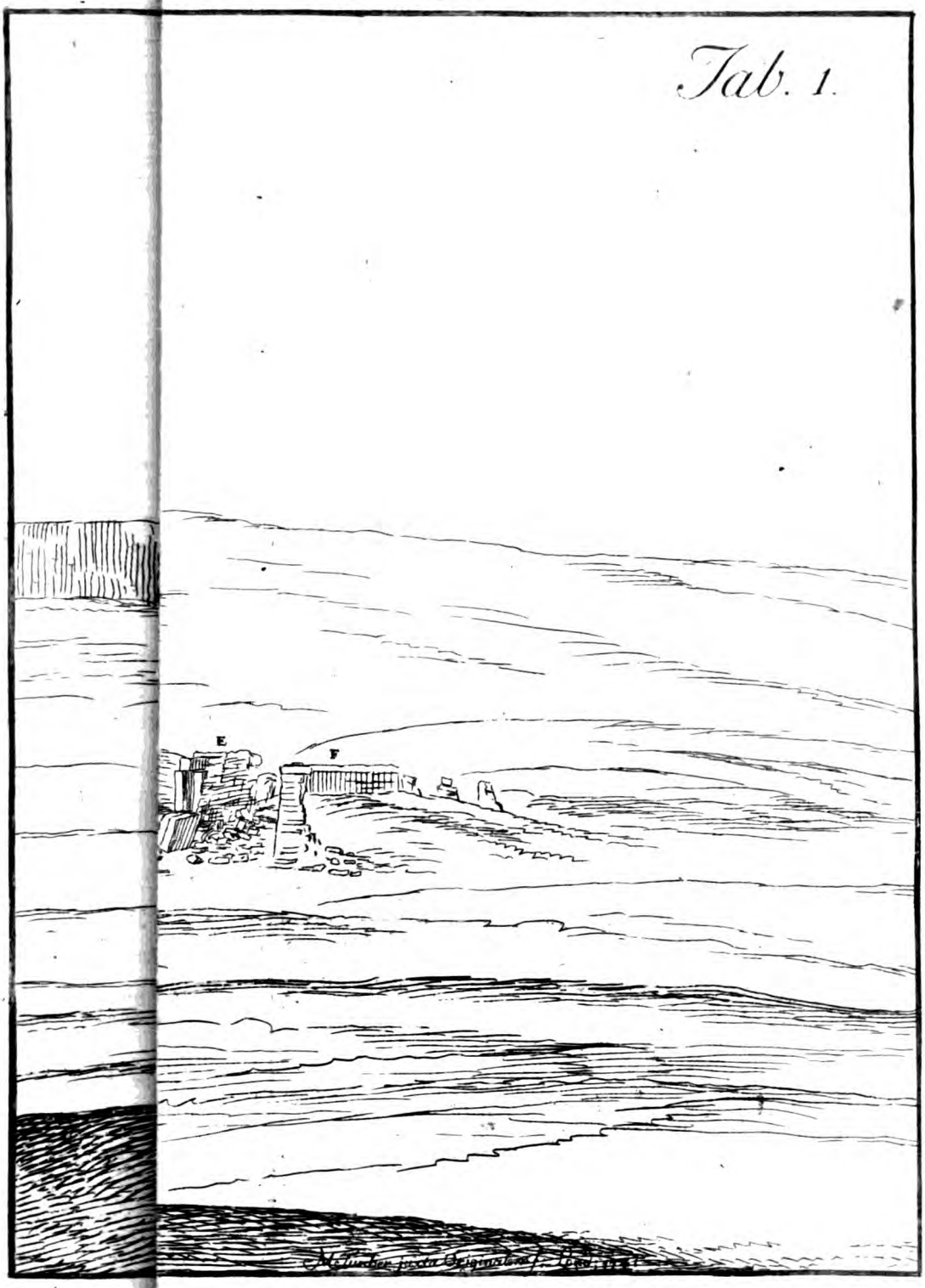
A T, H, lies the Coloſſus of granite marble, that is entire, but thrown down.

