



SITE OF ANCIENT BABYLON.

Our frontispiece is a restoration of the stately palace of Sargon at Nineveh, with its colossal eagle-headed figures and human-headed winged bulls. The bas-reliefs from figures on pages 107 to 109 give a vivid picture of the ancient mode of warfare. The colossal size of the conquerors as compared with the defenders is but another way of showing their superiority. The shield-bearer accompanying the king illustrates allusions in Scripture. We note also the catapults for throwing huge stones, and the sappers and miners undermining the wall.

The figure on page 108 shows some of the battering-rams and ballistas drawn up before the towered city wall and the driving off of the captives and flocks of sheep and goats. In figure, on page 109, a cruel aspect of Oriental warfare is illustrated, namely blinding the eyes of the captives.

On page 187 of this number we give an account of some very important recent Oriental "finds."

The East! What thrilling and manifold associations the very name suggests! As the cradle of the human race, the nursery of the infant arts and sciences, of philosophy and literature; as the

scene of Bible story and the theatre of the sublimest events in the history of the world; as the land of dim tradition and of hallowed legend; and as the grave of dead and buried nations, it is invested with intensest interest to every mind. Who has not fed his youth with dreams

"Of Ormuz and of Inde,  
Or where the gorgeous East with richest  
hand  
Showers on her kings barbaric, pearl and  
gold,"

and in fancy glided on the bosom of the Tigris or the Nile, and paced the bazars of Bagdad or Samarcand, and heard the plash of fountains and the notes of the bulbul in the gardens of Damascus or Shiraz? Who has not visited in visions of the night or midday reveries, this realm of old renown—the "land of all men's past,"—and beheld its elephants and ivory