

Cairo, a faithful, honest fellow, was a devoted Mohammedan. During the month's fast of Ramedan no bite nor sup passed his lips till sunset, and even his cherished cigarette was forbidden.



BARBER'S SHOP, CAIRO.

"When he got tired," he said, "he would repeat 'God is great, there is no god but God,' twenty times, and that took the tiredness away." At one of the mosques he pointed out, the impression "made," he said, "by the hand of Mohammed on a marble column." We asked him if he believed that. "Certainly, I do," he said; "it is written in the Koran, and whatever the Koran says is true."

One of the strange sights of the city is the numerous barber shops, generally indicated by a brightly burnished brass basin hanging above the door. Here you may frequently witness the

scene, as shown in the accompanying cut.

Very few of the Cairenes cook in their own houses. Most of them are supplied from the cook-shops, of which there are 30,000 in the city, or from their vegetable stalls, a picture of one of which is here shown.

A couple of miles north of Cairo is the ancient fortress of Babylon, now the walled town of Old Cairo. We quote as follows from Mr. S. J. Weyman's recent sketch:

"Europe has nothing to show which can for a moment compare with this singular place. The ruin and decay which pervade it, the filth, dirt, the degradation of all things within it, from the leper at the gate, to the reeking pavement underfoot, stamp the place as unique. In the course of thousands of years the plain around has risen so high that to enter by the



VEGETABLE STALL, CAIRO.

old gate one must descend a flight of steps. The immense thickness of the walls is then seen. Here and there immense ruined towers still stand, sometimes occupied by vile tenements, and sometimes abandoned to the