A T, G, lies the half of the great Coloſſus of black granite marble, thrown down and much defac'd, which I take for the remains of the Vocal Statue.

A T, I, is the Coloſſal Head, mentioned in the foregoing Plate.

F I N I S.

Tab. 1.



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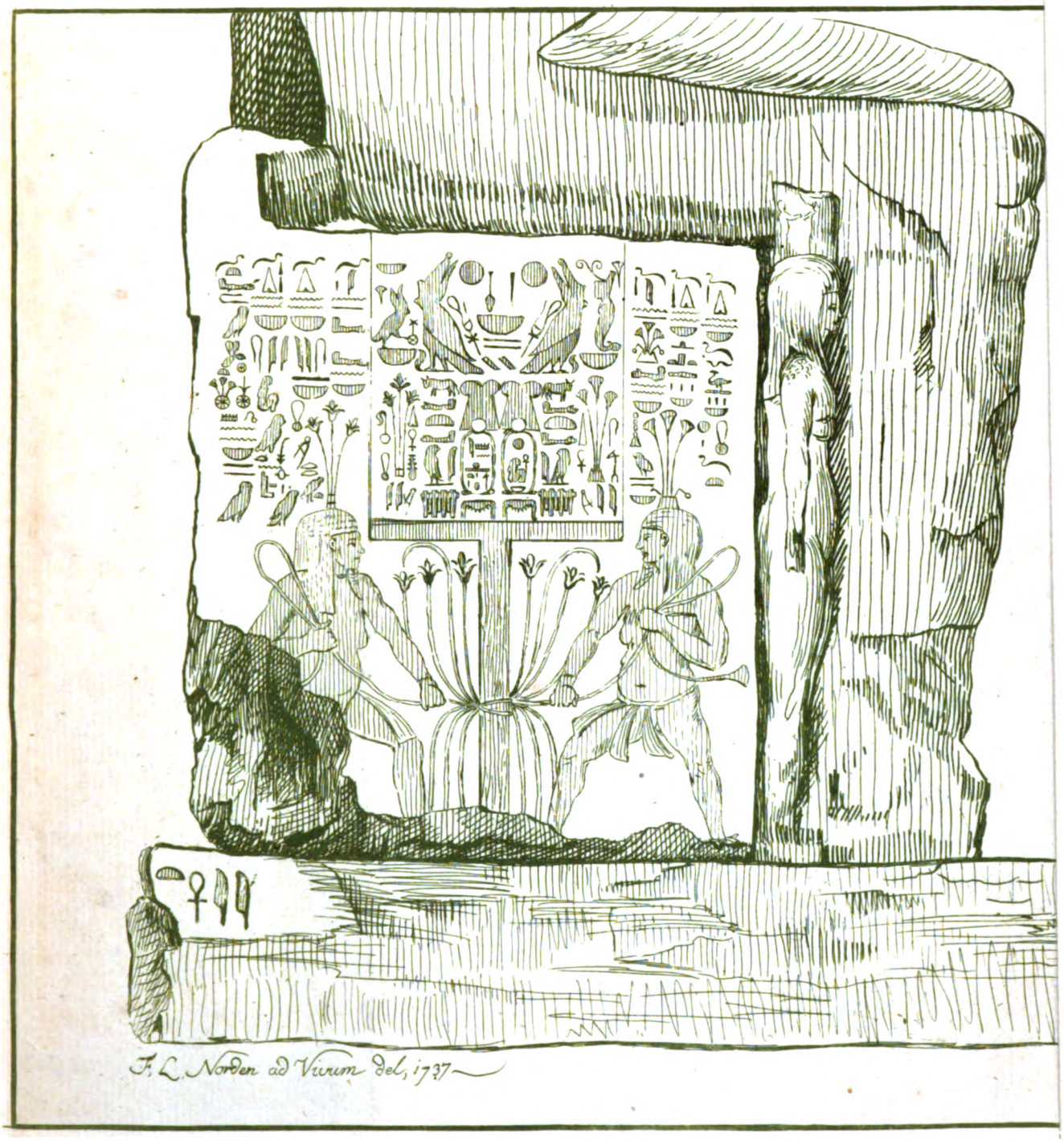

