

7. Walls. Black mud-brick. Size of bricks, 15 in. \times 7 \times 5.

Roof. Destroyed.

Floor. Not seen.

CHAPTER IV.

TOMB OF KA-EM-HEST.

8. The tomb of Ka-em-hest (PLS. III, XXXIII) was opened by Mariette, who has, however, left no record of it. It lies a little north of west from the tomb of Ptahhetep I, and we cleared merely the one small sculptured chamber. There may be more chambers which we left untouched, but Reïs Rubi, Reïs Khalifa, and my own Reïs, considered I was wasting my time if unsculptured chambers were excavated, and these were therefore left severely alone.

The false doors have that beauty of proportion which is characteristic of the IVth Dynasty. They cover the whole of the west wall, and have a slight batter of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in 36. The design is simply an arrangement of straight lines, vertical and horizontal, with nine small panels at the top containing the two lotus-blossoms tied together (PL. III, 2), a decoration commonly used in the IIIrd and IVth Dynasties. There is no inscription whatever in the inner chamber, but on the jamb south of the doorway are two vertical lines of exquisitely-worked hieroglyphs, giving the name and titles of Ka-em-hest. The hieroglyphs are remarkable for the accuracy and vigour of the drawing, and for the delicacy of workmanship, which far exceeds anything I saw at Saqqara, and is only equalled by the work on the stele of Seker-kha-bau.

The tomb appears to be unfinished, for on the south wall (PL. XXXIII elevation) is a long, narrow slit, evidently intended to be the opening to the *serdab*. This still has the original outline marked in red paint, and the slit itself has been only just begun, being cut out roughly to the depth of nearly five inches. The north and south walls are each made of a single block. The false doors and the inscription show traces of plaster, and the outer walls leading to the doorway were thickly covered with the characteristic pinkish plaster of the Saqqara tombs. Unfortunately I had not then realized that plaster might hide inscriptions, and though I scraped the walls

here and there, I made no systematic investigation; but as the plaster lay perfectly smooth without hollows or irregularities, I think there could have been nothing under it.

The doorway has a round drum, not inscribed. In the roof of the doorway, cut through the lintel stone, are two rectangular holes, for which I can find no reason. They measure $15\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 12, and $15\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 13, and are at almost equal distances from the ends of the stone and from each other.

The stone of which the tomb is built is very fine white limestone. The masonry is not particularly good, as the joints do not fit accurately, and the spaces are filled with a pinkish cement.

9. Walls. West. Two blocks. False door. Traces of plaster.

South. Single block. Unfinished opening to *serdab*, $19\frac{3}{4}$ in. \times $1\frac{3}{4}$, depth, $4\frac{3}{4}$.

East. Two blocks on each side of doorway, smaller blocks above.

North. Single block.

Roof. Destroyed.

Floor. Paved. The floor of doorway is 10 in. higher than the chamber.

A small, roughly-cut libation tank of limestone was found in this tomb. Size 20 in. \times 15 \times $5\frac{1}{2}$; the inner measurements were $13\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times $8\frac{3}{4}$ \times $3\frac{1}{2}$.

CHAPTER V.

DOUBLE TOMB OF PTAHHETEP I AND PTAHHETEP-DESHER.

10. The double tomb-chapel of Ptahhetep and Ptahhetep-deshher (MAR., *Mast.* 6 and 7) is in the North cemetery, and remains partially open. Mariette places it in the IVth Dynasty, but from the inscriptions Prof. Sethe dates it to the Vth Dynasty. The later dating agrees also with the style of the sculpture, which is more like that of the Vth Dynasty than of the IVth. It is built against the outer wall of a mastaba, which has a batter of 1 in 7. Prof. Petrie, who saw it, thinks that the mastaba, and the false door which stands against it, belonged to the father, and the chapels opening north and south from the main entrance were built by the two sons. Mariette concludes that the