

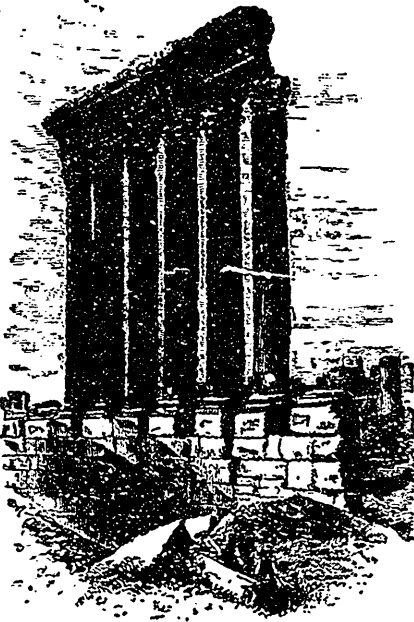
THE
Methodist Magazine.

NOVEMBER, 1894.

TENT LIFE IN PALESTINE.

BY THE EDITOR.

DAMASCUS TO BAALBEC.



REMAINING COLUMNS OF THE GREAT
TEMPLE, BAALBEC.

ON a lovely morning, April 26th, we mounted our horses for the ride over the Anti-Lebanon range. The air was filled with the fragrance of fig and apricot blossoms, and of the Damascus roses, of which we each carried a bouquet of portentous size. The horses, refreshed with their few days' rest, were full of mettle, and we made a very hilarious party as we cantered along the smooth diligence road, the best in Syria. This splendid road of seventy miles to Beyrout was made by a French company, and twice a day its huge, lumbering carriages traverse the distance in ten hours.

Soon leaving the road, we passed the grim gorge of the Barada (Abana), with bold exposure of highly tilted strata, and rode on beneath the shade of walnut, fig and olive orchards. Then for an hour we rode across the barren plain of Sahra, or the Syrian Sahara, a dreary expanse of sand and flint chips, enlivened at times