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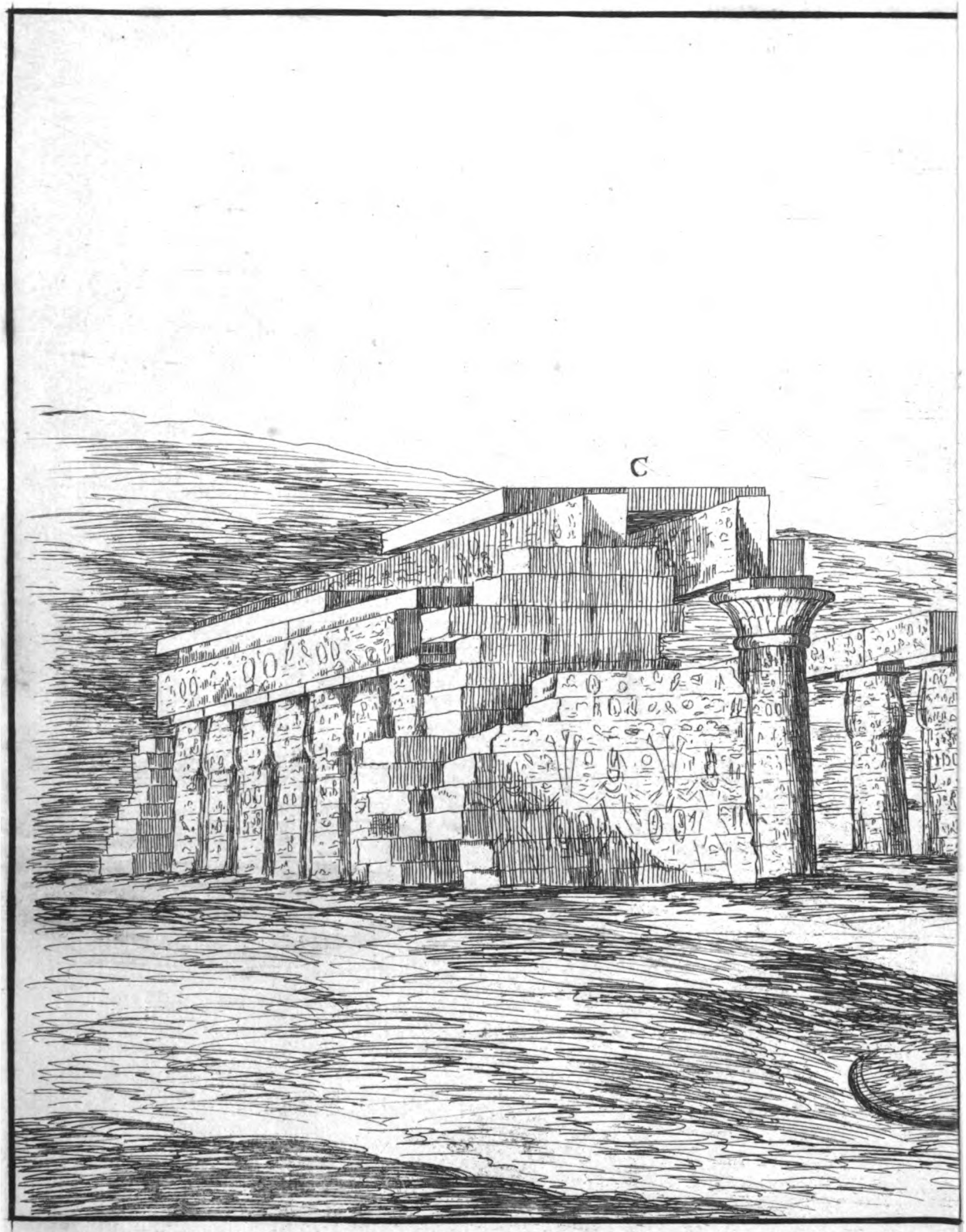

