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*Yours Sincerely
W W Wheeler*

THREE MONTHS
IN
FOREIGN LANDS

BY
W. W. WHEELER.
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TO MR. AND MRS. CHAS. B. FARISH
MY DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW
AND MR. JOSHUA MOTTER
MY PARTNER
TO WHOM THESE NOTES WERE ORIGINALLY
WRITTEN, THIS LITTLE BOOK
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED BY
THE AUTHOR.

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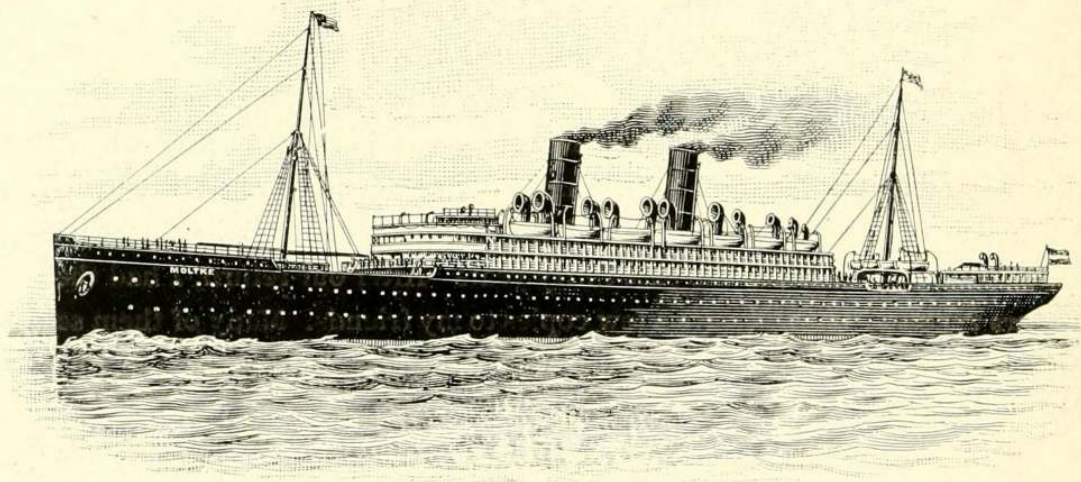
INTRODUCTION.

When we left for our Mediterranean cruise, January 30, 1905, I had no idea of writing notes or publishing them. However, on the trip we found so many scenes of interest that are very different from what is seen in this country, or the well traveled paths of the ordinary European tourist, that I decided to write some descriptive letters of our journey to my daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. B. Farish, and to my partner, Mr. Joshua Motter, with whom I have been closely associated in the wholesale dry goods trade for the past thirty years. After our return, I had these letters type-written and gave a few copies to my friends. Many of them said they were interesting and instructive and urged me to have the notes published in book form.

This accounts for the publication of this little book, which, I trust, will be read with pleasure by those with whom I am personally acquainted, also those who anticipate taking the same trip, as well as those who would like to go but may not have the opportunity to make this very interesting cruise.

Yours sincerely,

W. W. WHEELER.



STEAMER MOLTKE OF HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE, ON WHICH
WE MADE OUR CRUISE.

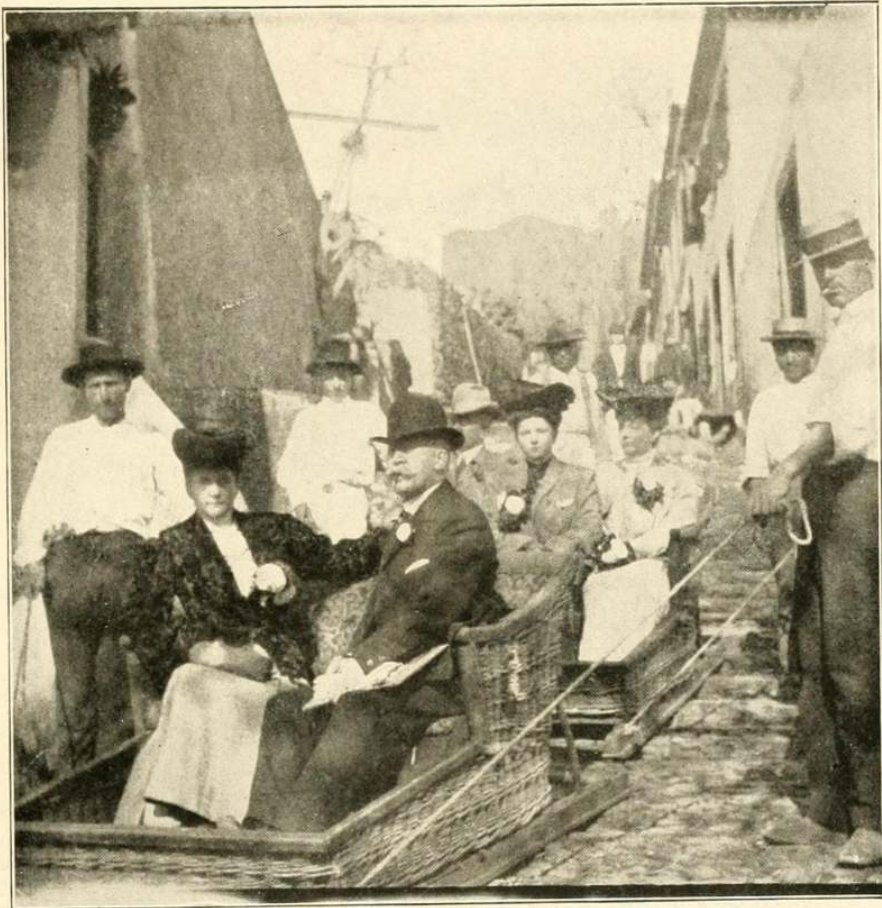
Three Months in Foreign Lands.

On January 30, 1905, Mrs. Wheeler, my son Webb and myself, sailed from New York on the S. S. Moltke, of the Hamburg-American Line, for a two months' cruise on the Mediterranean. We found the steamer first class in every respect, the crew numbered three hundred in all, and a fine set of men, competent and obliging; the table excellent; the cabins and whole boat kept clean and neat; the passenger list made up of three hundred and ten first-class passengers, no second-class or steerage; all pleasant and agreeable, well educated people, seemed to be out for a regular picnic.

After a favorable voyage, with no storms, we were awakened early in the morning, February 7, 1905, by a great commotion and yelling outside our steamer. After hastily dressing we went out on deck to investigate, and found that during the night our steamer had anchored in the Bay of Funchal, Madeira Island, and we were surrounded by the natives in their small row boats, and these naked boatmen were clamoring for the passengers to throw silver coin into the sea, that they might dive for it. They are expert divers and swimmers, and a silver coin tossed into the sea near them would invariably be fished out before it would sink very far. Some of them climbed to the highest deck on the boat, at least fifty or sixty feet above the water, and dived head foremost into the sea.

We were delighted with the appearance of Funchal, viewed from the steamer deck. It is a city of 21,000 inhabitants, mostly native Portuguese, a few English and Germans, and three Americans. The city lies on a half circle called a bay, but really is the open sea. Large steamers anchor about half a mile from shore and you go to port on small tenders, or lighters. The land rises rather steep from the sea, so that the back ground of the city is a mountain about two thousand feet high. This gives one a clear view of the whole city from the steamer deck. The houses are built of white plaster, with red tile roofs. The whole country is covered with green vegetation of the kind which grows in tropical countries, consisting of palm, banana and magnolia trees, sugar cane (which is now being harvested), and an endless profusion of flowers in full bloom. It really looked like Paradise to us, who had just left a land covered with two feet of snow, and in the midst of vigorous winter.

This whole island is one of the unique places of the earth. We landed in the midst of the city, which is built in the Spanish fashion, with narrow streets, which look like alleys to us, about twenty-five feet wide from the buildings on one side to the buildings on the other side. We took passage in a sled drawn by two small oxen, up to the cog-railroad station, fare fifty cents for four persons. A small boy barefooted, runs in front of this team, and the driver runs along on the off side, with a long pole and yells and prods the bullocks, as they call the oxen. They trot along at a good rapid gait. When we arrive at the cog-railroad station, which is very small, we pay for our ride, and give the driver a shilling extra. He at once demands another shilling, and continues to demand more until we leave him, still claiming more. We now procure our tickets for the cog-rail-



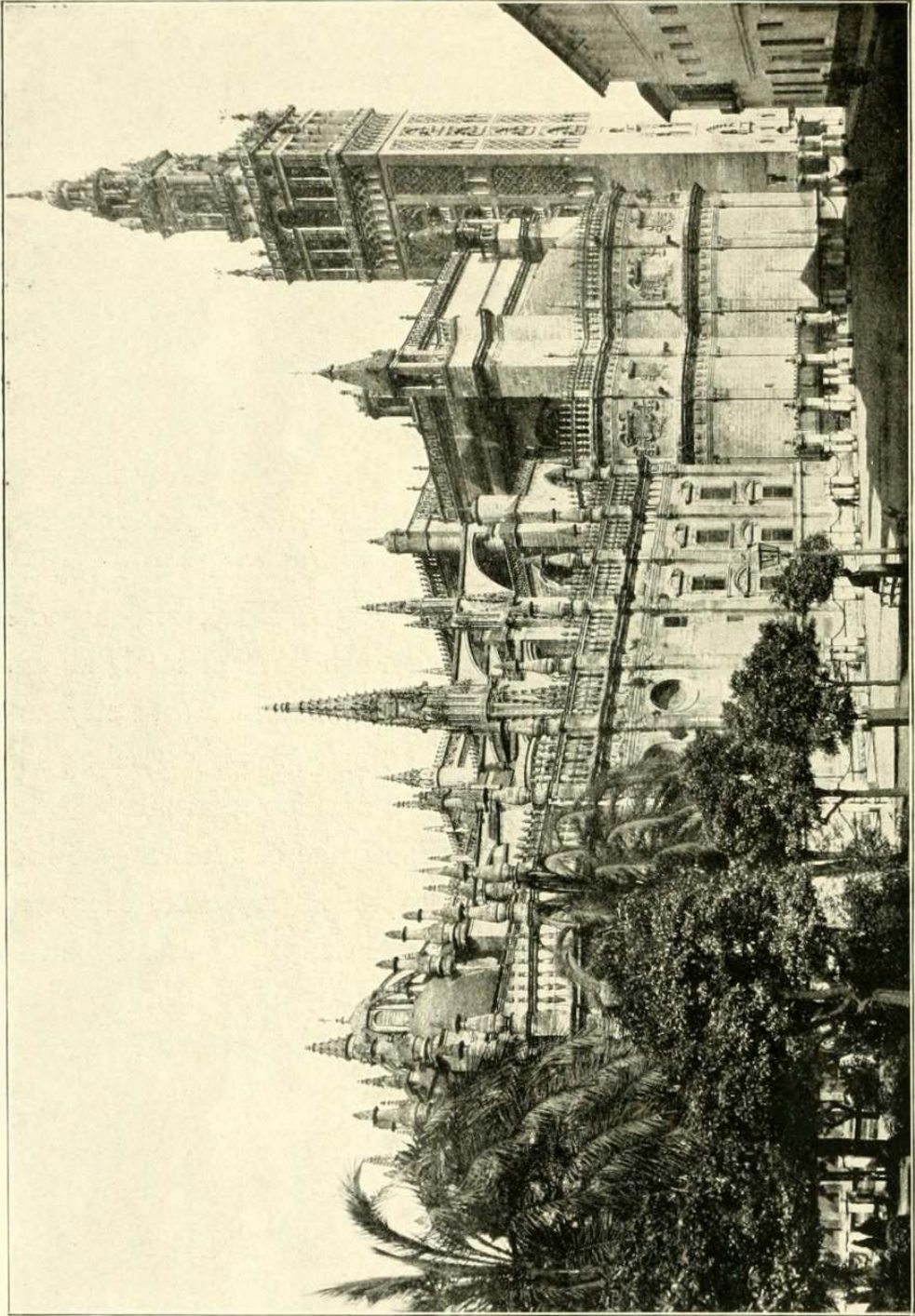
SLEDS USED IN COASTING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN, MADEIRA ISLAND.



PARTIAL VIEW OF THE NEW REID HOTEL, AND GARDENS AT
MADERIA ISLAND.

way, price two shillings each, and take a ride up the mountain about two miles. This trip is the best of any ride on the island, as it gives one a perfect view of the scenery which covers the mountain sides. An immense amount of labor has been expended here in the last five hundred years (the island was discovered 1417 A. D.) in building retaining walls on the sides of the slopes to prevent the soil from running down into the sea. A rock wall is built, say twenty-five feet high, then the side hill is leveled up and planted to sugar cane or any other crop, or a dwelling house is built here, or palm trees planted, or banana trees or flowers. This will make a level plateau of from forty feet to a hundred feet wide. Then another wall is built similar to the first and so on nearly to the top of the mountain. At the top we found a Catholic Church two hundred years old, and a hotel perhaps about as old, but now provided with electric lights and water works. A delightful view can be had here of the city and the bay. We took lunch here and enjoyed it very much. The air seems most invigorating on the top of this mountain.

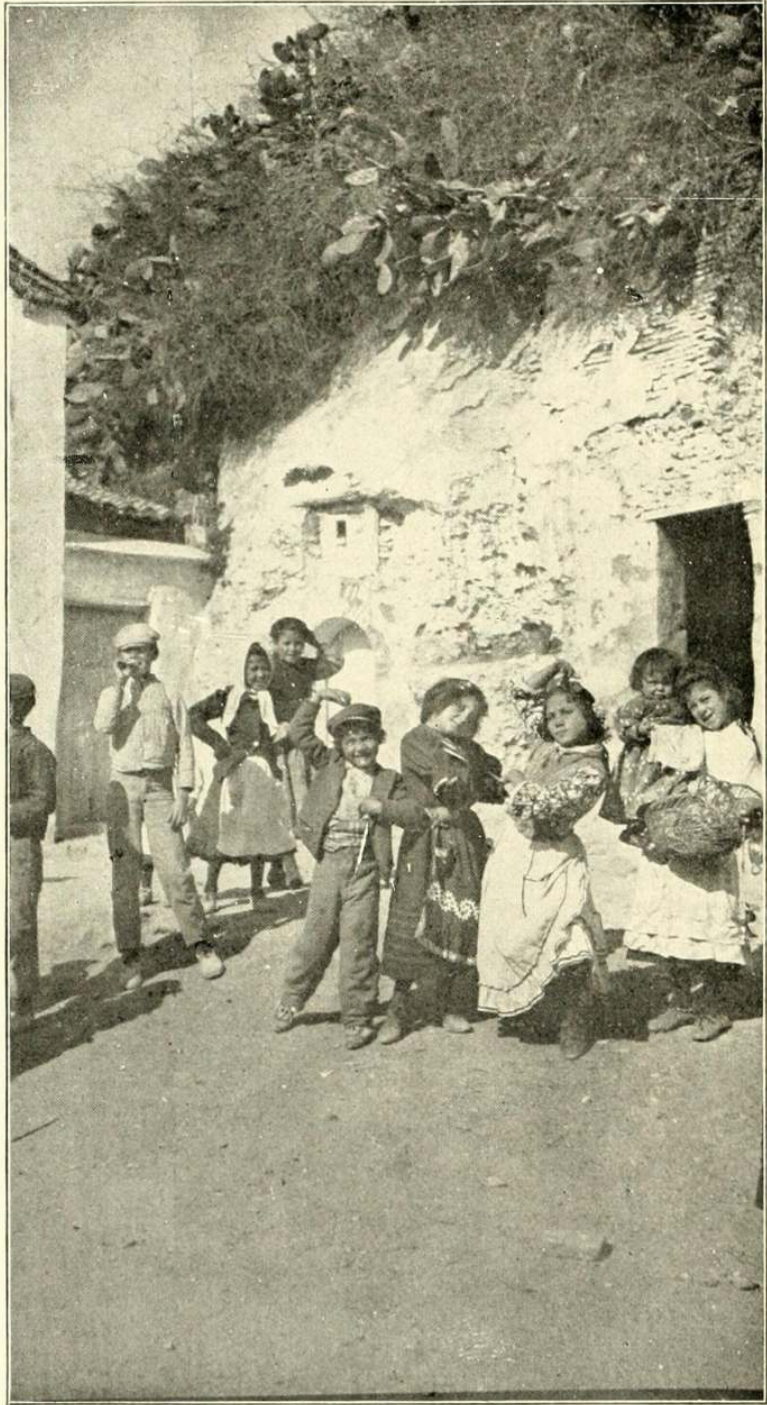
Next we took our wonderful experience of a toboggan slide down the mountain to the city. The sleds carry three each, and are guided by two men, one on each. Each man has a rope tied to the front of the sled. You say your prayers, putting yourself in the hands of a merciful Providence and the two Portuguese, and slide two miles to the bottom, in ten minutes, over a road paved with very small cobble stones, with the two Portuguese yelling at each side. However, half way down they stop at a place where wine is sold, and beg for money to buy wine. As we were under obligations to them for saving our lives, we furnished the money for the wine, and finished our slide in safety.



GREAT CATHEDRAL AT SEVILLE AND GERELDA TOWER.

It was a great experience, and enjoyed by us so much that we went back and repeated it next day.

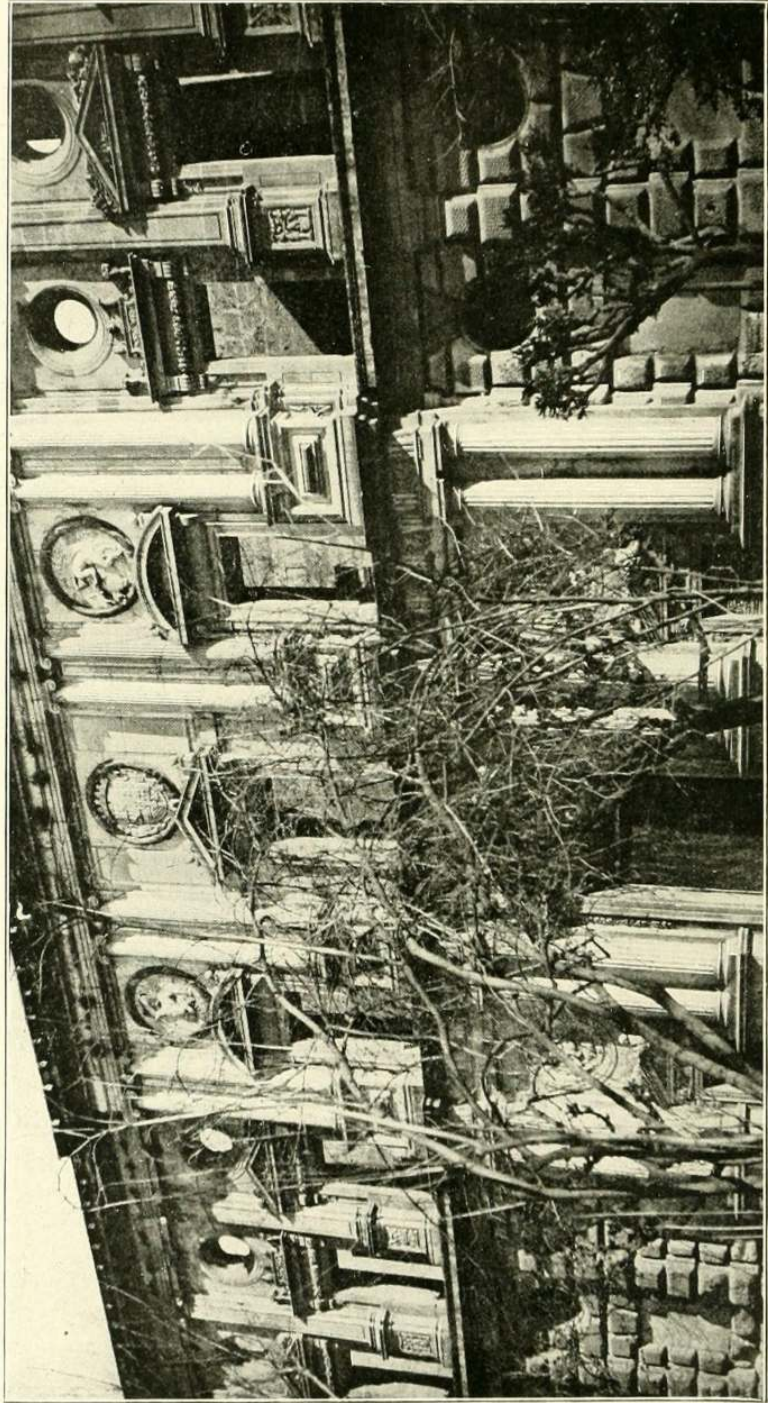
There are said to be fifty Catholic Churches on this island, while in the city there are several large public buildings, a hospital, and a few mission churches, also more poverty, distress and beggars than we have seen before, but we are told we'll see still more beggars when we arrive at Egypt. The island of Madeira is celebrated for its Madeira Wine, which is its chief export. They make an excellent quality of cane sugar, which has the best flavor and is the sweetest of any sugar we ever tasted. They also make laces, embroideries, wicker chairs, and baskets, and barely exist, in this delightful climate, where very little clothing is needed, and fruit and fish can be had with very little labor. There are no horses or wheeled vehicles of any kind on the island (except a very few used by the officials and fire department.) Everything is transported on sleds, and when they pull a little hard, a greased rag is thrown under the runners, which makes them slide freely over the streets, which are all paved with very small cobble stones. The hotels are fairly good, the hospitals very poor, the stores seem to us very primitive indeed, but are probably as good as the trade demands. We visited the Methodist Episcopal Mission here, and met Mr. Nine, in charge. They have a very good location, facing the Public Park (which is a beautiful place.) We asked Brother Nine what progress he was making. He said they had been here for twenty-five years and had made a little progress, but he has a very poor field of labor, as this is a Latin Catholic country. We spent two days very pleasantly at Funchal, seeing many things that are different from any other part of the world.



GIPSY CHILDREN, GRANADA.

We arrived at Cadiz, Spain, Friday morning, February 10, 1905, in fair weather, a beautiful morning, and the city is a very fine sight, viewed from the ship's deck. We loaded our three hundred and ten tourists in one little steamer, as we were anchored about a mile out, on account of shallow water. We were very fortunate (by the persuasion of Thos. Cook & Son) in being passed through the Spanish custom house without examination, and took a carriage drive to the Cathedral, which is a grand structure, built about two hundred years ago, very large and very high, ornamented with many frescoes and paintings. Then we made a long drive through the city, stopping at another small church to view the pictures, then driving through the parks to the hotel for lunch, which was relished by our hungry crowd. The hotel was very clean and inviting. The streets are from ten to twenty feet wide, and usually crooked, but they have frequent little parks, or open spaces, to give the people a chance to breathe.

The City of Cadiz is probably three thousand years old. They build here altogether with stone, brick and cement, and plaster all their houses, both outside and inside, with a very hard cement, which looks like stone. Then they whitewash the walls outside at least once a year, which makes them look fresh and comparatively new, without regard to their great age, but the floor tiles and granite streets, while kept in good repair, show the wear of centuries. It is built compactly, having no vacant lots for sale. The original city wall, at least that part which we saw, was about thirty feet high. The people are a fair, average lot, a little lower in intelligence than the French, but reminding a stranger of the French, without their politeness.



CHARLES V PALACE AT ALHAMBRA.

We left Cadiz about two P. M. for Seville, seventy-two miles by rail, and made the journey in four hours, because we had an express train. If we had been on an ordinary train, I don't know when we would have reached Seville. The country traversed is a flat plain, but little above sea level, and for several miles out from Cadiz, is devoted to salt making. They have half the country dug up, making shallow pools for the salt water to flow in from the sea, then let it evaporate with the sun's heat and gather the dry salt, stacking it in pyramids perhaps forty feet high, which we saw scattered over the landscape as thick as hay stacks in a meadow. Also, they have factories here where they refine this salt.

We next come to that part of country devoted to the olive trees, and still further from the sea come the orange trees, which are everywhere covered with yellow oranges, and look beautiful. The olive trees have a very aged appearance. They are about the size of a very old and twisted apple tree, and in fact they are usually a hundred years old, or more, and most of the country in Spain, which we saw, is planted to olive trees or orange trees. They cultivate the ground between these trees, raising wheat, potatoes, peas and garden stuff. They are planting many of the small crops now, and seem to be busy in the fields, that is, in their way of working, say ten or fifteen men in a bunch, to plant seed or hoe the weeds down. They use very primitive plows, simply a crooked stick with a small steel plow blade fastened to it, and a crooked stick for a handle. The plowing is very poorly done. The soil seems to be fairly productive, notwithstanding the ages it has been worn. They appear to use but little fertilizer. Much of the land near the mountain is irrigated, and this part of the country appears to produce abundant crops. The

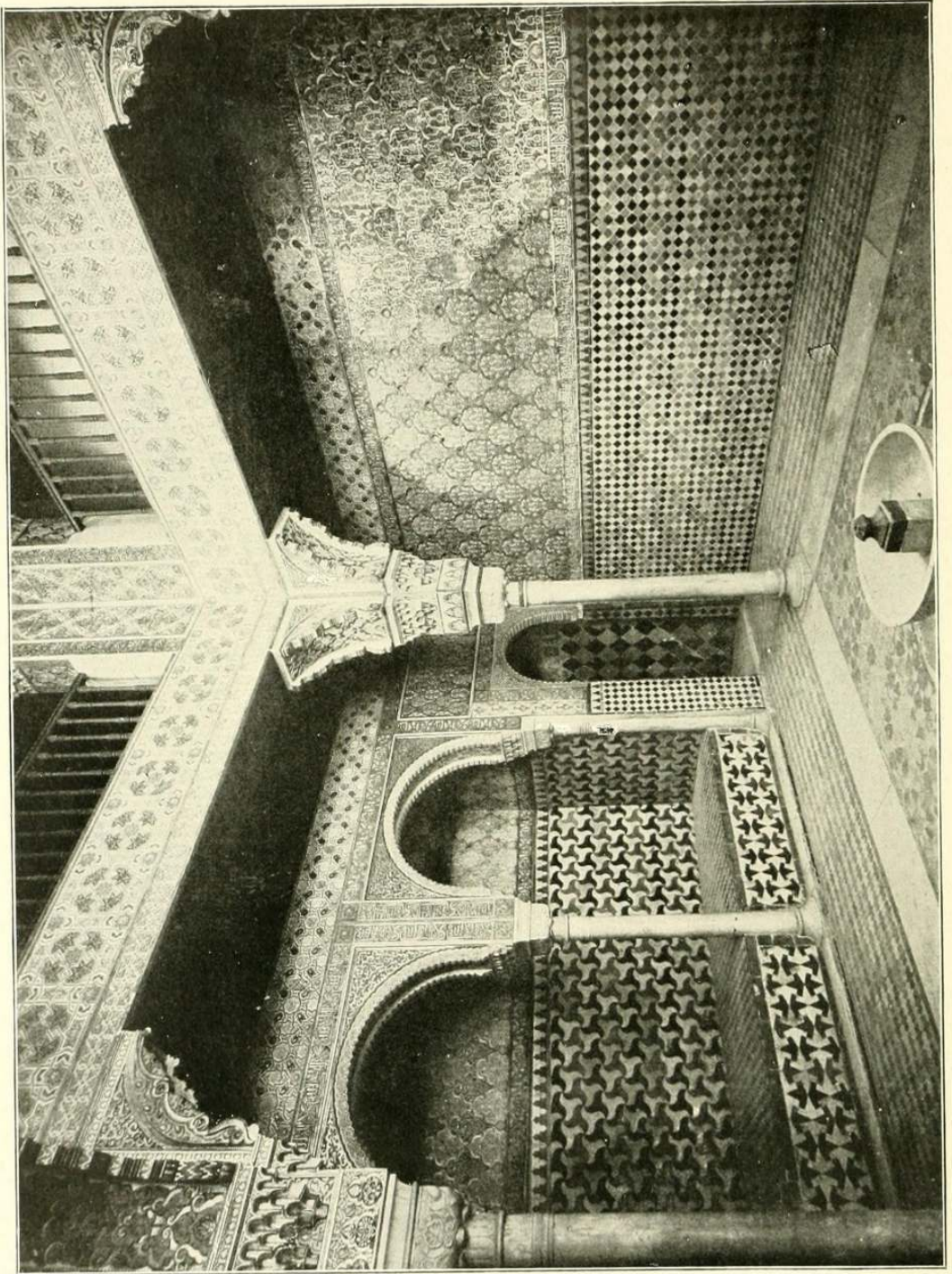


PARTIAL VIEW OF THE COURT OF LIONS, ALHAMBRA.

wheat was sown last Fall, and is now about seven or eight inches high, and looks fine.

We arrived at Seville about six P. M., and were driven at once to Hotel de Paris, where we had fairly good rooms, and the meals were fairly good, except breakfast. It seems the Spanish do not eat much breakfast, and we also did not eat much breakfast, because we could not, but lunch and dinner were quite good. We found that to be the case all through Spain, and a Spanish breakfast is not a recollection of pleasure with us.

Seville is a city of about 200,000 population, and like Cadiz is compactly built, houses in the business portion three or four stories high, and in the residence portion about two stories high, though among the residences it is hard to tell how many stories they have, as they usually present a blank wall surface to the street, without any windows, and only the main door. They all open out into a court in the middle, and some of them have very beautiful courts, with palm trees, orange trees, flowers and fountains. Nearly all the houses are built of brick, plastered with cement. They look like stone. We saw here the grandest cathedral we have yet seen. It was about 500 feet long and 300 feet wide, 125 to 175 feet high, of Gothic style, with immense pillars ten feet thick, to carry the heavy tile roof. The tower is about 200 feet high. We climbed to the top, and had an excellent view of the surroundings, and the whole city. This tower, called the Gerelda Tower, was built by the Moors for an observation tower, and it commands a grand view. The Spanish use it for a bell tower. There are about thirty large bells hung here. Some of them almost split our ears when they rung, while we were beside them. We visited this cathedral in the morning



PALACE OF ALHAMBRA—INSIDE VIEW.

during their service, while the grand organ was making the most beautiful music. The organ itself is seventy-five or a hundred feet high, and the volume of sound is properly adjusted to this great edifice. The cathedral was first built by the Romans, more than a thousand years ago. Part of the original building is still standing, but much of it was torn down and rebuilt by the Moors during their occupation of Spain, and has again been rebuilt by the Spanish. There are a great many chapels along the side walls of this wonderful structure.

Next we visited the Alcazar Palace and gardens. This palace is built of rock, and is many centuries old. The inside wall decorations are stucco, colored in the Moorish style, like the Alhambra. The garden adjoining is very large, at least four or five acres, filled with fountains, tropical trees, flowers, beautiful walks and statuary. After viewing this delightful place we returned to our hotel for lunch, and again we went out in carriages to "do the city." We visited a very fine Catholic church, which is a part of and adjoining the hospital. This chapel is really a picture gallery, and the best in Seville. Then we took a long drive through the public parks, along the river. They have a good electric street railway line, which is about two miles long, with many attractions at the end, in the way of restaurants, music, dancing pavillions, etc., quite like the Americans in this respect.

This city of Seville is several miles from the sea, situated on a level plain, and very compactly built. Large sea-going steamers come to its wharves through a small river, and there is considerable shipping done here. The shops, or stores, are quite small, yet being a great number of them, they no doubt do a large volume of business. They have a bull ring here, where they give the entertaining bull fights, but there was nothing doing in



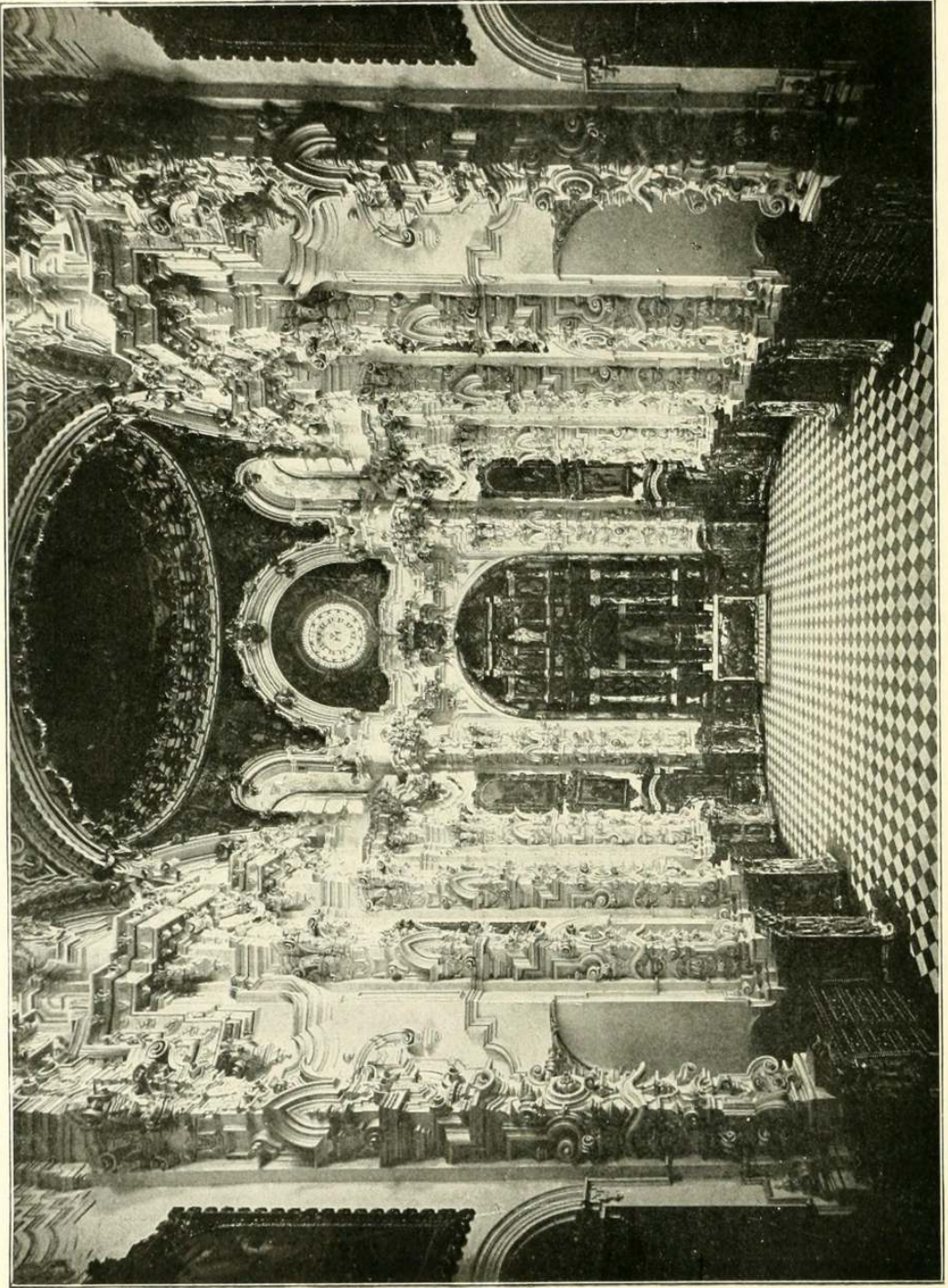
KING OF THE GYPSIES, GRANADA.

the bull fights while we were there. The club houses which we passed appeared to be extravagantly furnished.

To illustrate the slow way they do business: We went into one of their largest banks to get change for three pounds sterling gold, and it took the service of three men for ten minutes, to complete this small transaction. They have many clerks in this bank, but their business is so small that it would be considered almost nothing by an American bank.

We left Seville for Granada on February 12, 1905. With our rapid express train we made the long run of 180 miles in nine hours, and here we were greatly pleased with all we saw. In fact, we think that the Alhambra is one of the greatest sights we shall see while on this cruise. It is situated on the top of a mountain, about two thousand feet above the surrounding country. We could see the snow on the mountains, so close by that we thought to walk over to the snow in half an hour. On inquiry we learned that the snow-capped mountains were distant twenty-four miles, a part of the Sierra Nevada range, and eleven thousand feet high.

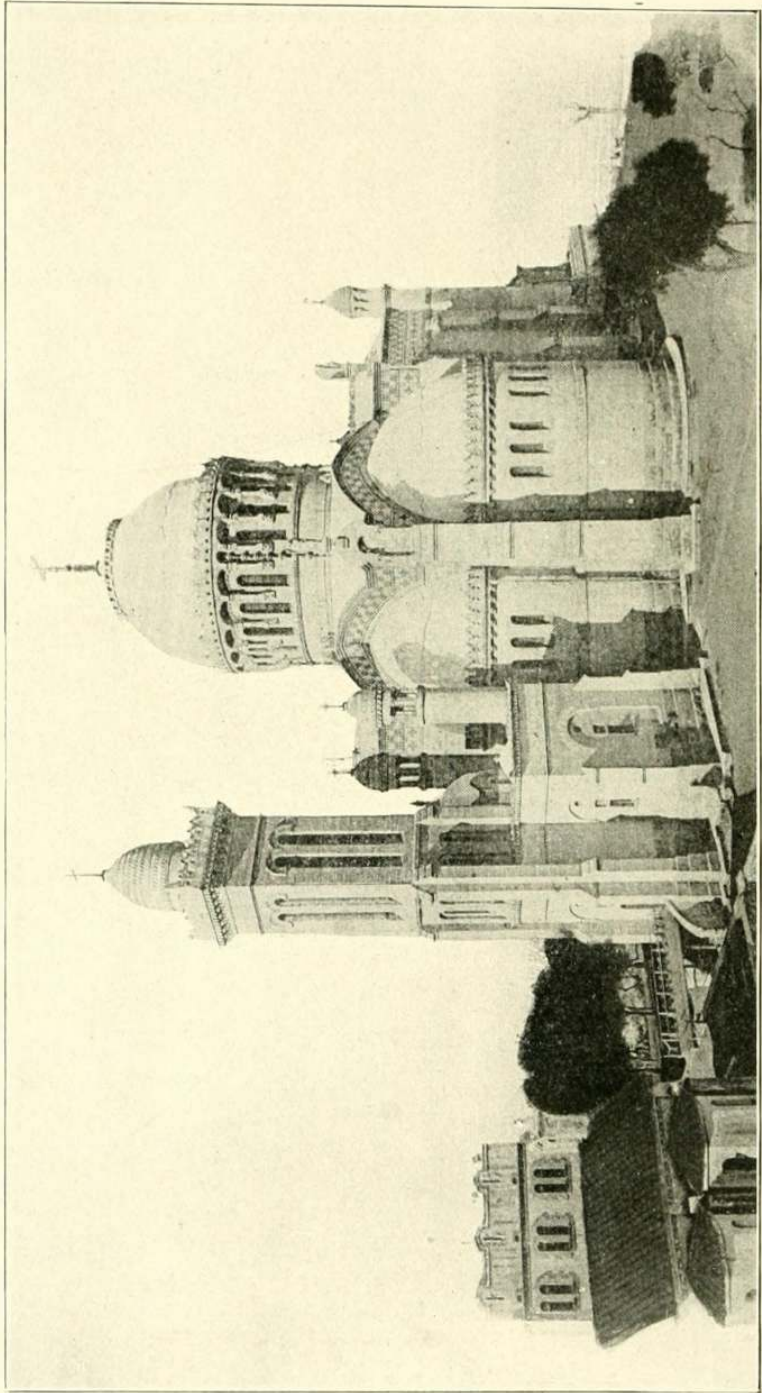
We had good rooms at the Washington Irving Hotel, which is on the top of the Granada, and quite close to the wonderful Alhambra Castle. We will not undertake to describe the Alhambra. Please read Washington Irving's "Tales of Alhambra" and you will get the great castle in detail. The whole scene is very beautiful. The day was perfect, and we enjoyed it to the fullest extent. The plains of the Granada are all irrigated with the water from the mountains—canals and ditches everywhere. Great care is given to the crops here, and this part of Spain is very productive. The city has 85,000 population. Part of it is very old, with crooked, narrow streets, and part of it is quite



SACRISTY OF ST. BRUNO CATHEDRAL, GRANADA—INSIDE VIEW.

modern, with well filled glass front stores, and looks more like an American city than any we have seen in Spain, and has good, wide streets. Another part belongs to the Gypsies. They are a hard lot, and live mostly in caves. They are poverty stricken beggars of the worst class. Men, women and children never cease to beg as long as they can keep up with your carriage. We went to the St. Bruno Cathedral, which is the richest in beauty of inside construction of anything we have yet seen in this land of extravagant cathedrals. The doors and walls were inlaid with ivory, gold, silver and tortoise shell, all worked in together with mother-of-pearl, and defy my powers of description. Next we drove to the Cathedral of Granada. It is very large and well constructed, and about three hundred years old. Here we saw the two leaden caskets which contain the bones of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. All the cathedrals in Spain are filled with paintings, the best and most prized being done by Murillo, who was a Spaniard. We are told that Spain has the best art in the way of paintings, in the world, except Italy. No doubt this is true.

