The sarcophagus did not bear any inscription or hieroglyphics. The lid had been fixed by two pins in the usual manner, and also by a dovetail, which was rounded; and a plate of metal seemed to have been applied so carefully underneath it, that in order to insert a lever for its removal, it had been found necessary to cut a groove across the rim of the sarcophagus. The lid was not found in the sepulchral chamber, but pieces of it were afterwards discovered.

At the bottom of the southern side of the passage, leading to the sepulchral chamber, a recess had been formed (something like that in the lower horizontal passage in the Second Pyramid), and on the opposite side a flight of seven steps opened into the southern end of a room, which were three feet below the level of the passage. (See Plate III., Fig. 4.) This room was rectangular, but not square with the sepulchral chamber, as it lay 25° east of north; a position evidently intended, together with the above-mentioned recess, to facilitate the removal of the sarcophagus between this and the sepulchral chamber. It contained four niches or compartments on the eastern side, and two on the northern; one of the latter, it is to be observed, had an inclined direction, apparently for the purpose of receiving some solid substance of considerable length. This room was half full of rubbish, and several Arabic characters had been scrawled on the ceiling. It was probably intended for funereal ceremonies like those at Abou Simbel, Thebes, &c.

When the large apartment was finally cleared out, the greater part of the lid of the sarcophagus was found (as I have already stated) near the entrance of the passage descending to the sepulchral chamber; and close to it

Generated through HathiTrust on 2025-08-19 08:26 GMT
https://hdl.handle.net/2027/njp.32101073396473 / Public Domain, Google-digitized
Digitized by Google
Original from PRINCETON UNIVERSITY