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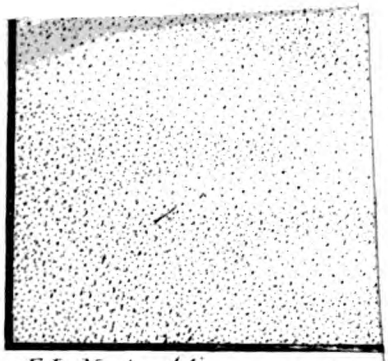

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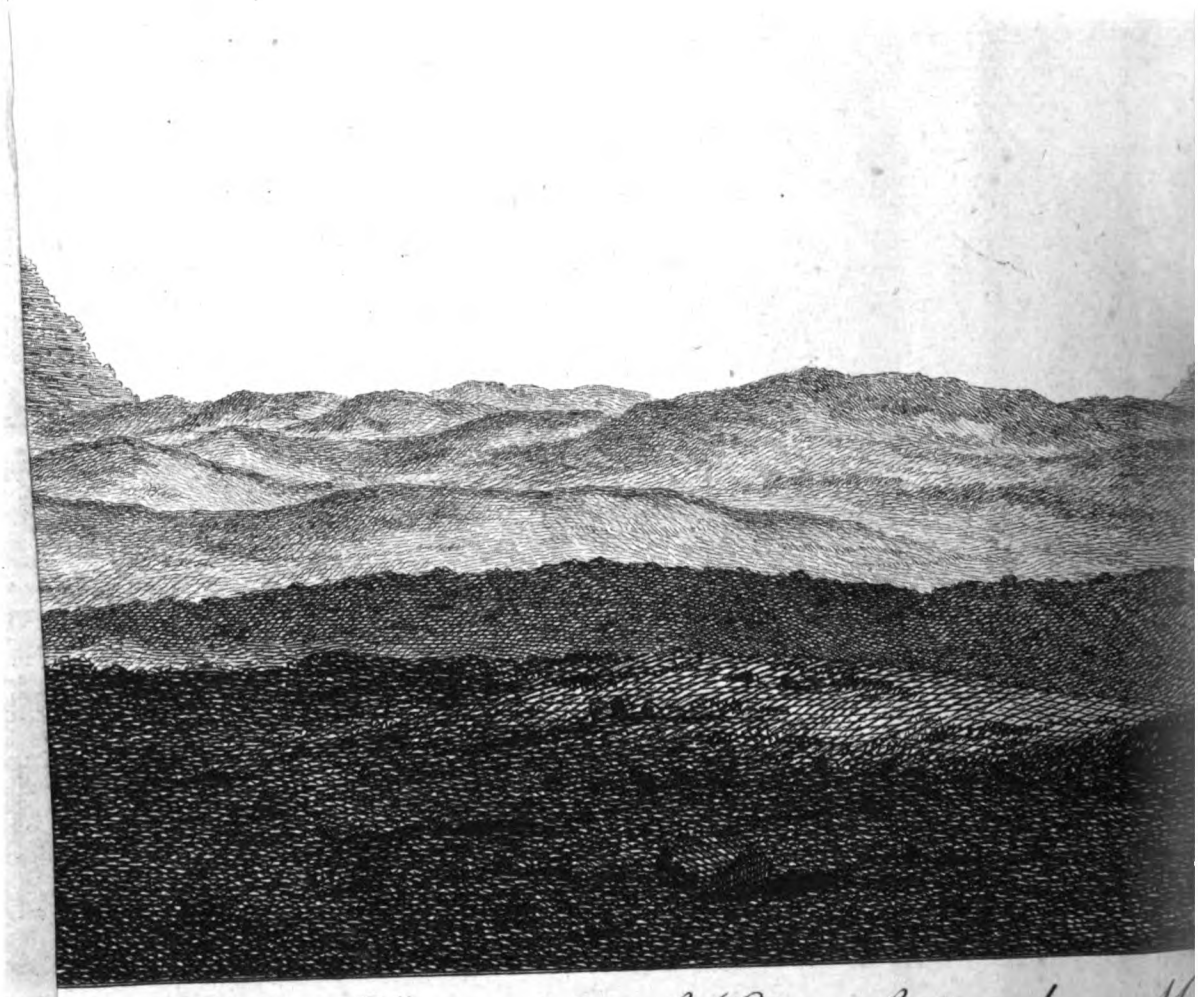