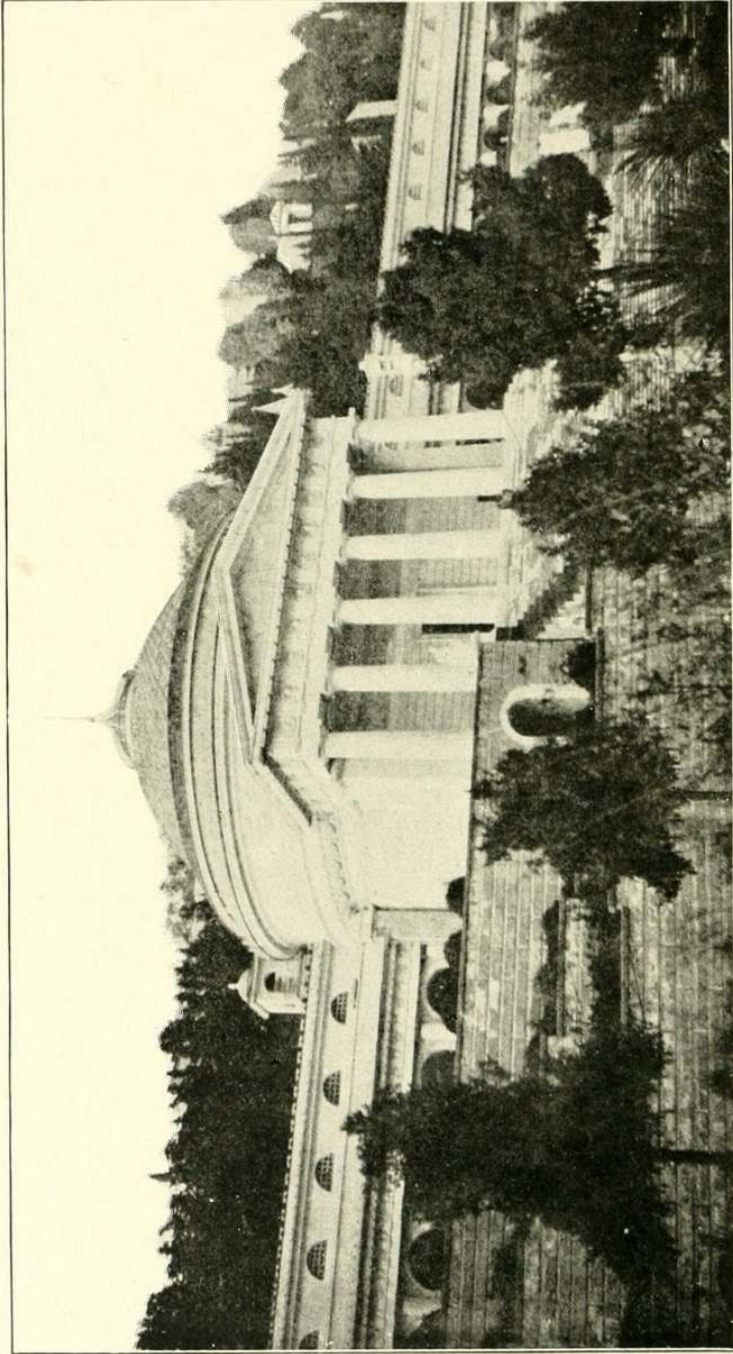
On the morning of the 14th of February, we left Granada for Malaga. The run was made in six hours (about one hundred and twenty miles) through the most beautiful mountain scenery, until we came to Malaga. Here the lower country lies flat in beautiful grape-fields. They cut these grapevines back to the roots every year, and at present they are about six inches high, and the leaves are just putting out. They are planted in rows like corn, and cover the whole country near Malaga, in fact they do not have much of any income in that vicinity except from grape culture, and they excel the world in their particular industry.



CATHEDRAL LA AFRIQUE, ALGIERS.

Malaga is a pretty little city on the Mediterranean, has a good harbor and much shipping. We did not stop in the city, but went direct to our good steamer, Moltke, which was waiting for us, and were glad to get back to the ship after our five days trip in Spain. It seemed almost like getting home again. The meals we got on board were certainly much better than we got in Spain.

After a sail of one day and one night, we reached Algiers, Africa, which has an excellent harbor for the largest vessels. We anchored close to the wharf and went ashore at once. We were greatly surprised to find Algiers, or at least three-fourths of it, a regular booming city, modern and up to-date in every way. The French have made it a great city in the last few years, and are still building at a rapid rate. The new part is built like the best buildings in Paris, large store blocks, about six stories high, with fine plate glass fronts, and good wide streets, with street cars, electric lights, and everything modern. The conductor of the street car is an Arab and speaks French. His dress is a pair of baggy trousers, a night shirt made of blue denims, and a turban made of unbleached cotton cloth. You pay your fare and he carefully writes out a receipt and hands it to you. The travel is not so great and he has plenty of time to do this. The city is built on several hills, or small mountains, and rises rapidly from the sea. It looks beautiful from the sea, and quite as beautiful from the land. The French language is spoken here, and the French money is in use. We went to a hoodoo kind of a show at night, the worst we've ever seen, but the natives and performers applauded as though it was good. Our steamer friends, Dr. Heman Brown, of Chicago, and Mr. Silas Hyman, of New Orleans, gave me a dinner party at night, to celebrate my sixtieth



ENTRANCE TO CAMPO SANTO, GENOA.

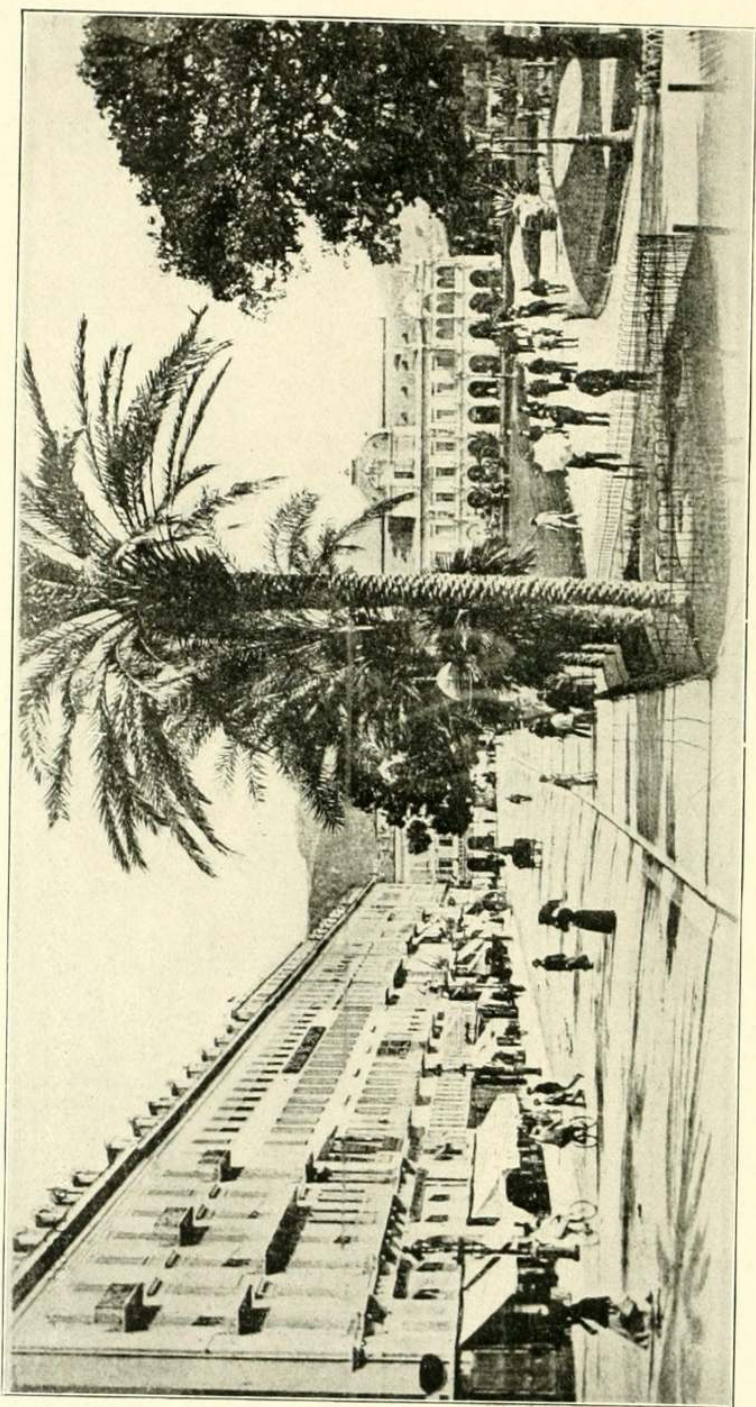
birthday, which we much enjoyed, at the "Hotel Continental," which is a very fine hotel, located on the top of a small mountain from which we get a grand view, and on this momentous occasion I have it brought to my mind more forcibly than ever before, that I am greatly blessed in having been born in America, "the land of the free and the home of the brave." Surely there is no other country like it on earth to-day. Do not forget to thank the Lord every day of your life that you are an American.

On the morning of February 16, 1905, we took carriages for a drive over the city, visiting the public parks and the Governor's Palace, which is situated on the top of the mountain, where a very fine view is had of the city and the bay. Then we drove through the business part of the new city, and next to the "Arab Quarter," or the old part of the city, and here a sight met our view which was entirely new to us. This part of the city is made up of Arabs, Bedouins, Negroes, Turks, Jews and many others, of many kinds, the Arab Mohammedans being most in evidence. They are dressed in coarse, unbleached cotton cloth, usually very dirty and wrapped around them in such a way as to cover most of their bodies, their legs and feet being left bare, except a light pair of slippers on their feet. They are so filthy and dirty in appearance that you feel like keeping as far away from them as possible. The whole mixed lot were busy bartering or taking their purchases to their homes. The Arab Mohammedan women wear the same coarse white or unbleached cotton for clothing, and when on the street wear wide, baggy trousers, and cover their heads and faces, except a strip across the face at the eyes. The Turks have little shops, about eight or ten feet square, and sit cross-legged on the floor, some smoking, some making shoes, some making baskets, selling bread, meat, fruit or food of any



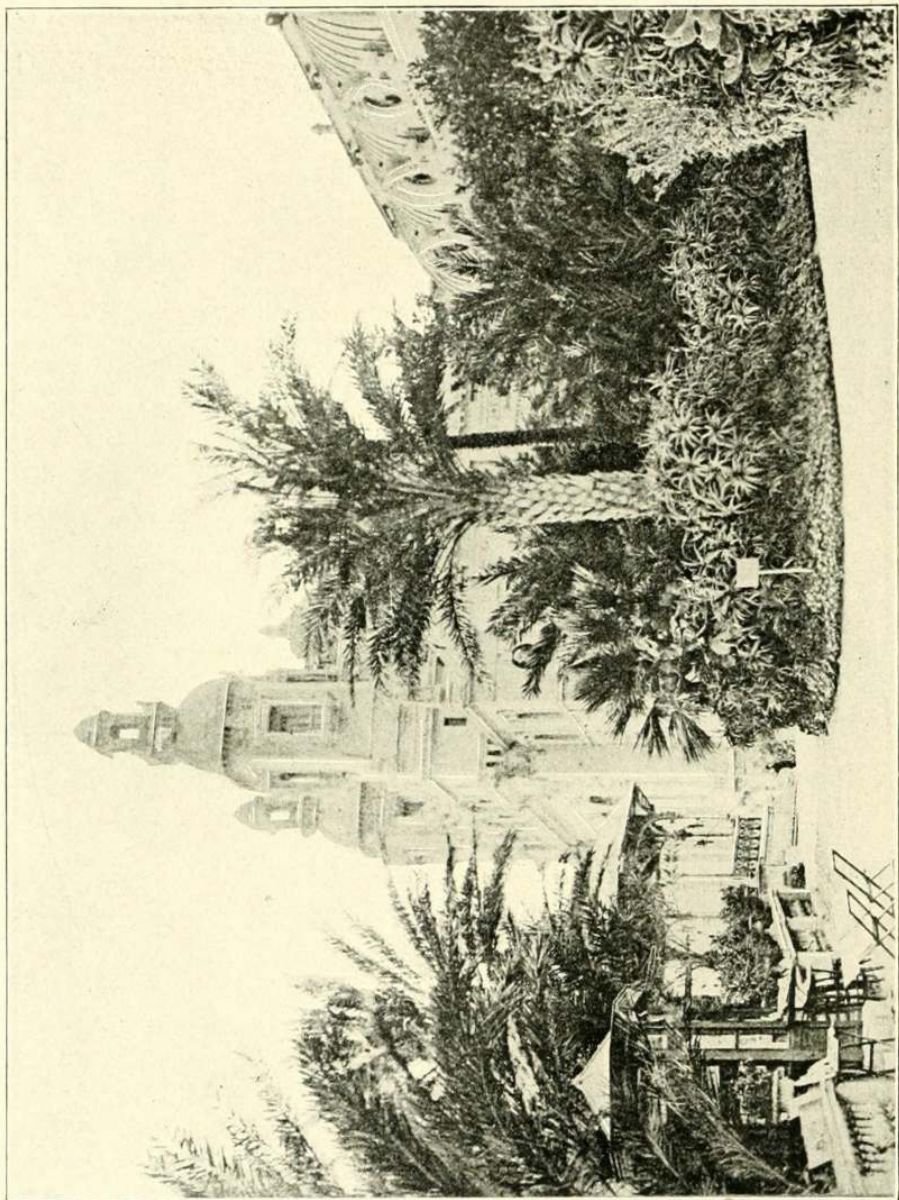
STATUE OF COLUMBUS, GENOA.

kind. This was to us a great curiosity, and while not pleasant to the eye, we would not have missed it. Next we visited the Arab Mohammedan Mosque, where we had to put on slippers over our shoes before we could go in. The Mohammedans themselves just slip off their shoes at the door and go in barefooted. It is a dirty, foul place, and gives one the impression that he is in a good place to catch some infectious disease. There was not much to see on the inside; however, the people who worship here are very poverty stricken, and not able to have an expensive place to worship, like the Catholics. After lunch we went to the French Cathedral on the top of the highest mountain, near the city. A grand view is had from this point, and our carriage horses labored for nearly an hour to bring us to the top. This is called the "Cathedral La Afrique," and here they have a black Madonna. No doubt it is just as good as any other color, but it is the only Madonna we have seen done in black. However, she has a great reputation as a healer, and there are a great many crutches and canes left here in the cathedral by persons who have been instantly healed. As they did not need their crutches, they simply left them behind. We did not see any one healed, but saw the black Madonna, and the crutches. Algiers is a great shipping point. We saw a dozen large freight vessels loading and unloading at the dock, and an immense amount of freight on the dock ready for shipment. The chief article of export is wine, and they handle a large amount of it, in large casks, which hold about five barrels each. This is the only shipping port of any importance in North Africa, except Alexandria. There is a great amount of wealth here, and many very beautiful villas in the suburbs. It is the finest climate in Northern Africa, but was chilly and cold the day we were there.



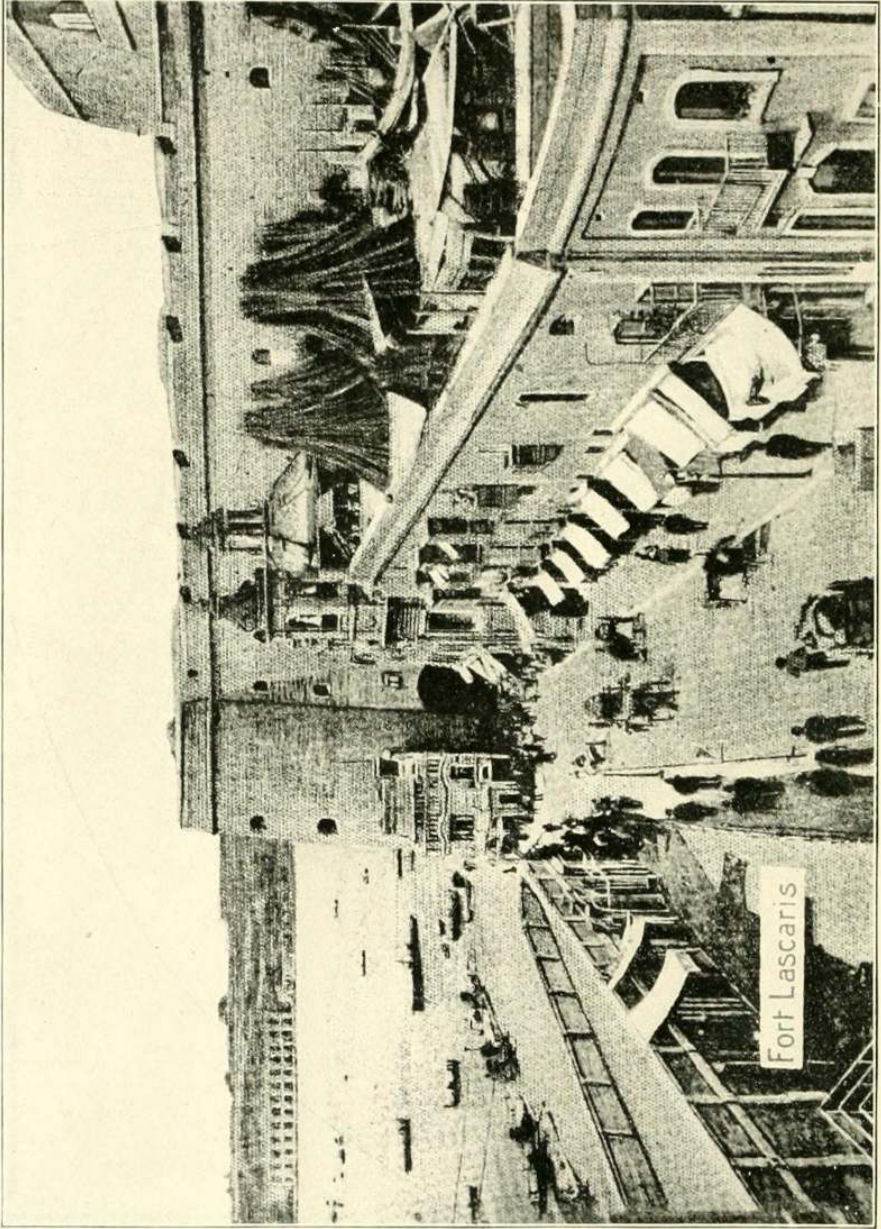
NICE, FRANCE.

We arrived at Genoa, Italy, on Saturday, February, 18, 1905, after a delightful sail of two nights and one day from Algiers, Africa. Genoa is a very old city, built on a fine, circular bay, with good breakwater, the best docks we have seen, and deep water. Vessels of deep draught come up to³ the docks. It is said to be the greatest shipping port on the Mediterranean. To-day there are probably one hundred vessels of all kinds in port. It is also a great coaling station, but the coal here is very soft, about three-quarters of it slack. We would hardly use such coal, still, it is the best to be had here, and it is in great demand. The city claims 235,000 population, and is a great place for business. The retail stores are up-to-date in styles, and have fine plate glass show windows. The people are apparently much better looking and more like Americans than the Italians we see in the United States. We took carriages to see the cemetery, Campo Santa, which is quite a curiosity to us. Situated close to the heart of the city, it has a row of vaults, or what is used for vaults, running around all four sides, making a kind of street, and in this place is buried all the wealthy class. These vaults are not built like ours, but the dead are laid on shelves, on the side of this street, or under the marble floor. This place is built like a long corridor, or hall, about twenty feet wide, and covered with a marble roof. In walking through, it appears like a long gallery, with marble statuary on the two sides. Their custom is to make a marble statue of the dead, and it is made to represent the dead, as he or she appeared just before death. Some are represented as actually in the throes of death, and present a horrible appearance, but most of the statues show the persons as they appeared just before death, while in health. In one instance the father, who was dead, was represented by his statue



GAMBLING CASINO AT MONTE CARLO.

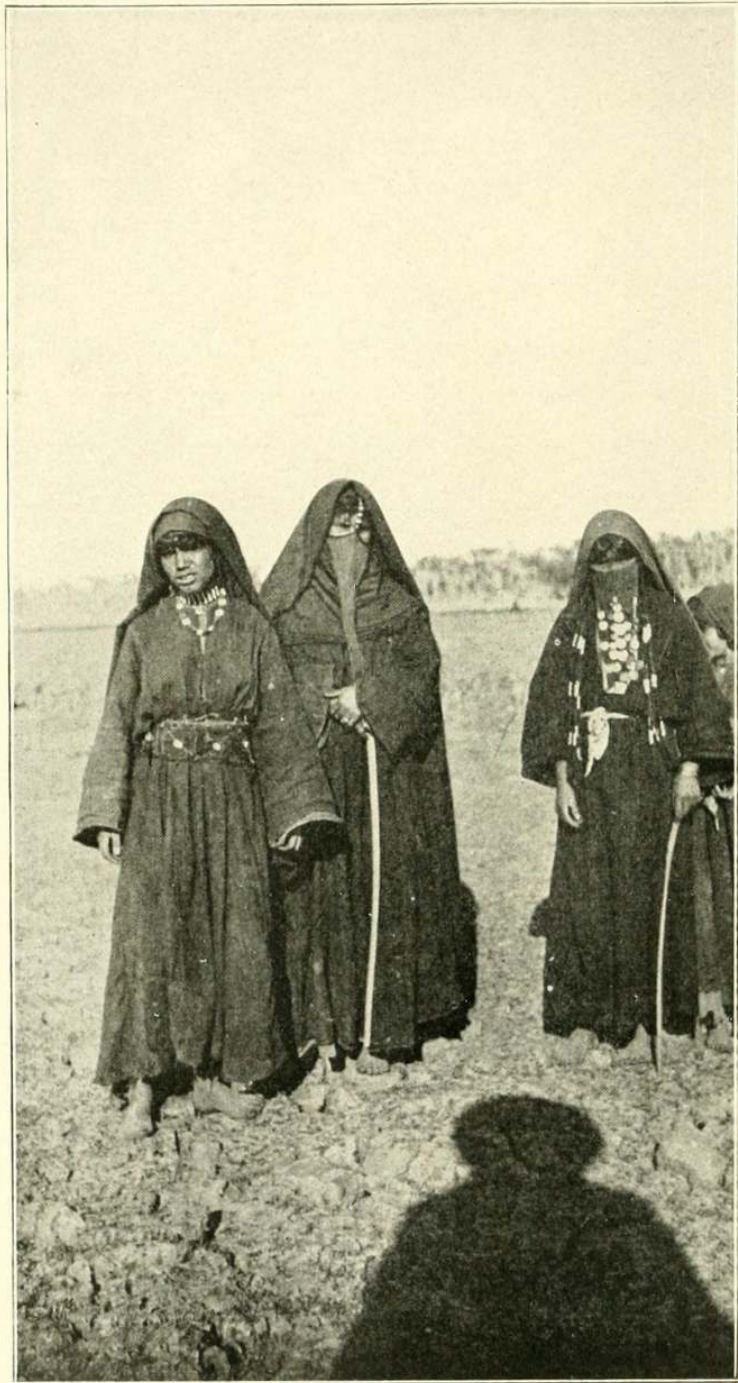
as he apparently appeared just after death, then two other busts were made exactly like the son and daughter, who are still living, showing them apparently weeping. One old woman had a statue made of herself, with her good clothes on (she was a market woman). It cost her two thousand dollars. She earned her money in the market, but was very anxious to appear well after death, so attended to all the details herself, and she makes a very creditable appearance, that is, considering her station in life, and what means she had at her command. The poorer classes are buried in rows on the inside, or in the central part of the cemetery, and as it is now full in this part, whenever a poor person dies they dig up one that has been buried a long time and dump his bones in some regular dumping place, to make room for the new occupant. This is a great economy of land, and as long as they follow this plan, they will of course have room enough. Next we visited the cathedral, which was built eight hundred years ago. It looks rather old, but will probably be good for a thousand years more, with ordinary repairs, being built of marble, which is plentiful here. It has a large, roomy and cold appearance, like many of the cathedrals we have seen, and the priests are here paid by the city. The public picture gallery was one of the palaces, but was given to the City of Genoa, and is now full of paintings, many of them by celebrated artists. Then we went to the palace of one of the most wealthy citizens of Italy. It is very fine, and has been built within the past century. The father of the present owner was the builder, and donated his means to help the City of Genoa. He built a great part of the sea walls and breakwaters of the harbor of Genoa, spending more than a million dollars in this way, for the benefit of the public. This family also owns a beautiful palace at Pigli, a small town about five miles



MALTA.

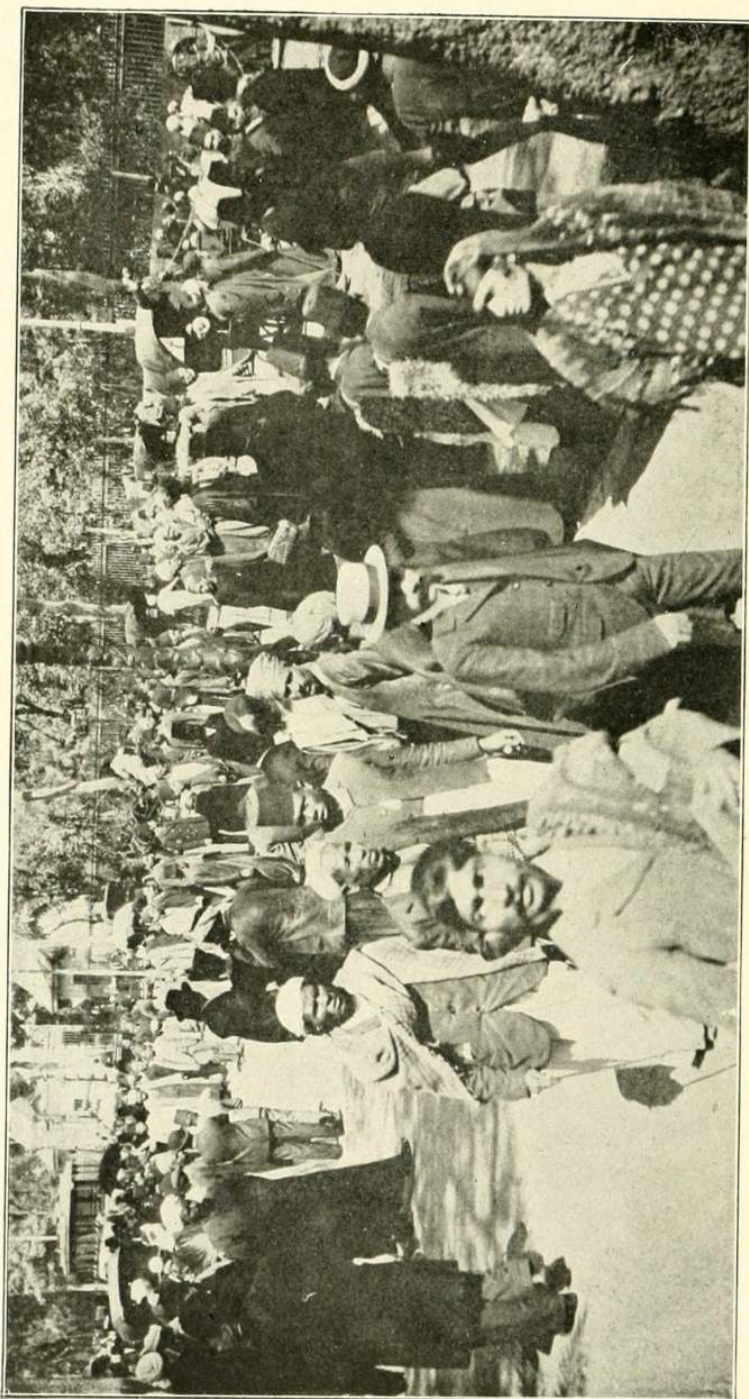
out from Genoa. We drove out there this morning, and viewed the gardens, as they are called (we would call them the park,) surrounding the palace. These gardens are very beautiful and very extensive. Many hundreds of thousands of dollars must have been spent in beautifying these grounds, and they are still doing more work, to build walks, lakes, bridges, underground caves and grottoes, and the most charming summer houses, filled with statuary and works of art, and all the most ornamental trees and shrubs, being transplanted here from almost every part of the world. It is certainly very pleasant to view these grounds.

After a stay of two days at Genoa, we sailed on Monday morning to Villa Fronche, which is ten miles west of Monte Carlo, and five miles east of Nice, in the middle of the far famed Riviera. All these towns are connected by steam railways, also by electric street cars, or tramways. We left the steamer Tuesday morning and went by street car to Nice, which is a beautiful city, with large retail stores of all kinds, up to Paris in styles, very beautiful gardens and parks, and a great health resort for all Europe. After a stroll through the principal streets, we took the tramway to Monte Carlo, over the most beautiful road for scenery we have seen. We took lunch at the Hotel de Paris at Monte Carlo, and then visited the Casino. There a sight was before us which is not equaled of its kind in the world elsewhere, and for those who love to gamble, the opportunity is unlimited. The Casino is very large, outside built of native rock, and inside built of marble, with the finest paintings in every available space. The hall is more beautiful than most of the palaces in Europe, but the interest of every one is centered on the games. There are ten double roulette tables and four card-game tables. While we were there we guessed that there were a hundred players around each



EGYPTIAN WOMEN, WORKING IN THE FIELDS.

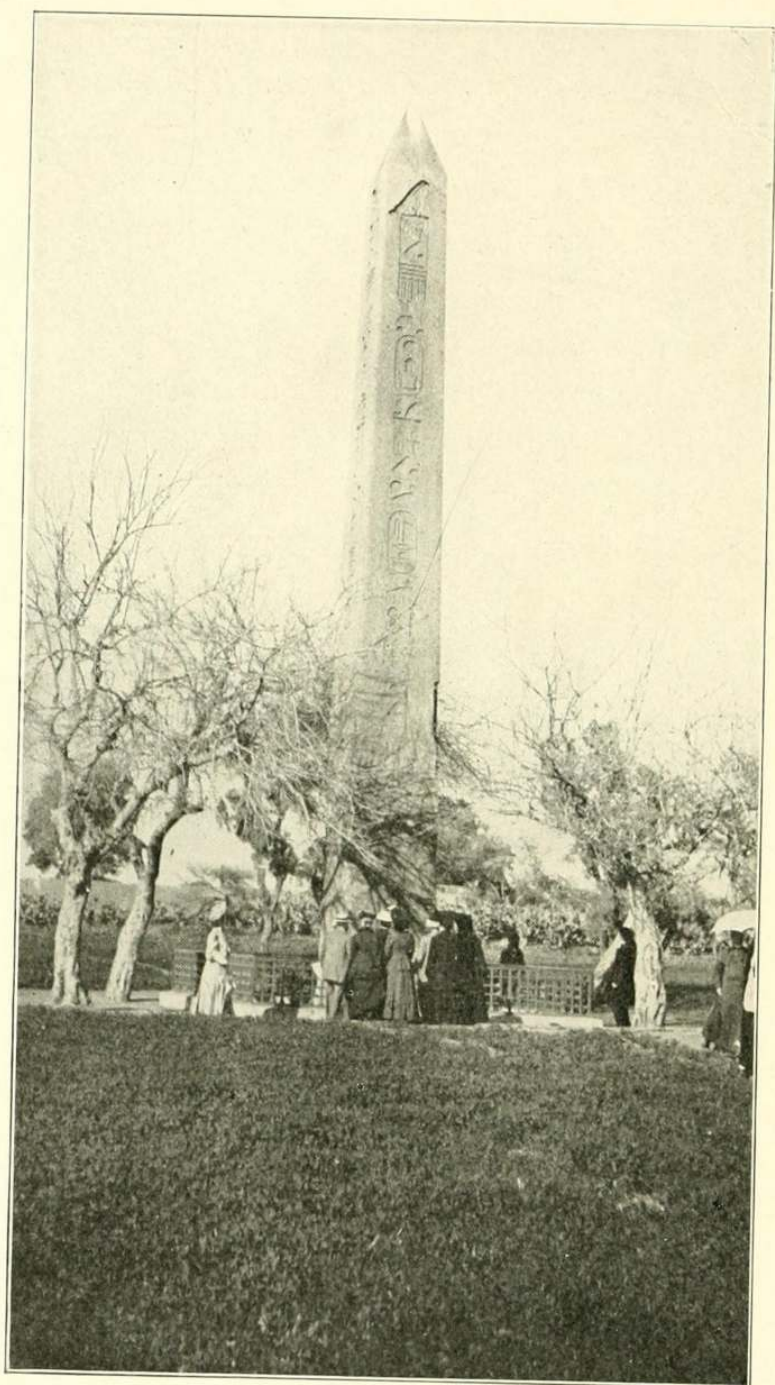
table, which would make fourteen hundred, playing all the time, and twice as many standing crowded around the tables, trying to get an opportunity to play, or looking on to see the games. We were among the latter class, as we do not play the games. There were to be seen here almost every nationality on the globe, both men and women, in fact, there were more women players than men, and they were of all classes and descriptions, old ladies well dressed and poorly dressed, young women who were handsome and others the reverse, some clean in appearance and some unclean in looks, all intent on the play; also men of all classes and nationalities. This was in the afternoon, about three o'clock. After six in the evening it is expected that every man who enters this gambling hall will wear the regulation evening dress, and still the tables are even more crowded than in the day time. It is estimated that about eleven million dollars are brought to this place every year, and about one million dollars taken away. They have a cemetery here which is well filled with the unlucky players who have committed suicide after having lost all their means at these gaming tables. To watch the expression of the players' faces is of much interest to the onlookers. After viewing this famous gambling hall for an hour, we strolled outside through the most beautiful grounds that can be made, in this most favored situation. This is probably the most beautiful place in Europe. The whole town, which may contain a population of ten thousand or more, at this season of the year, is owned and ruled by the Prince of Monaco. He has a beautiful palace, and maintains a standing army of forty soldiers, besides his small army of uniformed police, and a great many other employes of all kinds. The Prince pays all the taxes and expenses of the city, of every nature, builds the finest streets and roads to be found



STREET SCENE IN CAIRO—IN FRONT OF CONTINENTAL HOTEL.

anywhere, and has ample surplus to put in bank. The towns which we visited on the Riviera are most picturesque, made so by nature and greatly improved by man. The rocky Alps here dip into the blue Mediterranean, in many places coming to the water's edge, so that the roads which connect the towns have to be cut into the solid rock, or tunneled through them. Then there are a great many small bays and many small valleys between the mountains, where these towns and cities are located. The gardens are filled with tropical palm trees, and all classes of vegetation grown in tropical countries. The hills and mountains are very steep and many hill-side slopes are terraced up with rock walls to make little plateaus for flower gardens, market gardens and shade trees. A great many very beautiful villas are scattered all through these mountain sides. The roadways are the best, being built of rock, and well paved between the towns as they are in the cities. The people are generally a good looking lot. This is French territory, but many of the inhabitants are English, German, Italian, Russian, etc. We left the Riviera with the feeling that we would come back at the first opportunity, to enjoy the many beautiful scenes again. To see this place properly one should speak French, then locate at a good hotel in Nice, where the rates are high, but not so exorbitant as at Monte Carlo, and stay several days or weeks, or as long as your money holds out.

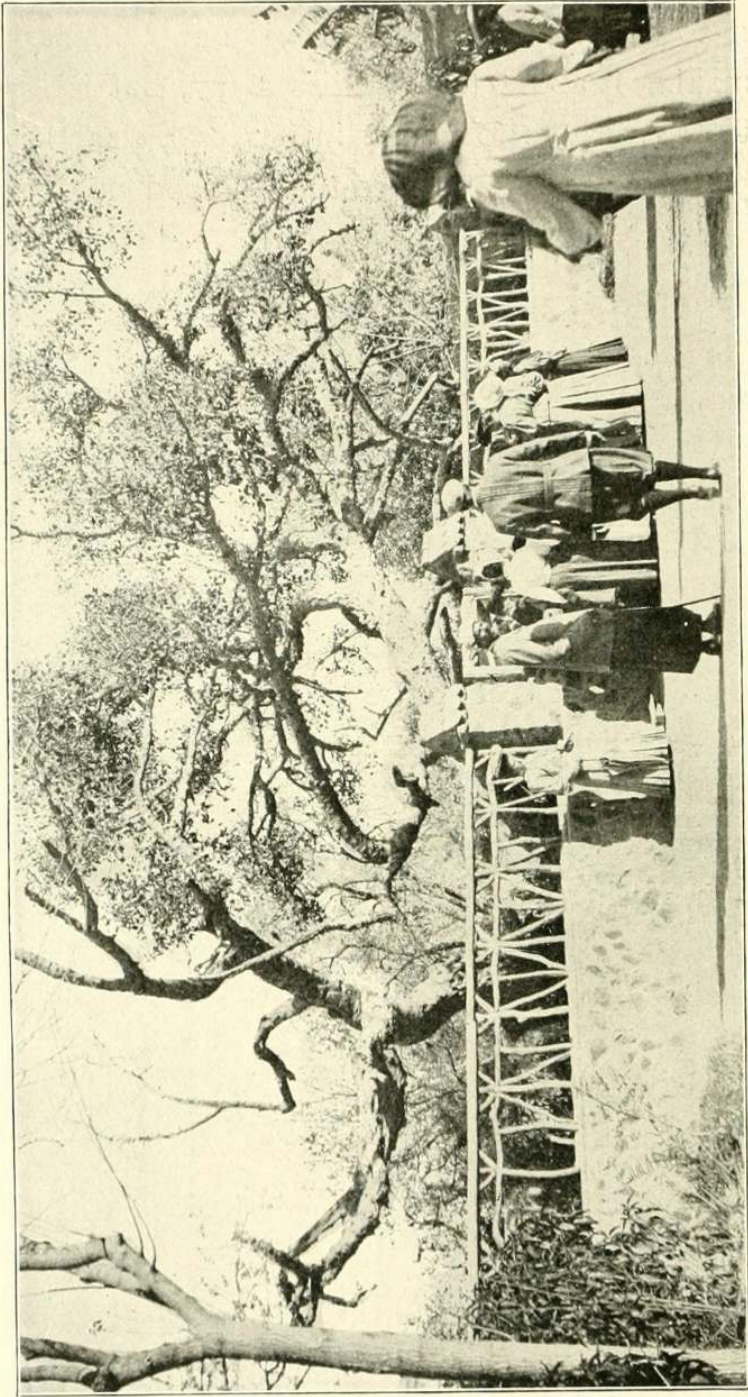
Syracuse, situated on the island of Sicily, was our next stopping place. We arrived here Thursday, February 23, 1905. While on the way we passed through the Strait of Messina, which has a narrow, deep channel, with mountains on both sides. Also, we had a grand view of Mt. Aetna, for several hours. This great mountain (an extinct volcano), eleven thousand feet above sea level, covered with snow all the year round, was the greatest



OBELISK AT HELIOPOLIS.

