

and defends them against the steady assaults of the river, and the ruthless devastation of foreign visitors. Monster temple as it was, it has diminished in volume ; and, though it holds itself erect and dauntless between two never resting foes,—the sands of Arabia upon its back, and the swift flowing waters of the river in front,—it must, at no very remote period, give way after a resistance of many a century of abandonment.

A grand prospect of distant mountain scenery opened upon our excited vision from the top of the old temple, and the walls that enclosed the sacred edifice. In another direction, the aspect was desolate ; for there was a wide waste of millions upon millions of acres of arid, heated sand, that defied vegetation, and is now threatening the concealment, in its constrictor embrace, of one of the finest specimens of architecture the world can boast. One of our sailors picked up the cast skin of a serpent six feet in length, indicating that loathsome reptiles are the permanent, undisturbed occupants of a spot once sacred to the gods of Egypt. A solemn worship, in the darkness of paganism, was instituted and practiced where we were standing : but the smoke of the altars has gone out ; the holy vestments and priestly apparatus are nowhere to be found ; and the stillness of death marks the locality where the voices of thousands were heard, in the ecstasies of heathen enthusiasm, in praise of imaginary deities, whose attributes were the passions of men, with the character of devils."



" No radiant pearl, which crested fortune wears,
No gem, that twinkling hangs from beauty's ears,
Not the bright stars, which night's blue arch adorn,
Nor rising sun, that gilds the vernal morn—
Shine with such lustre as the tear, that flows
Down virtue's manly cheek, for other's woes."



" 'Tis wrong to sleep in church—'tis wrong to borrow
What you can never pay—'tis wrong to touch
With unkind words the heart that pines in sorrow—
'Tis wrong to scold too loud—eat too much ;—
'Tis wrong to put off acting till *to-morrow*,
To tell a secret, or get drunk."