

APPENDIX F

LIST OF INSCRIPTIONS¹

THE inscriptions found in the Mycerinus temples may be grouped in the following classes:

- (a) Inscriptions left by the builders in the course of construction of the temples.
 - i. Painted on the limestone blocks (see pp. 63, 76a, 78b, 79, and App. E).
 - ii. Painted inscriptions on the granite blocks (see pp. 82c, 83, and App. E).
- (b) Inscriptions on stone slabs or stelae which give royal records or decrees concerning the temples. Insc. Nos. 1-4, below.
- (c) Seal impressions on mud sealings made by royal officials in connection with the temple service, see pp. 19, 32.
- (d) Inscriptions on objects made by Mycerinus or Shepseskaf and deposited in the temples.
 - i. On statues and statuettes, see pp. 108-115 (Nos. 2, 9-12, 18-21, 39, 42, 43, 48).
 - ii. On pottery vessel, see p. 238 (j).
 - iii. On vessel inlaid with faience, see p. 236.
- (e) Inscriptions on older objects deposited in the temples.
 - i. On flint wands, see pp. 18, 36, 233-234.
 - ii. On stone vessels, see pp. 102-104, 179.
- (f) Inscriptions on objects found in the temples but not certainly belonging to the original deposits.
 - i. Seal cylinder of Chephren, see pp. 104c, 234.
 - ii. Model stone vessels of Prince Kay, see pp. 55, 199x.
 - iii. On private statuettes, see pp. 113-115 (Nos. 41-44, 46, 51).
 - iv. On private stelae.

STELAE OF SHEPSEKAF

No. 1. *The Decree of Shepseskaf*

The original dedication of the temple is contained in the inscription on the large stela of King Shepseskaf. This stela is preserved in eight fragments found in the débris of the portico of the pyramid temple (see pp. 13, 15, and 31, and Pl. 19b; No. 07-1-3 and 4). Seven of the fragments fit together to form the top and right side, while the eighth fragment is from the left side. The stone is about 22 cm. thick, and I estimate its width at 67 cm., its height at over 85 cm., exclusive of the unscribed lower edge. The stone is rather hard local nummulitic limestone of a brownish color.

Across the rounded top runs horizontally from right to left a cartouche: *nšwt-bity špšš-kš-f*.

Vertical line 1, with signs facing right: *hr špššy-ht rnpt m ht sp tpy ipt kš Cw[t]* "The Horus, Shepsesykhet, year after the first census, counting of the cattle, large and small, . . ."

Vertical line 2: *ir-n-f m mn [w-f n i] t-f*. At this point the line is interrupted by a cartouche which crosses the middle of the stone horizontally and interrupts four or more lines. Inside the cartouche is the title and I reconstruct as follows: *nšwt-bity [r^c-mn-kšw]*. "He made as his monument for his father, the king of Upper and Lower Egypt, [Menkauwra]". Below the interruption, line 2 continues with the words *wdn* (det., bread, etc.).

The space above the horizontal cartouche was taken by one of those forms so common on the O.K. decrees with horizontal and vertical lines combined. Immediately over the cartouche are two horizontal columns not separated by a line: *ir wdn* (det., bread, beer, cake). . . .

wšhw (?)

Thus in the year after the first census of his reign, Shepseskaf endowed the temple of his father, Mycerinus. If the first census fell in the second year, the year here referred to is the third year of the reign. I conclude that the temple was finished by Shepseskaf in his second or third year, probably in the third.

The eighth fragment from the left side bears parts of four vertical lines. Line X + 1 shows only the left ends of three signs, the upper of which is the corner of the sign for pyramid. Line X + 2: begins with the lower part of a cartouche, part of the name of the Third Pyramid: *[r^c-mn]-kšw ntry n rdy*

Line X + 3: . . . *n (?) -šn (?) hmw* (det., man + woman) *r*

Line X + 4: . . . *tw nht w^cbw-f ir (?) m*

The text is much too fragmentary to reconstruct but it is obviously dealing with the Mycerinus pyramid and with the priests of the funerary service.

No. 2. *The Stela at the Outer Entrance of MPT*

The bottom part of a stela of the same stone and general character as No. 1 was found in a heap of débris just outside the entrance to the Pyramid Temple, MPT (2). The upper part of the fragment was badly weathered and broken off above the weathering. The stone was 23 cm. thick and 73 cm. wide. The height as preserved was 108 cm., but at the bottom a space (43-49 cm. high) was unscribed and the longest line of inscription was only 30 cm. high. (See pp. 13, 31, Pl. 19d; No. 07-1-21.)

