

We live in wondrous times. The histories of forgotten empires—Hittite, Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian—have given up their long-locked secrets to our scholars, and have been, many of them, translated into our common tongue, so that we may be nearly as familiar with the exploits of Sargon or Rameses the Great, as with the doughty deeds of Saxon Alfred or Richard Cœur de Lion. The every-day life of the denizen of Babylon or Memphis, his religious views, his business proclivities, are no longer a matter



GALLERY NEAR EAST WALL.

of mystery or of guess; and every year some of the missing links, between times and peoples pre-historic, and the well-known epochs and events of history, are being supplied. Within the past decade the very forms and faces of the long-buried Pharaohs of ancient Egypt have once more “revisited the glimpses of the moon;” and, gazing into the veritable features of Thothmes, or Seti, we are brought, literally, face to face with the primitive, though stupendous, civilizations of the world’s childhood.

But what if from these buried vestiges of God’s ancient and