ber, containing the portcullis, had been cut into, in order, as it would appear, to avoid the necessity of breaking down the slabs of granite forming the portcullis, which might reasonably have been supposed to have concealed a tomb; but, as this did not prove to be the case, the excavation had been turned to the right, so as to enter the eastern side of the chamber containing the portcullis, as shewn by the dotted line D (Plate II. Fig. 1). A passage, almost horizontal (as it had only four degrees of declination), proceeded from the portcullis to the south, and entered the northern side of the large apartment. Immediately above it, another passage, at first horizontal, and afterwards inclining upwards (see Plates I. and III.), returned towards the north, and ended where the masonry of the pyramid commenced. This passage had been worked by the chisel from the exterior or north, the other passages from the interior or south. It must, therefore, have been formed before the other passages and chambers, as the large apartment probably was also. At the end of it, in the masonry, at C (Plate I. Fig. 2), various excavations had been made in different directions into the superstructure in search of a chamber, to which it might have been imagined to conduct, for it had been filled up with solid masonry — fragments of which yet remain, and also part of the plaster upon the sides of it. The mouth of this passage in the large apartment[6] (see Plates I. and III.) was worn into grooves, apparently by

[6] This passage, like that discovered by M. Caviglia in the Second Pyramid, was probably formed for the sake of supplying air to the people employed in the subterraneous chambers; or it may have been originally intended for the regular entrance, and the plan may, for some reason or other, have been altered.

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