¹ See Pl. A following p. 281.

The fragment presents the ends of eight vertical lines of inscription with signs facing to the right.

Line 1: . . . *ir r gš nšwt ḏd mdw-f*. “. . . , made in the presence of the king who says.”

Line 2: . . . [*nšwt-bity r^c-mn-kšw*] *m r^c-mn-kšw-ntry*. “. . . [Mycerinus] in the pyramid, Mycerinus-is-divine.”

Line 3: . . . *w^cbw hr-f ḏt* (*ḏt* written under lines 3 and 4).

Line 4: . . . *š* (*det.*, *abstract*)-*f nb ḏt* (see line 3).

Line 5: . . . *r^c]-mn-kšw-ntry*.

Line 6: . . . *ksn*. Line 7: . . . *w*. Line 8: . . . *t*.

The text is sufficient to establish that we have a decree of some king concerning the pyramid of Mycerinus. The similarity to the stone and cutting of the Shepseskaf stela suggested that this fragment might be part of that stela. Even the lines are the same width. The text excludes, I think, that possibility. In any case, Stela No. 2 is earlier than the decree of Dyn. VI, and may be by Shepseskaf.

No. 3. *Decrees of Menera (?)*

In the portico, MPT (7), in the same débris as the Stela No. 1, we found forty-one fragments of thin limestone slabs inscribed with decrees (see p. 15a, Pl. 19 e-i Pl. A, 2-5). After considerable labour certain fragments were fitted together as shown on Pl. 19, but it was impossible to establish contacts between the larger fragments thus constructed. I concluded that the fragments came from at least two different stelae because of the different width of the margin below. These decrees were manifestly of the form of known decrees of Dyn. VI (see No. 4, below) (see weill, *Décrets Royaux*).

One fragment (Pl. 19 h) from the right-hand edge of one of the slabs bears in a frame the Horus-name *ḥ^cw* (Menera) of Dyn. VI. One at least of the stelae is to be dated to that reign. The other is probably of about the same time (perhaps Pepy I).

On the basis of appearance and margin, I assign Pl. 19, e, i, and g (Nos. 7 and 8, counted from left above) to decree No. i, that with a wide border (4 to 4.4 cm.) below, while I group Pl. 19 f and g (Nos. 6, 9-13) to decree No. ii, with narrow lower border (ca. 3 cm.). There remain some unassigned fragments and the accuracy of the grouping is of course open to question.

Decree No. i

The fragment Pl. 19 i (Pl. A, 3) of 14 pieces, measures 31 cm. high by 40 cm. wide, and comes from the right side of the slab next to, or very close to, the date. At the top are the determinatives of five vertical lines which represent a list of officials, to whom the decree is to apply. In the extreme lower right corner is the word *ḏt*, probably to be read vertically [*m šwt*] *ḏt*, cf. Borchardt, *ÄZ.*, 42, Pl. I. It is possible, I think, that we have here an exhortation, not a prohibition. The long list of prohibitions of the Dahshur decree is wanting, but the next line, a compound line, bears some resemblance to line 21 of that decree (see Borchardt, *ÄZ.*, 42, p. 10). Our decree, however, is dealing with a different matter, the pyramid or the pyramid temple, not the pyramid city, and I interpret our line as a command to assemble (or similar) a certain class of priests determined with man + woman (perhaps simply *rmt*) and another class determined with three men, in order to (*r*)

(a) “make the purification of your pyramid enceinte and your temple”

irt ḥ^cw nw imy-hr-k ḥt-ntr-k

(b) “that you may read the writing (rescript) to the craftsmen . . .

šd[ḫ]-k sš n ḥmwt . . .

The fragment Pl. 19 e (Pl. A, 2) consists of three pieces which join. This is from the lower left corner of the stela. The maximum measurements are 44 cm. high by 25 cm. wide. On the right is a space with horizontal lines giving a list of offerings each with the figure 1 at the end. The words: . . . *bšš 1*; . . . *mḏt 1*; and . . . *š wrt* are legible. At the bottom is the end of a horizontal line: . . . *t n-k*. Left of a dividing line follows a broad vertical column of small signs. On half the width above stands *d, rn(?) n*, suggesting something like “My Majesty set the name of”: *nš[wt-bity r^c-mn-kšw]* (*det.*, *king*) *hr bnbnt tn m kšt kšty hr ḏd . . . (?)n . . .* “The King of Upper and Lower Egypt on this cap-stone in the work of the sculptor and said (?) . . . ‘Let not’.” The negative may have been followed by a double vertical line. After the break, at the bottom, stands on the right *n(?)*-*š* and on the left *tp-ḥwy*. The last vertical line gives the end of the usual formula; *nšwt ḏš r gš ḥtm*. “The king himself was present at the sealing.”

