

most wonderful ruins man has ever seen and the like of which he will never again behold."

The capitals are of Corinthian architecture, richly sculptured. The gigantic shafts are in three sections, each over twenty feet in length. The ground is strewn far and wide with the massy drums and capitals and bases, with huge masses of the frieze—all that is left of the greatest temple, save that of Karnak, ever erected for the worship of the Supreme Being. For beyond the brightness of the sun, these mighty builders recognized the Lord of Light and Supreme Giver of Life. In 1751, nine of these columns were standing. Some of those still left are partly undermined, and only a tremor of earthquake is needed to hurl them prostrate with the rest.



TEMPLE OF JUPITER, BAALBEC.

About sixty yards distant is the smaller temple, dedicated to Jupiter—smaller, that is, as compared with the vast Temple of the Sun, but it is actually, says Dr. Thompson, "the largest, the most perfect, and the most magnificent temple in Syria, and is only surpassed in beauty of architecture, through not in size, by the Parthenon in Athens." It was 225 feet long, including colonnades, and 125 feet wide, surrounded by forty-two columns, 5 feet in diameter and 58 feet high. Its great portal, shown in our frontispiece, even in its ruin is of surpassing beauty, 21 feet wide and 42 feet high, though a large portion of it is filled up with rubbish. In 1751 it was still perfect, but shortly after