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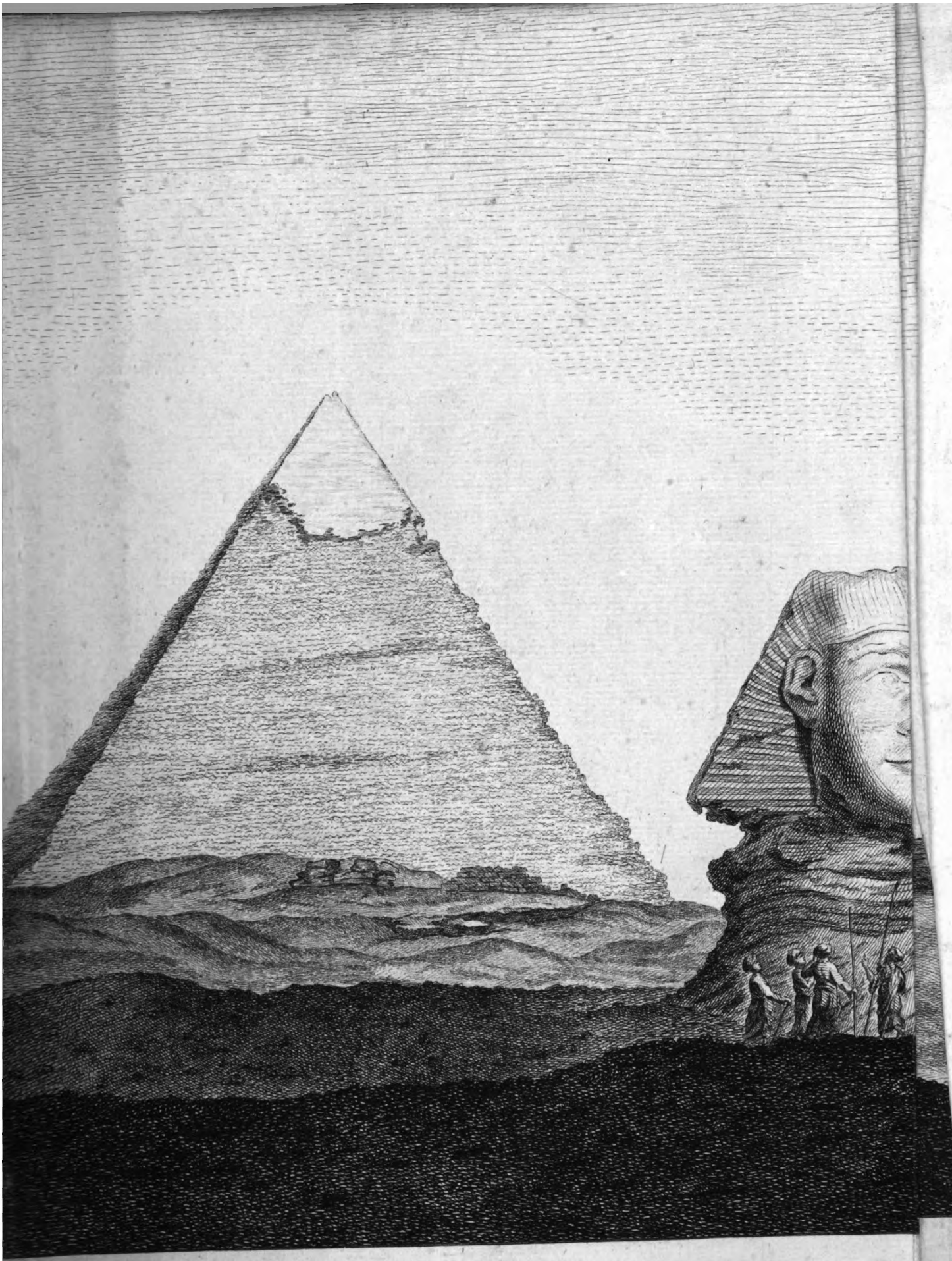

nphis.