These two pieces yield a height of over 44 cm., and a combined width of over 25 + 40 = 65 cm. These decrees of Dyn. VI are usually much wider than their height and I assume that at least one section of 20-30 cm. is missing between the two fragments (e and i). To this missing part I would assign the fragment (two pieces) Pl. 19 g, (Pl. A, 5 No. 7), because it also refers to *bnbnt tn*. Above on right several horizontal lines:

iš pw . . n

[*bn*] *bnt tn*

and on the left of the vertical, *m kšt* Below this a horizontal line crosses the fragment: . *i(ship) m(?)* . . . *r išbt* and there are other traces of signs along the lower broken edge.

Several other fragments on Pl. A, 5, as Nos. 8 and 10 may belong to decree No. i but they contain only isolated words.

Decree No. i deals with the pyramid of Mycerinus and in particular with the setting of a *bnbnt*, — the cap of a pyramid or of an obelisk. In mastabas of Dyn. VI at Giza, it was a common practice to set up *two* obelisks one on each side of the false door and/or one on each side of the doorway to the inner offering room. These are usually quite small, from 60–120 cm. in height. A pair of obelisks might have been set up in the inner sanctuary (Dyn. VI) of the MPT but we found no trace of them. From later times several cap-stones of granite are known, inscribed with the name of the king. These seem to have been set on pyramids. I think that the *bnbnt* referred to is the cap-stone of the pyramid itself which had never been set in place by Shepseskaf when he completed his father's pyramid and temple, or was replaced for some reason at the time of this decree.

Decree No. ii

The decree No. ii has a margin at the bottom of only 3 cm. and consists of the fragments, Pl. 19 f, and g, Nos. 12 and 13 (Pl. A, 4, 5). The largest of the fragments, Pl. 19 f is 25.5 cm. high and 22 cm. wide and appears to be from the left middle of the slab. The fragment (of four pieces) is divided by an incised vertical line down the middle. To the left are traces of a horizontal line, below which are the ends of four or five horizontal lines bounded by a vertical which reads: *r gš hr-šn*. Partially separated from the last-named vertical line comes another vertical line: . . . *nšwt-bity r^c-mn-kšw m r^c-mn-kšw-ntry*. To the left of the middle incised line is a broad blank space, the upper part of which is broken away. Then comes a narrow vertical line of inscription: . . . *hr (pyramid)-k dt my wnt im* . . . Two horizontal lines at bottom: *hnc šnwt* . . .

*mytt iryt m [dt (?)]
r nhh.*

This relates apparently to a restoration of the temple, MPT.

The fragment, Pl. 19, No. 13, is from the lower edge: to the right the ends of two horizontal lines read: . . . *šn* and . . . *r-š*. To the left stand three horizontal lines: *šmr mr ht* . . . *r irt rwqdw [t(det., stone)] tp m hr* . . . "In order to make the . . . before the pyramid-enceinte (?)".

The other fragments contain only isolated words and signs.

No. 4. Decree of Pepy II

(Pl. A, 1.)

The decree of Pepy II was found high up in the débris of the anteroom of the valley temple (see p. 38, March 24). I concluded that it had been on the wall of the later portal structure and had been brought down to the level at which it lay by the action of sebbâkheen.

The inscription was very badly preserved as the stone was weathered. The stone measured 30 cm. high by 52 cm. long (and 8 cm. thick) while the rectangle containing the inscription measured 25 cm. high by 42 cm. long. In a broad line on the right stands: *hr ntry-h^cw hšt sp 50 (?) ibd 3 šht hrw 6 (?)*, that is the sixth (?) day of the third month of the overflow season of the 50th (?) year of Pepy II. On a horizontal line above stands the usual formula: *wđ nšwt* "The King commands." The name and title of the official or officials named is illegible except for the name of the pyramid (*r^c-mn-kšw-ntry*) to which he or they were attached. The tops of the first three vertical lines of the text give the titles of three men:

- (3) "The hereditary prince, king's son, and *imy-is*, Akhet-em-hem(?)"
- (4) "The nomarch, sole companion, *imš-c*, Pepy-Yema (*imš*)"
- (5) "The nomarch, sole companion, overseer of the Pharaoh's garden, Khnum-hetep."

