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AUTHOR A. A. MacRae

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for

1 are thought to be copies of writings originally 2 produced several centuries earlier. The first of them tells how at the time of the 4th dynasty a man predicted the coming period of anarchy and the rise of a great pharaoh who would stabilize 6 conditions. Most scholars think that it actually originated during the 12th dynasty, as a story in praise of its first king. The other g describes the terrible conditions in the land 10 during the period of chaos before the Middle Kingdom and blames the negligence of the rulers. 12 It has been said that this was similar to the 13 denunciation by an Israelite prophet of a wicked 14 king.

In the search for an origin for the Heb. prophet, movement both of these documents have been said to show the existence of something similar in Egypt. Yet even if the alleged similarity were to be accepted to its fullest extent, it would be in reality a very slight basis on which to construct a theory of anything having existed in Egypt at all comparable to the longcontinuing prophetic movement in Israel.

H. Ecstasy and the Prophet. It is often asserted by naturalistic-minded interpreters that

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