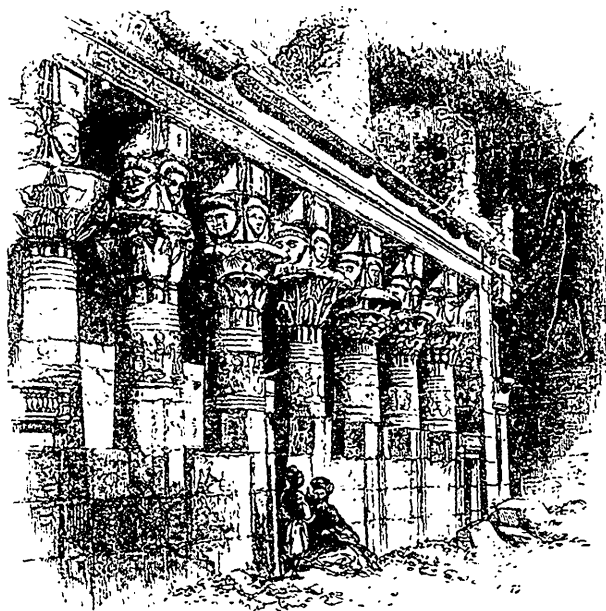


power were realized on earth, ever pictured to himself a scene of wilder grandeur, or more perfect loveliness."

The following lines suggest some of its sacred associations :

The footsteps of an elder race are here,
And memories of an heroic time,
And shadows of the old mysterious faith ;
So that the Isle seems haunted, and strange sounds
Float on the wind through all its ruined depths.
" By him who sleeps in Phike ! " Such the oath
Which bound the Egyptian's soul as with a chain
Imperishable. " Ay, by Amun-ra,—
The great Osiris—who is slumbering here. "



INTERIOR OF GREAT COURT, PHILÆ.

Lull'd by the music of the flowing Nile ;
Ages have gone, and creeds, and dynasties,
And a new order reigns o'er all the earth ;
Yet still the Mighty Presence keeps the Isle--
Awful, serene and grandly tranquil He,
With Isis watching, restless in her love !

The approach to the island is one of extreme picturesqueness. Giant black basalt and syenite rocks, worn by the winds and waves of thousands of years, rise on either side, many of them covered with hieroglyphic inscriptions of the many conquerors and potentates who have passed this gateway of the land of Nile.