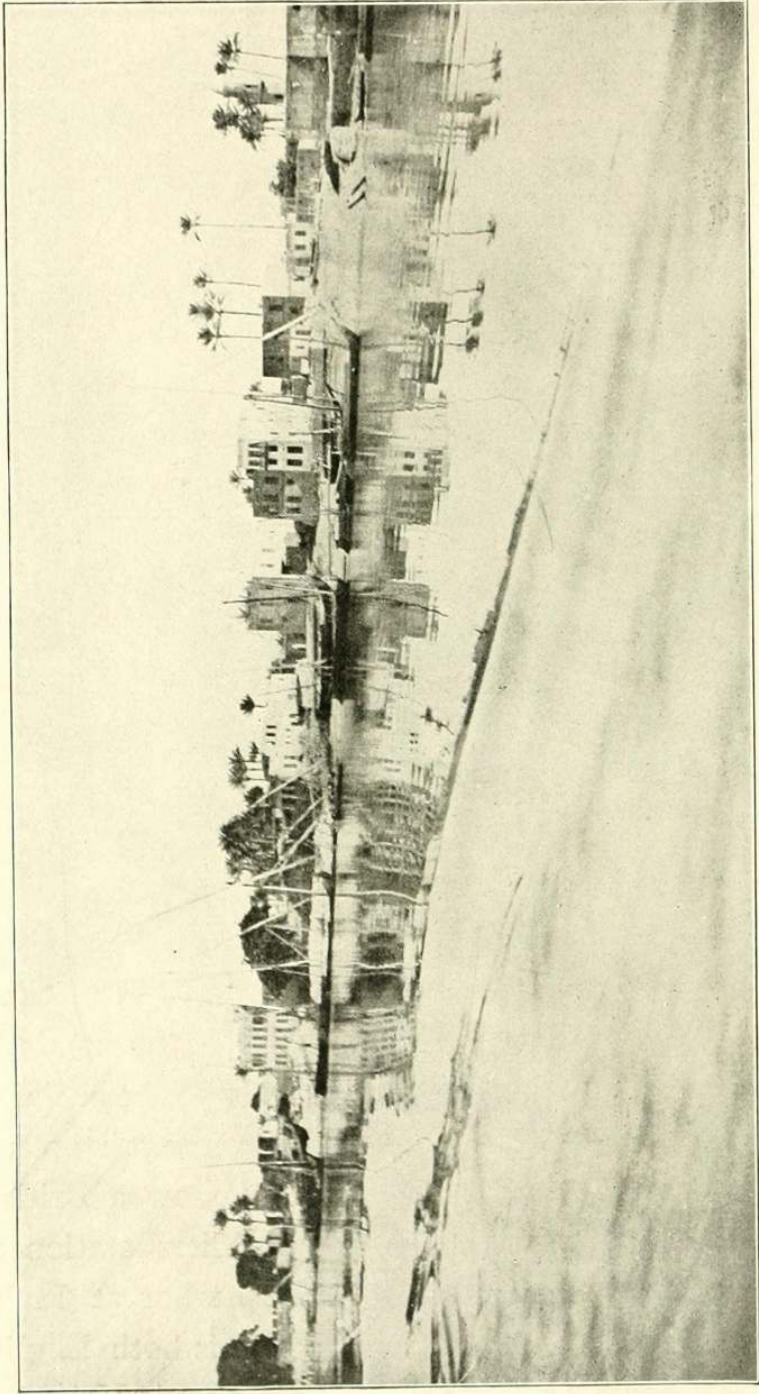
mountain sight we ever expect to see. Our steamer was five miles out to sea, and the mountain is about twenty-five miles inland, making it about thirty miles away, but it looked quite near to us. We were fortunate in having a clear sky, and the sun lit up the snow-clad peak so that it stood out very plainly, without a cloud to mar the view. Other mountain peaks are higher, but are there any higher than Mt. Aetna which are so plainly in sight from the sea ?

Syracuse was founded centuries B. C., and is the oldest in appearance of any city we have yet seen. We viewed a cathedral here which was originally a heathen temple, the Temple of Diana, and changed to a cathedral by the Romans. This cathedral was said to be built three hundred B. C., and probably it was, as it has a very aged appearance, though it is in good repair. Most of the buildings seem to be about two thousand years old. We visited the ruins of the catacombs. They are so old that there is scarcely a vestige of the great number of human bodies left. They are hewn out of the solid rock, and run a long way under ground, being built like regular streets, with places in the walls to lay the dead. They are three stories down, that is, you first see one set of catacombs, which covers a large area like streets, then you go downstairs and find another set of catacombs and streets, and under that a third set of catacombs and streets, all cut out of the solid rock, also there is a chapel built here. A priest lights a lamp and leads you down many stairs cut in the rock. When we come to the chapel, which is a part of the Catacombs, they showed us four large arches, one on each of its four sides. They were built for memorials to St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John. The whole is called the Christian Catacombs. We also visited the ruins of a Greek theatre, the large



THE TREE OF THE VIRGIN, NEAR HELIOPOLIS.

circular rows of seats being cut into the rock. This theatre would seat about five thousand persons. Also a Roman amphitheatre, which is very much like the ruins of the great amphitheatre at Rome. Part of it was cut in the solid rock. In some parts rock walls and seats were built. It is a complete circle, perhaps five hundred feet in diameter, with seats rising on all sides, about twenty rows of seats running all the way round. The central part, or arena, is now covered with grass. Also we viewed the ancient Greek quarries, where the rock has been taken out over several acres, and cut down, perhaps, a hundred feet. The bottom of this space is now used as a garden, and we saw some very large lemon trees, with their golden fruit ripe and ready to pick. Also we saw a cave which had been cut in the rock, about one hundred feet deep, two hundred feet long and seventy feet wide, in the widest part, built for a prison for Greek slaves. This city had, at one time, 400,000 inhabitants, but now it has only about 30,000, and they are very poverty stricken. We visited the Museum and saw a great many antiquities which have been found at different times in the vicinity, consisting of marble statues, all of which have been broken, also many coins of great variety, some made of gold, others of silver, but mostly of copper. Here we saw old Mt. Aetna again, standing boldly out against the sky. It was very beautiful in the soft red light of an Italian sunset. Our next stop was the ancient historical island of Malta, which is now a British fortress. They have six thousand British soldiers stationed here, and five British war vessels were in the harbor at Malta the day we were there. The language spoken is both English and Maltese. The name of the principal sea port is Valetta. The harbor is very good and deep enough for the largest vessels.



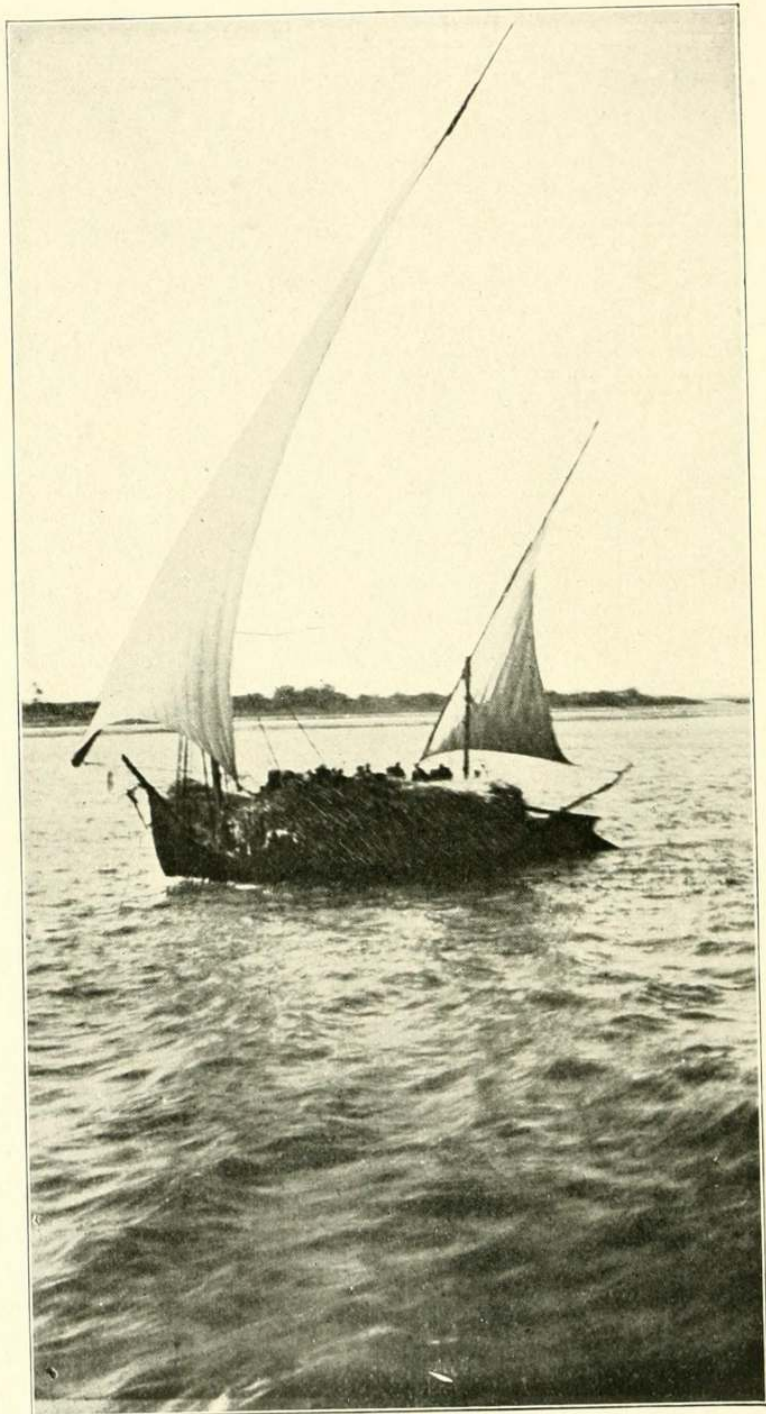
RIVER NILE, NEAR CAIRO.—THIS IS THE SPOT WHERE MOSES WAS FOUND.

They do considerable shipping here, considering that the island is only sixty miles in circumference. The whole island is very nearly all rock, and the walls of the fortifications are nearly a hundred feet high on the side facing the harbor. As the history of the island dates back nearly three thousand years, they have had plenty of time to build rock walls and buildings. We never saw a place where there are so many rock walls. We took a carriage and drove to the old town, which is situated near the center of the island. The whole country is densely populated, and is divided into small lots of one or two acres each, and each lot is surrounded by a stone wall eight or ten feet high. The ground seems to yield good crops. We saw many fields of pulse, a coarse forage crop used for hay, which was very green and luxuriant, as large as a full grown crop of clover, and we were there in February. We visited the catacombs, which are about a thousand years old, and cut into the solid rock under ground. These rock places of burial are so old that even the bones of the bodies once placed in them have decayed, or been removed, as there are no bones in them now. These catacombs are like those we saw at Syracuse, being tunnels cut in the solid rock, with places cut in the side walls of the tunnels to lay the dead. Next, we visited the Cathedral of St. Paul, who was ship-wrecked on this island. They have a very good picture of St. Paul and his comrades and the ship, taken just as the ship went on the rocks. The Bible tells us they were all saved. Then we drove back to the city and visited the Cathedral of St. John, which is very old, but is kept in good condition. Next we visited the Cathedral of Bones. The entrance to the place of bones is through the Cathedral, then down a long stairway to an underground chapel which is decorated with human bones. They are arranged on the



ENGAGING DONKEYS FOR THE RIDE TO SAKARAH.

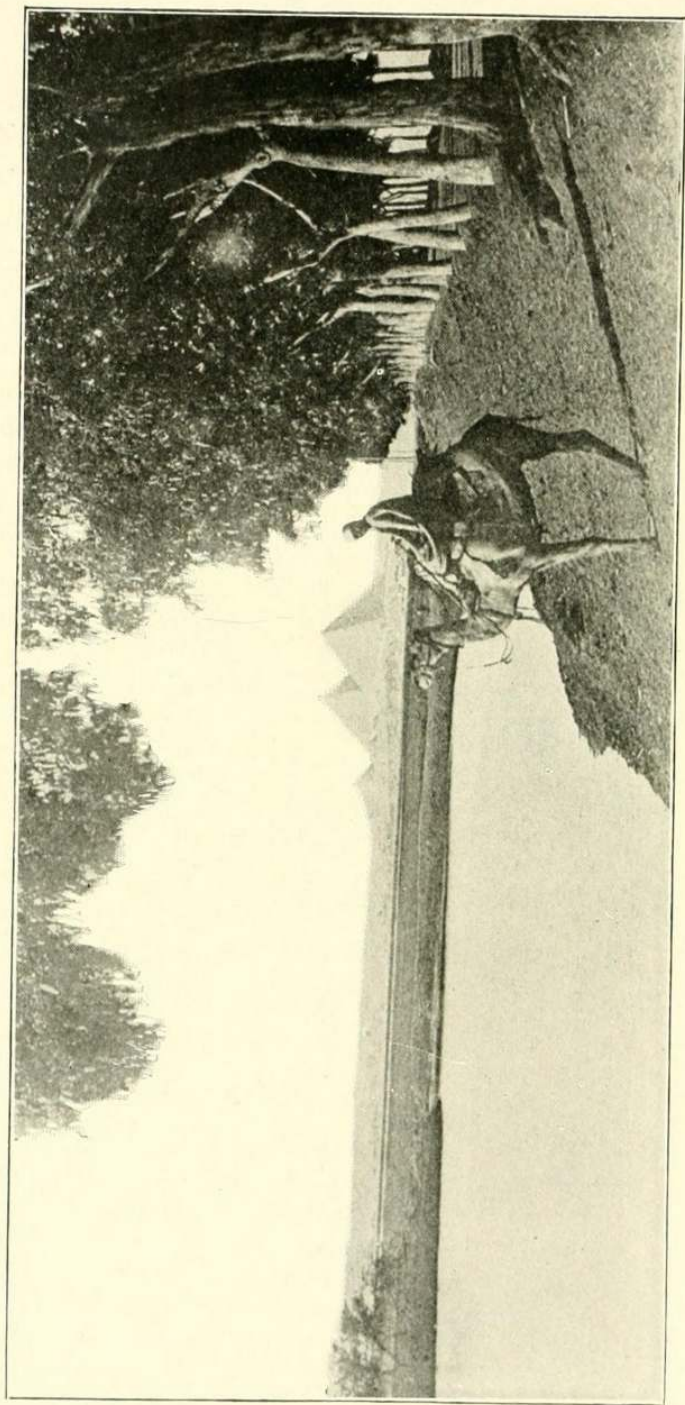
walls in symmetrical order, but to me they present a grewsome picture, and one that is not pleasant to see. The general appearance of the whole city and country is strikingly like the pictures we see of Palestine. There is not a tree on the island except the fruit trees, palm trees and ornamental trees in gardens. All the houses are square, flat topped stone buildings; you see no roof, as it is lower than the outside walls, and in the houses outside of the towns, they usually have no windows at all. However, the English have built some houses with windows like we have, also the English have nearly completed a fine large building for a school, and it is the first school building we have yet seen in our travels. This will give an idea of the dense ignorance that pervades the masses in all these countries. We also visited the Governor's country palace and gardens. These gardens are very large, and the best kept of any gardens we have seen, having fine walks and fountains, with swans swimming in them, and the most beautiful lemon and orange trees, also a great profusion of palm trees and other tropical trees, flowers and vegetables. The soil in this garden is fertile, all the trees and other vegetation were growing luxuriantly, and made a beautiful sight. The donkey and the goat are the best friends that the human race have in this country. Most of the carts are drawn by donkeys. They are quite small, many of them are not much larger than a large dog, but they tug a cart along with quite a heavy load. There are no cattle here to speak of, all the milk and butter they have comes from goats, and we do not relish goat milk or goat butter. The native Maltese people are dark, some of them nearly black, but most of them are just a little darker than the Spanish. They seem to be good workers. They wear no shoes, but a kind of sandal with only shoe soles, strapped to their feet.



SAILBOAT ON THE NILE, LOADED WITH SUGAR CANE.

An author could write a very interesting book, giving a history of Malta's past and present.

After a pleasant sail of three nights and two days across the blue Mediterranean, we arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, Monday morning, February 27, 1905. It is a wonderful place for business in the way of shipping, has a large harbor and a great many ships from all parts of the world. To one who is not accustomed to the ways of the Alexandrian Arabs, he will be glad when he gets his luggage safely off the steamer and on the train. The hubbub that these Arabs make is beyond description. There are about ten times as many of them as are needed, and all yelling in their own tongue (Arabic) to carry your luggage. The weather is always warm and dry in Egypt, and the most of the laboring class wear very little clothing. A long blue night shirt and a cloth turban is the dress of most of the men. Very few of them have any other garments, and no shoes. After getting our luggage on the train, and paying six Arabs to do this small amount of work, we took a short drive over the city, which is like all the delta of the Nile, perfectly flat, having been made in the past ages by the silt washed down by the Nile. Alexandria is of two widely different styles of architecture. The old part is built of stone and mortar, with streets ten to twenty feet wide, rock streets, no sidewalks, and populated with about the dirtiest lot of Arabs, Turks and Turkish women that are to be found. Their stalls, for the sale of all classes of goods, are about five feet square, and that is large enough for their kind of business. The new part, that has been built since the English have occupied the country, is much like the streets of Paris, well built, with streets as wide as ours, fine stores and office buildings.



GIZEH DRIVE—ON THE ROAD FROM CAIRO TO THE PYRAMIDS.

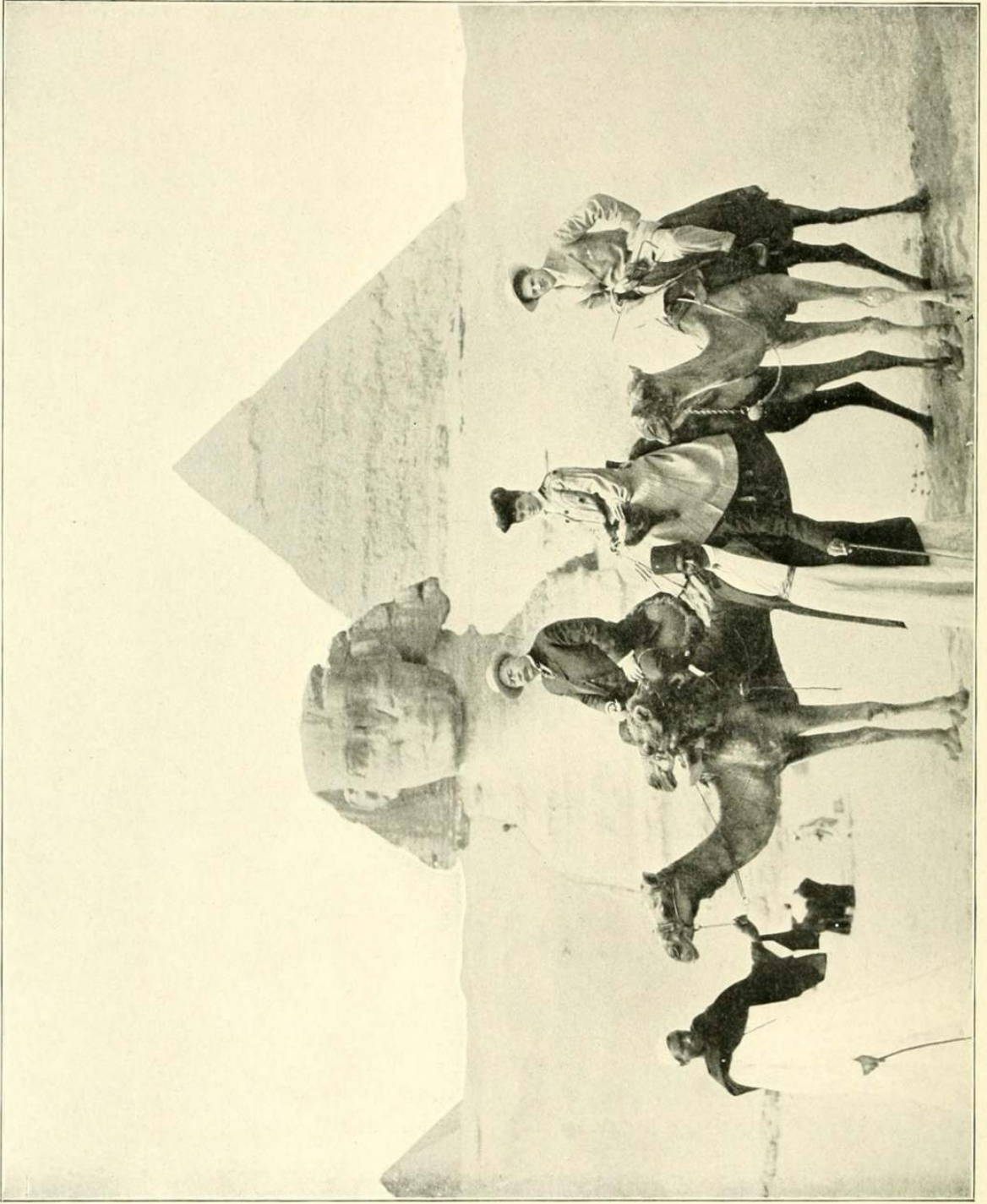
We left Alexandria at 11:45 for Cairo, 125 miles distant, and were delighted with the country all the way. It is all flat, made so by the Nile, and irrigated by the Nile, and seems to be the most fertile of any part of the earth. It is densely populated with Arabs, black buffalo cows, donkeys, goats and camels. The people live in small towns, their houses being built of black, sun-dried brick, covered with a kind of coarse corn stalks for a roof, and are one story high. The people in these small towns go out to work in the fields in bunches of twenty or thirty. They do not like to work alone, or any other way, as for that, but as there are so many of them they keep the whole country well tilled. It raises wonderfully big crops, mostly cotton, wheat, potatoes and a coarse kind of grass, called pulse. A large crop of cotton was raised here last year, and is now being taken to market on the backs of camels. Many date palms dot the surface of the country in all directions, and with the beautiful green fields make it to my eyes one of the most beautiful landscapes to be seen anywhere in the world, in the agricultural districts. The date palms grow usually from forty to fifty feet high, with a tuft of leaves at the top, like a feather duster. They have no branches or leaves except at the top.

On arrival at Cairo we went directly to the hotel Continental. There are several good hotels in Cairo. The Savoy, which is new and said to be the best, the Shepherds is very large and gets the big crowds, the Continental is very good and a little more quiet, with many others fairly good for Egypt. At breakfast we asked for bacon and egg, our usual breakfast, but the waiter said, "No, will you have an omelet and coffee?" As we had to have that or nothing, we cheerfully took what we could get, and complied with the ways of the land. Their lunch and dinner are



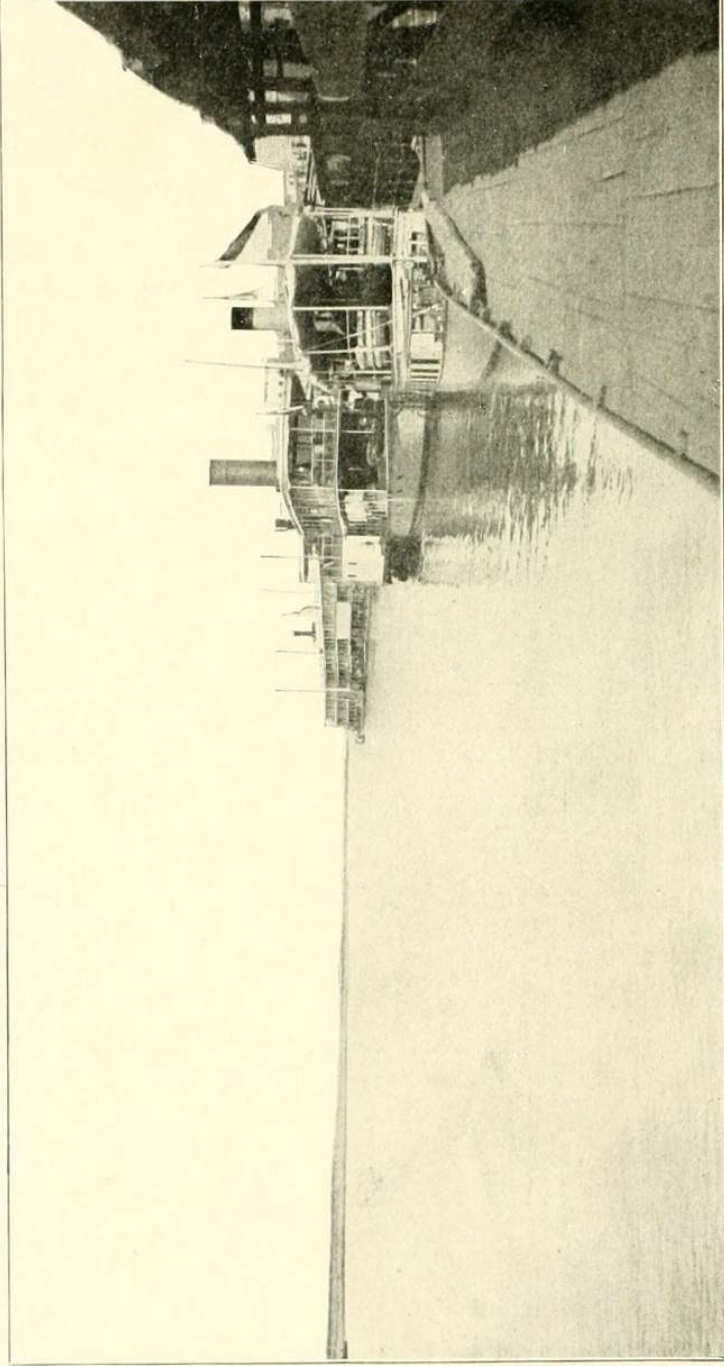
W. W. WHEELER ON THE GREAT PYRAMID CHEOPS.

very good. Egypt is a very fine place as regards climate, that is if you like a warm, dry climate. We know today just what kind of weather it will be to-morrow, the next day and so on. "It never rains" in Egypt. The weather is warm to-day, it will be a little warmer to-morrow, and so continue until mid-summer. We took carriages to see the sights of Cairo. About one third of the city has been recently built under English rule, and that part is up-to-date in appearance, with wide streets and modern built houses. There is much wealth and many beautiful homes in the city, and stores and shops to please the American or English tourist, but the other two-thirds is strictly Egyptian, with very narrow streets, ten to twenty feet wide, very densely populated, and full of the most dirty herd of Arabs, Turks, Jews, Armenians and Africans, of all shades of color, from the blackest to nearly white. Many of the shops and bazars are very small, and have only a few articles of the kind selected by tourists, called antiques, while many others are occupied by men who make shoes, or clothing of their kind, or baskets, etc. The prices in the English quarter are usually like American or English, one price only, but in the native shops and stores they ask a price which they never expect to get, and usually take what you offer them, after much contention, and then you find, when you get back to the hotel, that you have paid too much for the article. We visited the old Mosque which was built over a thousand years ago, and is now being rebuilt. It is not much to see, except that it is very large and old. Next we stopped at the large Mosque which is now in use. This is a very fine building, on the top of the only hill in the city, with a beautiful dome, very high and large, with two minarets, or high pinnacles, for the Mohammedans to call the faithful to



OUR FAMILY PARTY OUT FOR A MORNING RIDE.

prayer, which they do five times a day. The inside is well furnished with rugs, and frescoes and paintings on the walls. It is about 400 feet long and 125 feet wide, built three hundred years ago, with very thick walls, entirely of rock. In fact there are no buildings in Cairo except rock and plaster, all fire proof. Adjoining the Mosque is the large, circular court, with high walls surrounding it, with parapets, where the reigning monarch, many years ago, invited to a great dinner, four hundred influential men, called Mamelukes, and when they were inside, set his soldiers on the walls to firing at them, until all were killed except one, and he did not get very far away. They did not hesitate to do any thing in those days, to accomplish whatever they desired. After lunch we drove about five miles into the country to Heliopolis, to view the only remaining obelisk in Cairo. It is 4200 years old, and seems in as good shape to-day as though it was fifty years old, about ninety feet high, very much like Cleopatra's needle, now in New York Central Park, but in much better condition, built of one solid piece of red granite. The figures and inscriptions are still fresh and clearly read. This was the ancient Egyptian place of learning, and is the very identical place where Moses received his education, as well as all other educated men of those times. On the way, we viewed a very old sycamore, a gnarled tree now enclosed by a fence, where tradition says that the Virgin Mary hid the infant Christ in the hollow of its trunk, when a spider wove a web over the Infant to protect him from being found by the soldiers of Herod, the wicked king. Also a fountain, near this tree, the water of which was originally brackish and unfit to drink, but after the Virgin had used this water for the infant Christ it became sweet and good. To prove this we drank some of the



THE SECOND BOAT IS OUR NILE RIVER STEAMER, SERAPHIS.

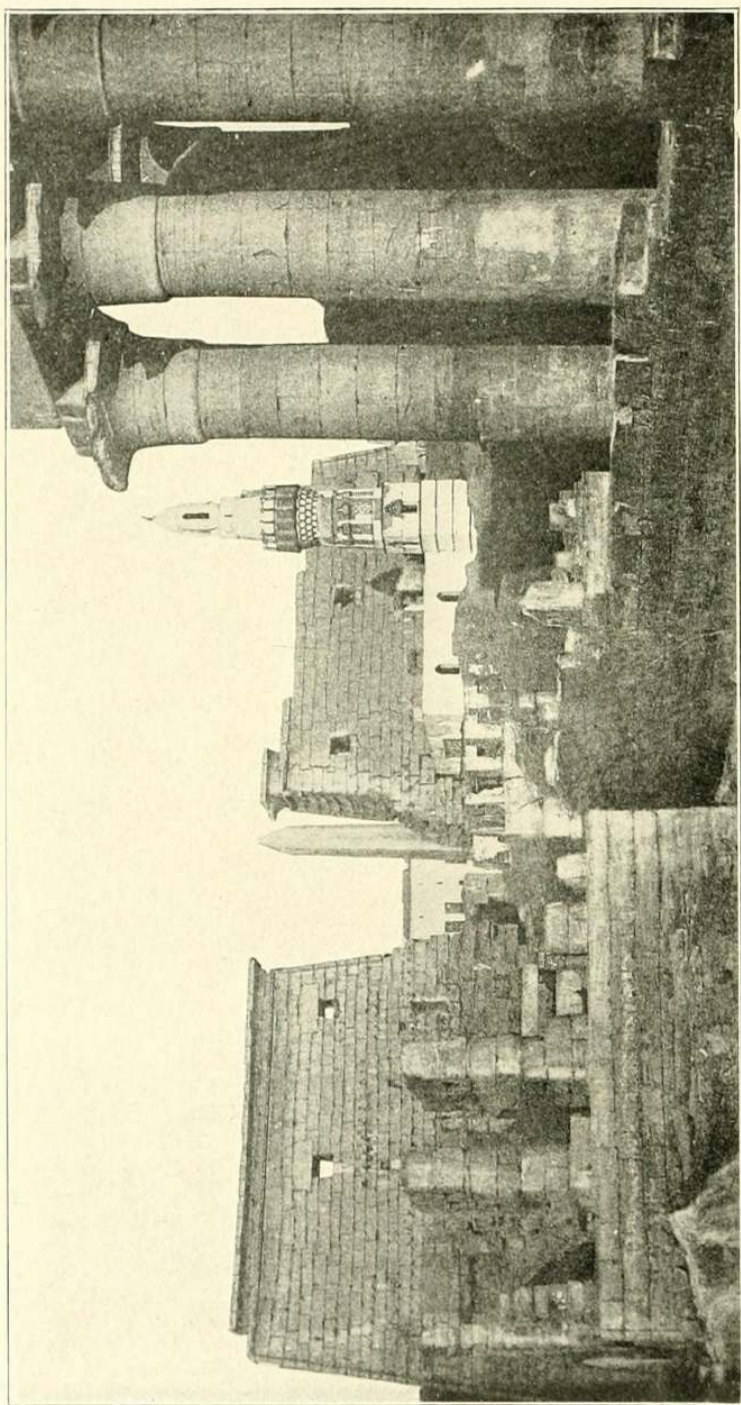
water, and it is excellent. Next day we went out about fifteen miles to view the ruins of Memphis, the oldest city in the world, also the ruins of Sakarah and the Pyramids of Sakarah. There are eleven pyramids here, built of brick, much smaller than the large pyramids at Cairo. Our party left Cairo at eight in the morning, and had the most delightful trip up the Nile for fifteen miles, in a small steamer. We landed and took donkeys for a ride six miles in the country, to the ruins. It was our first experience on donkeys, and a great novelty to us, but we found them good travelers and strong, with a native boy running along behind with a big stick to beat the donkey, and good lungs to yell, we made very good progress, usually in single file. We saw the two fallen and broken statues of Rameses the Great, at Memphis. They are exactly like the photographs we have seen. One is made of red granite and is as good as new, except where it is broken. The other is made of limestone, and not quite so good as the one made of granite. The statues are, or were originally, probably forty or fifty feet high, made of one solid block of stone. Think of the great amount of labor expended in bringing these huge statues several hundred miles from the nearest quarries. Then we hurried along, two hours further ride to the "Tombs of the Sacred Bulls." These are built in long tunnels, cut deep into the mountain in the solid rock. We went into the mountain at least a quarter of a mile, the course dipping down lower as we went. Here are tombs of twenty-four sacred bulls. Some of them are very much like the sarcophagus of Napoleon at Paris, about the same size, made of large blocks of red granite, about 12x20 feet and 10 or 12 feet high. All these huge blocks of granite stowed away in these tunnels, which are cut into the limestone rocks, were brought from quarries five hundred miles distant.



OUR PARTY ON BOARD THE NILE RIVER STEAMER, SERAPHIS.

They are in as good condition to-day as when they were placed there, more than four thousand years ago. All this was done for the remains of an animal (a sacred(?) bull) which these poor idolaters worshiped as God. When this country was afterwards conquered by the Romans, they ransacked every one of these tombs for the gold and silver and precious stones which were buried with these bulls. After this we visited the Tombs of the Caliphs, which have only recently been excavated, but they are not as good or as deep as the tombs of the bulls. Then we made a wild dash, on our donkeys, for the boat, which was six miles distant, and the sun extremely hot. We made the trip in good time, and down the river very pleasantly in our little steamer, with beautiful views on both sides of the river, to Old Cairo again.

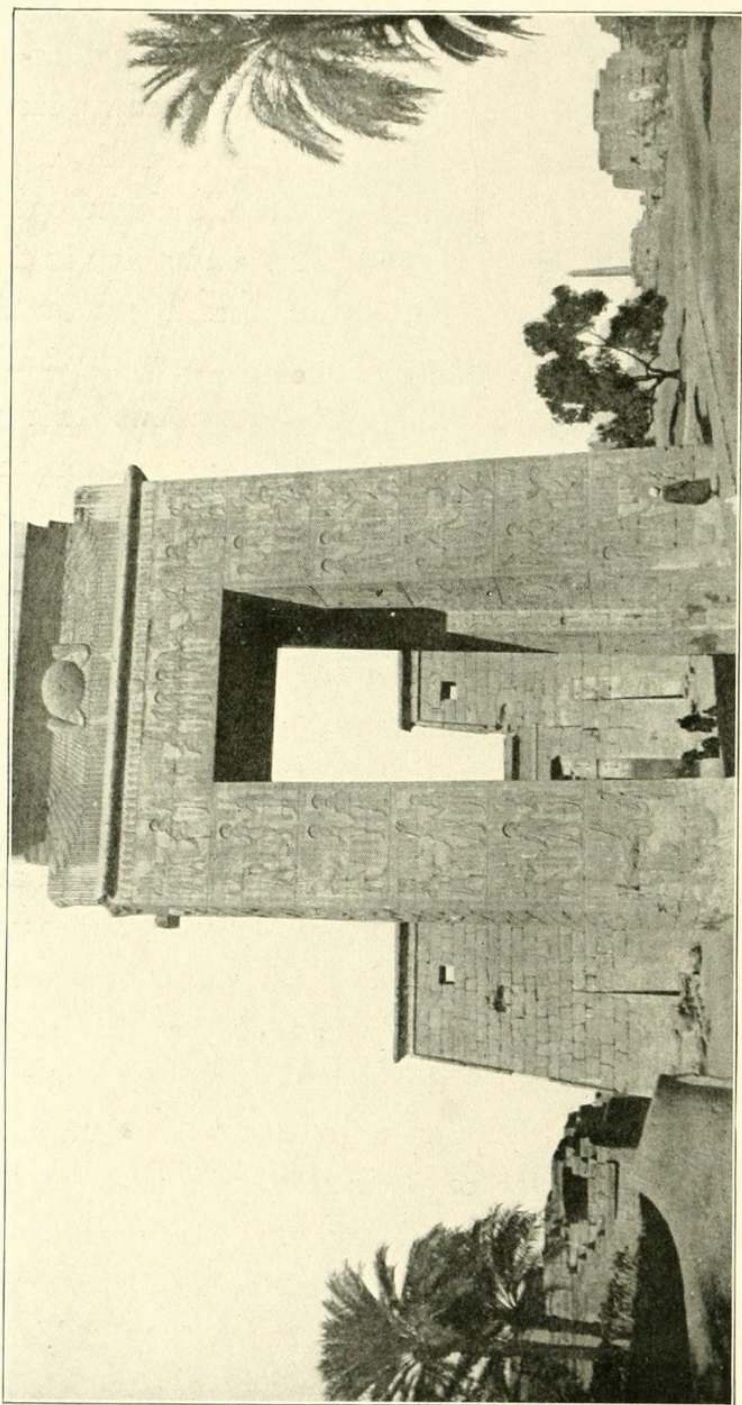
On Thursday morning, March 2, 1905, we drove out five miles to the great pyramids near Cairo; about five miles out, is also the great Pyramid Cheops and several others smaller, as well as the Sphinx. These are considered among the greatest sights of Egypt. Some of our party climbed to the top of Cheops, with the assistance of the guides. We all viewed the Sphinx with much pleasure. It is exactly like the photographs you have seen. Also we viewed a granite temple, only a few yards from the Sphinx. It is built of red granite, which never decays. This temple is over four thousand years old, and was for centuries covered with sand; it has been uncovered only a few years. It is in a good state of preservation, but the ruthless Romans, while here, tried to destroy it, and broke many of the stones which formed the roof, and some of the upright pillars. It was so well built that they failed to destroy it. The Romans then built some of their own work, of brick, adjoining this temple, and the Roman



PARTIAL VIEW OF THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLE OF LUXOR.

structures are long since in almost total decay. After having our lunch at the Mena Hotel, near the pyramids, and a first-class good lunch it was, we were driven back to the city, and took a look at the great Egyptian Museum. Here we saw a large number of historical antiques and curios gathered and displayed in good shape, for the benefit and education of the whole world. It will pay any one who visits Egypt to spend a day in the Cairo Museum, to see the vast collection of statues, the mummies, the coins, the marble slabs and inscriptions, the jewelry and beaten gold, the scarabs and the Village Sheik, an excellent wooden statue, about the most life-like of them all, also a thousand other rare antiques, not for sale, but simply displayed for the benefit of the public. Cairo is a city of half a million population, and one of the most interesting in the world. One could spend a month there and then not know all about it. We left Cairo Thursday night for Luxor, by train, and we were very agreeably surprised at the fine sleeping cars they gave us and in which we made the trip quite comfortably.