Under these a horizontal line gives the name and titles of a fourth person:

- (6) "The lector-priest, scribe . . . *išfi* (?).

Below this a large space shows now only isolated signs, but at the bottom quite clear stands: "In the pyramid city of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt Mycerinus-is-divine."

Then follow seven vertical lines (Nos. 6–12). Line 6 begins with an illegible word, *rmš nb r-š wp-hr išfi pn hft wdt [-nhmi] dt*. "[No] people shall [enter ?] it except this Yeshfi according to that which [My Majesty] has commanded, forever (?)"

Line 7: *dy-t pr rmš nb* Not very certain.

Line 8: evidently continues line 7: *n nfr-kš-r^c-mn-^cnh mr-n-r^c-h^c-nfr* "of the pyramid of Pepy I and the pyramid of Menera."

. *r it iht nb m nwt (det., pyramid) tn iw wđ hmi hwt nt nwt tn*

" . . . in order to take anything from this pyramid city (for) My Majesty commands the protection of this pyramid city."

Line 9: very difficult to see anything; perhaps below: *n mrwt w^cb šd* . . . "for the purpose of purifying and holding services . . ."

Line 10: continues line 9, giving other purposes of entry and adds: "[for the King of Upper and Lower Egypt Men]-kauw-[ra] forever."

Line 11: *m wd hr nšwt-bity [Mn-kšw-r^c] nḥ dt r nḥh.* "As is commanded for Mycerinus living forever and ever."

Line 12: *nšwt dš r gš htm* "The king himself was present at the sealing."

No. 5. *Fragments of Inscribed Alabaster*

In the débris of MVT two fragments of inscribed alabaster were found. One small irregular fragment, measuring 2×5.3 cm., which had been broken from the face of a larger monument (altar or stela), was found in the sand in a thieves' hole in the northern wall of the court (see p. 37, Jan. 1-7). It bore incised in two vertical columns the names "Min-nakht" and "Ra-wer." Below the left-hand column is the sign š (?). (Pl. A, 7.)

The other fragment, measuring 9.5×5 cm., was also broken from the face of a larger monument, perhaps the same as the first-named fragment. It was found in the upper part of the débris of decay in the last series of rooms of the southern side of the court (room 323) in association with fragments of statues of Mycerinus (later period of plundering for stone) (see p. 38, Feb. 18-23 and Pl. 46 g). Down the middle of the fragment runs a raised band inscribed . . . *wrw ḥb* On each side facing the raised band stood a figure of a man in relief with a plain staff in the far hand and a \dagger wand in the near hand, but only the staves and wands are in evidence. On the wand stands a horizontal line of incised inscriptions: — *šm r^c-wr.*

Probably both fragments are from the tomb of Ra-wer excavated by Selim Effendi Hasan north of the MVT.

No. 6. *Limestone Lintel*

Two fragments of yellowish limestone were parts of a lintel from a door or a false-door, and bore one of the ordinary *dy nšwt ḥtp* formulas used at Giza in Dyn. IV-VIII (see Pl. 64 d, e; Pl. A, 8). I connect this lintel with the square burial pit in the southern wall of the vestibule room (III-377). The inscription is in relief and the name is \dagger

These two fragments were in the same disturbed débris as the decree (No. 4, above) of Pepy II but lower down (about 30 cm. above floor) in the doorway from (III-377) to the court. It is possible that the lintel belonged to a c.b. mastaba of Dyn. V which was destroyed in the course of the restoration of Pepy II (?). The finding of the stone is recorded in the diary under date of March 26, 1910.

The inscription reads: "(1) May the king give an offering, Anubis foremost of the Hall of the Gods, May [he] be buried in the westland in a good old age, honored [before the great god]. (2) Funerary offerings for him at the beginning of the year, the Thoth-festival, the first of the year, the *włg*-festival, and every day, the king's clansman, Yerruw".

No. 7. *Inscription of the Cylinder Seal of Silver*

The cylinder is described in p. 234 except for line 6, which reads: "Scribe of the archives (which are called) *irt-nd* (?) *-ḥdt-Ḥ^cfr^c* (see Pl. A, 9). The golden Horus-name in line 2 is: *wšr-šḥm Ḥ^cfr^c*.



