

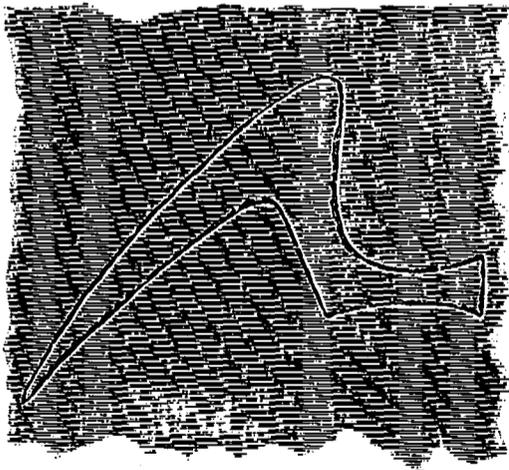
much to enlighten us on Egyptian history, spent a considerable time.

Shortly after lunch we returned by the same route we had come, and were glad again to look upon the refreshing green fields and palm trees. This excursion occupied the full day and owing to the great heat was quite fatiguing.

A ride of three-and-a-half hours by rail brought us from Cairo to Alexandria, the great sea-port of Egypt. Alexandria has every appearance of a European city, except for the natives in its streets. Its harbor is spacious and quite pretty. Thence we took our departure for Palestine, the subject for my next epistle.

Toilet Recipes of Ancient Egypt.

CURIOUS hair recipes occur on some of the papyri, some of which are very absurd. One to prevent the hair from turning gray directs that a salve should be made from the blood of a black cat cooked in oil; in another, that of a black bull is preferred for the same object. Evidently the color of the animal was to pass through the salve into the hair. In another place we read of the tooth of a donkey dipped in honey being used for really strengthening the hair; and the ingredients for an ingenious compound are given for injuring the hair of a rival, and the counter-remedy to be used by those who think their hair-oil has been tampered with by a rival. Cakes



REAPING HOOK FROM AMONGST THE HIEROGLYPHICS IN THE TOMB OF THIL. (From a Photo. by W. E. H. M.)

of some composition which absorbed oil were always placed on the heads of guests at feasts, and from them the oil gradually trickled down through the hair. A most disagreeable practice this may seem to us, but to them it appears to have given great pleasure: and with the Egyptians as well as with the Hebrews oil was symbolical of joy and gladness. Rouge and other coloring substances were used by women of Egypt to enhance, as they thought, their beauty. The eyes had often a green line underneath them; the eyelashes and eyebrows were penciled; and, as in modern Egypt, the nails were always stained red with a preparation from the henna-plant.

In our museums we can see the little pots and vases formerly filled with these unguents and colors, and the pencils they used with them, as well as various sorts of combs and hairpins; of the latter there is a very pretty set in the Museum at Boulak—single-pronged wooden pins with jackal heads, stuck into a cushion in the form of a turtle, which was evidently one of the favorite dressing-table ornaments belonging to the deceased lady.



PICTURED TOMB AT BENI-HASSAN.

All these little essentials of the toilet were placed in the tombs by the loving hands of friends and relations, for the use of that spiritual body which they