quities of Egypt, undertaken & finished under his Lordships Direction & Patronage, a

Sketches of Antiquities from Egypt

No. 1. a mutilated Statue in Granite rudely cut in relief, about 6 feet in height. No. 2 & 3 two mortuary Jars 3 feet deep; these were dug up in front of the Camp about 4 miles to the east of Alexandria; a great number of Jars were found laying in layers two or three feet deep. No. 4 & 5. two sketches of an Egyptian Priest holding up the God Horus to the people, there are Hieroglyphicks on the back that are all perfect; this is thought to be a great curiosity.

No. 6. is a very curious stone on which there are three different Inscriptions; the first Hieroglyphic, the second Coptic, the bottom Greek; the last line proves what it has been, as it speaks of a Decree that should be inscribed on Granite in the three different Languages above mentioned, and there is a date which makes it 210. years before the Christian Aera; this stone was in the possession of Menou who had taken it from Rosetta and was very unwilling to part with it. when the learned have compared the different Inscriptions, it is thought they will be enabled to interpret the Hieroglyphicks.

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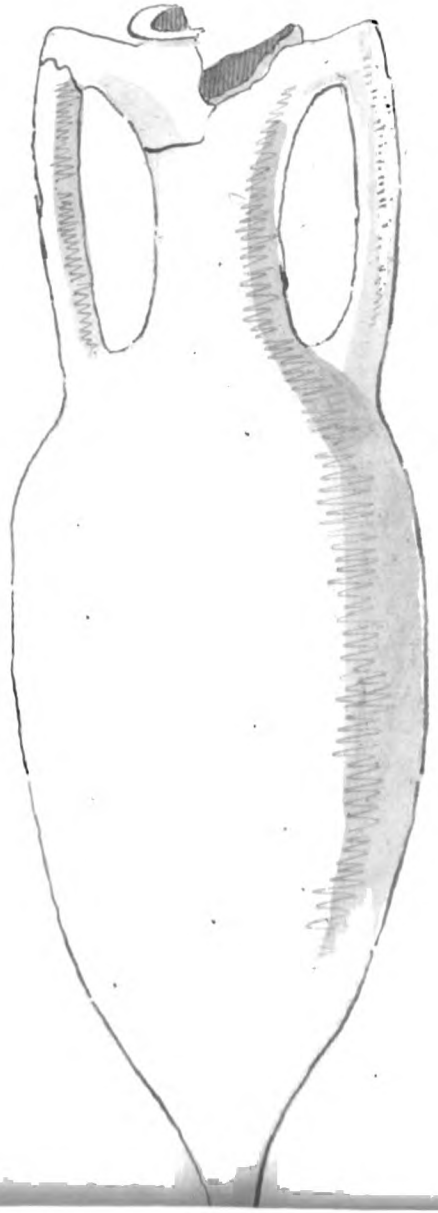
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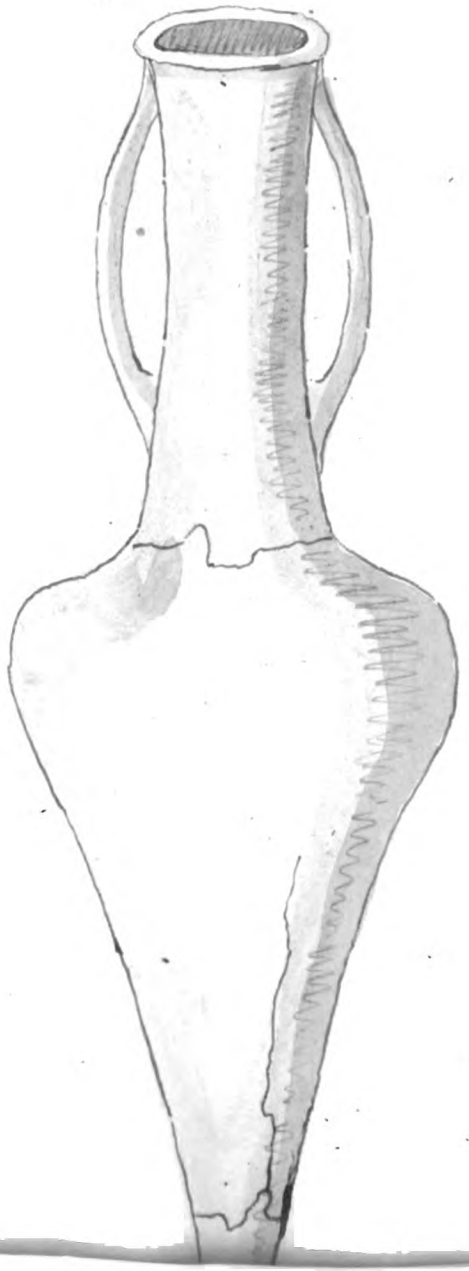
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For The St. JAMES'S CHRONICLE.

