

this singular spot. Not half as large as Elephantine, it has no verdure, except a few scattered palm trees at the water's edge, but its rocky and romantic surface is completely covered with superb ruins. They consist of the remains of several temples : one only of which is in a good state of preservation. There are two lofty gateways, and the pillars of one of the corridors have the same capitals as those of Tentyra, the head of Isis. The family of an Arab inhabited some of the chambers of the temple. He was very savage when he perceived our intention of penetrating into his harem, and drew his long knife, protesting he would revenge the attempt. At every step you tread on some fragment of antiquity ; for this celebrated isle must once have been holy ground, and peculiarly devoted to religious retirement. No situation could be better adapted to such a purpose, encircled by a branch of the Nile, and imprisoned on every side by utter desolation. The desert spreads its wastes and mountains in front ;—the dark and fantastic cliffs of the adjacent isles and shores look as if rent by some convulsion, and viewed through the long colonnades which crown the rocks even to the water's edge, the effect is quite panoramic. Then the loneliness and stillness of every thing around, only interrupted by the distant rush of the cataracts : and a climate perpetually pure, that gives even to the nights a bewitching softness and splendour. Whoever is sick of the world, and would hold communion only with nature and past ages, let him go and take up his abode at Philæ.

The boat we had hired was rowed by two boys to the adjacent isle, when one of the Berebers, who turned out to be a complete character, demanded, with an appearance of great anger, to be taken on board. His object was to share in the presents usually given, and he afforded us infinite diversion. His features, like those of the rest of his countrymen, were singularly expressive and animated. An aquiline nose ; eyes full of lustre ; the very look of which expressed his meaning better than words ; his hair was divided into thick tresses, his frame, full of activity and muscle, had scarcely any flesh ; he was quite black. His looks and gestures were a complete pantomime, and he sung a livelier boat-song than we had been used to ; for the Arabs have all a monotonous chant, with which they keep time to their oars. On setting off on our return, we were surrounded by a small host, importuning for a bakshish or present. The acting of our Bereber friend was admirable. He endeavored to intimidate some from applying, exerted his voice the loudest, and kept his keen comic face in the foremost rank, though he had received more than any of the others.

(To be Continued.)