

rectly or had not those which could be mixed. Sometimes one feels almost pained at the trouble in which the artist must have found himself when wishing to allot the colors. Thus, a woman has a yellow skin, green eyebrows and hair and red eyes, as the artist had no black, brown or white; nor in some instances even blue paint to dispose of. With the exception of a slave, who is plainly represented as a negro, in the remaining figures and persons there is nothing in the slightest degree of negro feature. There are at Eleithias many other characters beautifully illustrated, but the one which has been described, in part, above, is the most interesting from an artistic point of view.

In other spacious halls there I wandered upon vast heaps of once embalmed but now disturbed and broken bones of numerous sacred crocodiles, jackals, ibis, civet-cats, shrews, etc., long since plundered and abandoned to hords of noisy, flitting-bats, whose excrements exhale a smell like India-rubber, and whose wings, while flying about in these silent chambers, invariably extinguish the traveler's lighted candle.

To describe Esneh and Hermontis would, when compared with other noted places along the Nile, uselessly lengthen this article. I will therefore pass on to Thebes, Karnak and Louqor, whose ruins cover twenty-seven square miles. I am, however, unable adequately to picture their splendor. The following paragraph from the works of Derron, friend and companion of Napoleon Bonaparte, is sufficiently vivid:

"At 9 o'clock, in making a sharp turn around a projecting point, we discovered all at once the site of ancient Thebes in its whole extent. This celebrated city, which Homer has characterized with the single expression of the 'Hundred-gated'—a boasting (?) poetical phrase which has been repeated with so much confidence for so many centuries—this illustrious city, described in a few pages dictated to Herodotus by Egyptian priests that have since been copied by every historian, celebrated by the number of its kings, whose wisdom raised them to the rank of gods, by laws that have been revered without being promulgated, by science involved in pompous (?) enigmatical inscriptions, the first monuments of ancient learning, which are still spared by the hand of time; this abandoned sanctuary, surrounded with barbarism, and again restored to the desert from which it had been drawn forth, enveloped in the veil of mystery and the obscurity of ages, whereby even its own colossal monuments are magnified to the imagination, still impressed the mind with such gigantic phantoms that the whole army, suddenly and with one accord, stood in amazement at the sight of its scattered ruins, and clapped their hands with delight, as if the end and object of their glorious toils, and the complete conquest of Egypt were accomplished and secured by taking possession of the splendid remains of this ancient metropolis. (Travels in upper and lower Egypt, Vol. I, p. 3.)"

But lest any reader of the NEWS should suppose that the greatest beauty of Louqor, Karnak, Medinetabout and Gornoo, the four vil-

lages which now embrace the site of Thebes lies especially in the description which a lively Frenchman makes of it, I will add the sober words of an English woman (Mrs. C. Lushington):

"While I was leisurely traveling along, thinking only of our arrival at Luxor (Longsor), one of our party who had preceded us, called to me from a rising ground to turn to the left, and having gone a few yards off the road I beheld unexpectedly the Temple of Karnak. It was long after I reached my tent before I recovered from the bewilderment into which the view of these stupendous ruins had thrown me. No one who has not seen them can understand the awe and admiration they excite even in unscientific beholders. When I compare the descriptions of Denou and Hamilton I find them essentially correct, yet without giving me any adequate idea of the glorious reality. They fail in describing what has never been, and I think never can be described. No words can impart a perception of a profusion of pillars, standing, prostrate, inclined against each other, broken and whole. Stones of gigantic size propped up by pillars, and pillars again resting upon stones which appear ready to crush the gazer under their sudden fall; yet, on a second view, he is convinced that nothing but an earthquake could move them; all these pillars, covered with sculpture perhaps three thousand year old, though fresh as if finished but yesterday, not of grotesque and hideous objects, such as we are accustomed to associate with ideas of Egyptian mythology, but many of the figures of gods, warriors and horses, much larger than life, yet exhibiting surpassing beauty and grace."

Tentyra, or Deudera, is farther down the river. It is generally admitted that its monuments are not so ancient as those of other parts of Egypt. To this, however, vast and telling exceptions have been taken. To a reader who has not seen an Egyptian temple it might be easiest to state that it is similar to any other; yet some erudite travelers have discovered in the carved figures a close resemblance to those seen in India, and it is at this very temple of Tentyra that the Sepoys (in British service) prostrated themselves before the Egyptian deities, adoring them in their accustomed way, thinking that what was before them was their own gods; in fact, they were indignant that the natives should have thus neglected their sacred shrine. This circumstance tends to strengthen the idea that in many things, as well as in theology, there is a strong affinity between the ancient Egyptians and the modern Hindoos.

Farther along are other things hardly worth describing alongside of an account of the former.

The weather is extremely hot here now. C. U. L.

THEBES, (Longsor) Egypt, March 2, 1890.

BERLIN, April 28.—The Emperor announces that he will himself take command of the Berlin garrison on May Day and ride at the head of the first body of troops it may be necessary to send to quell any tumultuous demonstration in the streets.

## CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

The attractive volume on the Stuart dynasty, just published by Mr. Percy Thornton, proves once again and in the most agreeable manner the undying interest which the Scottish kings still possess for many of the British people. Though more than two centuries have passed since James II. was driven from the throne by the great majority of his subjects, yet women still sing of "Bonnie prince Charlie," and much of the romance of British history seems centered in the adventures of that unfortunate family. Few people in the wide world have ever had lavished upon them a tenth part of the love and self sacrifice so freely bestowed on the heirs of the hapless queen who died at Fotheringay. As the late Benjamin Disraeli (Lord Beaconsfield) once said, "Men are still falling in love with Mary Queen of Scots." Not an incident of her career but has given rise to hot controversy, and even historians yet range themselves on sides when her name is mentioned. The latest contributor to Stuart history is no exception. Mr. Thornton makes a heroine of Mary, although he admits that the Queen's relations to one of the ruffians who murdered Darnley were more than suspicious.

Now that Mr. Stanley has gone to Brussels, where the anti-slavery conference is still holding its session, we may expect to hear of some signs of life. Mr. Stanley will no doubt give the conference the benefit of his vast experience, and perhaps his words may bring about decisive action in behalf of the black man. At the same time that the official representatives of the European Powers are engaged in devising means to prevent the African from being stolen out of Africa, those Powers are themselves actively occupied in stealing Africa from the African. If the methods of the slave-dealers are deserving of our abhorrence, it is to be feared that the methods of Europeans in acquiring and extending their "sphere of influence" are not always above criticism, or of a nature to inspire the respect and confidence of the natives.

The diplomats of Europe are just now asking themselves, "Is there going to be an African question, as well as an Eastern question, that may bring to the front the national jealousies and conflicting interests of the nations, and lead to a general European war?"

The story of Stanley's march through the jungles of Central Africa, to rescue Emin Pasha from his perilous position, is well known to most readers. But how Emin came to be in that "perilous position" is not so well understood. Perhaps it may be well to refresh the memories of younger readers by a few well known facts.

When the heroic General Gordon took command in Egypt, one of the first objects he attended to was to guard the southern frontier of Egypt and open up communication along the Nile to the shores of the great lakes which are virtually its source,