We arrived at Luxor Friday morning, March 3, and went direct to our steamer, The Seraphis, which was our home for the next six days. We were particularly fortunate in getting this little steamer for the exclusive use of our party of thirteen. The state rooms, bath rooms and dining room were large and pleasant, the meals excellent, the captain, steward and servants were most pleasant and obliging. Our state room was on the upper deck, which was much to our liking. In fact, the whole arrangement for a steamer trip on the Nile could hardly be more satisfactory, and we enjoyed every hour of it. The weather, while very hot in the sun, was pleasant while in the shade on the steamer. The view from the deck as we were steaming up the



ENTRANCE TO THE TEMPLE OF KARNAK.

river was very interesting. The Nile valley here is about three or four miles wide and under a high state of cultivation. Beyond that are low ranges of rock mountains and much sand, in fact, the actual desert, where no vegetation grows—not a tree, not a shrub or a spear of grass. At this season the river is getting low, and the natives do a large amount of pumping to lift the water out of the Nile to irrigate the crops. They have a kind of well sweep, with a dipper made of pig skin, on the end of a pole, with which one man lifts the water about twelve feet. Usually there were three men, one above the other, and they three would lift the water about thirty-six feet. These laborers are native blacks, and good workers. Those we saw were entirely nude while at their pumping work, and there was a very large number of them so engaged. In fact, at this season of the year there is a pumping station about every three hundred yards, on each side of the Nile. We suggested that the English, who are building sugar mills in this part of the Nile valley, ought to do this pumping with gasoline engines, very cheaply, but the reply was, "This labor is cheaper than gasoline for lifting water."

Our steward on the steamer was a devout Mohammedan, and all good Mohammedans pray five times a day with their faces always toward Mecca. We timed this Mohammedan one night as he was saying his prayers. First he stands and silently prays, and makes three low bows during his standing. Then he sits on his legs, which are crossed in the usual Arab sitting posture, and silently prays, and makes three very low bows. Then he makes a fourth bow and touches the earth or floor with his head. He now rises and we think he has finished his prayer. Not so, at all. He goes over these same motions seven times, making his prayers in all consume fifteen minutes, and as he



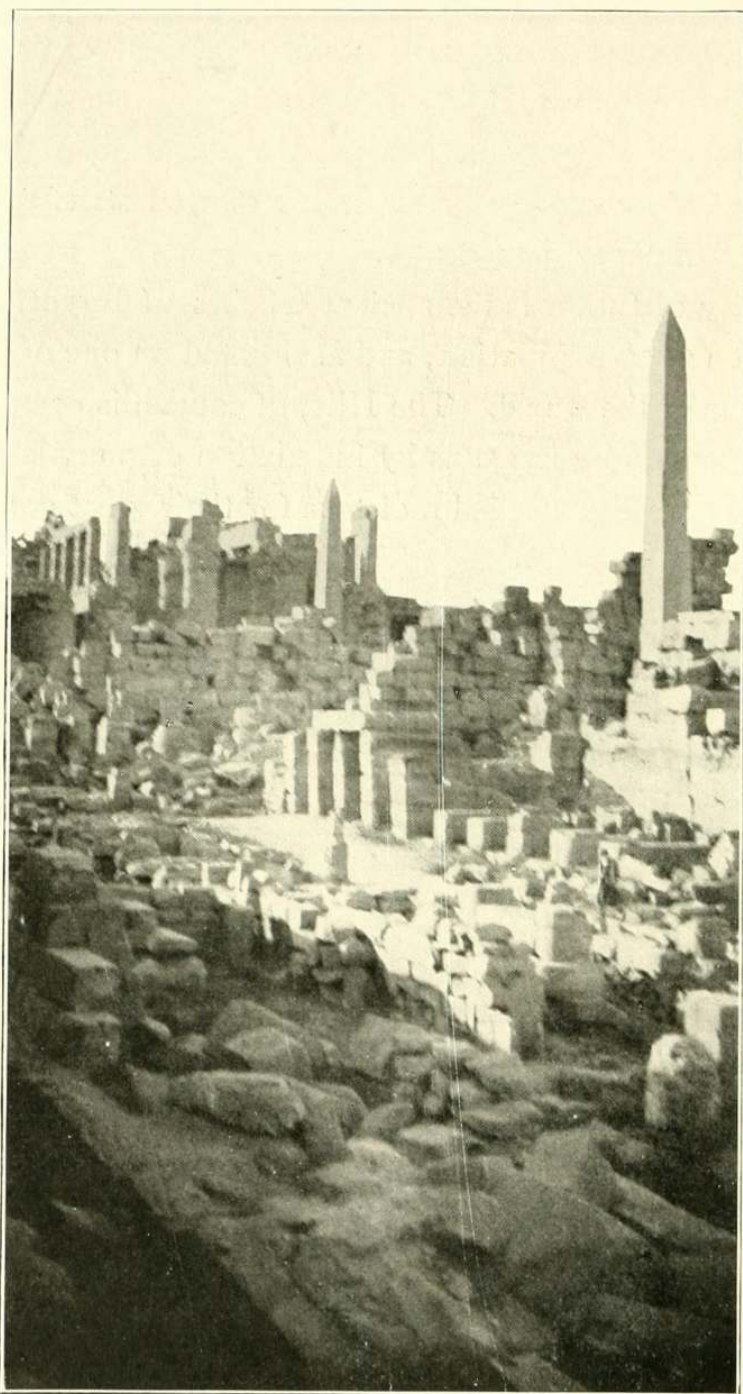
PART OF TEMPLE OF KARNAK.

does this five times a day it takes about an hour and a quarter each day to say his prayers. That would put to shame the average Christian, who perhaps does not spend more than five or ten minutes per day in the posture of prayer. Also, a command which Mohammed gave to his followers: "Drink no intoxicating liquors of any kind," is obeyed strictly, and the Mohammedan never gets drunk.

The city of Luxor is the ancient Thebes of Egypt, and has now about 11,000 population, and is situated on one of the most fertile plains of the world. The Nile, of course, is everything to Egypt, and annually irrigates by inundation or pumping, all the valley, and gives the needed moisture for their great crops. We viewed the temple of Luxor, which is now in ruins, but its former grandeur is still apparent. It originally had two obelisks, about one hundred feet high, one on each side of the main entrance. One has fallen, the other is standing and in excellent shape still, and the historical inscriptions are not at all defaced.

There are many statues of Rameses the Great to be seen here, each hewn out of one piece of red granite, and in size forty to fifty feet high, but there is not one which has not been broken. The Romans did more destruction in Egypt than all others. When they took the country they apparently desired to show their utter contempt for the Egyptian gods, and with great labor, using sledges, they broke all these big statues of Rameses the Great, and all other statues to be found, destroyed their temples, and ransacked the tombs for jewelry.

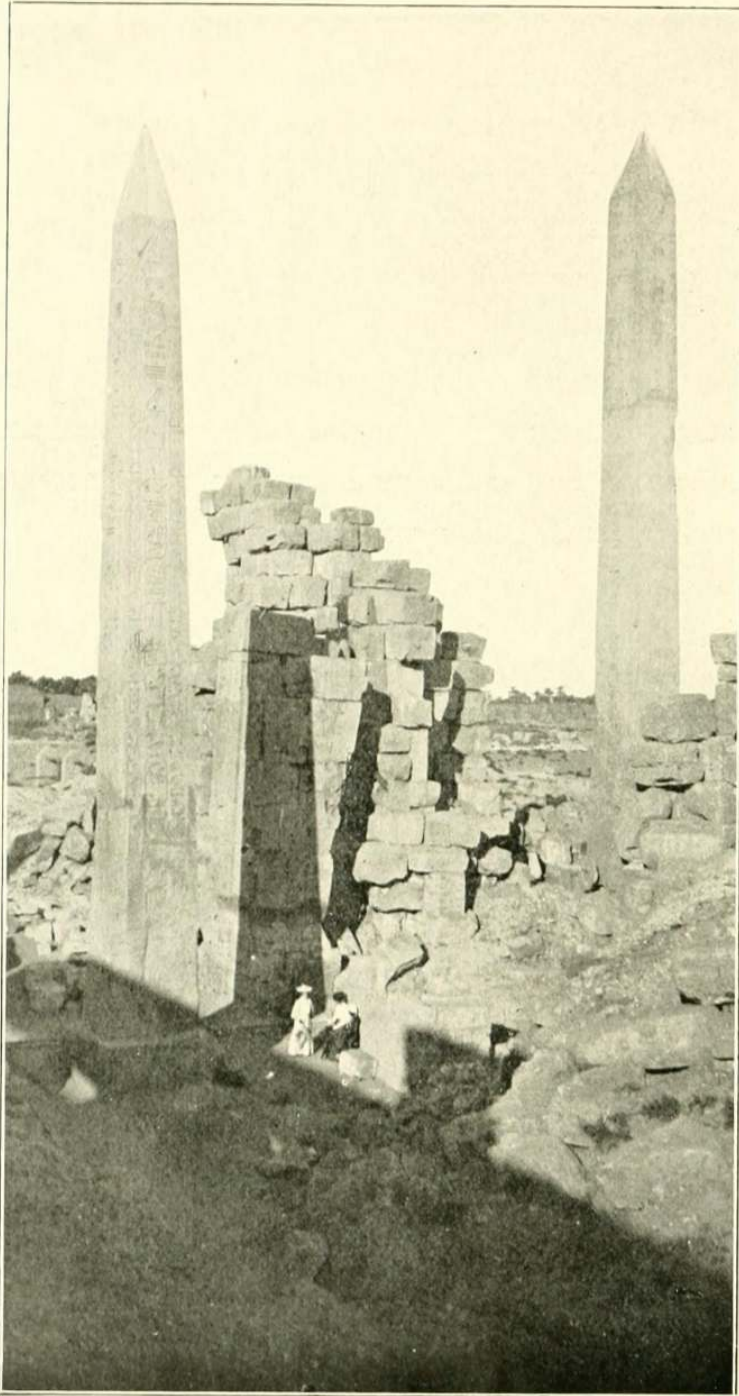
Next, we went to the noted Temple of Karnak, which is about a mile out from Luxor. This temple and grounds covered one hundred acres. The building itself covered about sixty acres. It is colossal, beyond description. The walls at the gates where



PARTIAL VIEW OF THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLE OF KARNAK.

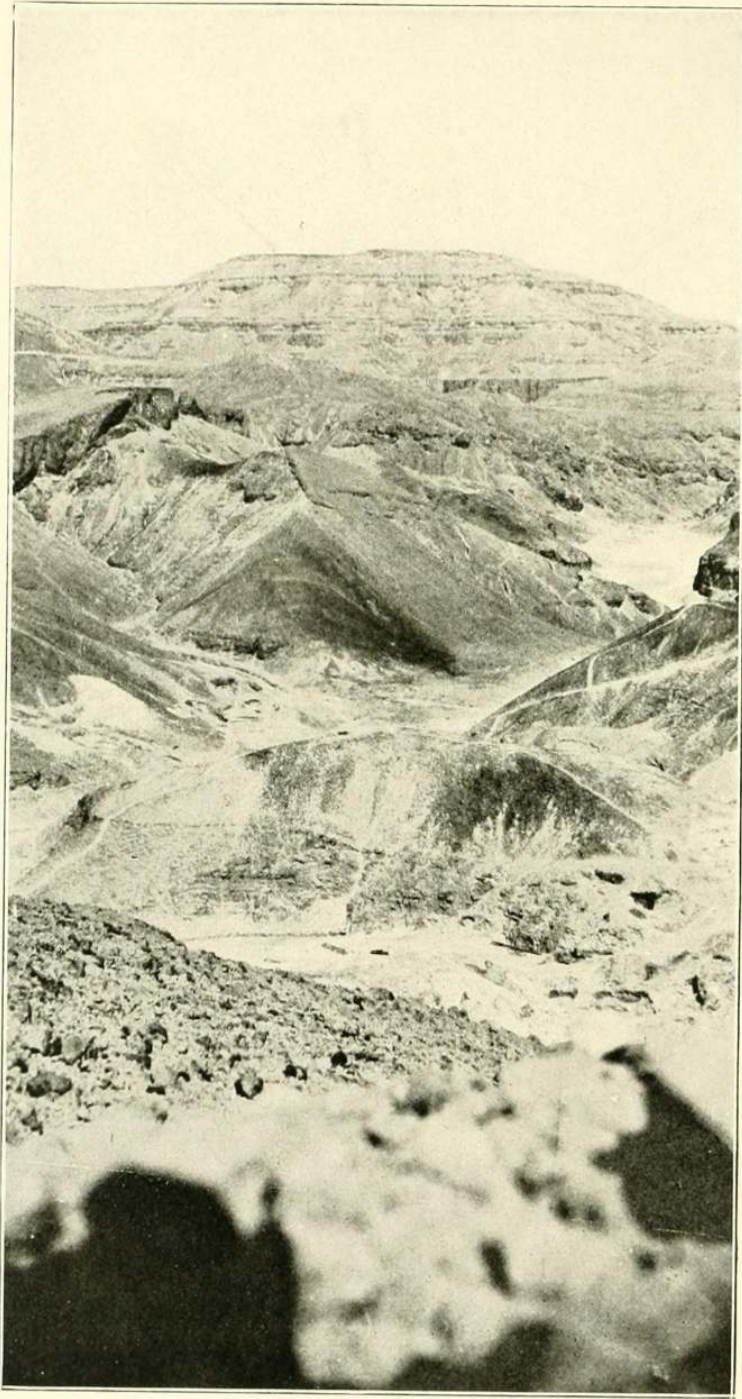
we entered are one hundred and forty feet high. In one gallery there are one hundred and thirty-four stupendous pillars, about fifteen feet in thickness and nearly one hundred feet high. In the central part of the temple there were two obelisks about one hundred feet high. One has fallen, the other is still standing. This temple has been half covered with dust, sand and fallen rocks for many centuries. It was built 1900 years B. C., but took the work of several kings to bring it to its original greatness. They are still working on excavations here, and have in the past few months unearthed a golden chariot, eighty-eight statues, and many other things of value, and anticipate finding a great many more historical relics, as there is a very large part of this temple that still lies covered with sand.

On Saturday, March 4th, we crossed the Nile to the west bank, opposite Luxor, and took donkeys for a ride of six miles to the Tombs of the Kings and the Valley Dayr-el-Bahree, also the temple of Hataso. These tombs were made about 1300 years to 1700 years B. C., and are built in tunnels made in solid rock, under the mountains for a long distance, and dip down into the mountain rapidly as they go in. They are now all lighted by electricity. They are the only tombs we have seen that are lighted by electricity. That is bringing the ancient and modern very close together, but it is a great convenience indeed, as the inscriptions on the walls are very plain to see, also the beautiful colorings on the walls and ceilings, by the aid of electric light. These tombs are only about 3500 years old, and the pictures and figures seem about as clear and plain as when they were first built. All the mummies have been taken out of these tombs except four. The King Amonothos' mummy still lies at the most inner part of one of these tombs, in a granite coffin, and is



PART OF THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLE OF KARNAK.

in good condition. There is an electric light which hangs over his face, so that one can see him very well, also there are three other mummies in a niche near the king, supposed to be criminals killed when the king died, and sent with him to the unknown to help him along. We also saw a very old temple where the inscriptions still remain very clear and plain. After a good lunch, furnished by Thos. Cook & Son at their rest house beside the temple, we again took our donkeys and returned to the steamer. This was much more pleasant than our former donkey ride, as the animals were larger and better in every way, and the drivers more intelligent. The one who drove my donkey was fairly bright. I tried to teach him to count up to ten. He learned up to seven, but could not get beyond that in one afternoon. These donkey drivers are like most of the tillers of the soil here, regular Arabs, of all colors from black up to fairly light mulatto. Hardly any of them wear any shoes or trousers. They have a kind of turban on their heads, made of unbleached cotton cloth and a long flowing garment like a shirt, but having many folds and coming down near the ground. It may be made of black calico or thin unbleached muslin. Many of them talk broken English. We met an old Sheik of this class, who was a dealer in antiques in Luxor, said to be worth a quarter million dollars. He was quite black, with a slight gray or white beard, his costume was same as noted above, except that he wore a pair of slippers or sandals and stockings. He could speak English well, and was very independent in offering his goods for sale. Strange to say, he had only one price. We could buy at that price or let them alone. He had the most valuable lot of antiques that we saw in upper Egypt.



THE VALLEY OF DEATH—ON THE ROAD TO THE TOMBS OF THE KINGS.

On Sunday morning, March 5th, we went to the American Mission at Luxor, but were too late for their sermon, as their service is early at this season. They have quite large buildings, and are under the management of the United Presbyterian church. Then we went to the English speaking Episcopal church and heard a very good sermon. On coming out of the church we were met by one of our servants from the boat, who said, "Hurry up, the boat is just leaving for Assouan, and if I had not come for you, you would have been left," and it was true. The captain had changed his hour of leaving from 1:00 o'clock to 11:30 and had not notified us.

On Monday, March 6th, on our way by steamer from Luxor to Assouan, we stopped at Edfou, to view the temple there. This temple was begun about 227 B. C., and completed 27 B. C., and is only about 2000 years old. Most of the walls are built of sandstone, some parts being red granite. Almost the entire walls and roof are still standing, and in excellent shape. It is now being repaired by the historical society of Egypt, and will soon be as good as it was 2000 years ago. Perhaps it would be well to state that one reason for the walls of these ancient temples standing the test of time for thousands of years is the perfect climate here. There is actually no frost, and no rain ever falls in Egypt, or so little that we might say none. We are told that there was one rain here in upper Egypt fifteen years ago, which lasted half an hour, but there has not been a shower since then. We were much pleased to view this temple of Edfou, as it gave us a better idea of the original grandeur of the older temples, which are now in ruins. This temple is two hundred and forty feet wide and about five hundred or six hundred feet long. The front wall is one hundred and fifteen feet high and



ENTRANCE TO THE TEMPLE AT EDFOU.

about fifteen feet thick. There is an easy stairway to the top of this wall on the inside, consisting of two hundred and forty-six steps. The whole surface of all the walls, both outside and inside, is covered with Egyptian pictures and Egyptian history, cut into the rock, so that there is not the slightest trouble to get authentic history of all the past of Egypt, notwithstanding the fact that the ancient Alexandrian Library was burned. This temple of Edfou, the main part aside from the front, is about eighty or ninety feet high and is entirely surrounded by an outer wall, just the same height as the temple itself. The outer wall is about twenty feet from the outside walls of the temple itself, thus forming a narrow alley, or lane all around the temple, and the entire walls of this outside wall are covered, both outside and inside, with Egyptian pictures and history, cut in the rock, the same as the temple itself. The inside of the temple has an open court where the people used to assemble, then an inside court where the priests used to offer burnt offerings as a sacrifice to their gods, and still further a Holy of Holies, where no one was admitted but the king, the arrangement being similar to the arrangement of the tabernacle of the Israelites when they were marching through the wilderness. Then there are many small rooms, which were used for special purposes, one being a room for the treasury, where they kept the gold and silver, another where the king washed his feet and changed his clothing before going into the Holy of Holies, etc. We also passed the ruins of several other temples, which we could plainly see from the steamer, but did not stop to view them. In fact if we should undertake to see all the old temples of Egypt, it might take us all summer. Also we passed two large modern sugar factories, and yesterday we saw a train of about forty car loads of sugar cane, going to the sugar

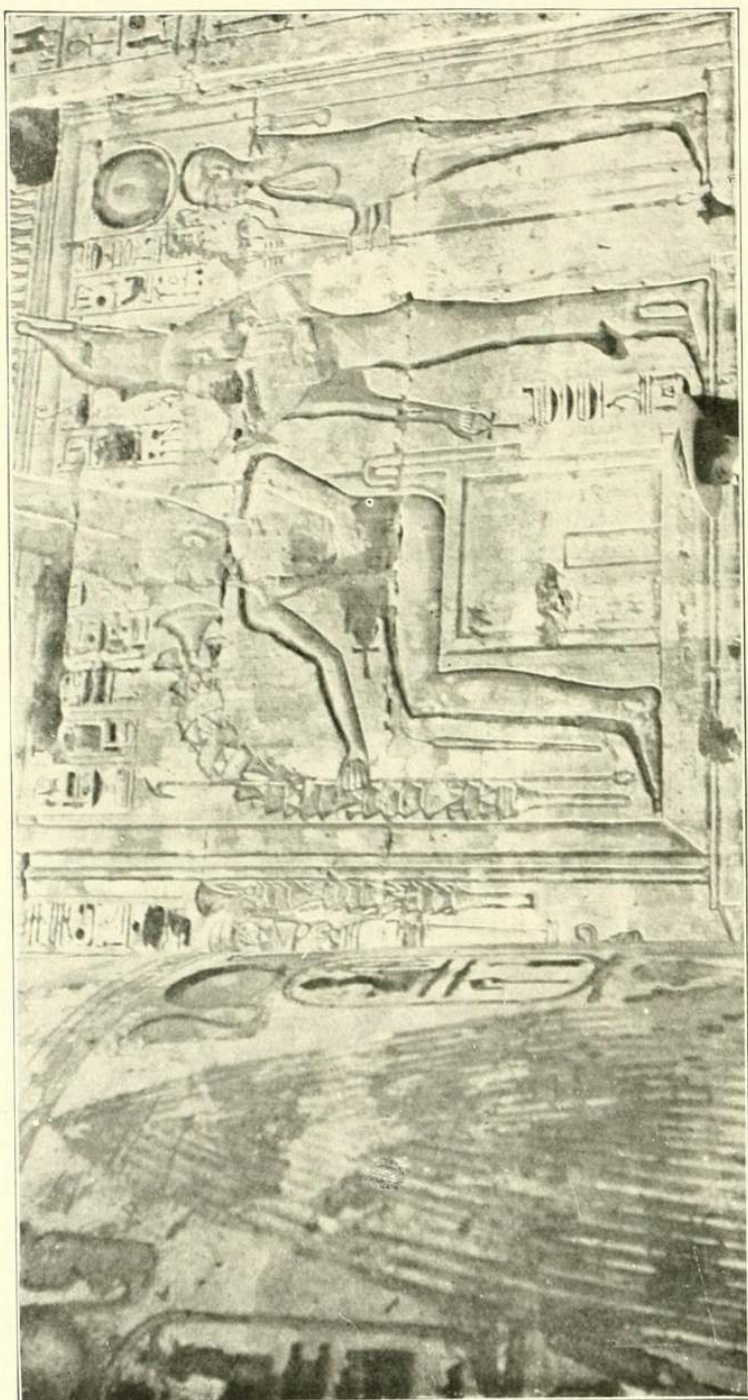


ENTRANCE TO THE TOMBS OF THE KINGS.

factory. Sugar is going to be one of the important industries of Egypt in the near future, as the big dam across the Nile at Assouan will greatly increase the land that can be reached with irrigation, and it is all fertile if it can be well watered.

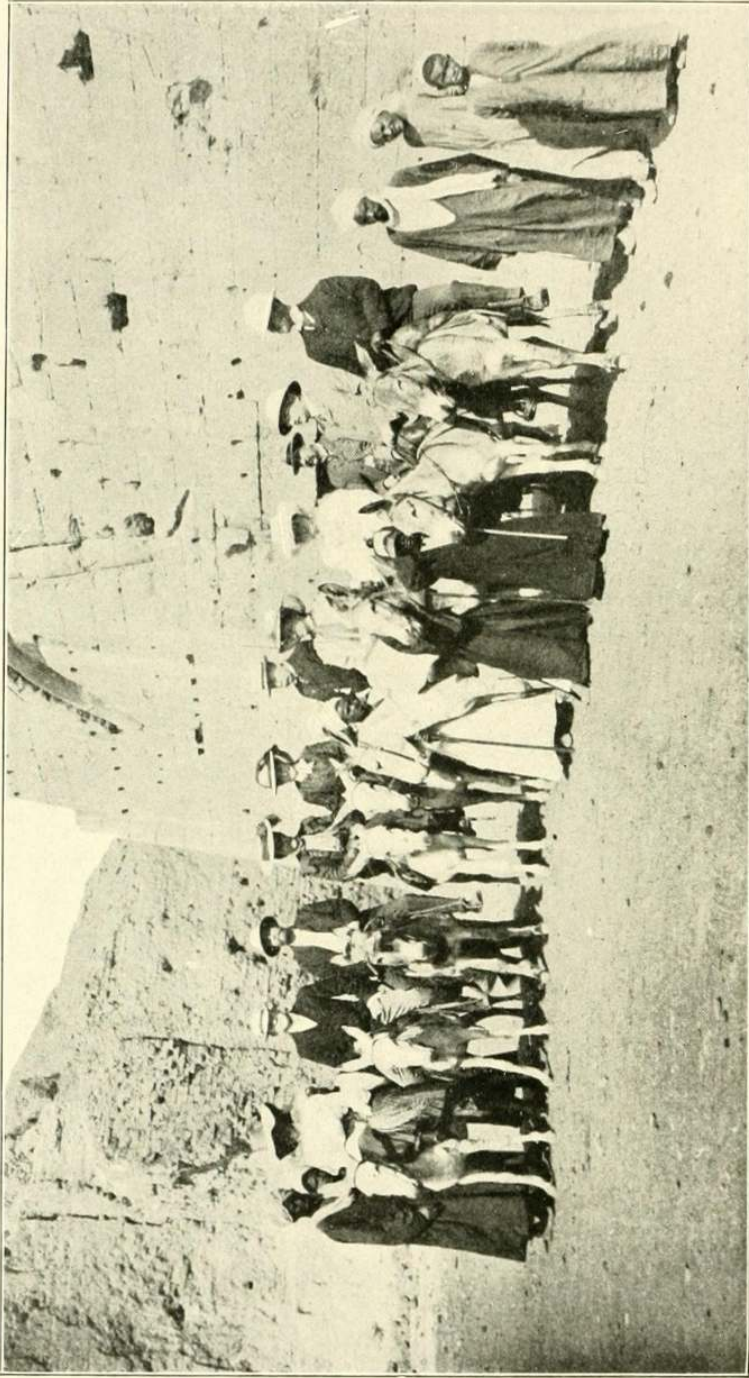
We reached Assouan March 7th, and it presents a very good appearance from the river, but all the buildings back of the river street are very poor, and occupied with shops of the most inferior trash that we have yet seen, called antiques. We visited an old temple site on the west bank of the Nile. It is entirely in ruins, and most of the material has been hauled away to build other structures. The Savoy Hotel is on the west bank of the Nile, and a very attractive place. The Cataract Hotel on the east bank is new, just built last year, at a cost of half a million dollars. Either of these hotels would please the most fastidious traveler. They are up-to-date in all respects, (except bath rooms, which are very few). In fact, they are about as good as the best hotels in Europe, and the prices are about the same. A good room in the Cataract Hotel is five dollars per day, board about four dollars per day additional. In season they are always more than full.

This is called the dryest atmosphere of any place in Egypt, and has a great reputation as a health resort. Assouan has 13,000 population, and is on the edge of the Great Sahara Desert. The great Nile dam is eight miles above the city, built by an Englishman named Castle. It is one of the greatest engineering feats of the world, about a mile long and seventy feet high, eighty feet wide at the base, and forty feet wide at the top, built of red granite and cement. We were over it today, March 8, 1905, and it is located in a spot greatly favored by nature for this work. The granite hills there come up to the bank of the



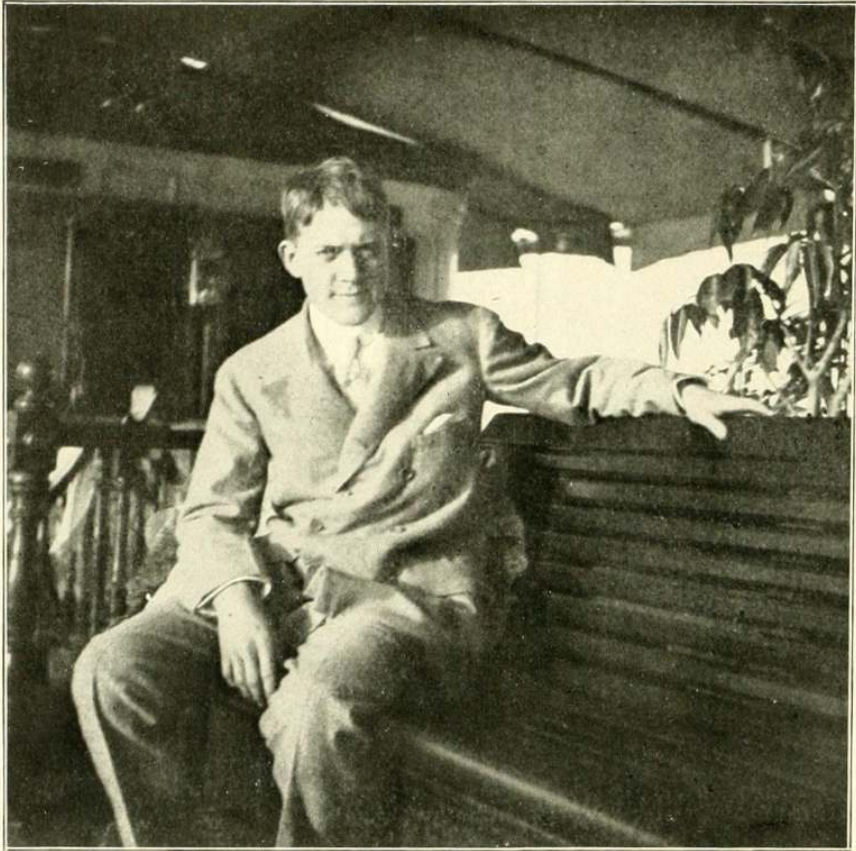
DECORATIONS ON THE OUTSIDE WALLS OF AN EGYPTIAN TEMPLE.

Nile on each side, in fact the whole country in that section is red granite, and it lasts for all time. (The tombs and statuary of Egypt constructed of this granite four thousand years ago, are just as good as when built, except where they have been broken purposely to deface them.) All the bottom of the river here is solid red granite, which makes the best possible foundation for this great work. There are one hundred and ninety-five gate ways through this dam, and when we were there, they had twenty-one of these gateways open for the water to run through, and it went through with great volume and force. The gateway openings are about ten feet high and seven feet wide. The fall of water is now about forty feet, as the Nile is getting towards a low stage. The gateways are near the bottom part of the dam. The cost, up to the present time, is ten million dollars, and it is estimated that when they get their irrigation canals completed, they will get enough returns to pay for the dam in five years. The dam was completed in 1902, but that was only the original dam. They are still at work making improvements, and have nearly a thousand men at work now. They have built a very fine canal and system of locks to take vessels over the elevation. There are five locks which open and shut from one side like a sliding door. We happened to see a large steamer pass through the locks to-day. The company have decided to raise the dam twenty feet higher, and in order to do so will have to build the dam and locks about twenty feet thicker, to stand the increased pressure; they are now doing this extra work. The amount of water now held by this dam is very great. We took a boat ride on this artificial lake, of perhaps two miles, and it is very deep. Unfortunately the great Temple of Phylae, situated originally on an island, was only a short distance above the dam,



OUR PARTY AT THE TEMPLE OF EDFOU.

and is now thirty feet deep in water. We went around this temple today in boats, and went into that part which is still out of the water. It is in a very fair state of preservation, and the many inscriptions and pictures are in a good condition, and very easily read. The great Rosetta Stone, which is a key to the ancient hieroglyphic writing on all the Egyptian temples and tombs, was found here and taken to the Museum in London, and a copy left here. This Rosetta Stone, or key, was a great thing for history, as it has definitely located all Egyptian history, or the most ancient history of the world. I have stated heretofore that "it never rains in Egypt," but extraordinary as it may appear, we had a rain storm yesterday while on our way by train between Assouan and Luxor, a light, gentle shower of ten minutes duration. That was a great rain for this country. We traversed the Nile for seven hundred and fifty miles, and there is not a rivulet of any size, large or small, that empties into this great river. The Egyptian Railway from Assouan to Alexandria has but two bridges, and these two are across the Nile. This railroad is a four-foot gauge, and follows the Nile Valley all this distance. It should have been built very cheaply, as there are almost no bridges, no cuts or fills, no grades, and very few curves. There is quite a business in this country in excavating the graves of the ancient dead in order to secure the jewelry that was buried with these mummified bodies. With most of these bodies they find gold or silver jewelry, and precious stones of various kinds, but the most common jewelry with these bodies is a small stone beetle, something like a pinching bug in appearance. In size, these stone beetles, called "Scarabs", are from the size of a bean to a small hickory nut. These ancient idolators believed that this beetle, or scarab,



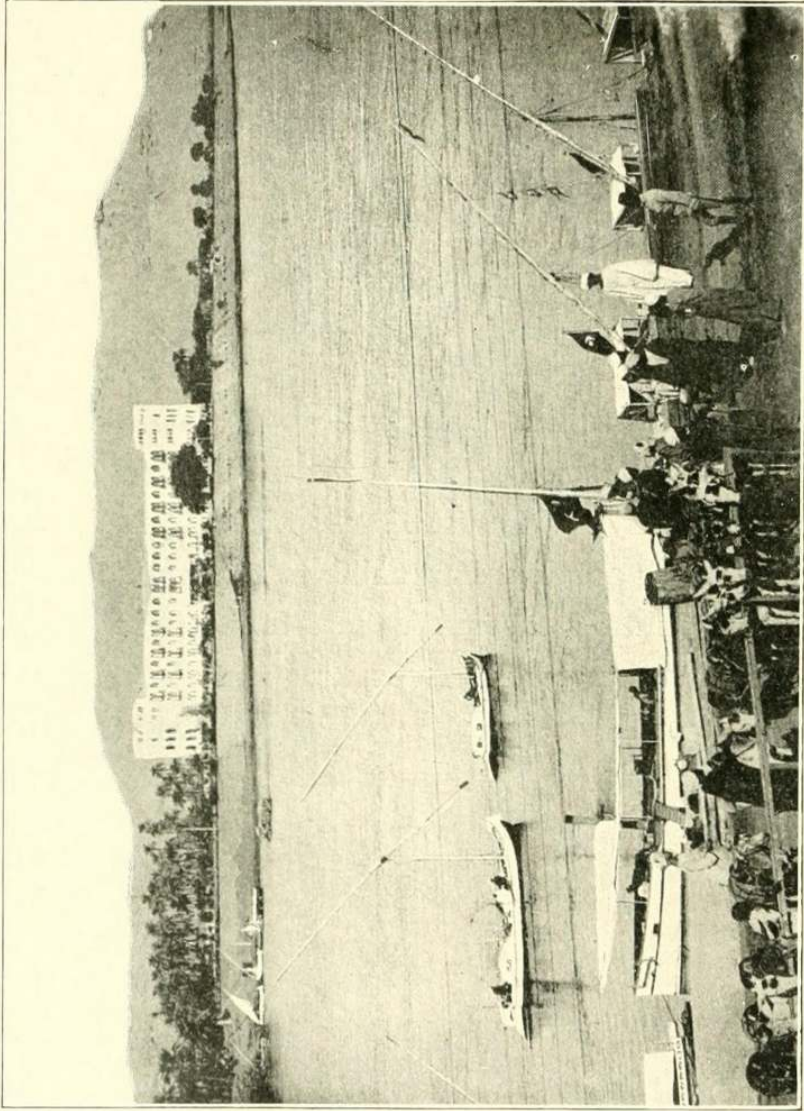
MR. WEBB WHEELER, TEMPORARY CAPTAIN ON BOARD THE
NILE RIVER STEAMER SERAPHIS.

represented the soul, and they usually made a necklace of these stone scarabs, and put it on the dead body, and today the scarab is for sale in every jewelry shop in Egypt, set in rings, made in bracelets, sleeve buttons, etc. All travelers get the craze to buy these ancient stone scarabs, for jewelry. They are considered the greatest novelty in jewelry, many of them being over four thousand years old. They are mostly brown and green; some are blue.

The native population of Egypt are a mixture of Arabs (who are Mohammedans) color brown, good strong physique, and more numerous than any other people here; also Coptics, who are the best educated of any Egyptians, and nearly white. They are of Protestant faith, and while not numerous, are the highest order of intelligence of any natives of Egypt. According to the Egyptian laws, the clerk of every court must be a Coptic. Then there are the native blacks, which are next in number to the Arabs. They are a higher order of intelligence than the African negro which we have in the United States, and have better features.

