

prerogative the special duty and privilege of woman. The eternal principle of mother-love is strongly manifested by Eastern wives. Among the Arabs the birth of a girl babe is no cause of rejoicing, but of the reverse, and, indeed, is sometimes accompanied by the groans and re-

sure; indeed, "there is hardly one well-shaped skull among the hundred Syrian students at the college at Beyrout," says one of the professors, "they are all flattened on the side during the first year of infancy."

"As soon as he can creep," writes Marion Harland, "the child is tossed upon the bosom of mother earth, and left to 'hustle' for himself among his fellows. When drowsy he crawls into a corner and goes to sleep like a little brown dog; if hungry he eats whatever comes within reach of his dirty hands that commends itself to his judgment as possibly eatable. At night he huddles down in the one garment he has worn all day, close to brothers and sisters, to gain warmth through the sunless hours from their bodies."

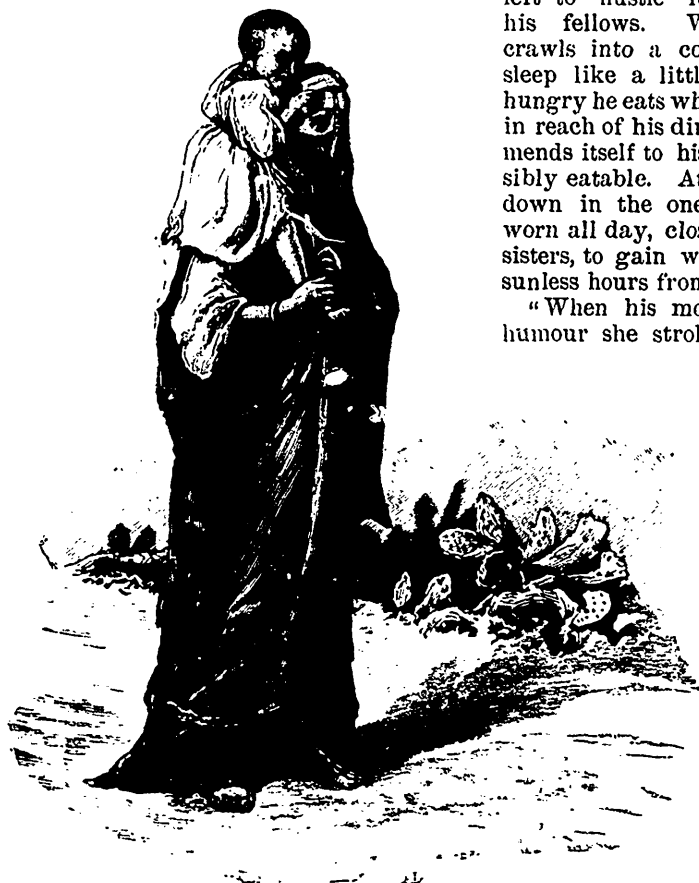
"When his mother is in a good humour she strokes and pats him

and flings him a fig or morsel of sweet cake; when she is busy she kicks him out of her path; when angry—and this is often with the ignorant, untrained women—she takes a stick to him and swears volubly, cursing the day in which he was born and invoking the vengeance of heaven upon his undutiful soul."

Children's toys in the East can vie neither in

proaches of the nearest of kin and the tears of the mother. The babe is "wrapped in swaddling clothes," as was the Divine Child of Bethlehem, and, swaddled like a little mummy, is placed in a cradle. Often the skull is distorted quite out of the normal shape by the continual pres-

number nor ingenuity nor variety with those of the favoured boys and girls of Western lands. Nevertheless there is evidence of the existence in the very cradle-lands of the race, of toys almost identical with those in use in our nurseries to-day. The accompanying cut



EGYPTIAN WOMAN AND CHILD.