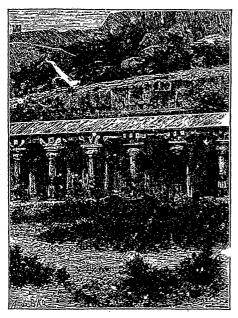
SEPTEMBER, 1886.

OUR INDIAN EMPIRE.

II.



MEAIL BOMBAY.

Entrance to Subterranean Temples at Mahavalipur.

THE only fine art in which the Hindus surpass is that of architecture,* and even in this the finest examples are the Saracenic architecture of the intruding Mahommedan conquerors and the architecture modified by Saracenic influence. The purely native temples, while impressive from their size and massiveness and elaborate sculpture, are often grotesque and tasteless, according to our Western standards. They gen-

erally assume a pyramidal form and are completely covered with sculptured designs, illustrating scenes and characters from

*To this should, perhaps, be added that of gold and silver-working and jewellery-making. Some of their filigree work and other kinds of jewellery are exquisite.

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