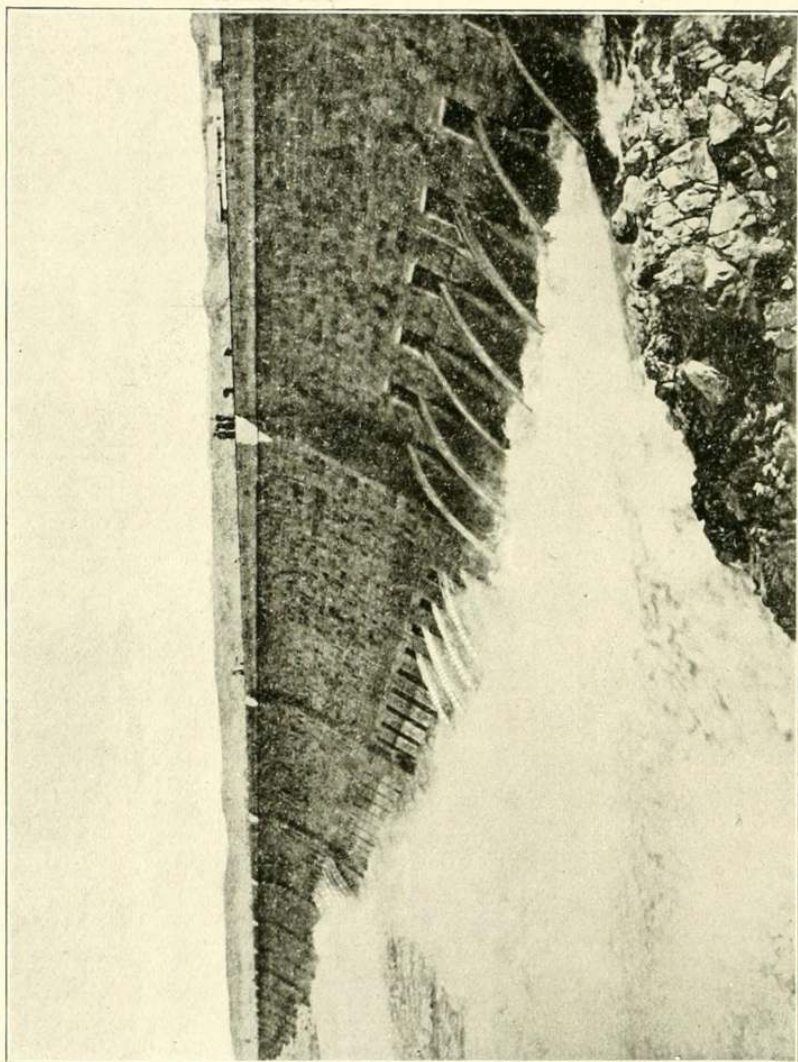
The climate of Egypt is nearly perfect at this season of the year, and a great many Europeans come here in December, January, February and March, for their health. We like it so much that we would be glad to stay here a month if we had the time to do so.

After an easy night's sail we reached Jaffa, Palestine, on Sunday, March 12, 1905. We had often heard that this port was the worst landing place in the world, and from our experience we are perfectly satisfied that Jaffa is entitled to such a reputation. The weather appeared favorable, and we thought we were going to have a fair sea for landing, but when we came to disembark we found it quite different. The sea is shallow



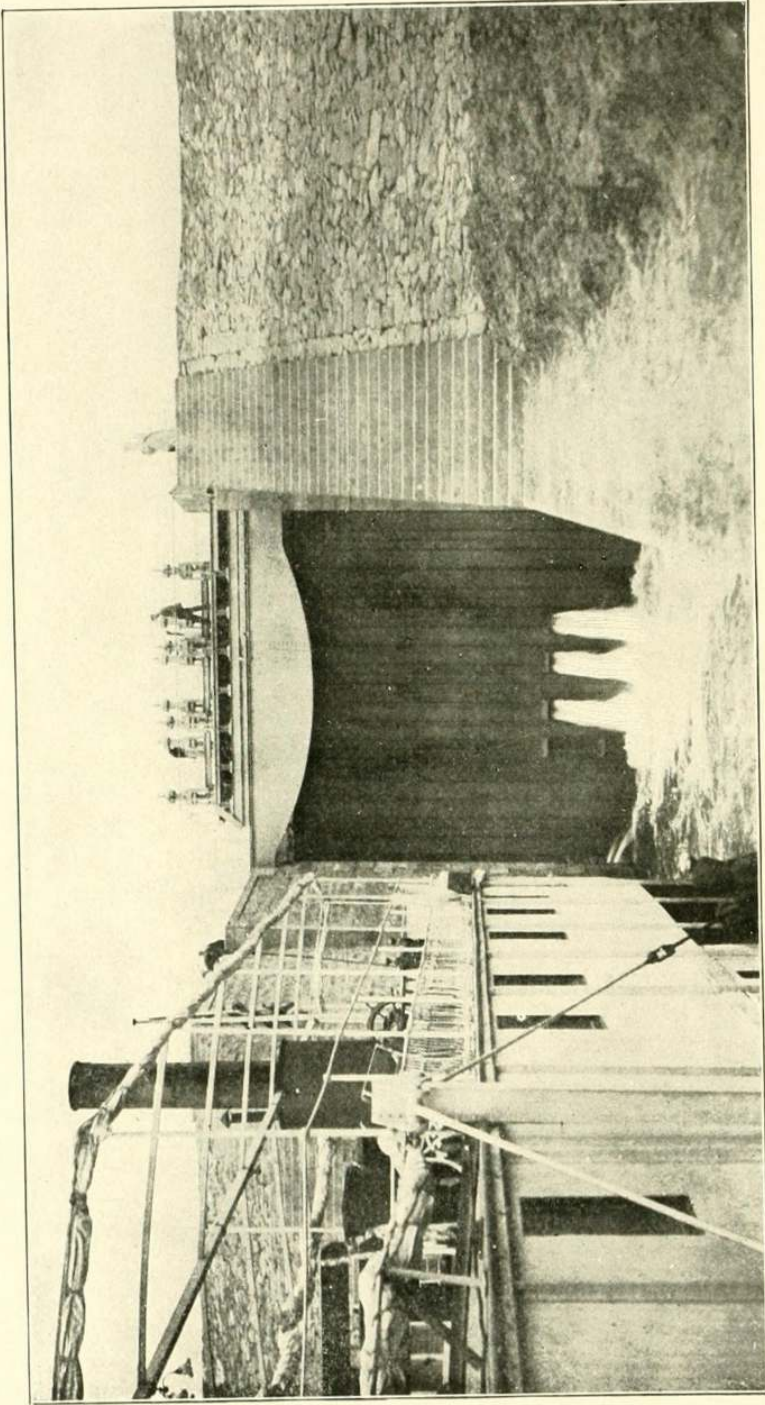
THE NILE AT ASSUAN—SAVOY HOTEL, ACROSS THE RIVER.

and rocky, so that our good ship, Moltke, was compelled to anchor a mile and a half from shore (there is no bay or harbor here), and we reached shore by means of row boats. The sea was the roughest we have ever experienced in row boats. It was quite difficult to get into the small boats, and when we were in, the boats tossed about like egg shells, on the tremendous waves. Many were very sick and many others were much frightened. At last we were landed at Jaffa, a place of about 11,000 population, mostly Arabs, a city of narrow streets, about ten or fifteen feet wide, with much dirt and many unpleasant smells. After a walk of half a mile through such streets we came to a bunch of Arab carriages, and such yelling and hurraing we never heard before. They were far ahead of the New York cabmen in the art (if you call it art) of yelling for passengers. After a carriage ride of half a mile we reached the Jerusalem and Jaffa railway station, and this is a very poor railway, with the poorest passenger cars we ever saw. The distance to Jerusalem by rail is fifty-four miles. The regular schedule time is three and a half hours, but we were unfortunate enough to have an accident on the way, and it took us five and a half hours to reach Jerusalem. These trains are small in every way, and there is no brakeman except on the engine, and no bell-rope. When about half way to Jerusalem, the rails spread, causing the rear car to jump the tracks. It ran along on the rock ballast for about one hundred yards, until it had crossed a small bridge about thirty feet high. Here the front trucks broke loose and slipped against the back trucks, and tore up the cross ties in crossing the bridge. As they always run very slowly the pull at last became so great that the engine had to stop. This was very fortunate indeed for the occupants of the car, as it was careened, nearly ready to fall over a thirty-foot



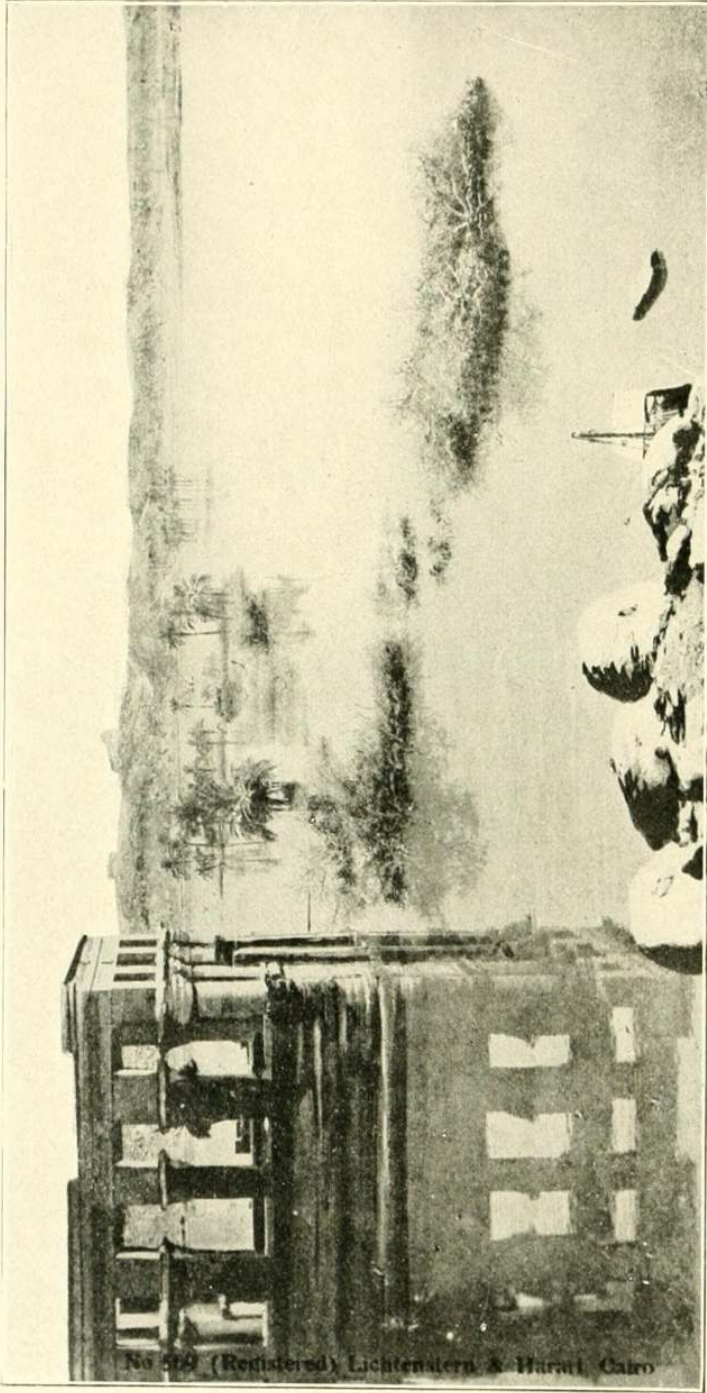
THE GREAT DAM ACROSS THE NILE.

embankment, and would have been certain death to many persons. A bell-rope, such as we use in passenger trains, would have avoided this accident. At last, about 7:00 p. m., we arrived at Jerusalem, in the dark, after a rain storm. We were very glad to get fairly good rooms at the Imperial Hotel, and after a good dinner (of the Jerusalem kind) were tired enough to sleep soundly on any kind of beds. Next morning (still raining) we were off at eight o'clock for the river Jordan, Jericho and the Dead Sea, twenty miles distant, by an excellent carriage road, over as rough and rocky mountains as we ever saw. The "Apostles' Fountain" is about five miles out, an excellent spring of water, walled up, and a small rock house over it. The next place is the "Samaritan's Inn," about ten miles east of Jerusalem. It is simply a rock house where travelers may feed their teams and get lunch, provided they carry their feed and lunch (built on the spot where the good Samaritan rendered kind service to him that fell among thieves). A little further along we find the brook "Cherith," where the Prophet Elijah hid himself while fleeing from Jezebel, and was fed by the ravens. It is rough and rugged, and deep enough to be a good hiding place for Elijah. The Greek Catholic monks have built a monastery here. It is only accessible by a donkey path, for a mile or more. We next passed the valley of Achan, being the place where Achan was stoned for taking a wedge of gold and hiding it under his tent. We arrived at Jericho in time for lunch at Bellevue Hotel, then took our carriages for the river Jordan, about five miles distant. This river, sacred to many by its Bible history, is disappointing to the sightseer. It is about one hundred feet wide, but quite deep. It is very muddy, and its banks are so soft and muddy, and covered with willows, or brush, that it appears to be a very un-



STEAMER PASSING THROUGH THE LOCKS AT THE GREAT DAM.

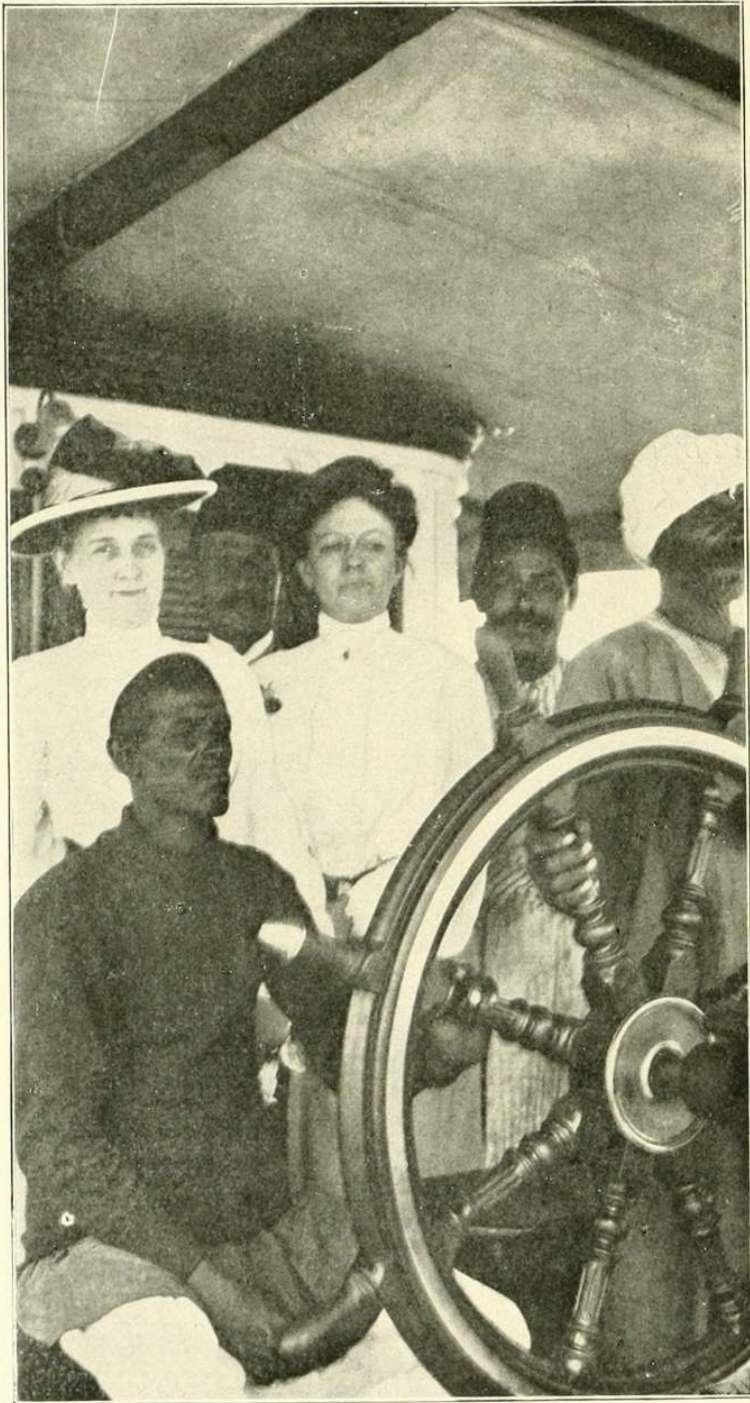
favorable place for baptising, by immersion, yet we met six hundred Russian Pilgrims, on foot, mostly old men and old women, many of them barefooted, of the peasant class, on a pilgrimage to the Jordan. to dip themselves in the same place where Christ was baptized (they are of the Greek Catholic faith). We are told that thousands of these Greek Catholics make this pilgrimage each year, always on foot. When this party of Russian Pilgrims reached the river, they were so eager for immersion in the sacred Jordan that they literally ran into the river, without regard to danger of drowning (and some of them are drowned there every year). True, they all needed a bath, and their clothing also. Next we drove about five miles down the Jordan to the Dead Sea, which is forty-seven miles long, and nine miles wide, and the deepest natural depression on the Earth's surface, being about fifteen hundred feet below the sea level. The waters have a very salty, brackish and unpleasant taste. There are no boats or pleasure craft on this sea. Next we drove back to Jericho to the Gilgal Hotel for the night. The hotels in Jericho are quite primitive, and not inviting to the tourist who is accustomed to the New York hotels, yet we were very glad to find a place where we could sleep and get something to eat. The present city of Jericho has about three hundred population and is situated in the valley of the Jordan, about two miles from the site of the ancient Jericho of Joshua's time. The inhabitants are mostly Arabs, and very poor. The whole valley of Jordan is sandy and barren, at least as far as we saw. There is scarcely anything growing there, and the ground is too poor and sandy to raise anything. There are no trees in this valley. Only one large tree marks Gilgal, the spot where Joshua first



TEMPLE OF PHYLAE—NOW IN THE MIDST OF A LAKE FORMED BY BUILDING THE GREAT DAM.

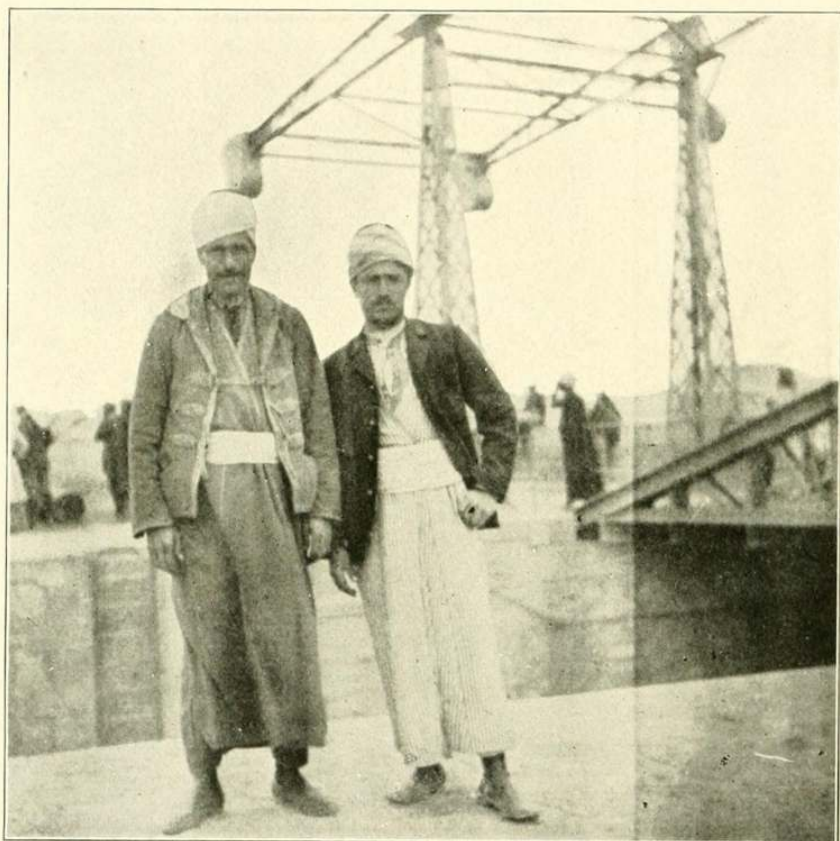
halted with the Israelitish army, after marching through the river Jordan.

Next morning we partook of a hasty breakfast of eggs, cold bread and coffee, nothing else. We asked for bacon, and the waiter said, "Yes, yes," but did not bring the bacon. We left early for our return trip to Jerusalem. On our way we called at Bethany, the place where Christ ascended, and saw the ruins of the house of Mary and Martha, also the tomb of Lazarus, where Christ raised him from the dead. The tomb is only a short distance from the house, and both are now owned by the Greek Catholics. There is a high wall around these ruins, and a small chapel there. Next we called at the Garden of Gethsemane, which to me is as sacred as any place in Jerusalem. This garden is now enclosed by a high rock wall, and iron fence, and there are about a dozen very old olive trees here. One is said to be growing since the time of Christ. It is at least a very remarkable tree, about seven feet in diameter. Apparently some new wood grows occasionally on the outside, enough to keep the tree alive. It still has leaves, and probably bears olives. The olive is almost the only tree that grows in this part of Palestine. This part of the garden of Gethsemane is owned by the Roman Catholic Church. Adjacent to it, and no doubt on part of the original garden, is built the most beautiful church building (as to outside appearance, we did not go inside) that we have yet seen. It is the property of the Greek Catholics, has six small and one large spire. Each of these six small spires is topped with a small dome, and the large, or central spire, with a large dome, and all these seven spires and domes are covered with gold. The church presents a very beautiful appearance in the bright sunlight. On our way to the Garden of Gethsemane, in a narrow street walled up high on each



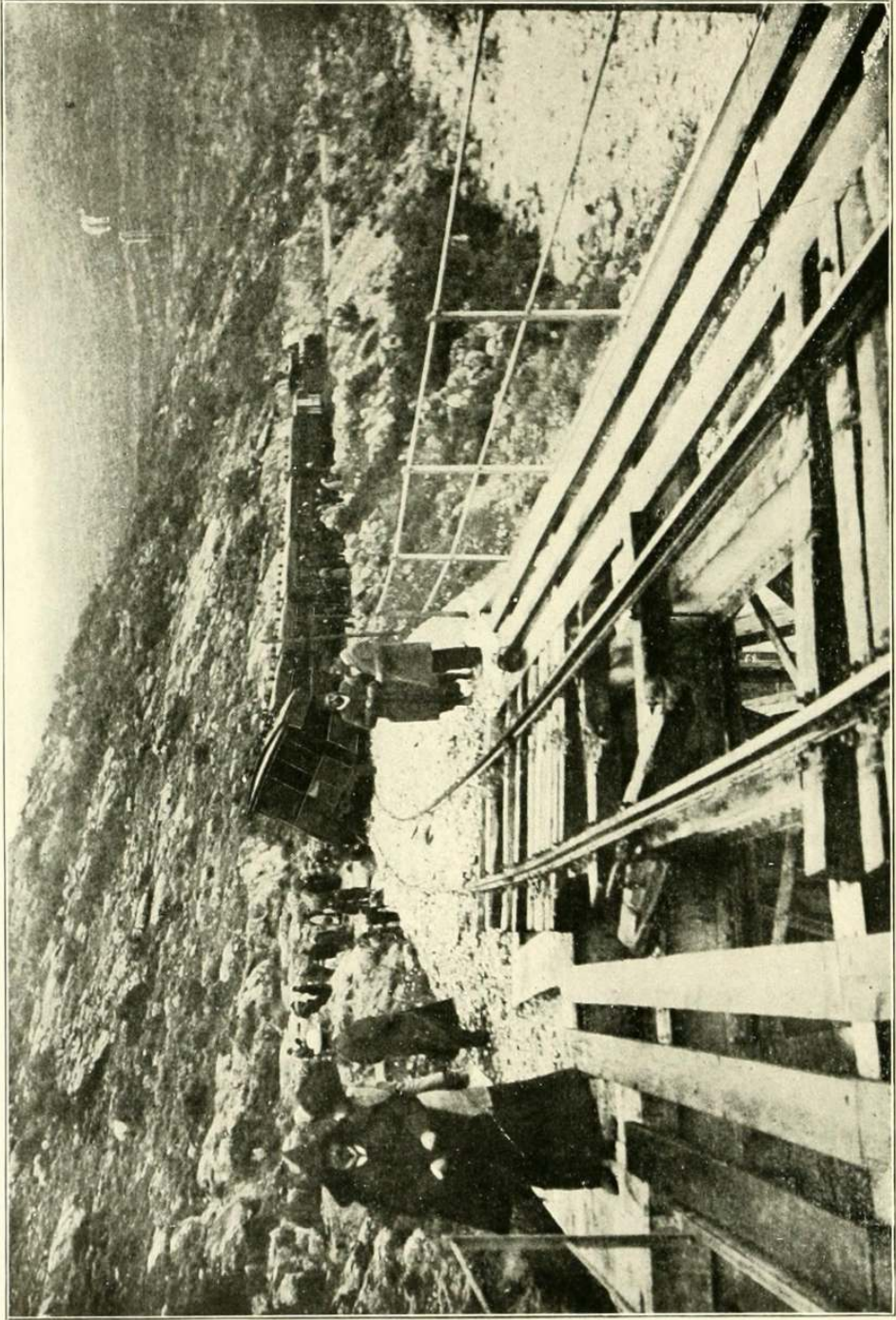
PILOTS ON OUR NILE STEAMER SERAPHIS.

side, we found three lepers, who sat together by the side of the wall, begging in a sorrowful and pathetic tone. They were truly a pitiful sight. After viewing Gethsemane, we returned to Jerusalem. It is only a short distance, just across the valley of Jehoshaphat, and our next call was at the The Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This is the most important sight in all Palestine. It is said to be on the exact spot where Christ was crucified and buried in Joseph's new tomb. There are three different denominations that keep candles or lamps always burning over the vacant tomb of Christ, as well as over the spot where he was crucified, and they are so jealous of each other that each is ready to fight the other. In fact, the only way to keep peace is to have a Mohammedan soldier to stand by the place of crucifixion and the vault, all the time, and he stands there every moment, day and night. The three sects (the Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, and Armenians) each have a chapel built against this church, and opening into it. The whole thing, church and chapels, are extravagantly decorated with lamps, frescoes, pictures, gold and silver trimmings, etc., and here is the place where the priest gets the sacred fire on Easter, and they usually have a great fight (and frequently kill each other), striving to get the first light from the Holy Fire. Next we visited the German Lutheran Church, which was built recently, situated on the old site of St. John's Church (which was built by the Crusaders). This is a fine, large church, well built, and has none of the inside decorations so common in all Oriental Cathedrals. It looks more like one of our home churches than any we have seen for a long time. We also visited the Mosque of Omar, which is built on the old site of Solomon's Temple. The whole Mosque is Mosaic work, inside and out, indeed one of the most beautiful we have yet seen, and



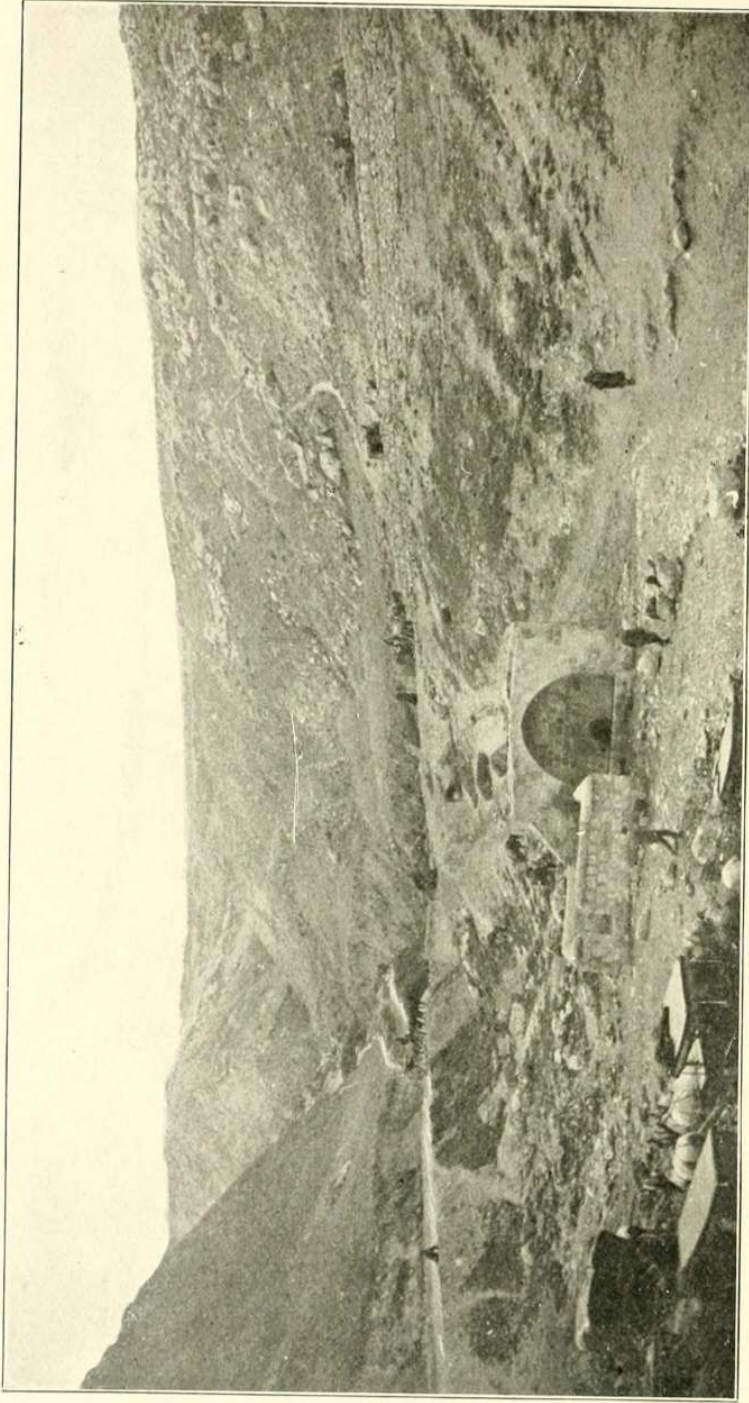
OUR TWO DRAGOMEN, ABRAHAM AND JOSEPH, NATIVES OF ASSYRIA.

very large. The dome is one of the largest domes in the world, and is painted black on the outside. In the center of the Mosque, under the great dome, is the large rock which was used in the Solomon's Temple as an altar for the burnt offerings. It is a natural, or live rock, just where nature placed it, about fifty feet in diameter, and nearly circular, with a place cut in the rock to carry off the blood from the sacrifice, and a hollow, shallow place for the animal while being burnt. This rock is protected from tourists by a tight fence, nearly as high as a man's head, and it is well to have it so, for if opportunity offered it would be chipped off and carried away by tourists, although it is really a solid part of this granite mountain. The Mohammedans say that when Mohammed was taken to Heaven this rock was about to be taken with him, and was only prevented by the Angel Gabriel, who held it down, in proof of which they show the prints of the fingers of Gabriel in the rock. There is no doubt about this, as the finger prints are surely there, for we saw them. Under the temple area, which is a large, open place, is Solomon's stable, a large underground space, about three hundred or four hundred feet square, the roof being held up by stone pilliars and arches, the whole being stone, like a cavern built in the solid rock. We saw one manger cut in the solid rock, for feeding the horses, and holes drilled in the pillars, as a place to tie horses, and still below this stable is another cavern in the rock, very large, which has not been explored. It is thought that many relics from Solomon's Temple would be found in this cavern, but the Sultan, who is all powerful, will not permit any explorations to be made in this cavern. There are two small pieces of Solomon's Temple (being parts of marble pillars, beautifully cut like a braided rope) shown, and twelve full size marble pillars, about



RAILROAD ACCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED ON OUR WAY FROM JAFFA TO JERUSALEM.

twenty feet high, taken from the ruins of the original Solomon's Temple, which are now standing around the sacred rock altar, and help to support the dome of the mosque. The cut shows three of these pillars. A part of the city wall, as it now stands, was a part of the wall of Solomon's Temple. That part which stands as originally built, is now called the Jews' Wailing Place, and when we visited it there were probably a hundred Jews there, praying and wailing. They stand and pray aloud, and wail, with swaying motion of the body, and face towards the wall, frequently kissing the wall, all praying for the restoration of Solomon's Temple, and Jerusalem. This is a very filthy, unclean place, with odors which certainly smell to Heaven. From the mosque, which is on the south-east side of Jerusalem, we walked through the entire city, by way of David Street, to the Jaffa Gate, on the west. This David Street is about ten or twelve feet wide, and filled on each side with small shops, about six to ten feet wide and six to twenty feet deep. Every kind of business that is done in Jerusalem, is here represented. The street goes down into a valley by steps cut in the natural rock, and up again on the other side of the valley, by similar steps cut in the natural rock. This street is nearly a mile long, and the busiest place in the city, filled with a motley mob, of the worst appearance that we ever saw, Arabs, Turks, Jews, Armenians, Greeks, Africans, a few Europeans, in fact almost all the nations of the earth, and all colors, from black to white, mostly barefooted, and clothed in Oriental style, with a night shirt and Turkish trousers, a turban or fez, and without exception the dirtiest, and vilest place of any city street on the face of the earth. Jerusalem has about 85,000 population, as follows—40,000 Jews, 22,000 Protestants, 7,000 Catholics, and 16,000 Mohammedans. It is built on solid

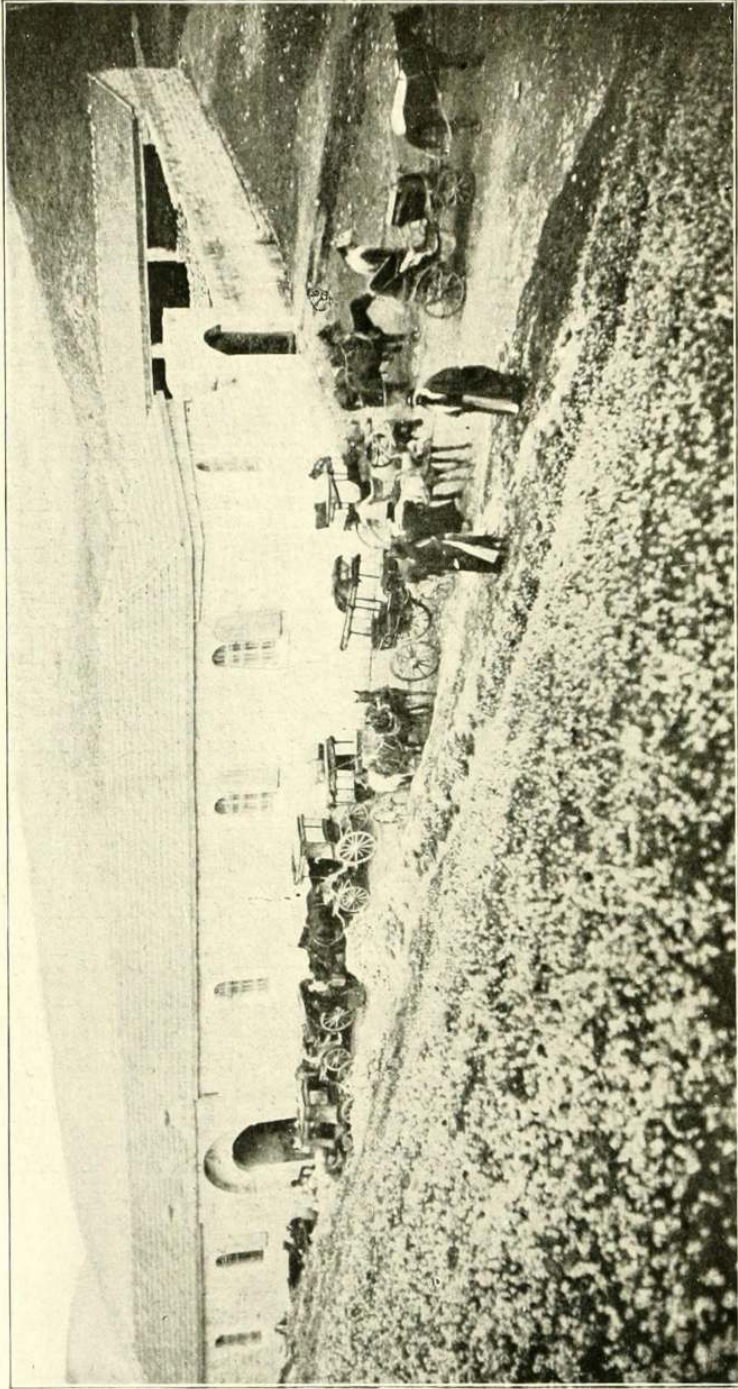


THE APOSTLES' FOUNTAIN, FIVE MILES EAST OF JERUSALEM.

rock mountains, and all the buildings are of rock. There are no sewers, and no water works, no gas or electric lights. The only water they have is the rainfall, gathered in cisterns, or from wells or springs. The walls of the city are about fifty feet high, and usually have a moat, or valley, on the outside, so that it was about impossible to take the city by assault with the weapons used in ancient times. These city walls have been battered down several times, and rebuilt, but not always on the old foundations. The present wall is eleven hundred feet inside of the original walls on the south-east side, and is outside of the original walls on the north side, where the Church of the Holy Sepulchre stands. The whole wall at present is about three and one-fourth miles long, measuring all around the city. In the last few years quite a city has been built outside of the walls, on the north and west sides. These are a good class of rock buildings, two or three stories high, with red tile roofs and fairly wide streets, quite modern in appearance, in contrast with the city inside the walls.

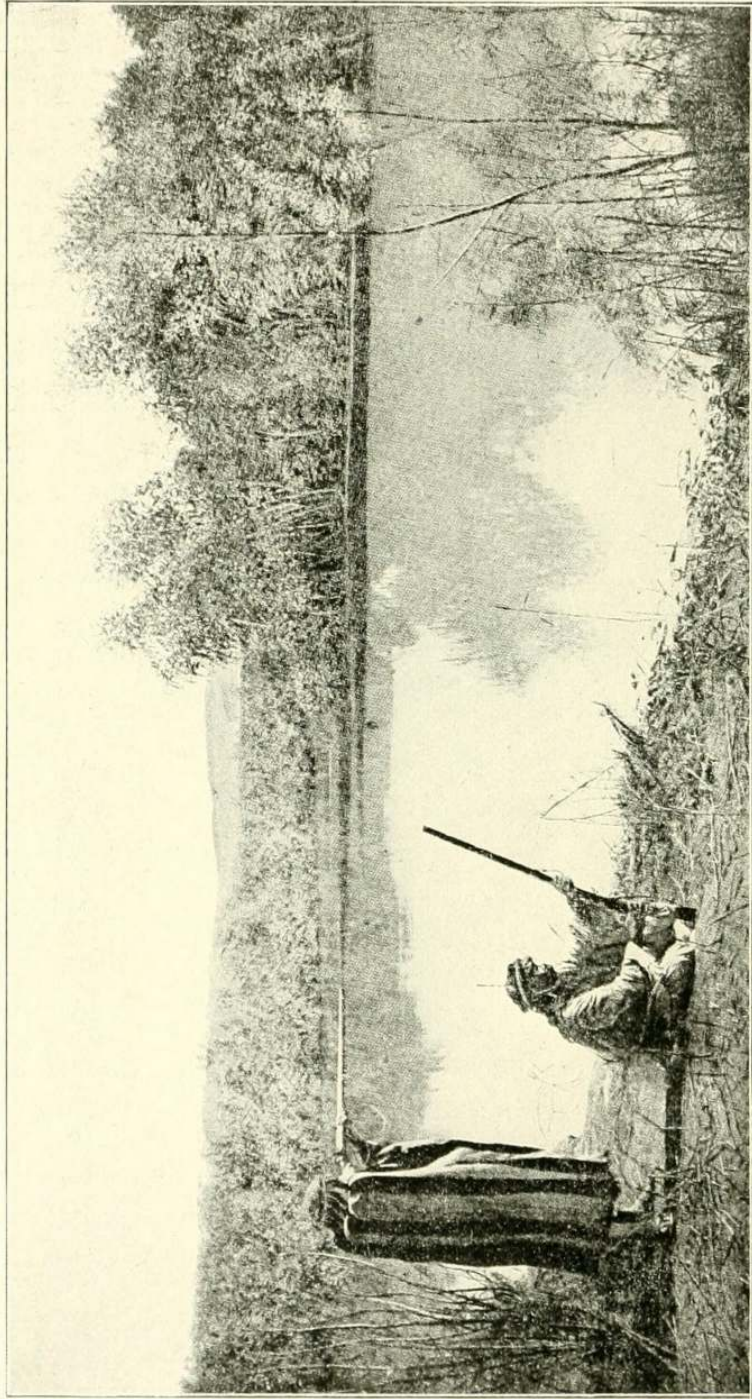
In describing the church of the Holy Sepulchre, one very important matter was forgotten,—we saw here Adam's grave. It is kept in fairly good repair, considering it is so very ancient. I have always wanted to see Adam's grave, as he was one of my forefathers, and was greatly pleased when, much to my surprise, I found it here in Jerusalem. Although he is a distant relative, I did not shed any tears over his grave, as he has been dead so long.

