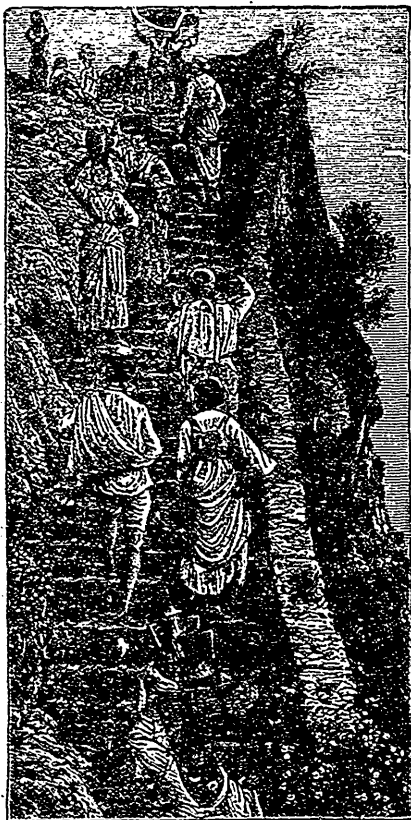


where are the grandest ruins of Grecian architecture in Italy. The temple of Neptune, with thirty-six Doric columns, seven and a half feet in diameter and twenty-eight feet high, so well known by pictures, is probably unrivalled for majestic simplicity in the world.

A visit of great interest was made to Pompeii, where the party was lucky enough to be present when a particularly rich "find" was disinterred. Mr. Brassey generously sent half his yacht's crew one day, and half the next, to see the wondrous city of the dead.

Vesuvius had been recently in a state of eruption, but Mrs. Brassey was carried up the cove in a *portantina*, or sort of chair, while the gentlemen were dragged and hauled up by strap—an operation the fatigue of which we remember quite well. When we visited this weird and wonderful spot, violent ejections of lava were hurled high in air every few minutes with a tremendous explosion, and the molten lava, in a viscid stream of about the consistence of tar, was flowing over the bed of the crater. We approached



STEPS AT ANACAPRI.

near enough to take some of the lava on our staff and press into it coins, which we brought away as souvenirs. The crevices of the hardened lava were glowing of a dull red, and our staff instantly caught fire when thrust into the clefts. We could feel the heat through the thick soles of our boots, and on the breezy summit we partook of luncheon, part of which