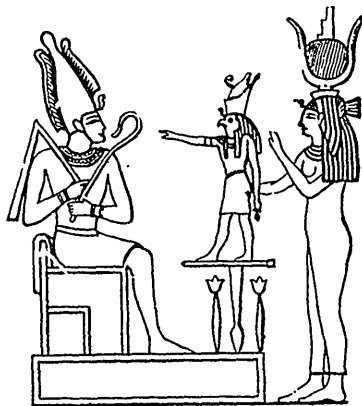


listen to those who pray to him' (thus is he named), at the first gate of the temple of Amen. I placed obelisks at the same, made of granite. Their height reached to the vault of heaven. A propylon is before the same in sight of the city of Thebes, and ponds and gardens, with flourishing trees. I made two great double door of gold. Their height reaches to heaven. I caused to be made a double pair of great masts. I set them up in the splendid court in the sight of his temple."

The external and internal walls of the temples are completely covered with sacred or historic scenes. One of the most common of these is that of the conquering King Rameses the Great, or Tothmes III, or whoever it may be—a gigantic figure holding in one hand, by their long hair, a "bundle" of conquered kings, while he has a tremendous sword in the other, and is just going to cut off their heads. Others exhibit battle scenes and terrific conflicts, with chariots and horses and footmen in inextricable confusion. In one picture, the richness of the spoil is expressed by



THE MYTHOLOGICAL TRINITY—
OSIRIS, HORUS, ISIS.



ANUBIS.

an insolent soldier plucks the beard of his helpless captive, an archer strings his bow, and a sutler suspends a wine-skin on a stake which he has driven in the ground.

Some of the ancient ruins have been built over with buildings of baked bricks of the time of the Romans, and these, so dry is the atmosphere, have been preserved, though in a ruinous condition, to the present day. One of the most impressive of the ancient structures is the palace of Rameses III., at Thebes. In an engraved picture the Pharaoh is shown attended by his daughters, some of whom present him with flowers, others wave before him fans, and another engages in a game of draughts or checkers—an amusement probably not less than four thousand years old. All around the court of the great palace stand colossal Osiride figures with hands folded upon their breasts, and "staring straight on with a calm, eternal smile." In the centre of the great court stand, or lie, the