On the morning of March 16, 1905, we drove out to Bethlehem, six miles. The morning was beautiful, and we enjoyed the drive very much. The Church of the Nativity is the only place of importance to the tourist. Here we saw the place where Christ was born, marked by a large, silver star let into the floor,



THE INN OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN, TEN MILES EAST OF JERUSALEM.

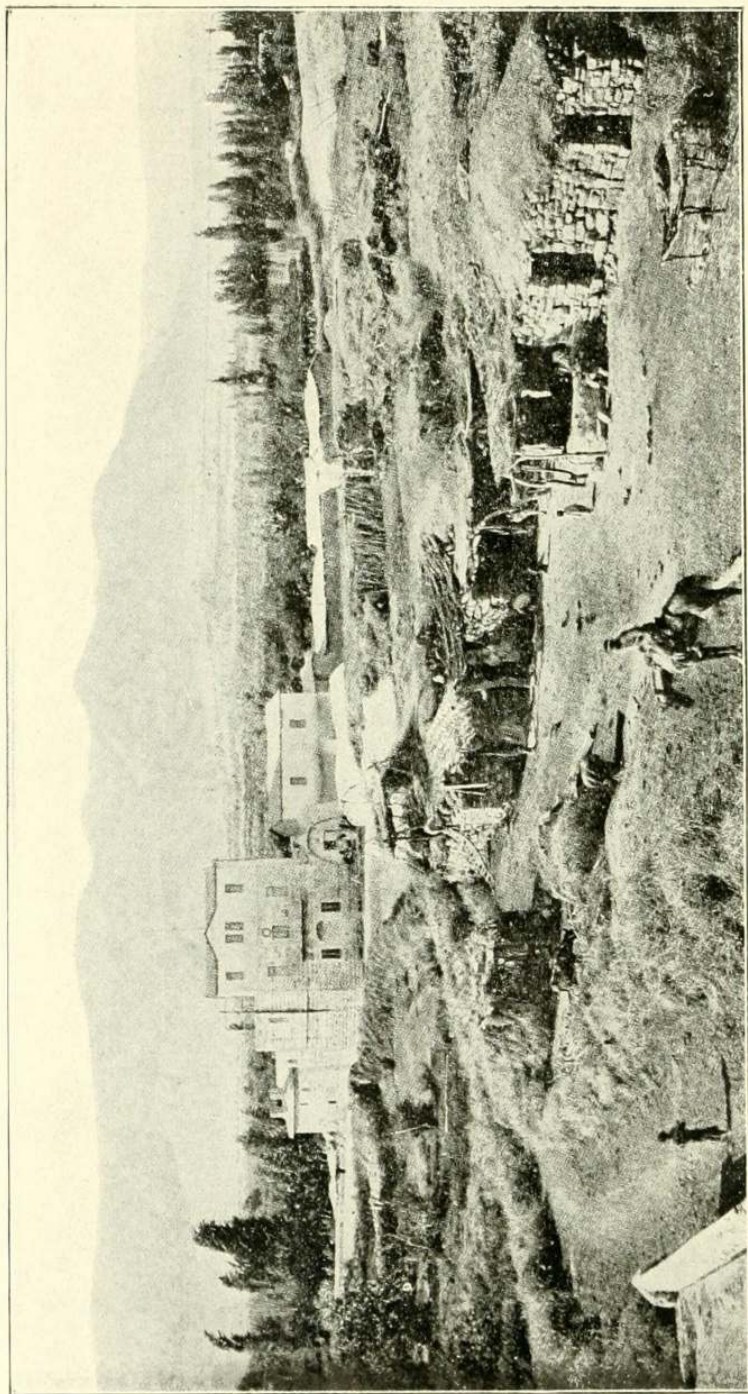
and fourteen lamps are kept burning. Also the manger where Christ was laid is very near, and here there are six candles, or lamps, always kept burning. This is also a place where Christians fight, and to keep peace between the different denominations a Mohammedan soldier is always on guard, day and night, and even then fights are frequent. It seems to me that the Christian spirit does not take full possession of these warring factions. There are three chapels built, opening into this church, by three different denominations. The largest of these is the Roman Catholic. No one is allowed to live in Bethlehem except Protestants and Catholics. The new part of the town looks fairly well, but the old part is dirty, with narrow and crooked streets, and the people look about as poverty stricken as in the poorest places we have seen. The town has about 4,000 population. On the way to Bethlehem we passed the Tomb of Rachel, Jacob's beloved wife, and the mother of Joseph and Benjamin. After this we went to the Mount of Olives, and had a great view of the whole country, as well as Jerusalem itself. The Mount of Olives is about a mile east of Jerusalem, and higher than any other point in this part of Palestine. No doubt it was from here our Savior looked down upon the city and said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets and stonest them that are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." Perhaps he was then looking down at the grave of the Prophet Zachariah, which is in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and plainly visible from the Mount of Olives. The Dead Sea and the River Jordan are also plainly visible to the east from this point, although fifteen miles distant. Jerusalem is two thousand five hundred feet above sea level, and is quite cold in the mornings,



THE RIVER JORDAN.

at this time of the year. There was a good, strong frost while we were there. The olive trees grow all about the city, but tropical palm trees are not seen around Jerusalem. We think this city must have been located on the top of these mountains with a view of getting a place that would be hard to take in war, as it is certainly the most inaccessible city we have seen. Taking the whole of Palestine as it is to-day, it is certainly not worth fighting for. The plains of Goshen about Jaffa are quite fertile, and we saw there several of the best orange groves that we have seen, loaded with a crop of yellow oranges, of the seedless variety, and very sweet. This fruit is selling now in Jaffa at ten cents per dozen, and that includes the basket in which they are packed. Also there are some very good fields of wheat on this plain. Aside from that we saw scarcely any land that was worth cultivating. Nearly the whole country is covered with mountains of rock that have very little soil on them, just enough to grow olive trees in the most favored locations, and a very little grass for sheep and goats. The Valley of the Jordan and the Dead Sea, is a desert, at least that part which we saw. This land must certainly have been very much better when Joshua led the hosts of Israel to fight for it. Also, the common people are the most poverty stricken, and the beggars the most persistent, of any we have seen. Taking Palestine altogether, we would not wish to locate there for a permanent residence.

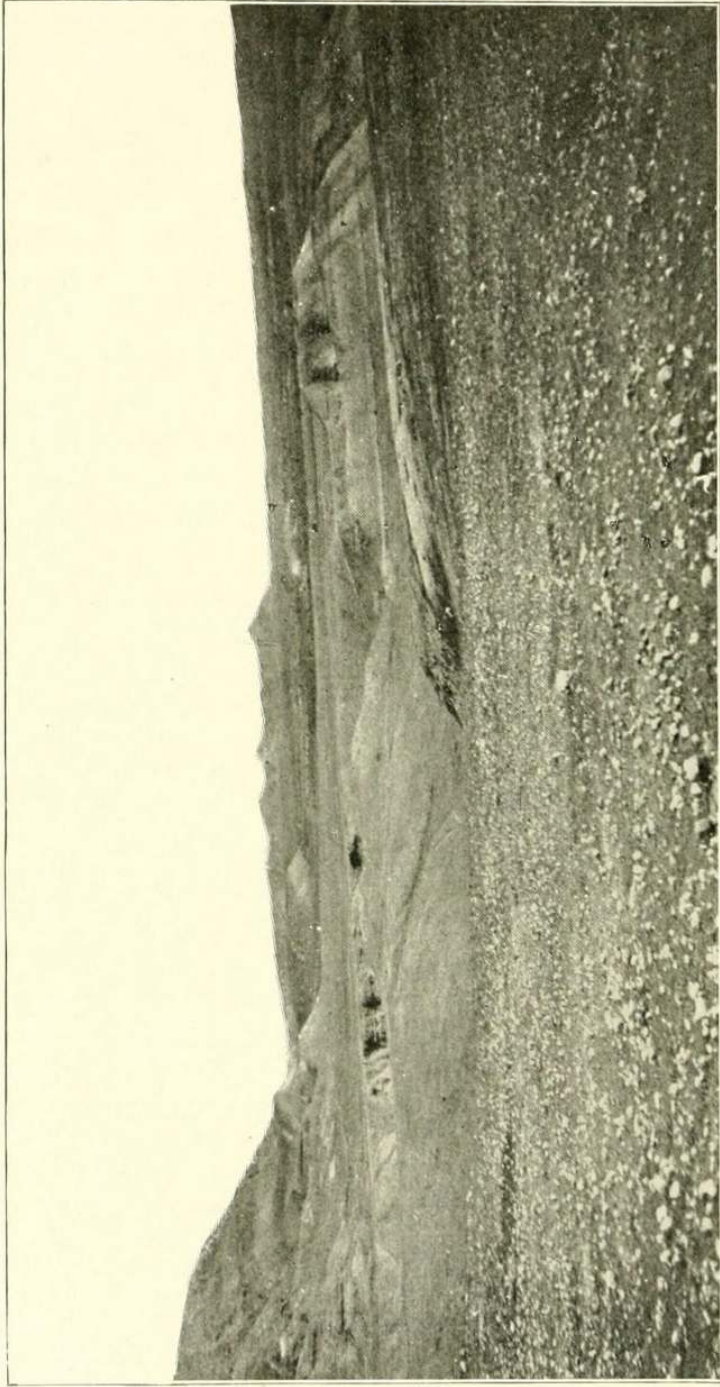
We arrived at Constantinople on March 19, 1905, and the weather was very wet and cold. In fact the whole four days of our stay there were cloudy, rainy and cold, with a chill north wind which was anything but pleasant for pleasure seekers, particularly like ourselves, who had the week before been in Egypt, where the weather was very warm, and on account of the unfav-



JERICHO AS IT APPEARS TO-DAY.

orable weather we no doubt got an impression of the city which was not as good as it should be. Constantinople is a great city, and has a population of 800,000 to 1,000,000,—mostly Turks, who are without exception Mohammedans. The city is very finely situated, and from our steamer, lying in the harbor, it presented a more beautiful appearance than any other city we had seen on the Mediterranean. It is cut up by the water into three sections. On the west side of the Bosphorus it is divided by the Golden Horn, a small river, and across the Bosphorus, on the east or Asia side, lies quite a large part of the city. It has a very fine harbor, large and deep, and does a large commercial business with all this part of the world, being situated to control the shipping trade, and the Bosphorus is the key to the naval situation here. Russia has for years had a great desire to "gobble Turkey," and she really needs this seaport outlet for her Black Sea possessions, but it now appears that her Japan troubles and her home troubles, will so reduce the forces and the spirit of the Czar that he may not have much to say about Turkey in future. The Sultan of Turkey is not in favor of innovations or progress, and the city has no general water system, no electric lights, no general sewer system, no electric power and no telephones. They have a small line of horse cars. The taxes are collected after the old Roman fashion, that is, they are farmed out to a public tax gatherer, who has to collect ten per cent of the crops, and it is claimed that he does in fact collect over fifteen per cent. For illustration, he will view a field of wheat and estimate considerably higher than the actual yield, and the farmer must pay the estimate of the tax gatherer.

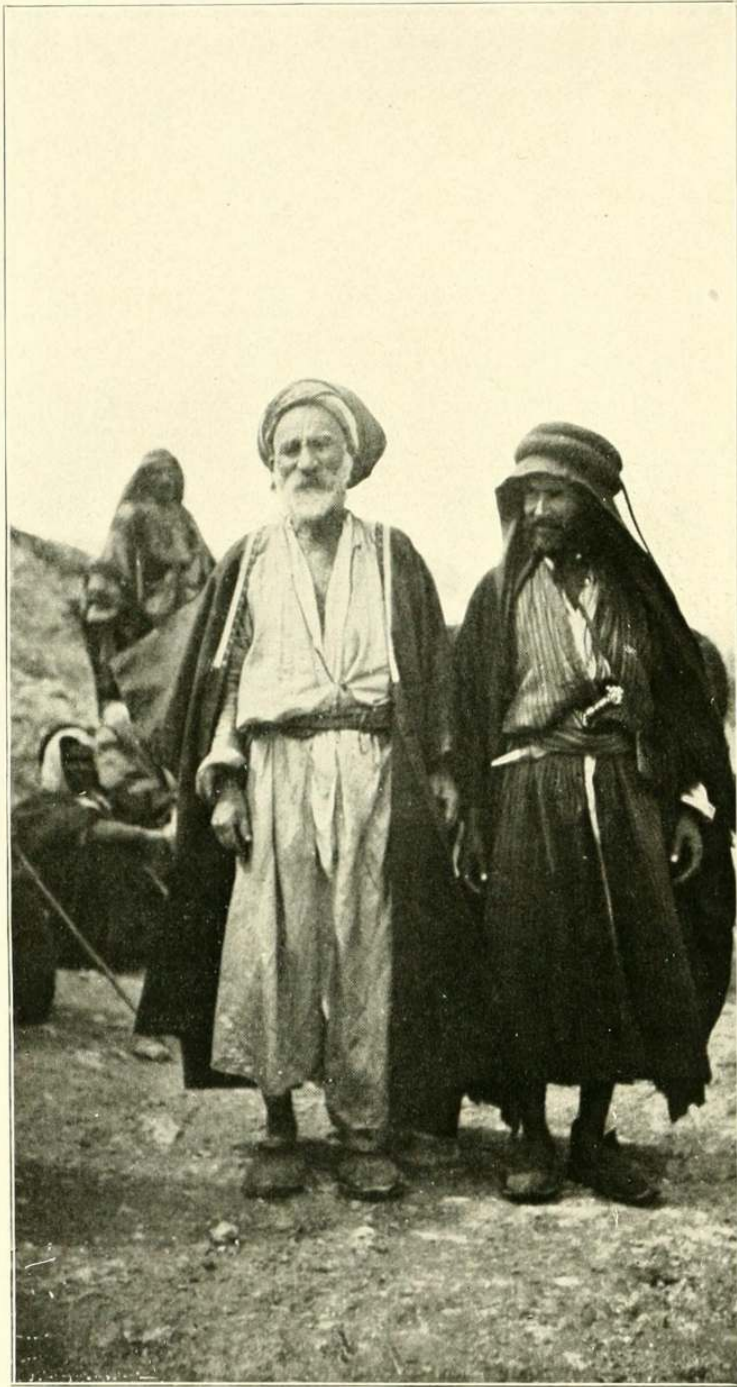
There are two bridges which cross the Golden Horn. They are both pontoon bridges, and the one we crossed is called the



THE SITE OF ANCIENT JERICHO.

Galeta Bridge. It is said this bridge shows the greatest variety of humanity of any place in the city, if not in the whole world. A continuous stream of Turks, Arabs, Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Russians, Chinese, Africans, white people, all shades of color and condition. The streets are mostly of the ancient style, only ten or fifteen feet wide, very rough generally, no side walks. The bazars are located in the old part of the city, and carriages do not drive through them, as many of these streets go up and down steps, and are too narrow and rough for carriages. These streets are arched over, with small windows in the arches, which let in a little light. Even in mid-day the place is dimly lighted, and by five o'clock it gets quite dark. Through these small, dimly lighted and dirty lanes, a great mass of bargain hunters and sightseers are always passing, and the merchants are eager for business. There are four thousand bazars in this quarter, mostly small places, ten or twelve feet square. These bazars have almost every kind of merchandise, what we call trash. They call the stuff antiques. At any rate it is frequently old enough to be shopworn. If you buy anything you are sure to be cheated, as they have no regular price, but ask twenty shillings for an article, and will usually sell for six or eight shillings, if you will not pay more, and then you will find that you have paid too much. Their money is the silver piastre, nominally about five cents in value, but now rated at about four cents, and a small bronze coin called metallics. This latter looks much like tin, as the bronze is usually worn off. These metallics pass for the value of one and one-fourth cents of our money.

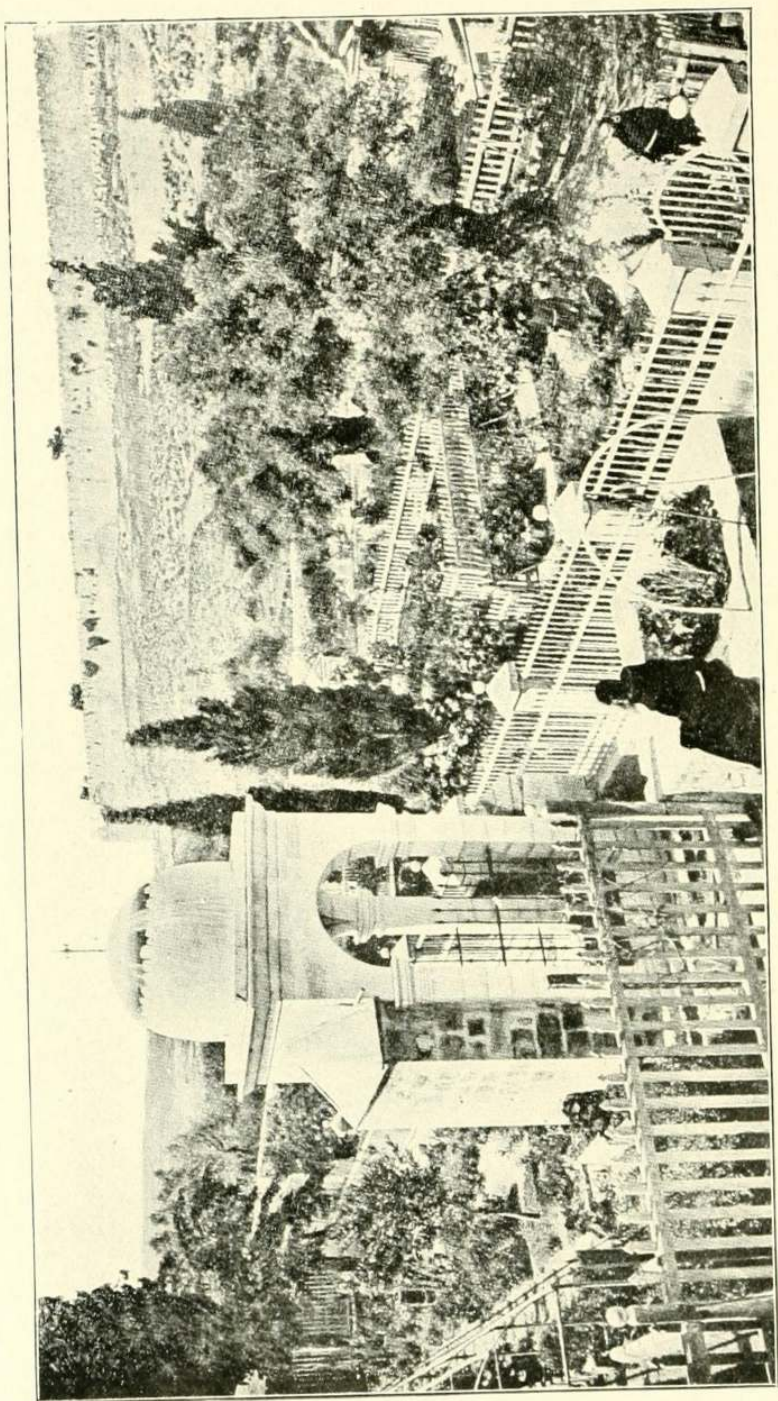
Their clocks are like ours, but they begin to count hours from six in the morning. At seven they say it is one o'clock, and at eight they call it two o'clock, at noon they call it six, and



BEDOUINS IN PALESTINE.

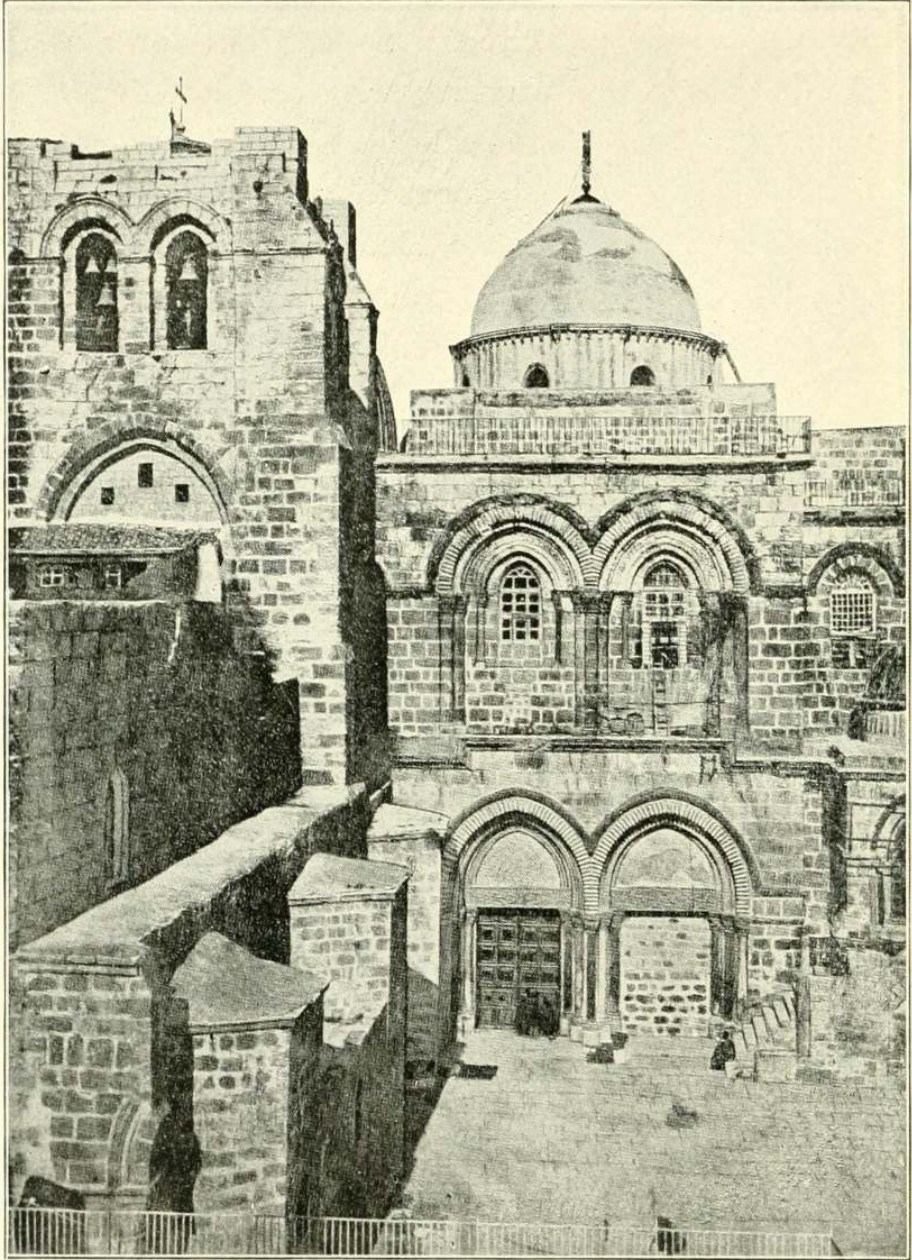
so on. Their great Mosque of St. Sophia is the largest mosque in the world, being three hundred feet long, three hundred wide, and three hundred feet high, begun in 326 A. D., and finished by Emperor Justinian in 526 A. D., built as a Christian Church. It is said that Justinian impoverished his empire in building it, and did not pay his officers or soldiers or any other obligations for some time, while this great church was building. Soon after its completion the Mohammedans took Constantinople, and converted it into a mosque by building a minaret at each of the four corners, and a niche in the wall which faces Mecca, and painted over all the crosses that had been painted on its walls. It is plainly furnished inside. This great mosque is about fourteen hundred years old, and is the principal place of Mohammedan worship, although they have hundreds of other mosques scattered all over the city.

We visited the Sultan's treasury beautifully located on Seraglio Point, a hill facing the Bosphorus, but a poor, small building. Here we found a large collection of jewels, clocks, guns and swords, and all the various gifts that have been bestowed upon the Sultan. The most important article exhibited is the "Persian Throne," captured from the Persians some centuries ago. I can hardly describe this throne. It might be called a large chair, about five feet square, and raised on legs about two feet, covered with silk and closely studded over all the outside with precious stones of every kind, and pearls. So closely are these stones and pearls placed that it looks like embroidery, when you stand a short distance away. Next we visited the Sultan's Kiosk, very beautifully furnished, and has beautiful gardens around it. After that we called at the Sultan's tea-room, where his servants invited us to take a very good cup of Turkish coffee. I regret to



GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE—SHOWING WALLS OF JERUSALEM IN THE BACKGROUND.

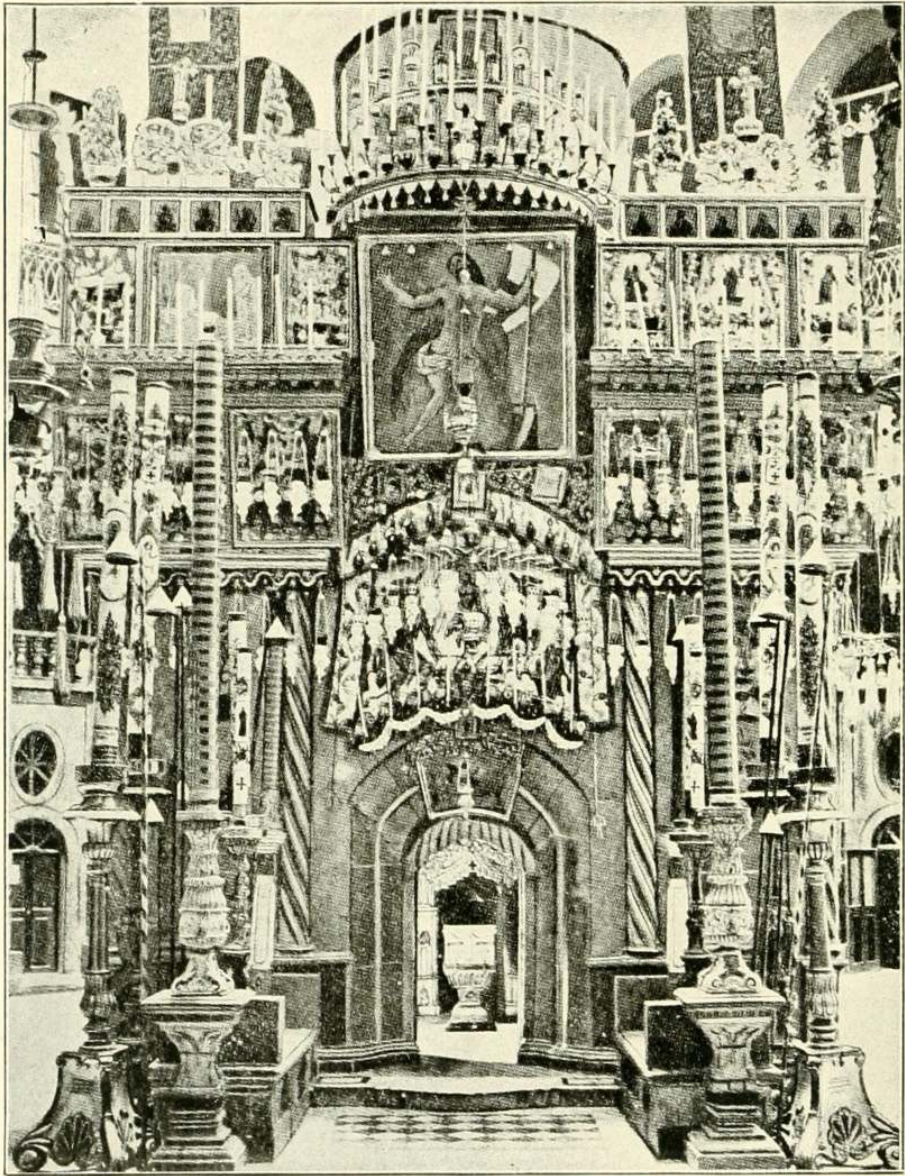
say that the Sultan himself was not present; as he has a very large household and many important domestic as well as state duties, we did not have the pleasure of meeting him or his wives. It is said he now has thirty-five wives, and no doubt he is a busy man. After this we called at the library, which is a small building, one room about thirty feet square, and principally filled with copies of the Koran. Then to the Throne Room, which is a small room perhaps thirty feet square, and plainly furnished, and the Throne looks much like a large canopy bed, and is not ornamented with jewels. Also we saw the "Harem Prison," from the outside, which is still used as a prison for any one incurring the displeasure of the Sultan from the Harem. Next we visited the Museum of Antiquities, and saw a great collection of jewelry, pottery, and such things, which have been taken from tombs excavated in Turkey. Also there is a very large amount of statuary here, which has been found at different places in Turkey. The most important item to be seen here is the "Tomb of Alexander the Great," which was found a few years ago, in the ruins of Tyre and Sidon, covered with about fifteen feet of earth and rubbish, and four other very fine tombs found with it. All are in good condition, and scarcely damaged by time. This Sarcophagus of Alexander the Great is the most beautiful and elaborate of any tomb we have seen. It is about the same size as Napoleon's tomb in Paris, and is cut out of one solid piece of white granite, and on both sides and ends there is a belt of the most beautiful sculpture of men and horses, some in warrior figures, others as athletes. The figure of "Alexander the Great" is easily identified. All these figures are very finely chiselled, or cut, showing the most minute details, and are not broken or damaged in any way, and not much discolored. In



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE—JERUSALEM.

fact, the whole tomb looks so perfect that one is led to doubt if it really is "Alexander the Great's" tomb. We also visited the Pigeon Mosque, where thousands of pigeons congregate and wait to be fed, and they flock around the visitor so closely that they annoy us, like the pigeons at St. Mark's, Venice. We saw a great number of dogs in the streets, mostly of the "yaller dog" variety. They are called the city's scavengers, and are not molested by any one. The Sultan should be deposed and a republic established, in place of this despot, giving the people an opportunity to rule themselves with a form of government similar to ours. Then an era of great prosperity would dawn for benighted Turkey. The Sultan is very strict about passports. When you first land he requires that you hand your passport to one of his officers, and he will keep it until you are ready to leave the city.

On leaving Constantinople we steamed up the Bosphorus to the Black Sea, and this was the most pleasant part of our visit to Turkey. The Bosphorus is nearly a mile wide, on an average, is very deep, and has a good, strong current. It is about fifteen miles from Constantinople to the Black Sea, and is nearly a city all the way, on both sides. Many of their most beautiful palaces and country homes are located here. Also the "Roberts College" is located here, on the European side of the Bosphorus. It is a fine, large building, on a beautiful, high place. It looked refreshing to us to see the Stars and Stripes flying over this college, and about three hundred students cheering as we passed. The scenery reminds one of the best part of the Hudson River, but it is more beautiful than the Hudson. There are about a dozen forts located along this great waterway, on either side, so that a Russian fleet from the Black Sea would not be likely to ever reach Constantinople without the permission of the Sultan. As we steamed out

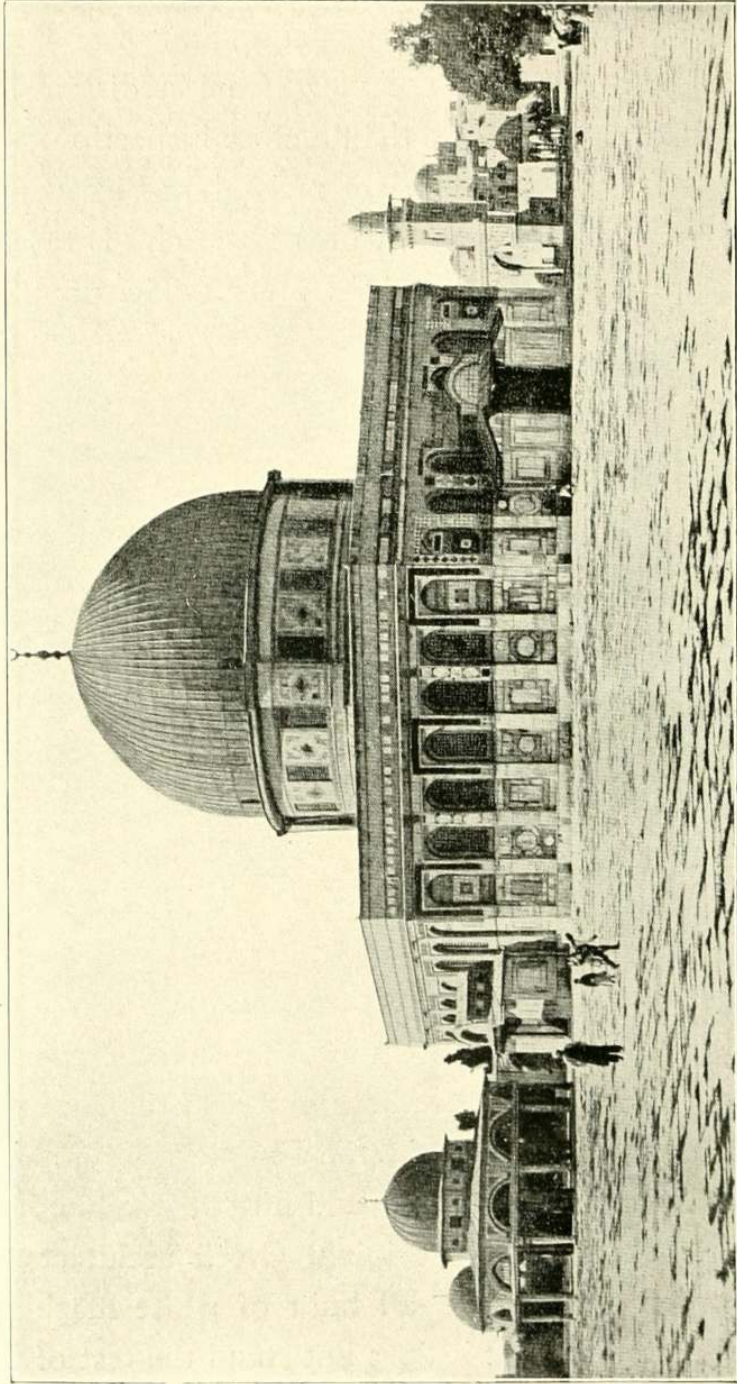


CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE—JERUSALEM.
INSIDE VIEW.

on the Sea of Marmora, on our return, we had a very fine view of this great city, with its many mosques, domes and minarets; being situated on seven hills, the view from a distance is very much more pleasing to the eye than a close inspection.

On Thursday, March 23d, we arrived at Piraeus, which is the seaport for Athens, Greece, which latter city is reached by a very good electric railway line of six miles. The population of Piraeus is 65,000, and Athens 140,000. They are almost the same as one city. We were very agreeably surprised to find Athens, which is a new city, built within the last sixty years, on the original site of ancient Athens, which had been ruins for many centuries, to be a cleanly, well-built city. The streets are about as wide as ours, the business buildings three or four stories high, with plate glass show windows, and fine retail stores. The hotel where we took our lunch was up to date in all respects. It is really the most American looking city we have seen in Europe, and we find it quite a pleasure to be here after our recent visit to Jerusalem and Constantinople. The Greeks, as a people, are certainly far above their neighbors, the Turks, in intelligence and all that makes modern civilization.

The ruins here are very interesting, although they are in very decayed condition. Most of these ruins, that is, the Temple of Minerva, the Parthenon, which are both a part of the Acropolis, the Theatre of Dionysus, the Theseum, the Temple of Olympus, which were all built from three hundred and fifty to five hundred years B. C., show the ability of the original Greek architects to be of the highest order. These are all built of white marble, which was quarried near here, but it does not stand the test of time like the Egyptian red granite, or Egyptian sandstone, as the Egyptian temples which are one thousand years older, are in better condi-

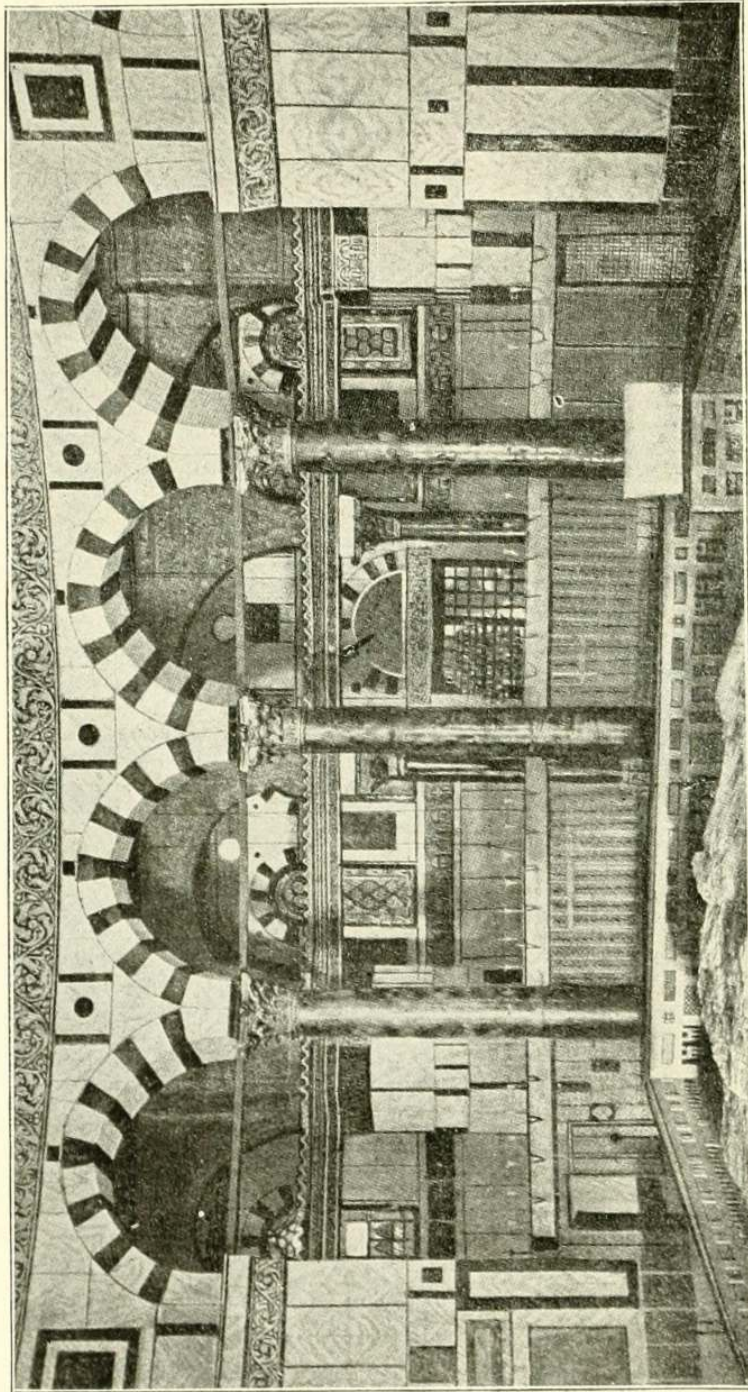


THE MOSQUE OF OMAR--JERUSALEM.

tion to-day then the ruins of Athens. The difference is no doubt in the lasting quality of the building material used. The location of the Acropolis is very grand, as it is situated on a solid mountain of rock, about four hundred and fifty feet high. The grandeur of these temples, in St. Paul's time, when they were in their glory, must have been beyond description. The most ornamental work in marble was done on the Erechtheum, but the Parthenon has most complete architectural proportions, being one hundred and nine feet wide, two hundred and twenty-eight feet long, and about fifty feet high. The great number of statues which originally adorned its outside walls are entirely gone. Located just south of the Acropolis, and about three hundred feet lower is the "Aeropagus" or "Mar's Hill," celebrated as the place where St. Paul made his address to the Athenians. This position is grand for preaching to a large audience.

