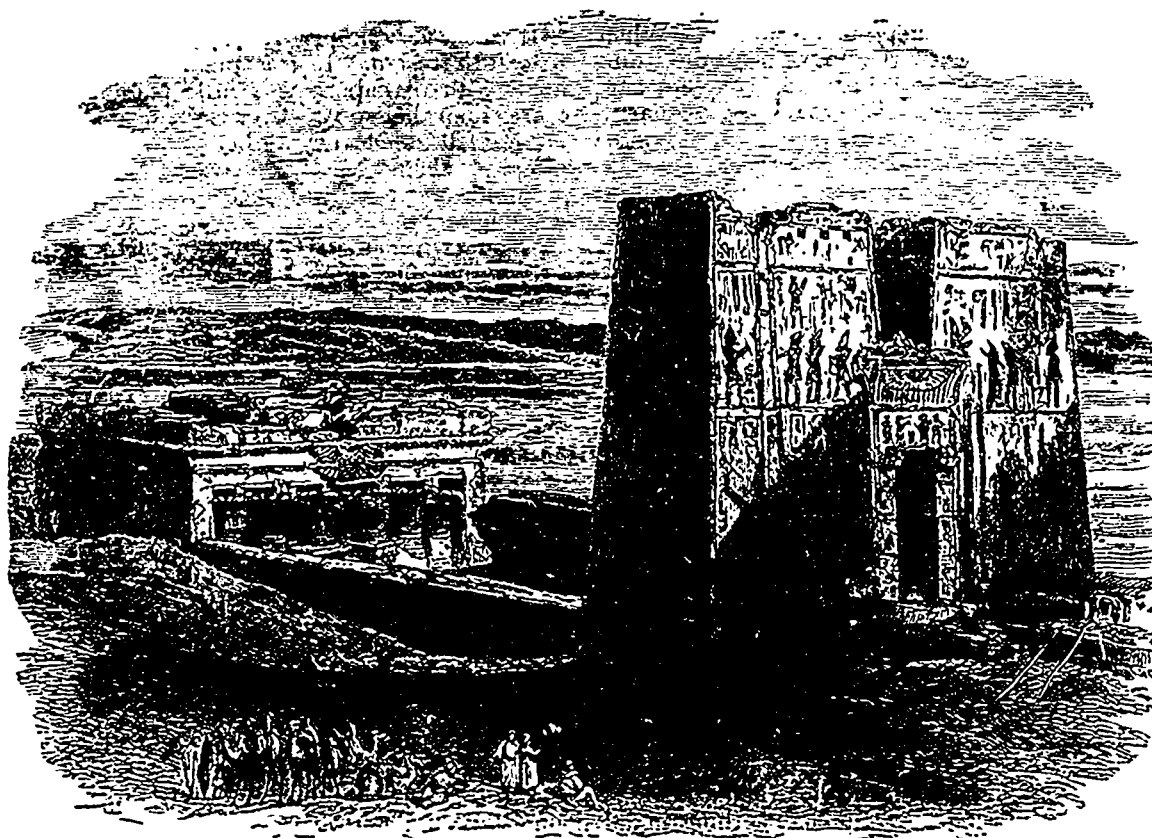


Young People's Department.



TEMPLE AT EDFOU, EGYPT.

AN EGYPTIAN TEMPLE.

WHAT may we learn from an Egyptian temple? Here is a picture of one of the temples at Edfou—one of the grandest in Egypt. It stands close to the River Nile not far from the City of Thebes. Look at the size of it. You see it is built of stone, and on the stones you notice figures of men carved. They represent Pharaoh, King of Egypt, with his arm stretched out ready to strike with the weapon he has in his hand. You notice some people standing close to the front entrance in the centre between the two great towers. How little they look compared with that great figure of Pharaoh carved on the stone! This will give you some idea of the size of the towers and so of the whole temple. It was once all covered in with sand, and an Arab village was built on it; but the sand was all dug out and people can

now see it, and those who have seen it say that it is a very grand sight. But what may we learn from it? We may learn that man had his own ideas of religion in very distant days, and now that we have a good religion, a religion given to us through Jesus Christ the Son of God, may we not learn to be truly thankful that God has done so much for us? The old Egyptian temples were surrounded by walls to keep the people out of them; but our Christian churches are thrown open for the people to enter them and pray. Egypt is a strange country. We read of it often in the Bible. God watched His own people when they lived there. Perhaps they worked as slaves in building some of those ancient temples, but they were quietly building the foundations of a grand religion which, like a great temple, was to be a sign of God's power on earth. That religion is our own Christian religion, and it is yet to cover the earth "as the waters cover the sea."