

ever did echo forth a sound, is now silenced forever. It is evident from the surrounding ruins, that they once formed part of a long avenue or public thoroughfare lined with temples and statues. Their features are so much obliterated with age, that they are now entirely beyond recognition, the ruins of some of these stupendous temples and statues scattered throughout the most populous districts of Egypt afforded a sight of unparalleled magnificence. The grand temple at Carnak, occupying nearly a square mile of ground, is an example. Well might Napoleon with his army, stop and gaze in wonder and admiration, at its columns of pillars adorned with sphinxes and hieroglyphic characters which contain a historic record of their nation, and as they beheld it they clapped their hands, and gave an exultant shout as a fitting token of their great admiration. The Ramesium was another famous temple; it was six hundred feet long and two hundred feet broad, adorned with one hundred and fifty columns, ornamented, as indeed nearly all the temples in Egypt are, with syphinxes, the body of which resembled that of a lion and the face that of a man; this temple was the residence of the King. Many of the temples in Egypt, not only served the purpose of a temple, but also that of the regal residence. Egypt as has already been stated, adored but one God, only, but through the secrecy of the priesthood, the religion of Egypt, was considerably perverted. As the Magi or learned priest, as the case might be, not only of Egypt, but also of India, China and Persia, have veiled under the mantle of symbolism most of the wisdom and learning which they had acquired in the study of their occult science, only those who were initiated into the sacred rites of the anagogetical priesthood, to them and them alone were unfolded the sacred importance and wondrous significance of these holy oracles. The sun, the moon, the stars, the earth, the sea, the flowers, nay, the very animals were converted into a symbolic representation of some particular characteristic or attribute of the great Creator. Indeed, everything, or almost everything was acknowledged to characterize some divine feature. The great mass of people remaining in ignorance soon recognized a god in each of the different elements until, in a very short time, the gods began to flock into the Egyptian tenets of religion by the thousand. So much for the priesthood; to them we are no doubt indebted for the incipency of Polytheism as well as Pantheism.

"It is the will of the gods that this temple should endure"