The Stadium, a very large amphitheatre, which was for centuries in ruins, was begun to be re-built in 1896, for the Olympian games, at an expense of \$600,000, donated by a private individual, whose statue stands beside this great play place. The arena in this amphitheatre is one hundred and nine feet wide by six hundred and seventy feet long, and the amphitheatre will seat over fifty thousand persons. It is not completed yet, but I hardly think it will be a success, as it is doubtful if the "Old Olympian Games" can be revived in this century.

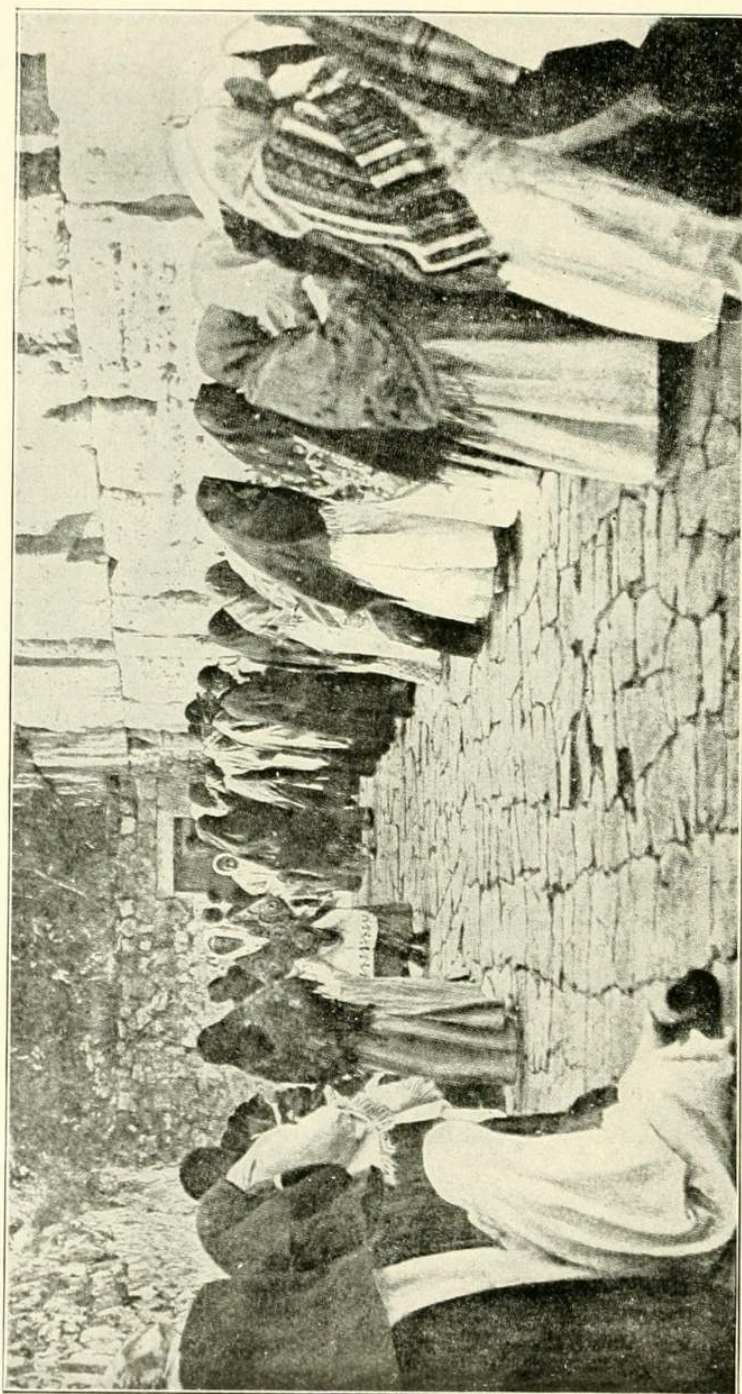
Athens has a fine, up-to-date city hospital, new and clean, built of white marble, with a fine garden in front, filled with statuary, trees, flowers and gravel walks. Also a fine, large white marble building, built by the donation of a wealthy London merchant, to be used as an Academy of Science. This also has a large, ornamental garden in front similar to the hospital. Then,



INSIDE VIEW OF THE MOSQUE OF OMAR—JERUSALEM—SHOWING THE ROCK
OF MORIAH IN THE FOREGROUND.

they have a very fine, large public library, built by the donation of one man, of white marble, about the same size as the ground on which our library in St. Joseph is built, but it has an ornamental garden in front, that is at least as large as the lot on which our library is built. All these three public buildings, the hospital, the Academy of Science, and the library, are built adjoining, and with their ornamental gardens in front, and the ornamental buildings themselves, with the many pieces of fine statuary which decorate their fronts, and their gardens, they present a view which any city might be proud to show.

On Saturday, March 25, 1905, we made an excursion by railway from Athens to Corinth, Greece. This name is familiar to all readers of the Bible, as the early Christians had an important church here, and St. Paul wrote two letters to them, 1st Corinthians and 2d Corinthians. It seems almost incredible that an important large city like ancient Corinth should be destroyed completely. Hardly any of the ruins are now visible. We saw the ruins of the Temple of Apollo, built in the sixth century, B. C. There are only seven of the massive pillars now standing. The Americans have within the last few years done some work here, and excavated about one block, uncovering the ruined rock buildings, and some statuary, also quite a lot of small articles in the pottery line. They found a large fountain and three bathing places. The water is of good quality, and is now carried in iron pipes to the small village which is located on the original site of old Corinth. The present city of Corinth is a bright little town, located about three miles down the valley, and adjacent to the sea. The Acropolis of Corinth is a rock mountain, just back of the site of ancient Corinth, on which was probably the strongest fort of ancient times. This rock is two thousand feet high, with

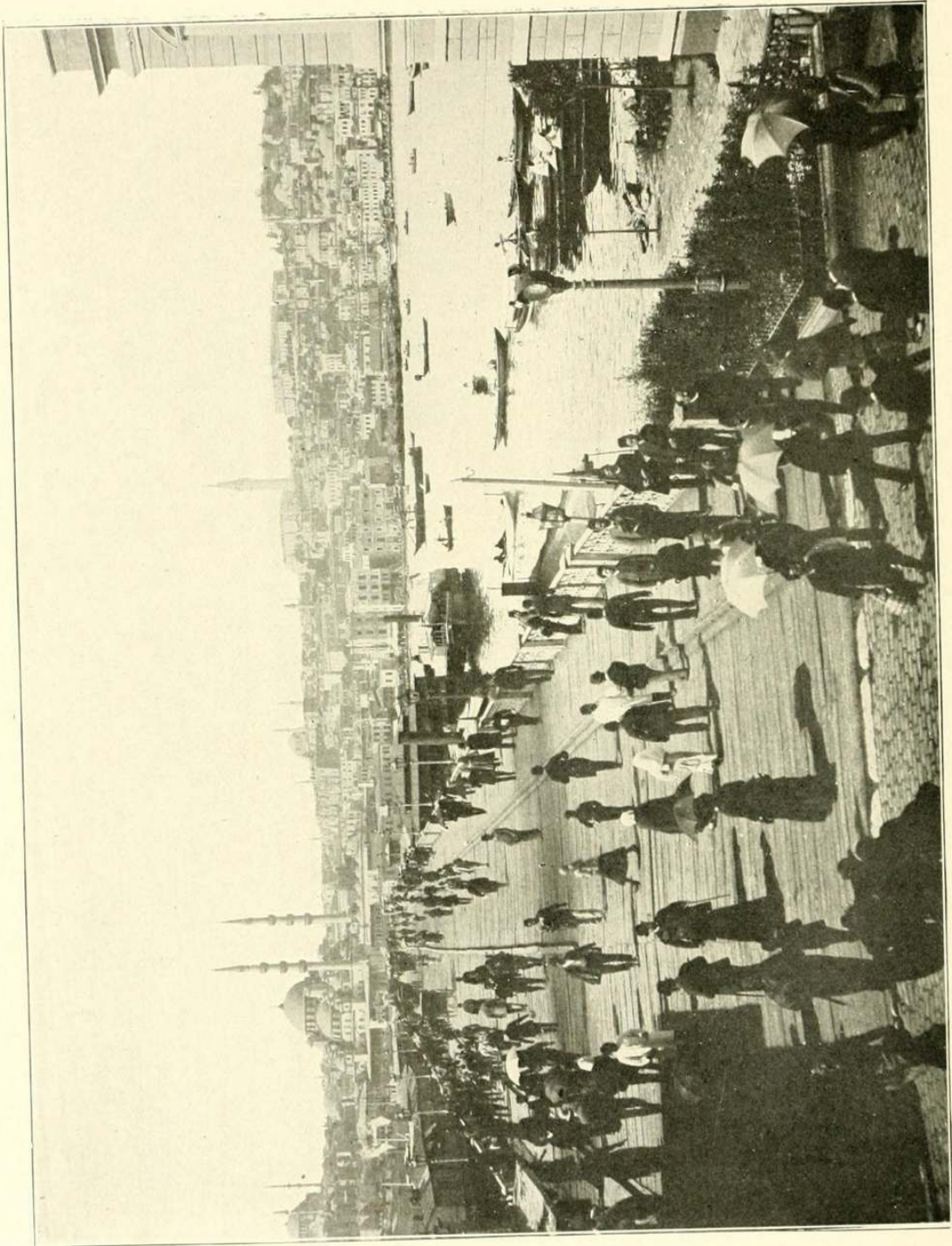


THE JEWS' WAILING PLACE, AT THE WALL OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE,—JERUSALEM.

nearly perpendicular walls on three sides, and the fourth is very steep. We took carriages to the foot of this mountain, and there took mules and climbed about two-thirds of the way up. There we left our mules, and climbed the balance of the way on foot, as it was too steep for the donkeys. We found first a moat, where once had been a draw-bridge, then three sets of gates, about two hundred yards apart, each of which would appear impassable in time of war, and on the top we found a good sized city, in ruins. The army located here could never be taken before the days of cannon and shells. After returning from this mountain, we took our railroad train for Kalamaki, where we boarded the Moltke. There is a great canal here, connecting two arms of the sea. This canal is three miles long, and the cut through the mountain is two hundred and sixty feet deep at the highest point. Water in this canal is twenty-five feet deep, and seventy feet wide.

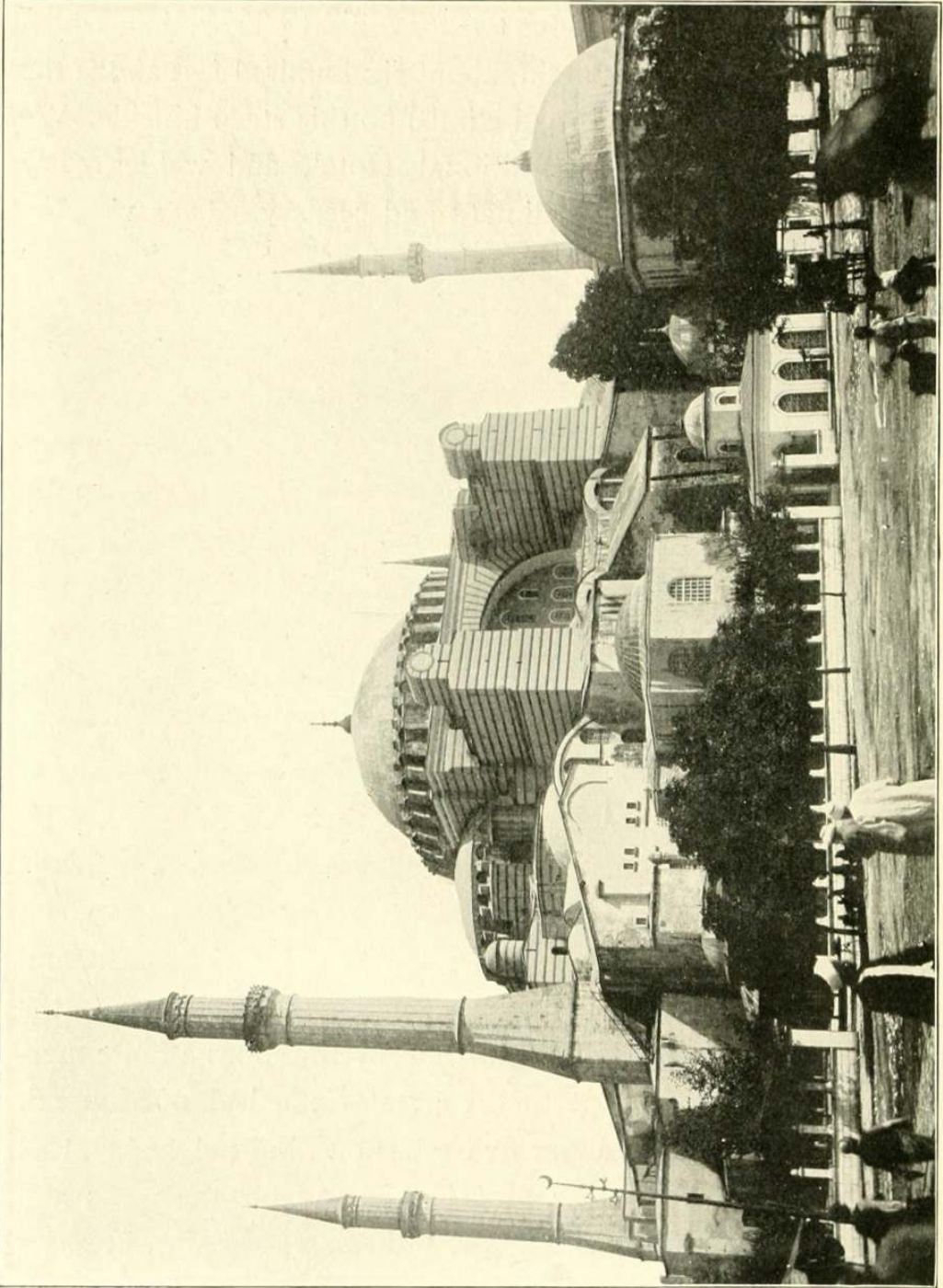
The present Greek natives number about two and a half million people at home. They claim there are, all told, about twelve million Greeks, nearly four-fifths of them being scattered over the world, but principally in the European countries. They are, as a rule, a good class of people, and we did not see such great poverty as among the other Eastern nations; still, they are poor, as a general rule, but self-supporting. The nation is deeply involved in debt. It is said that they owe about nine hundred million francs, as a national debt, mostly loaned by the Germans. They will be a long time in paying it, though they will no doubt keep up the interest. Their present ruler, King George, is placed there through English and German influence, and these two nations will without doubt shape the future of Greece.

After leaving Greece, we steamed direct to Messina, Sicily, which is a fairly prosperous city, with a population of 141,000.



GALATA BRIDGE ACROSS THE GOLDEN HORN—CONSTANTINOPLE.

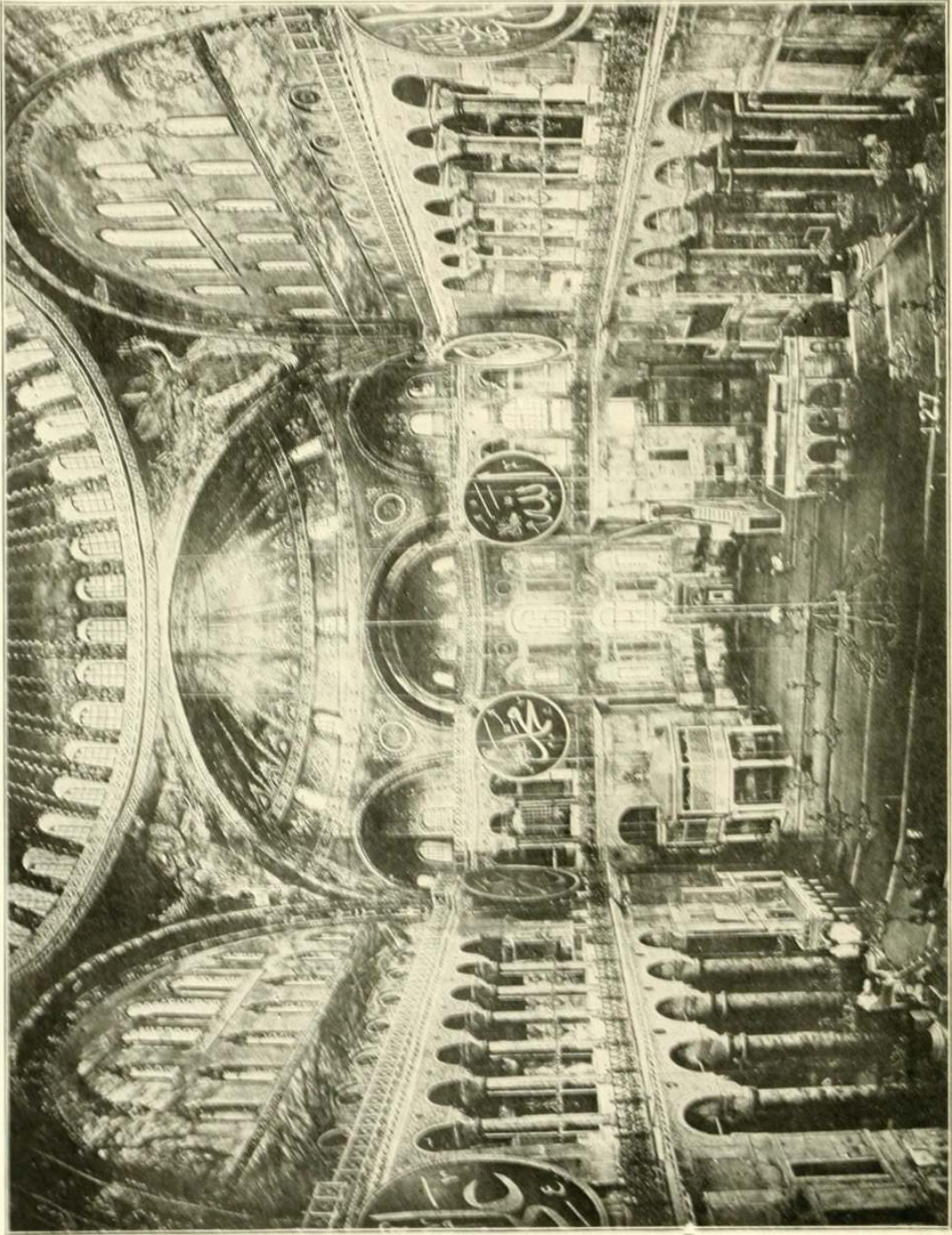
There is nothing of much importance to mention in Messina. We took a railway train about twenty miles to Taormina, which lies on the side of the mountain, about six hundred feet above the sea. A very good graded road climbs up this steep hillside. We took lunch here at the International Hotel, and were greatly pleased with the beautiful climate and scenery. One view is, perhaps, the most beautiful we have seen. Standing on the balcony of the International, which is a beautiful new hotel, built on a rocky point, we had a fine view of Mt. Aetna, with its cap of eternal snow. It looked not over a mile distant, but was really about twenty miles away. Then the fort on the top of the mountain to the right, and five German battleships in the harbor to the left, with the finest mountain scenery all around us, made a view never to be forgotten. This is a very old and quaint Sicily town of about 3,000 population, and a great health resort for all Europe, in the winter. The air is very fine and invigorating. We would gladly have stayed over a few days here, if we could have done so, but the steamer had her regular schedule to make, and we were under obligations to go with her. After a night's steaming we were anchored in the harbor of Palermo. This is the largest city in Sicily, and they claim a population of 350,000, but it does not seem so large. These two cities of Messina and Palermo ship almost all the oranges and lemons that go to the United States from foreign ports, and Palermo does a large mercantile business. We went to the great Cathedral of Monreal. Located on a mountain about five miles out, built eight hundred years ago, celebrated for its Mosaic pictures on the walls and ceilings. There are three epochs shown in these Mosaics, in series of pictures running around the whole three walls. First epoch shown is the creation, the formation of the world, the animals,



MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA—CONSTANTINOPLE.

Adam and Eve, and the rest of the early times. Next epoch shown begins with Noah building the Ark, and represents all the important events given in Bible history, down to the Christian era. Then the Christian era is taken up, and about twenty of the great miracles performed by Christ are shown in these Mosaic pictures. Although so very old, all these Mosaics appear bright and fresh as though they had been made only a few years. The church is in good repair, and is used daily. The city of Palermo is well built, and has good, wide streets, like a modern city, and fine retail stores, much like our own. The people are like the fruit venders we have here in America, in fact most of the Dagos in America come from the Island of Sicily, but those who come to America are usually the poorest class. The people who are in fair financial condition do not leave their homes. The masses in Sicily are very poor, and will forever remain so, unless they emigrate. They do not need a great deal to live on, as the weather is mild. Most of the poorer class wear no shoes, and but few clothes, and their food is very cheap in quality, still, as a rule, they appear happy. In fact, at the present moment they are playing the guitar and singing outside my window, enjoying life in a jolly, careless way.

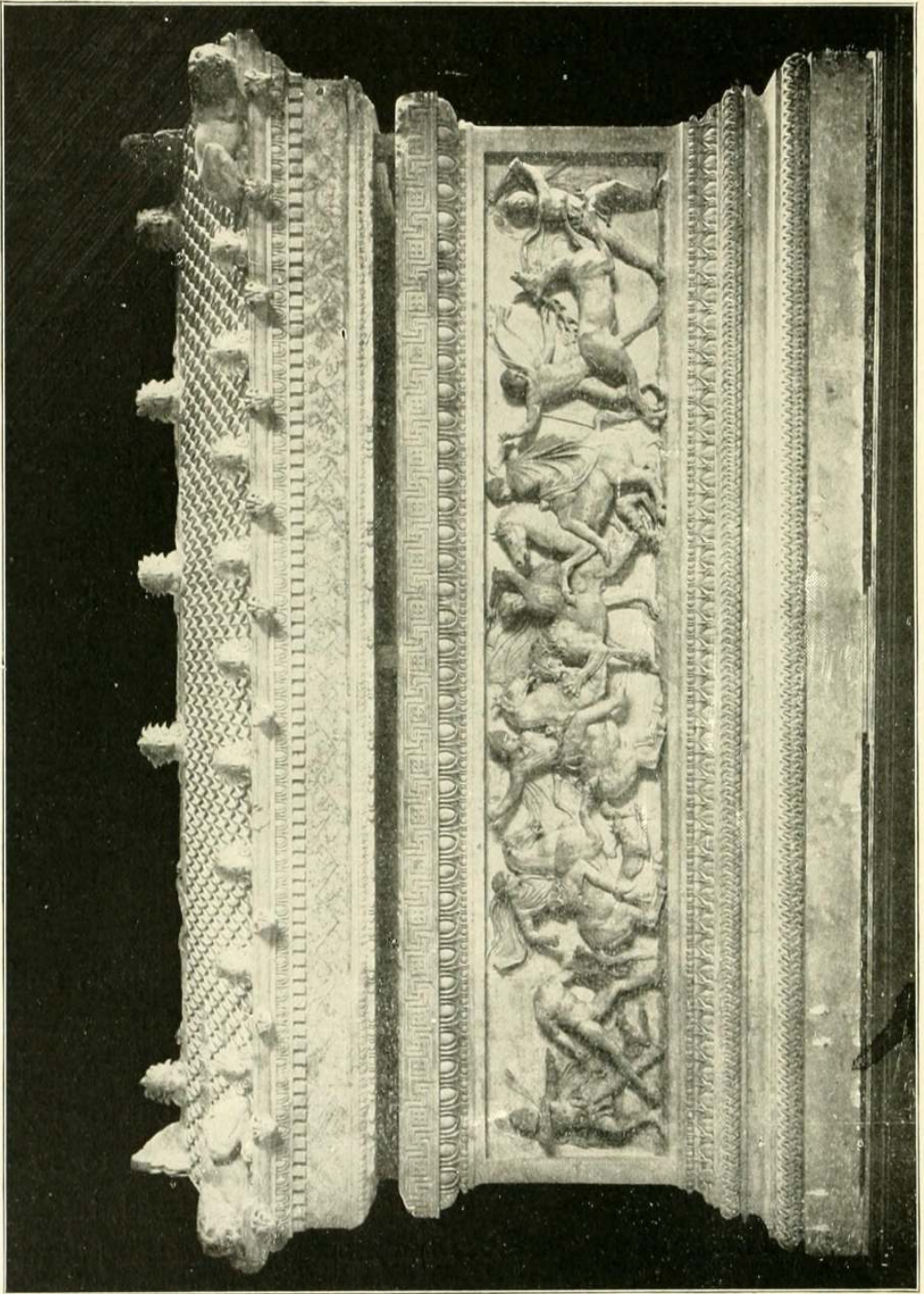
Our next stop was Naples, and a great city it is. We are trying to see the most important sights in six days, and would be glad if we had two weeks here. First we went to the dead City of Pompeii, which is a suburb of Naples. We did not expect to see much there, but found it most interesting; the streets and public places, and some of the residences, indicate in their ruins what they were eighteen hundred years ago. The ruins of one residence are very fine indeed. The roof is still intact, and nearly all the rooms are in fairly good repair. This residence no doubt



MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA—CONSTANTINOPLE. INSIDE VIEW.

was the home of one of the wealthy princes of Pompeii, when it was in its glory. Nearly all its walls are decorated with the finest kind of paintings and frescoes, painted on the plaster walls, and not badly damaged. Some of the work was better than that done by artists of this day. The colorings are very fine, and the features are as handsome as can be found in the best pictures of to-day. This has reference to this one house only, which has recently been excavated. Then we went to the Museum at Pompeii. There are not very many articles there, chiefly the forms of persons who were smothered in the destruction of Pompeii, showing how sudden and awful the destruction was. Afterwards we were in the Museum at Naples, where all the best things which have been found in the Pompeiian ruins, are now on exhibition. They have a vast amount of mosaic tile floors and mosaic pictures, and a great number of the finest statuary to be found anywhere, showing that the artistic taste and skill of these ancient Pompeiians was at least up to the best we can produce to-day. Borrowing a suggestion from a friend, "Pompeii shows plainly the final result of all things earthly, and nothing lives but the soul." May the good Lord so direct us that our souls may be right when the final call comes for each of us.

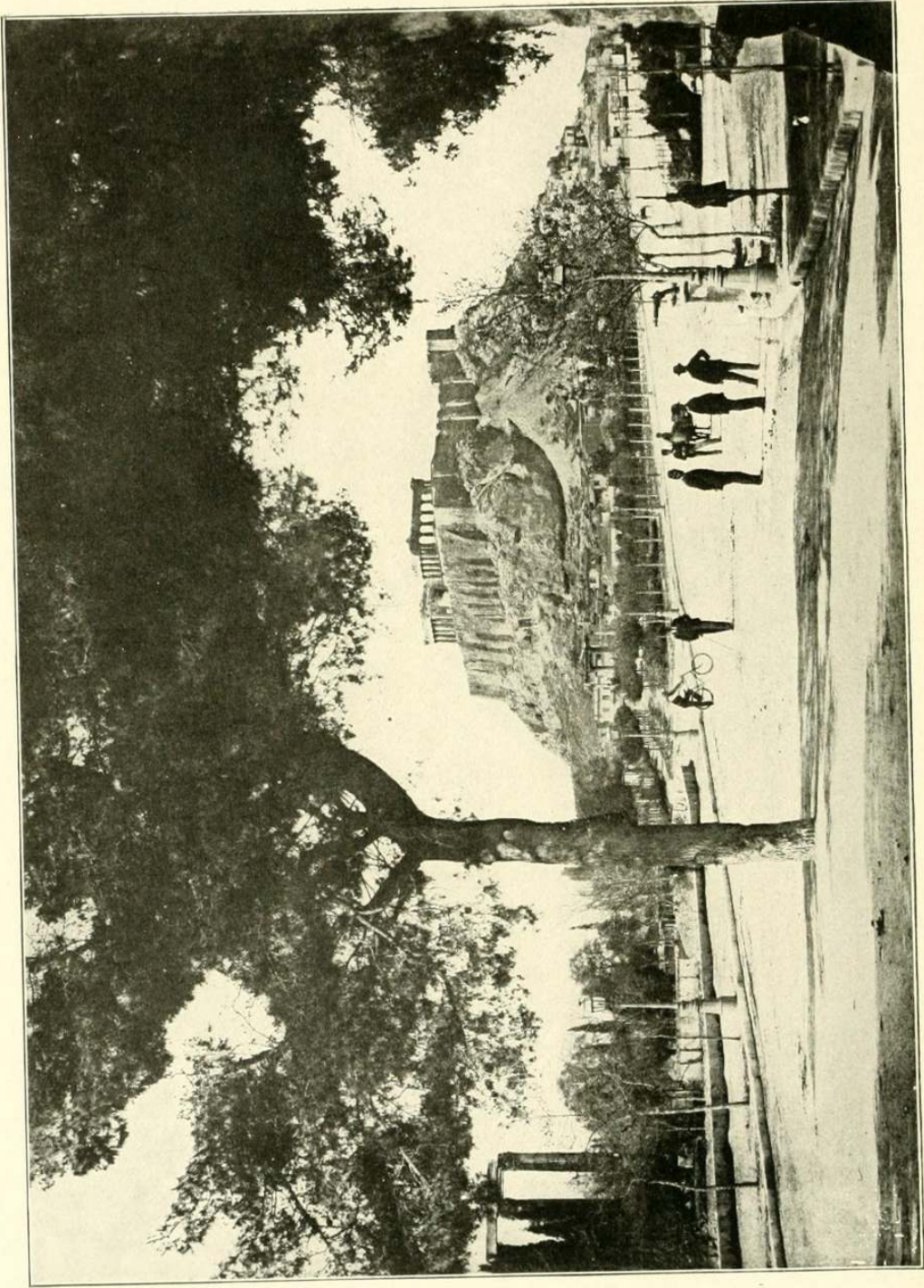
We went to La Cava, by train, after viewing Pompeii, and found it a most delightful place, being a very fertile valley between mountains. The air is so very exhilarating here, and the scenery so delightful, that it almost makes one shout for joy. Next morning we took carriages and drove forty miles to Sorrento. We passed about fifteen small towns on the road, taking lunch at Amalfi. We think this is the most wonderful and beautiful scenery that can be found in a forty mile drive, in the world. Although the distance by road is forty miles, the distance in a



SARCOPHAGUS OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT, NOW IN THE MUSEUM—CONSTANTINOPLE.

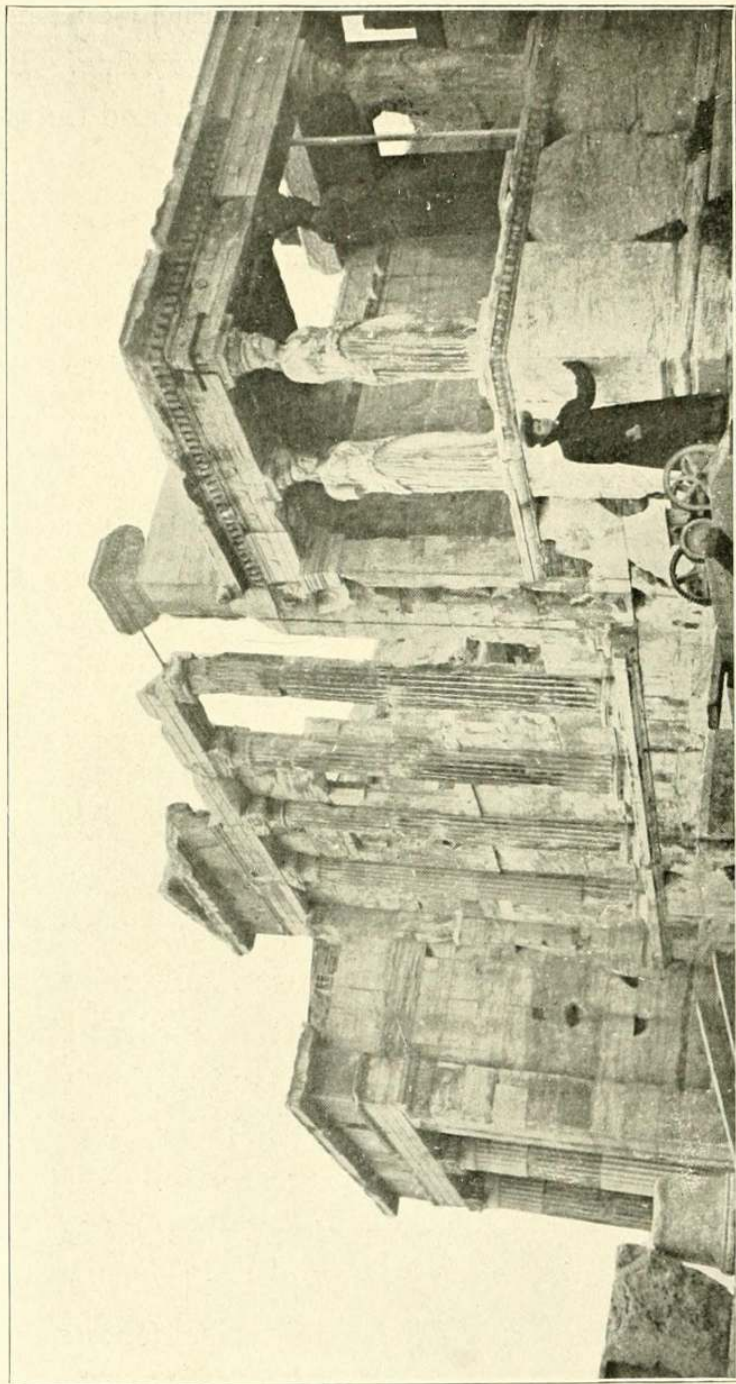
direct line is only sixteen miles. Here the rock mountains rise directly out of the sea, to the height of eight hundred to fifteen hundred feet, and the road is cut into the sides of the mountains, usually about two hundred feet above the sea, though it varies in places from one hundred to five hundred feet above the sea. It is a well built rock road, fairly wide and smooth, with a good wall on the outside, to keep you from falling over the side of the mountain into the sea. There are continuous mountains all the way, and so many mountain peaks that I did not count them. However on many of these peaks, in almost inaccessible locations, are Catholic monasteries, churches, convents and schools. Probably a low estimate of these isolated institutions on this drive, would be fifty. Many are most beautifully situated, and many others are so high up the mountain that we could not see them close enough to tell how they really did look. The people here are good, strong men and women, and are very industrious, They have fruit trees or garden truck growing wherever there is a bushel of earth on the rocky mountain sides. Nearly their whole attention is given to raising lemons, grapes, and olives. The largest crop is lemons, and there seems to be enough here to supply the world. They cover the trees with straw or small brush, to keep the damp off, and the quality of lemons is very fine. The fish in this part of the Mediterranean are very plentiful, and good quality, and in all this land they offer us fish for every meal, except breakfast, and that is hardly considered a meal in Italy. A cup of coffee and a little bread is the usual breakfast, but for any one that has been in the habit of eating a sure enough breakfast, it seems rather light.

After spending the night at Sorrento, we took a small steamer for Island of Capri, which is about four or five miles off the main

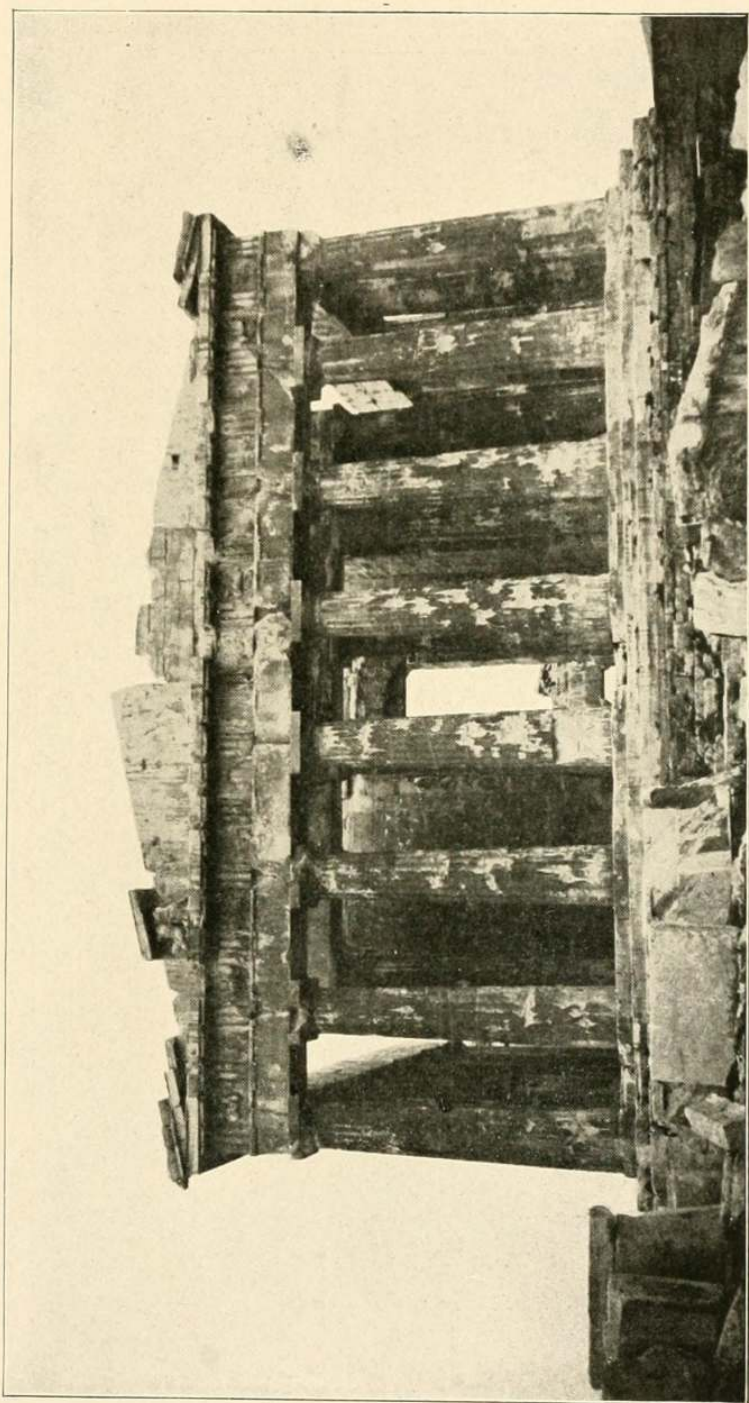


GENERAL VIEW OF THE ACROPOLIS—ATHENS—SHOWING THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLES.
THIS IS A ROCK FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET HIGH, SITUATED IN
THE CENTRAL PART OF THE CITY OF ATHENS.