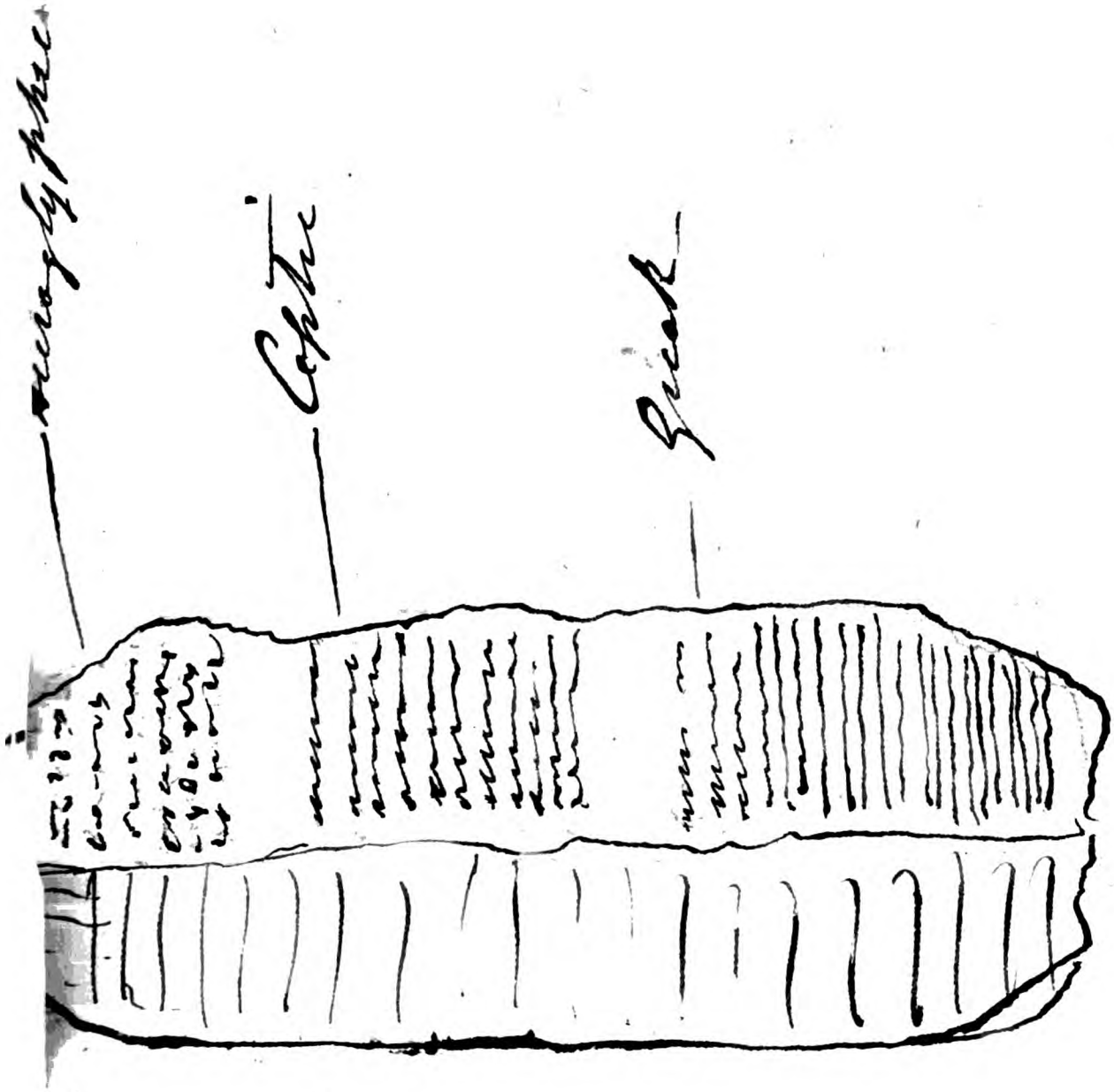
TRANSLATION *of the* INSCRIPTION *on the famous* STONE *taken from the French at the Surrender of Alexandria.*

