

discovered, but previous attempts in search of it were evident, as the rubbish had been removed from the centre of the base of the northern front, into heaps on either side. The smooth surface, and steepness of the building rendered an ascent to the summit impracticable without artificial assistance.

There had been a peribolus of stone masonry, and near the north-eastern angle a large tomb had been constructed on a knoll of rock.

About a mile to the northward were other ruins, apparently of tombs, which had been supposed by the French<sup>2</sup> to be the remains of Pyramids; but their oblong shape, and the nature of the materials (small crude bricks) of which they were composed, did not support the supposition.

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#### PYRAMID OF ILLAHOON.

HAVING finished the Pyramid at Meydoom, Mr. Perring proceeded to the southward, and in doing so his boat again grounded, and was obliged to be unladen before it could be hauled over a bank. On the 31st of October he met with the Gebalee, a powerful tribe of the Bedouins. The sheik was absent, but his son received him hospitably, offered a house, and sent down large trays, containing a roasted lamb, wheaten bread, stewed dates, and abundance of other provisions. Mr. Perring was informed that the Bedouins had agreed with the Pasha to remain tranquil, and to furnish a body of cavalry, upon consideration of an annual payment, and of permission to occupy productive ground at a very small yearly rent.

The tribe appeared to have availed itself largely of this privilege, and to have taken possession of a considerable quantity of ground, which afforded a refuge to the Fellahs, or stationary Arabs, who had escaped from the adjacent country, for fear of conscription, or on other accounts. These Fellahs, however, appeared to be better satisfied under the authority of the Bedouins, than under that of their native sheiks,—possibly from the effect of change. From twenty to thirty of them were em-

<sup>2</sup> "Description of Egypt," Vol. IV. Chap. xvi. Sect. 3.