

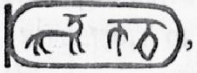


## CHAP. II.] NAMES AND DATES OF THE BUILDERS. 315

factory instances, therefore, of theory confirmed by fact, must it be classed, that when,—within a year after Sir Gardner Wilkinson's book had appeared elsewhere,—Colonel Howard Vyse broke his way through solid masonry into the 'chambers of construction' of the Great Pyramid, and thereby saw things never intended by the builders to be seen until the final ruin of the long-lasting monument,—he perceived rude paintings or red crayon markings on some of the blocks of stones; and having had them copied by various hands, and transmitted to the learned Mr. Samuel Birch of the British Museum,—that experienced Egyptologist pronounced them to be ancient quarry-marks; and found amongst them the oval of King Suphis, or Shofu, or Khufu; viz., .

Also, these two royal ovals,  , of which the first is certainly pronounced by authority to read Sen-suphis, Nu-suphis, Nu-Shofu, or Knemu-Khufu; and the last is, I believe, accepted as the same name written short, or Knemu or Nu only: equally therefore alluding to the same man; viz., a brother of Shofu, also a king, and a co-regent with him in the fourth dynasty.

These three ovals are the only ones that have been found in any part of the Great Pyramid; and that they really exist in the chambers of construction

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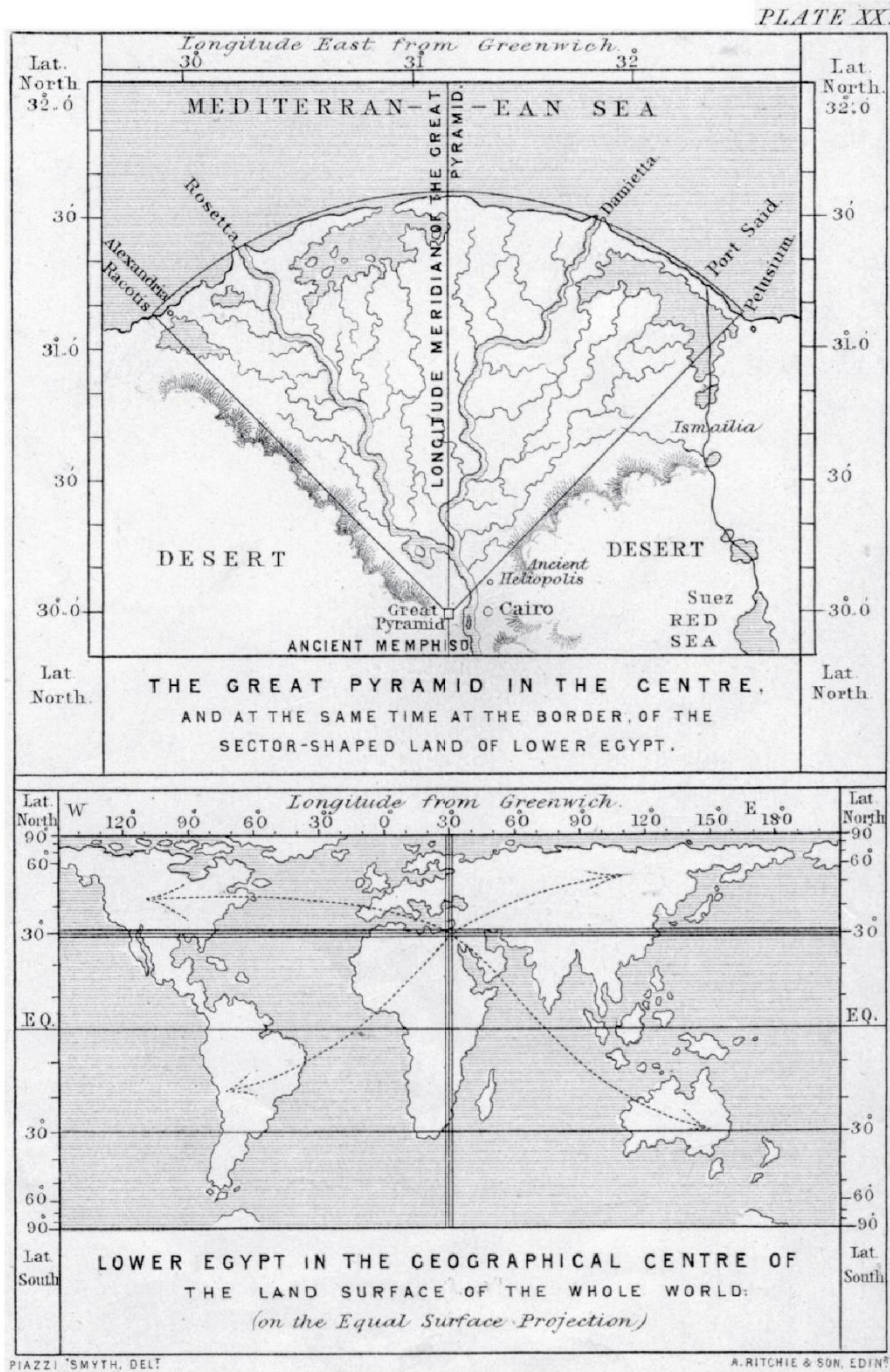


Plate XX from Our Inheritance in the Great Pyramid  
by Piazzi Smyth, London: Daldy, Isbister & Co., 1877.