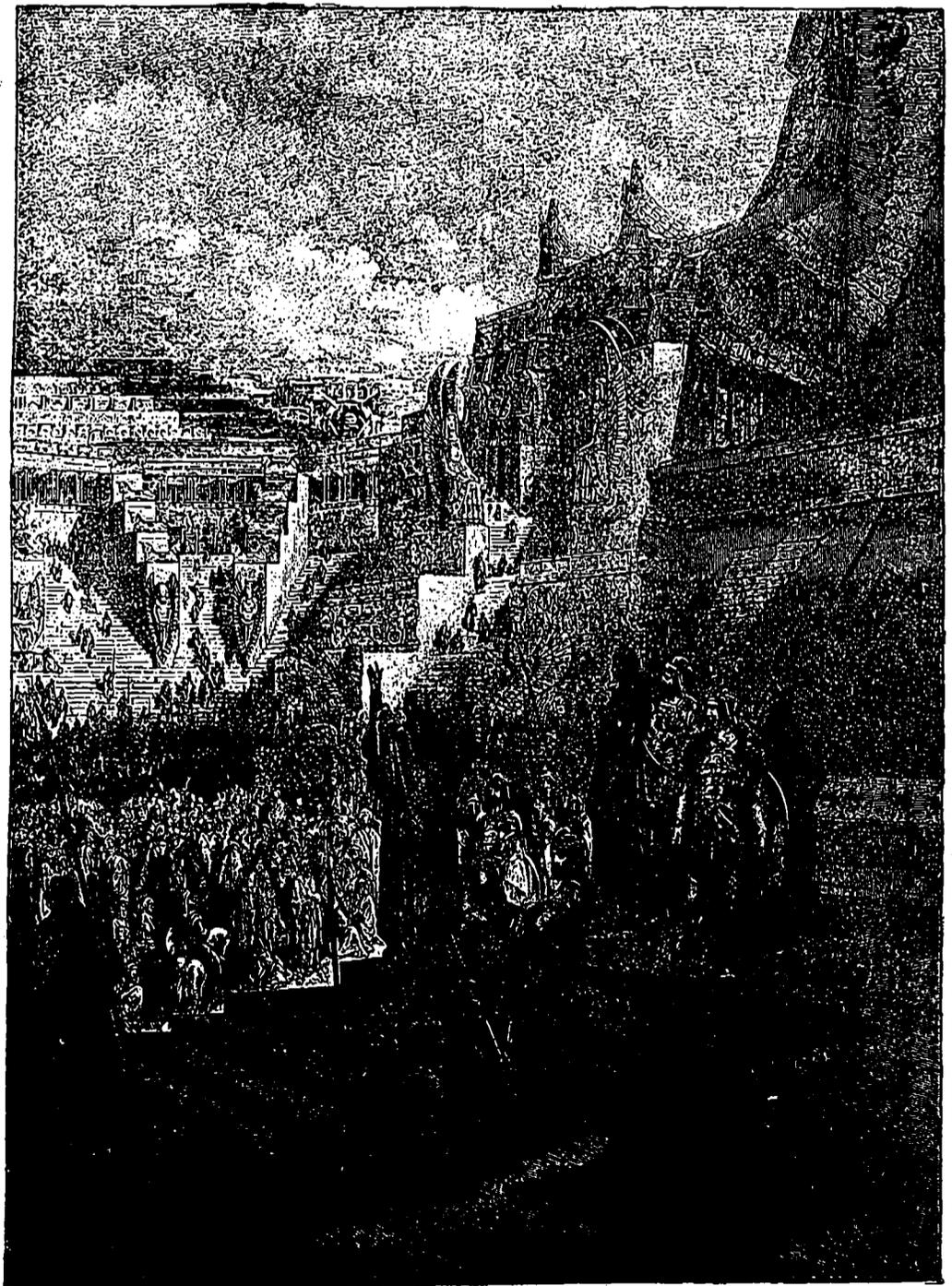
believed required all the adornment the lady had loved upon earth.

Notwithstanding the elaborate care lavished by the Egyptian lady on her personal adornment, she adopted a simplicity of dress suitable to the climate in which she lived. Except for the wig, the head was usually uncovered, with sometimes a colored band tied round it. The queens often wore the vulture head-dress, but this was more as an official ornament than as a covering. In common life also the women, both of high and low degree, went bare-foot, though they had sandals to wear when they were in full dress. These sandals were made of papyrus or palm fibre, or of leather. They had straps to pass around the foot and between the toes, and in some a piece of the sole was turned up, and bent over the toes to protect them; in later times some of the leather sandals had sides to them, which causes them very much to resemble modern shoes.

—*The Woman's World.*

Boston's Latest Fad.

THE very latest fad, which has traveled about the country in the wake of the celebrated English Egyptologist, has struck Boston with full force. This is the adoption by ladies of fashion of Egyptian costumes at their afternoon teas.



ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SPLENDOR.