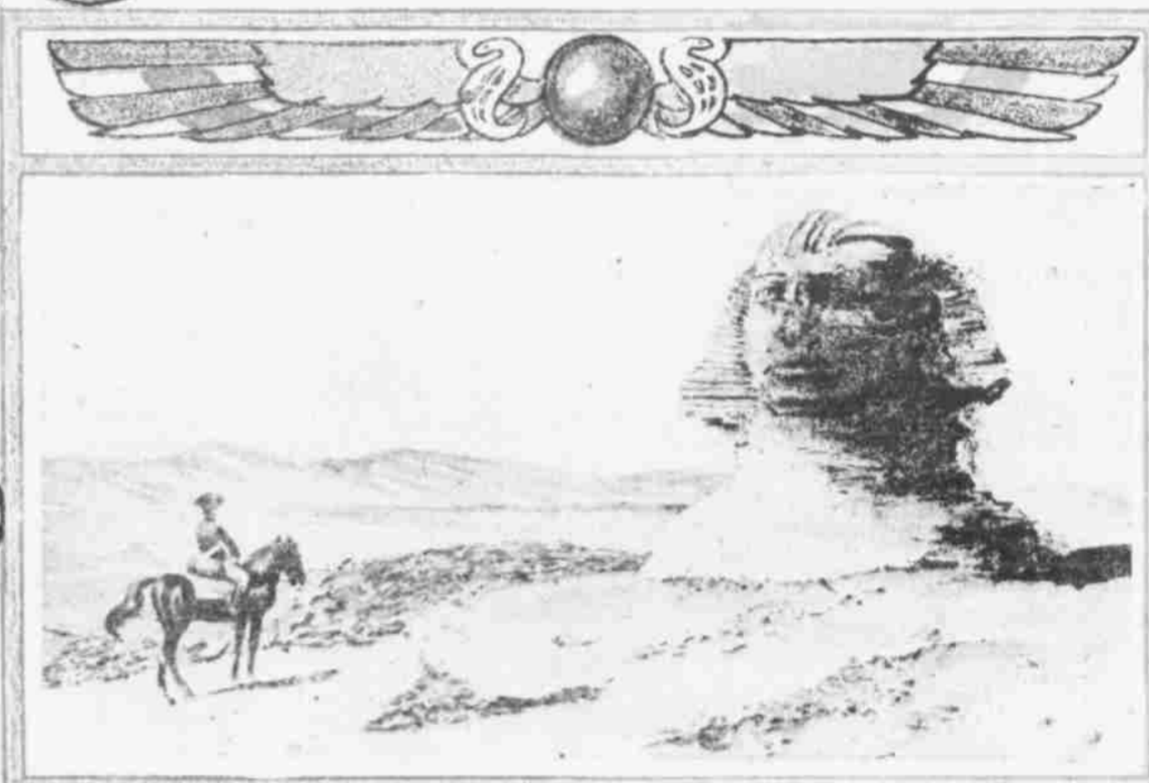


American Seeks to Solve the Secret of the Sphinx

Riddle that has puzzled the world for 7000 years may be answered



SPHINX IN 1800
Lionel's engraving



MONARCH BEFORE THE SPHINX



Khafra, possible builder of the Sphinx



Tablet of King Tahutmes

DOW CORRINGTON, an American, has undertaken to read the riddle of the Sphinx, and American money may, within the next year, solve the riddle of 7,000 years.

Corrington, whose explorations of the great pyramid of Cheops threw light upon the most ancient peoples of the world, has undertaken to raise money to dig the tons of sand from around the Sphinx of Gizeh, the greatest monument of the world; to explore the inner cavities of the monument, and see whether or not the mystery that has puzzled the world for ages can be solved.

Three times within the last century efforts have been made to excavate the sand and uncover the ancient monument, but each has been abandoned before completion, and the Sphinx never has been completely uncovered. Now Corrington, with \$25,000 of American money subscribed for the purpose, plans to dig away all the sand; to uncover the great Memphian highway that ran before the ancient tomb; to remove the great flight of steps that led from the highway up to the Sphinx; and, finally, to delve into the hidden chambers that are known to exist and there seek history—the history of an unknown world that was forgotten at least 4,000 years ago.

Mystery Has Puzzled for Ages.

The riddle of the Sphinx may yet be unraveled, and this riddle is deeper and more unknowable than the riddle that was propounded to Oedipus by the Sphinx of Thebes. All that is known about the Sphinx is that it has the head of a man, the body of a lion, that it is 66 feet high at least and 133 feet long, carved with infinite skill,

probably from the face of a sheer bluff. How old it is, why it was built, who built it, what it is, no one knows, and there is proof that it was as great a mystery 4,000 years ago as it is today.

At a recent meeting of the Egyptian Institute at Cairo Corrington announced his intention and secured sanction for his plans. He will excavate at least 200,000 cubic feet of sand, possibly more, and will begin his labors in the fall.

Possibly the Sphinx was built as the tomb of Khufu, or of Khafra, or as an image of Menes or Horus, the god kings. No one knows. A few clues to the secret have been found. One of these is a passageway dug into the lion back of the man-headed Sphinx, which appears to be a passageway to an underground tomb, where even now the mummy of the greatest of old Egypt's rulers may rest in green basalt.

Secret Unknown 3,000 Years Ago.

The last important discovery was made a short time ago, when Egyptologists uncovered a stela in front of the great figure and learned that there had been a Roman altar between the paws. This gave some clue as to the age of the Sphinx, as the stela showed that in 1423 B. C. as little was known about it and its origin as is now known.

The stela was erected by Pharaoh Tahutmes IV, son of Amenhotep II., and grandson of the great Queen Hatshepsut. Upon the stela Tahutmes wrote a short story, or a legend of one of his own adventures, which has been translated as follows:

"He once went afield, pleasing his countenance, on the desert of the Memphite nome, upon its borders north and

south, for shooting at a target with copper arrows. And he hunted the lions and the gazelles of the desert, riding in his chariot, his horses swifter than the wind, with two of his followers, and no man knew of them.

"Once came an hour of giving rest to his followers, then the Sphinx of Cheops, great and exalted, rested in this place, great of the sphinxes, most highly revered, for to him was given the temple of Memphis and of every town on both sides. Their hands adored his presence with great offerings for his Ka.

Heard the Voice of the Sphinx.

"One of these times it came to pass a journey was made by the king's son Tahutmes, journeying upon the time of noon. A rest he made in the shadow of this god, sleep fell upon him, dreaming in slumber in the moment when the sun was overhead. Found he the majesty of this noble god talking to him by his mouth, speaking like the talk of a father to his son, saying:

