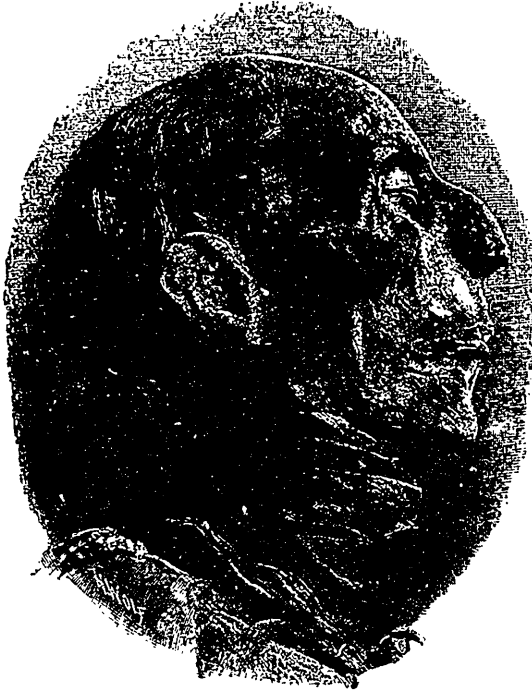


turies before Christ. It afterwards fell into decay, but has been again used as a water supply, since the construction of the Suez Canal. The names Zakazik and Tel-el-Kebir recall some of the most strenuous battles of the late British campaign of Egypt.

The sites of several of the cities of Goshen, mentioned in Numbers, Rameses, Succoth, Etham and Pihahiroth, etc., have been identified through the excavations of Drs. Flinders Petrie, and others. Much of the country, however, has a sterile and half-desert character,



THE PROFILE OF RAMESSES II.

suitable for pasture at certain seasons only. The railway skirts the edge of the desert. On one side there stretches a beautiful green tract of country, and on the other, a vast, barren waste of undulating sand. Tel-el-Kebir, scene of the defeat of Arabi, is claimed as the ancient Pithom of the Bible. Of pathetic interest is the cemetery, with its tasteful monuments to the noble British soldiers who fell here in memorable battle.

In a ruined mound near here, Lepsius found many bricks of the Nile mud, still containing a mixture of chopped straw, which may probably have been made by the oppressed Israelites. Stupendous as are the colossal statues of Rameses in Upper Egypt, Mr. Petrie found at Tanis-Zoan in the Delta the fragments of one very much larger. It was 92 feet high from top to toe, or 125 feet high including pedestal, and weighed 1,200 tons. This was the largest colossus known to history. How this enormous mass was brought from Assouan, 800 miles away, carved into shape and erected on its site is difficult to conceive.

Soon we catch a glimpse of blue water, in strong contrast with the yellow sand, the Lake of Timsah, and soon reach the town of