AS your News-paper, Mr. BALDWIN, has long been deemed the best literary intelligencer of the times, I send you the following version of the greatest curiosity discovered in the present age, and the principal literary fruit of our glorious Egyptian warfare.

"In the reign of the youth, who received the Kingdom from his father, the master of kingdoms, the greatly glorious, the pillar of Egypt, the friend of the gods, the conqueror of enemies, the rectifier of human life, the lord of the thirty fraternities, like the great Vulcan, and lord of the upper and lower world, like the great Sun; child of the gods Philopators; in the reign of him to whom the Sun gave victory, and whom Vulcan approved, the living image of Jupiter, the immortal god Ptolemy Epiphanes, the priests, prophets, sacred scribes, and all the other sacerdotal orders, assembled from different parts of the kingdom, to the solemnity of his assumption of the kingdom at Memphis, in this fourth day of April, and in the temple of Memphis have passed this decree. Since the ever-living Ptolemy, most gracious son of the gods Philopators, King Ptolemy and Queen Arsinoe, has greatly benefited the temples, and those inhabiting them, and acted with truly divine bounty towards all his subjects, and bestowed on the temples revenues in silver and in corn, and made all his forces conduct themselves with true philanthropy; and has abolished entirely some taxes, and greatly lightened the burden of others, and has remitted to the sacerdotal families the duty of an annual navigation to Alexandria, and has put an end to the impress for seamen, and has paid the arrears of the fine linen due to the temples, whose vigorous preparations repelled the publick enemy, whose prompt exertions restrained the desolating ravages of the Nile, whose piety has adorned the temple of Apis with gold, silver, and precious stones, and restored other temples to their pristine splendour; for which the gods have given him health, strength, victory, and the kingdom to him and his descendants for ever. May good fortune accompany the following decree of the collected Priests of Egypt, greatly to magnify King Ptolemy, beloved by Vulcan, and to raise an image of this gracious Prince in the most conspicuous place of each temple, near to which the chief divinity of the temple shall be represented rewarding him with a suit of armour, such as is bestowed on conquerors. And that the image and portable temple of Ptolemy Epiphanes be carried in procession with that of the other divinities, and that Ptolemy be honoured at stated times with sacrifices, libations, and festivals, like the other gods."

This decree is written in sacred characters, and in the Egyptian vulgar character, and also in Greek, on a solid stone.

Upper Seymour-Street, Aug. 23.



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