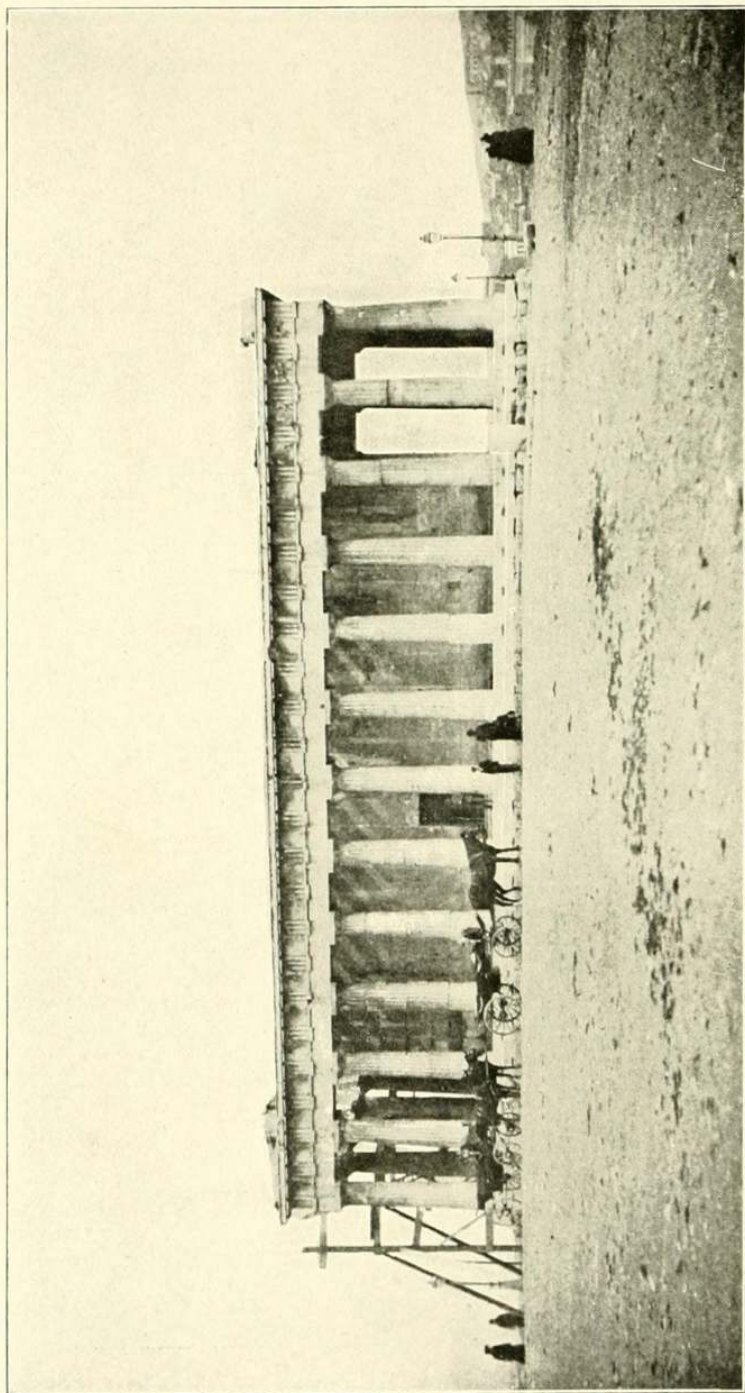
land, and like all the other land in that vicinity, very mountainous. Although only a few hundred acres in extent, Capri has a high mountain, and the view from it is very fine. It was a beautiful spring day when we made this trip, and the weather warm, with sea as calm as the Missouri River. Here we visited the Blue Grotto, which is a large cave, on the sea level, about one hundred yards long and fifty yards wide, and seventy-five feet high. You enter with row-boats. The entrance is only large enough for one small boat, and so low that we had to sit in the bottom of the boat to get in. There were about a dozen row-boats in this cave at the time we were there. The water inside the Grotto is very deep, and the light coming through the water in the small opening gives the whole inside a light blue appearance, both water and roof of the cavern. From Capri we went in our little steamer directly back to Naples, about twenty miles across the Bay of Naples, which is a very fine harbor, and large enough for the navies of the whole world at one time. There is a large amount of shipping done here. Naples is a commercial city, and a large amount of business is done there. It is a beautiful city, situated along the water front for three or four miles. There is one mountain in the central part, about four hundred feet high. The Bertolini Hotel is about two-thirds the way to the top of this mountain, and affords a beautiful view of the city. We enjoyed our visit at Naples very much, and would have been glad to stay longer. We almost forgot to mention a visit to old Vesuvius, the volcano, now in eruption in a mild form. This volcano is forty-two hundred feet high, and one of the most important sights of Naples. It is in plain view from all parts of the city. We went to the top on April 4, 1905, and to say that it is awe inspiring is putting it mildly. At present there is a cog



THE ERECHTHEUM, WITH THE PORTICO OF THE CARIATIDES—ATHENS.



THE PARTHENON—EAST END VIEW.



TEMPLE OF THESEUS—ATHENS.

railway, operated by electricity, which takes us up about two-thirds the ascent. Then we changed to a car operated by a wire cable. This is very steep. The actual rise is sixty-three feet for every one hundred feet of track. This wire railway is about one thousand feet long. When we reached the top of this we were still five hundred feet below the crater. Here we took chairs and were carried up to the crater by three, good, strong men. The ascent is very steep, and the path is covered with about a foot of dry sand. To be carried up in one of these chairs is much easier than to walk, but it is much more dangerous than to walk, for if the carriers should drop one over the side of the chair, he would not stop until landed at Pompeii, a mile and a half below. After struggling about twenty minutes, the three carriers set us down on the edge of the crater. About that time, the old mountain gave a big explosion, like a cannon, and threw out a large quantity of stones, lava and ashes, to the height of one or two hundred feet. We thought our final trip was near, but the guard assured us there was no danger. None of our party were hurt, as the explosion goes straight up, and still it seemed we were too close, as we were enveloped in smoke for a while, until the wind shifted, and blew it the other way. We were standing on the brink of the crater, but the explosions were rising about two hundred feet distant from us, and continued at intervals of about one or two minutes to shoot off a large charge of stones, hot lava, ashes and flames. The crater seems to be very close to the infernal regions.

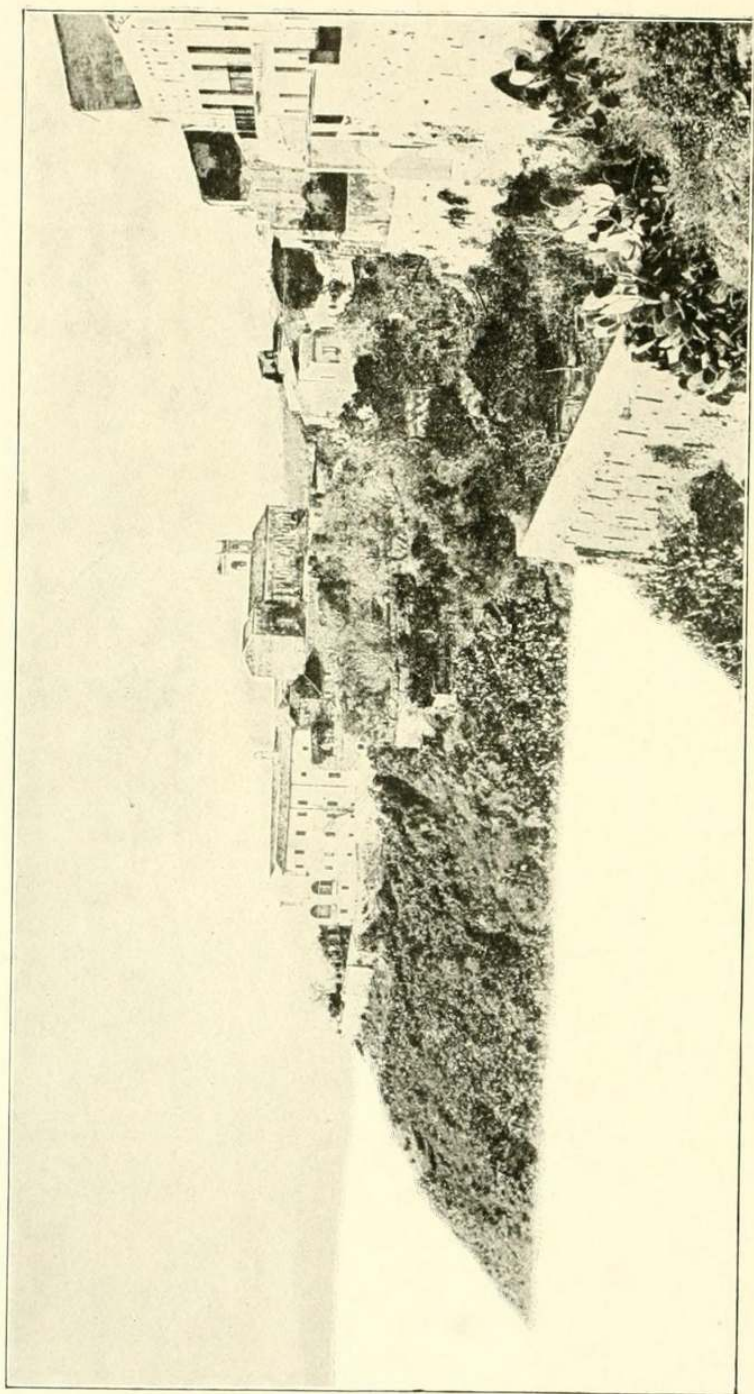
In coming from Naples to Rome, we passed through a fine, fertile valley, nearly the whole distance. This country is now planted with fruit bearing trees, and carefully cultivated with all kinds of garden products, also wheat and hay, and looks very beautiful, with a range of snow capped mountains, on each side

of the valley. We passed the Monte-Caseno Monastery, between Naples and Rome, founded four hundred and eighty A. D., and continuously occupied by the Roman Catholic Church since that time. It is the oldest institution belonging to the church, which has been held by them without a break in its occupancy, situated on an elevation about three thousand feet above sea level. It has now four large schools for boys.

Rome is a beautiful city, with well built store houses and palaces, and three hundred and fifty-three Catholic cathedrals and churches, and a very few other churches, many public plazas, and more public fountains than we saw in any other city. Many of these fountains are very large, and some of them centuries old. The cathedrals and churches are the pride of the city, St. Peter's being the largest and finest in the world. They claim to have in St. Peter's the heads of St. Peter and St. Paul, and in another church the original cross on which Christ was crucified, also in another cathedral they claim to have the bodies of St. Peter and St. Paul, and the table on which Christ ate the Sacramental Supper, and in still another cathedral the cradle in which the Virgin Mary rocked the infant Christ. Also, in another cathedral they have the body of St. Matthew, and a picture of Christ, painted by St. Luke. In still another church they have the original stairway which was in the house of Pilate, over which Christ walked when he was taken before Pilate to be condemned. These steps, or stairs, have been brought from Jerusalem and set up in the church here, and to-day we saw about one hundred persons going up these steps on their knees. It is wearing, both on the body and the clothes, to make this trip on the knees. We visited many of these cathedrals to-day. The St. Peter's is a wonderful place. While it is so very large, still it does not look the size that it

really is, as it is so well proportioned, yet no other church edifice can compare with St. Peter's. We also went to the Roman Forum, and saw the very place where Mark Anthony and Joshua Motter swayed the Roman multitudes with their eloquence, and also the ruins of the Roman Coliseum, or Amphitheatre, which is built of stone and brick, and required the labor of fifty thousand Jewish slaves several years to build, also the Public Baths, which were nearly as large as the Coliseum, built entirely of brick. This was also built by the labor of thousands of Jewish slaves. In those days, when the Romans conquered the Jews, it was not the custom to parole the prisoners, and send them home. On the contrary, they simply made slaves of the whole nation, and forced them to labor on such large public works as the Roman Amphitheatre, and the Roman Baths. Probably the most important things to see in Rome, after the cathedrals, are the many picture galleries, both public and private. We have visited many of these galleries, and seen some of the most noted pictures now in existence. I almost forgot to mention that in one of the cathedrals we saw the chains which were used on St. Paul when he was chained in prison.

In going to Florence from Rome we went by Pisa, and stopped off there three hours. The Leaning Tower is the item that gives Pisa its advertisement, and it is well worth seeing. It looks better than the photographs, which is not usually the case, built of white marble, which they have here in abundance. In the latter part of the twelfth century, it is supposed to have settled in its foundations, which caused it to lean. At any rate it is now seven hundred years old, and has not leaned any further, within the knowledge or records of the past six hundred years. It is kept in fairly good repair, and a thing of beauty as it stands

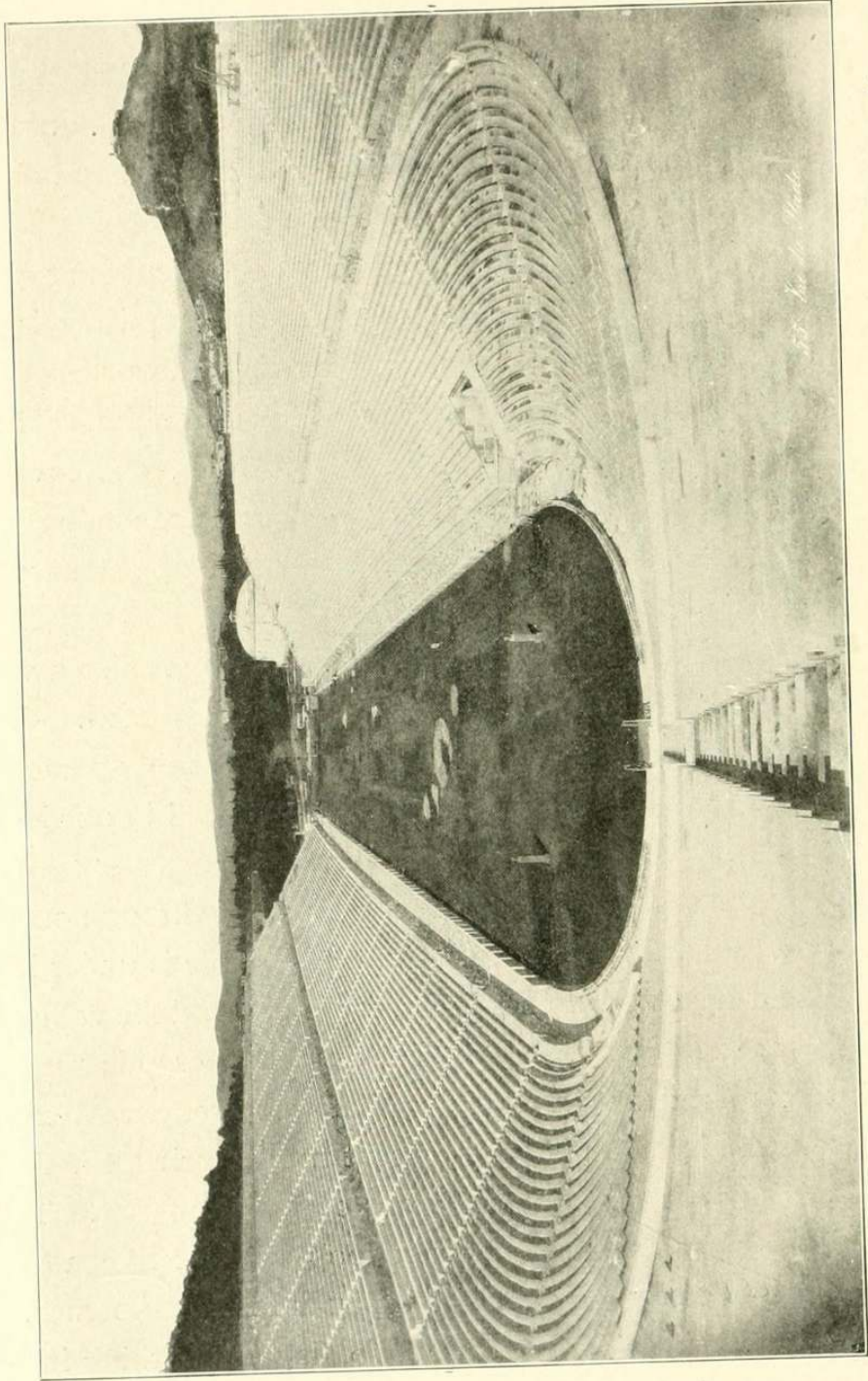


TAORMINA—SICILY.

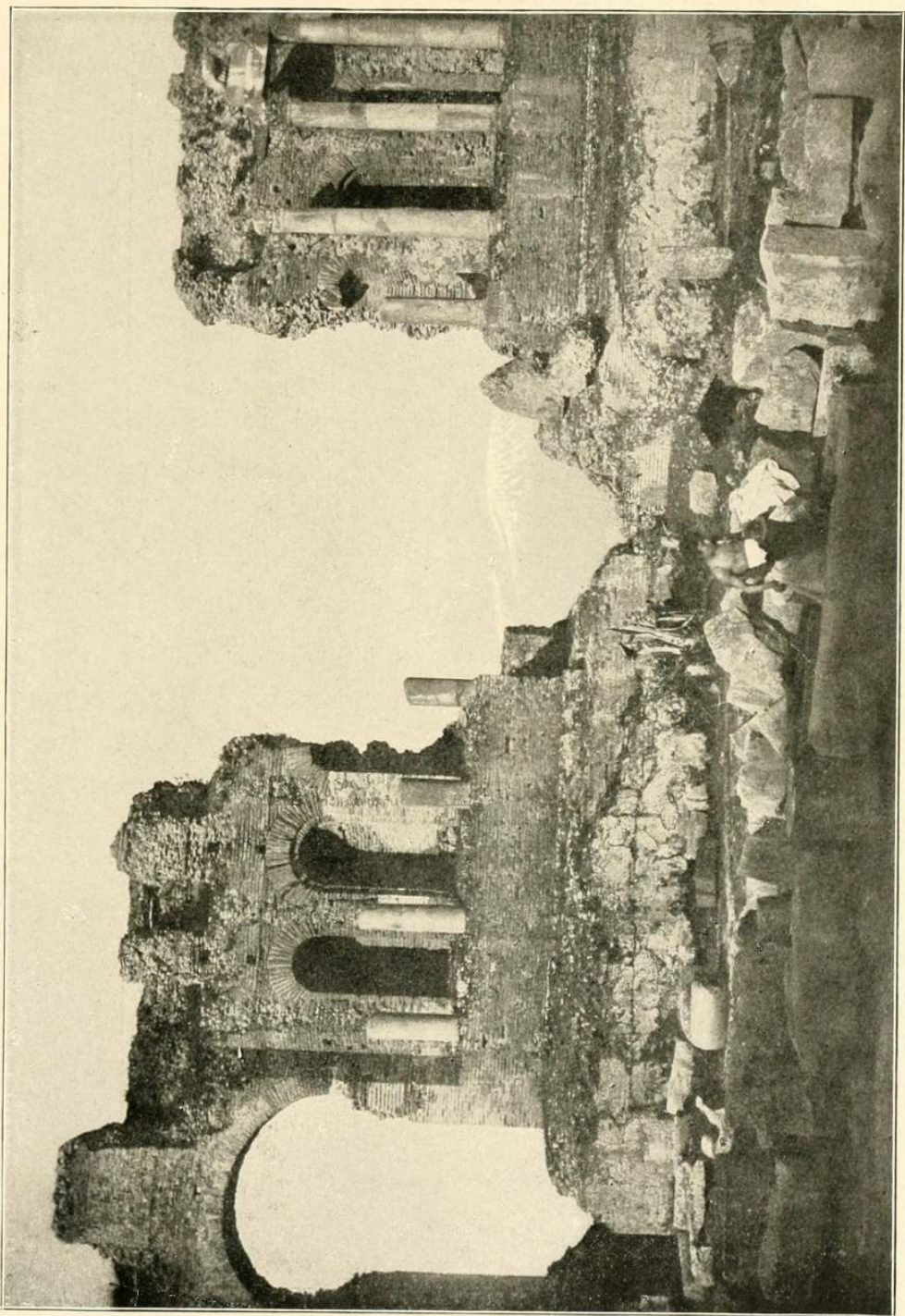
to-day. There is a large cathedral at Pisa, which was built about six hundred years ago, and is well filled with frescoes and paintings. There is also a building called the Baptistry, built in circular form, of white marble (that is the only kind they use for building here), about one hundred feet in diameter, and about one hundred and fifty feet high, with a fine dome. It is a beautiful structure, was built six hundred years ago, and is as good to-day as when first erected. The echo in the Baptistry is the finest we ever heard. Also the cemetery here is well worth seeing. It is built with a long corridor on each of the four sides. These side walls, or corridors, are about forty feet high, and covered with frescoes all the way round. These frescoes were made seven hundred years ago, and although painted on the plaster walls, are in excellent shape still. They represent the Bible history from the creation down to and including the Christian era; also a very large fresco of Heaven, and another representing Hell. The artist's idea of Heaven and Hell is the same as is to-day preached from the Protestant pulpits. We haven't improved in our ideas in that respect, in the last seven centuries.

Coming up from Pisa to Florence we passed through one of the most beautiful valleys we ever saw. The whole is under irrigation. The canals and ditches are everywhere, and the valley is in the highest state of cultivation. The principal crop is grapes, although they raise nearly everything that we raise, except corn. Their seasons are long, and at the present time, April 12th, their vegetation is advanced about as far as ours by June 1st. This valley is densely populated. In fact it looks almost like a continuous suburb of a city, all the distance from Pisa to Florence.

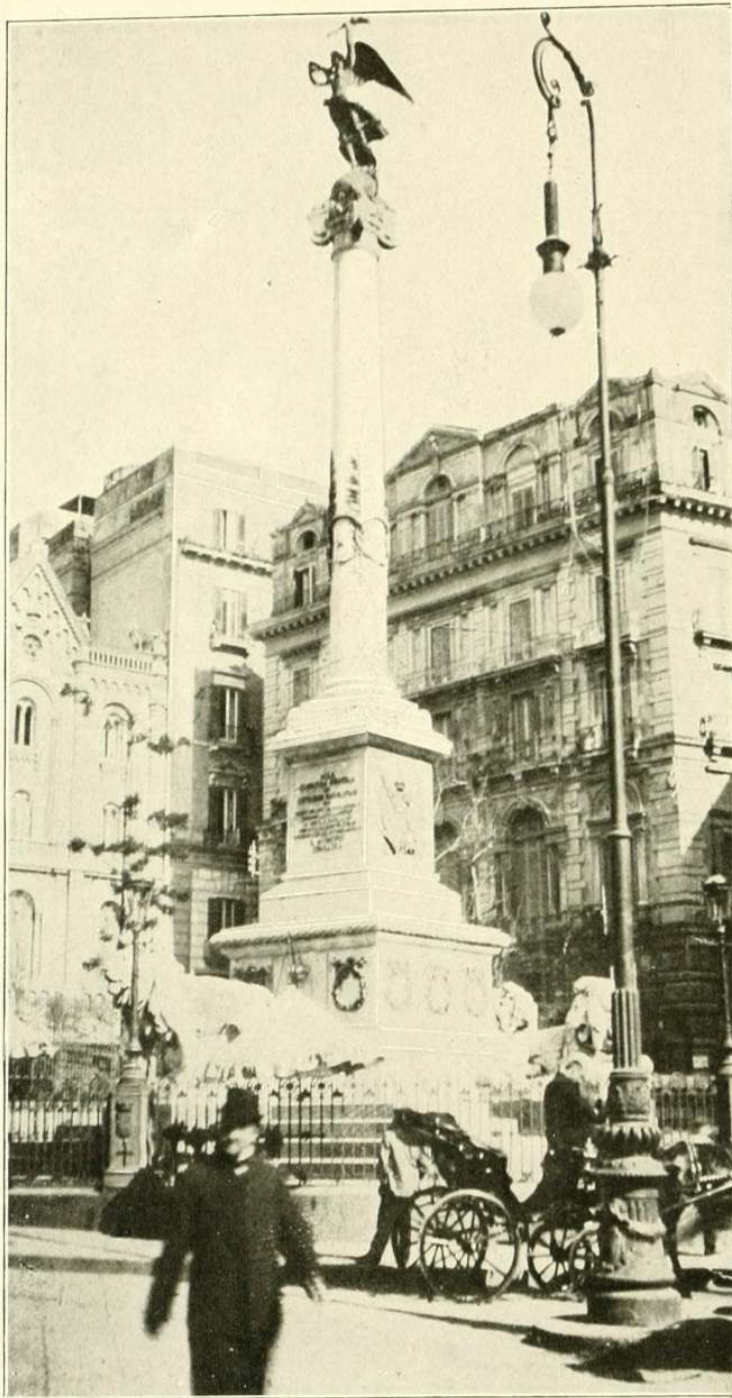
We have now been in Florence two days, and think it the most pleasant and delightful city we have yet visited in Italy.



THE STADIUM AT ATHENS, SEATS 50,000 PEOPLE. RECENTLY REBUILT AT AN EXPENSE OF \$600,000.



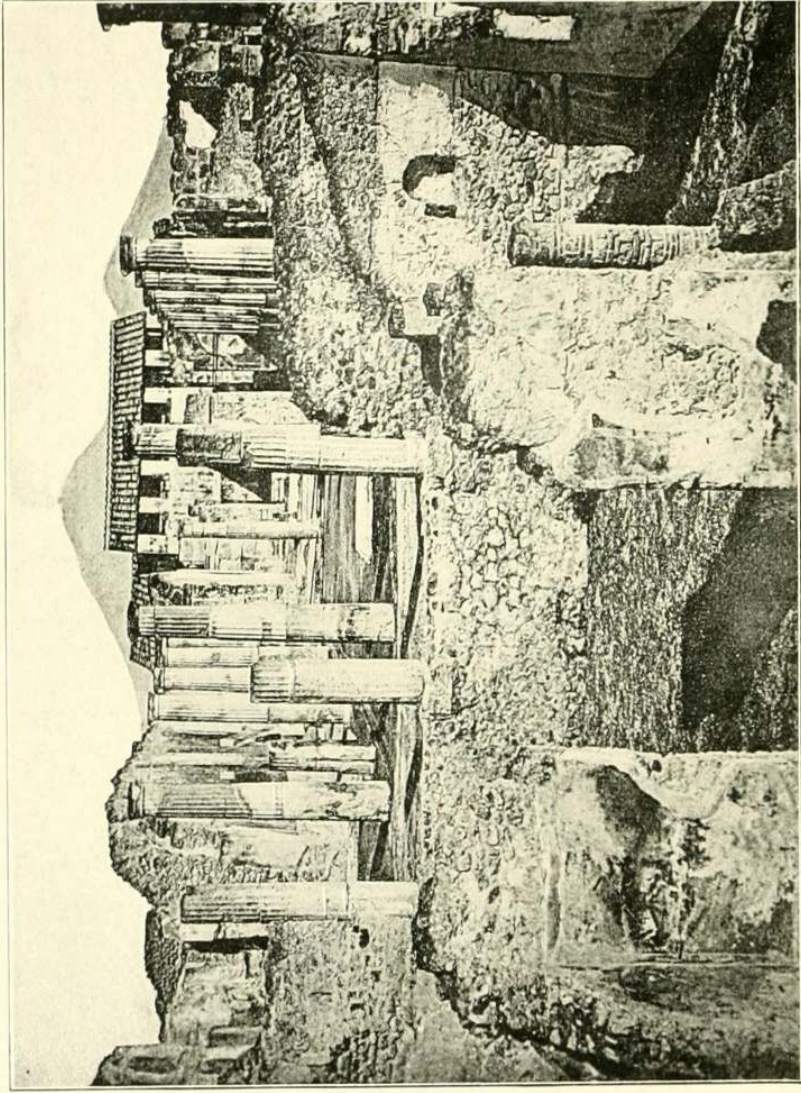
RUINS OF THE GREEK THEATRE—TAORMINA, SICILY—SHOWING MT. ETNA IN THE DISTANCE.



SCENE IN NAPLES.

The streets are usually of good width, the buildings ordinarily about four stories, and all in solid stone blocks, nearly fire-proof. No vacant lots. The store rooms are first-class, with good stocks of goods, in fact it is considered a good retail city. Population 200,000. Principal attractions, picture galleries. We have seen here more fine paintings of celebrated artists than all we have seen in all other cities, combined. Whether you are a lover of art or not, you should not fail to visit the picture galleries of Florence when you visit Italy. They have art in almost everything here. The drives are beautiful. We drove out alongside the river, about three miles, and the view is very fine. The pleasure drive is as good as Hyde Park, London. The churches are numerous, and the Duomo, or Cathedral, Baptistry, and Church Tower, all being three separate structures, are all built of alternate courses of white and black marble, making them striking in appearance. The building now called the Baptistry was originally a pagan temple, and built so long ago that they have no record to tell how old it is, but it is a very fine structure, and in good condition for daily use. It is kept in good repair, so that it will last for a thousand years to come. It was changed to a Catholic church centuries ago; the bronze doors are the finest in Italy. They are called the Paradise Gates. It is said that when Michael Angelo was getting pointers for the doors to St. Peter's, in Rome, he came here and viewed these doors, and exclaimed, "They are fit to be the gates of Paradise, if Paradise needs gates."

Among other places we visited the city hall in Florence, where the mayor and city council have their meetings. It is hung all the way round on its four walls with very fine Florentine Tapestry, made four hundred years ago, but still holds its colors well. The Tapestry pictures represent Bible scenes from the old

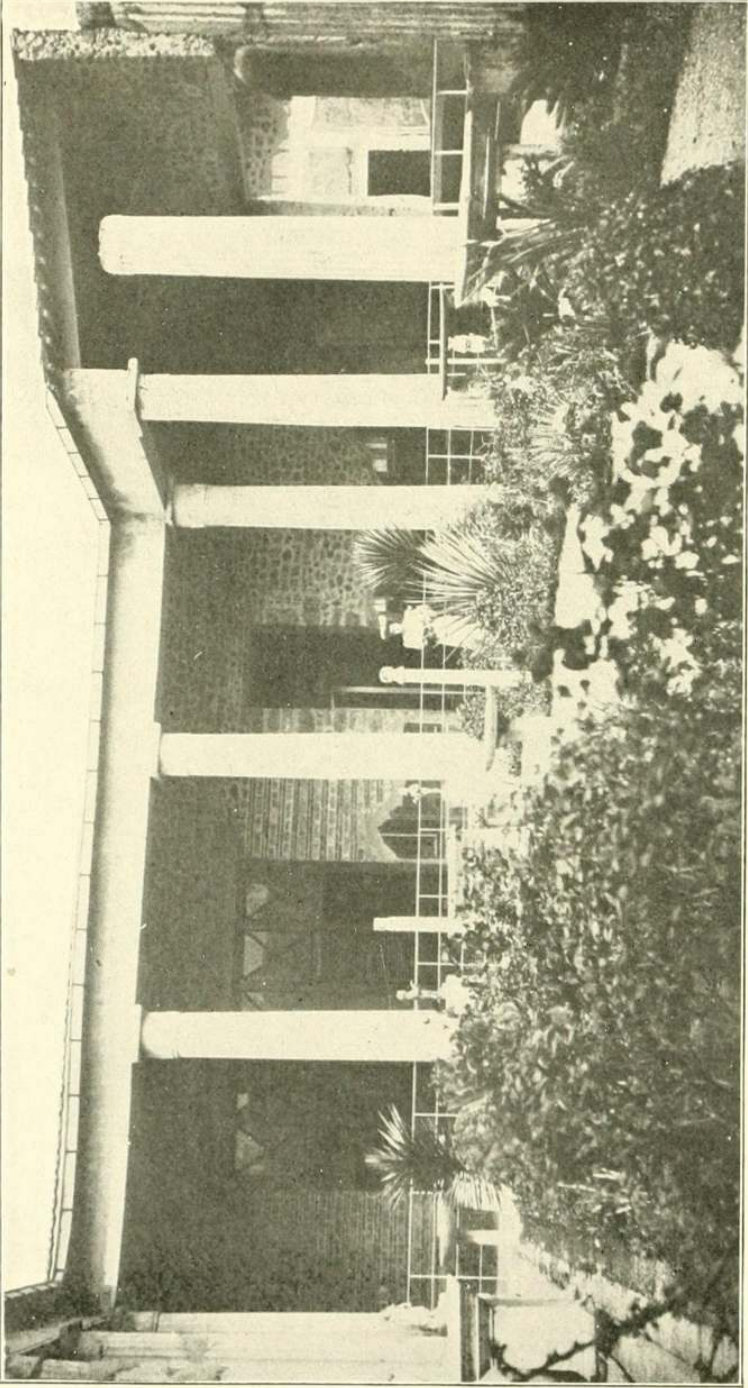


RUINS OF POMPEII—VESUVIUS IN THE BACKGROUND.

Testament. The floors are well carpeted, and the seats comfortable. Altogether it is better fitted up than the city hall of St. Joseph; still we may have a better city hall than Florence when we are as old.

The railway from Florence to Venice leads for a few miles out of Florence through a beautiful valley, every part of which is irrigated and under a high state of cultivation, then for fifty or sixty miles through the mountains, and the scenery here was very fine. The railroad runs around the edge of the many cliffs, and overhangs the valley perhaps five hundred feet below, where we could see many beautiful waterfalls, narrow green valleys, and nearly always a village or hamlet in sight. Then the tunnels were not so pleasant. There are twenty-two tunnels on the road, some long and some short. After passing the mountains we emerged into a wide valley or plain, sloping to the Adriatic Sea. This is also well irrigated, with innumerable canals, many of them large enough to float small boats. The whole plain is densely populated, and seems to be still capable of producing good crops of all kinds, except corn. They raise no corn here, or any other place in Europe, except a part of Austria. Their principal products in this valley are hay and grapes.

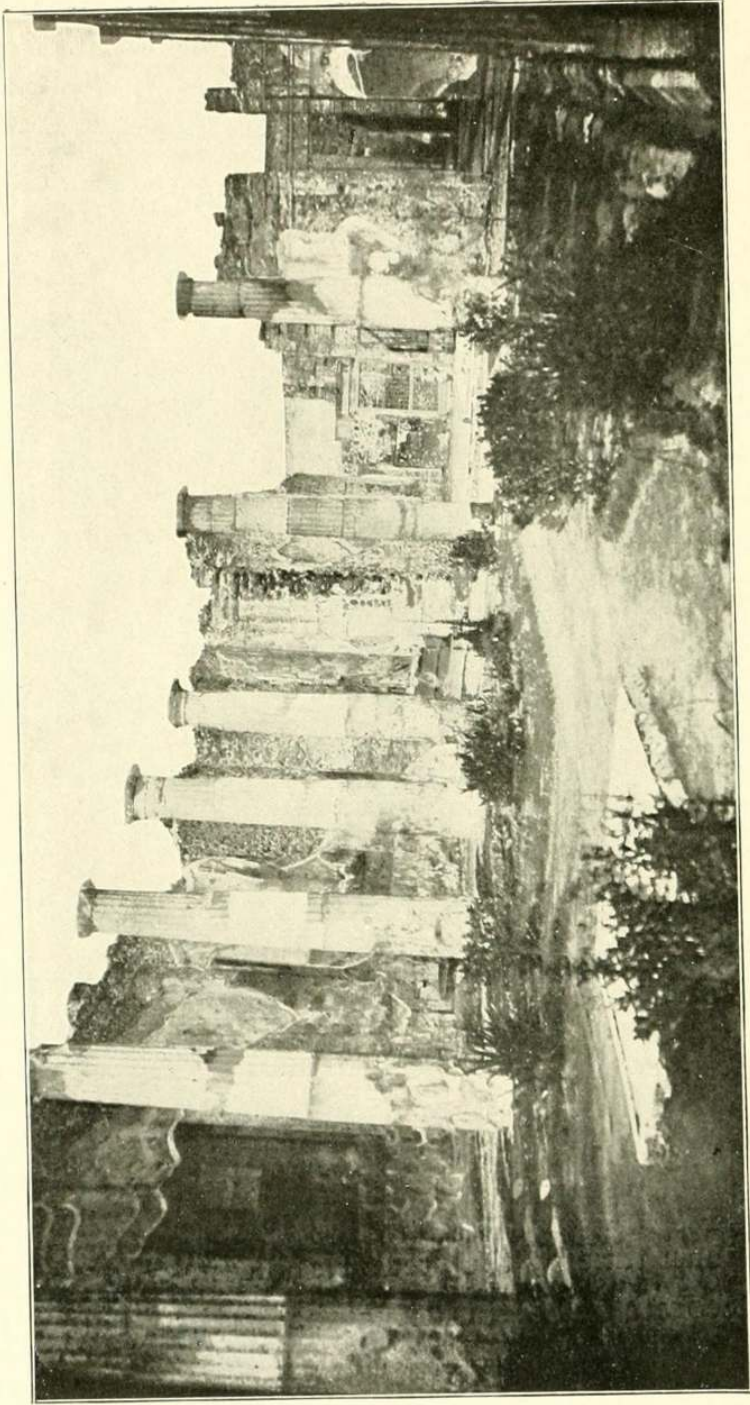
We arrived in the famous City of Venice about 7 p. m., just about sunset, and the view was very fine indeed, with the fine colors of the sunset shading into the water, and here is where they never suffer from drouth, as all the streets are canals, some small, and others (The Grand Canal) wide. When you alight from the train you take a gondola to your hotel, instead of an omnibus, and when you want to go anywhere, you take a gondola. They move along not quite as fast as a carriage, and no jolting. The housewife should find here a Paradise, as there is



HOUSE OF THE VETTI—POMPEII—UNCOVERED WITHIN THE LAST TWO YEARS.
IN THE BEST CONDITION OF ANY OF THE RUINS IN POMPEII—THE ROOF WAS IN GOOD CONDITION WHEN FOUND

absolutely no dust, and no need of a sewerage system. The movement of the tide keeps the canals clean, but it would not suit a Missouri farmer, as it is too wet to raise corn.

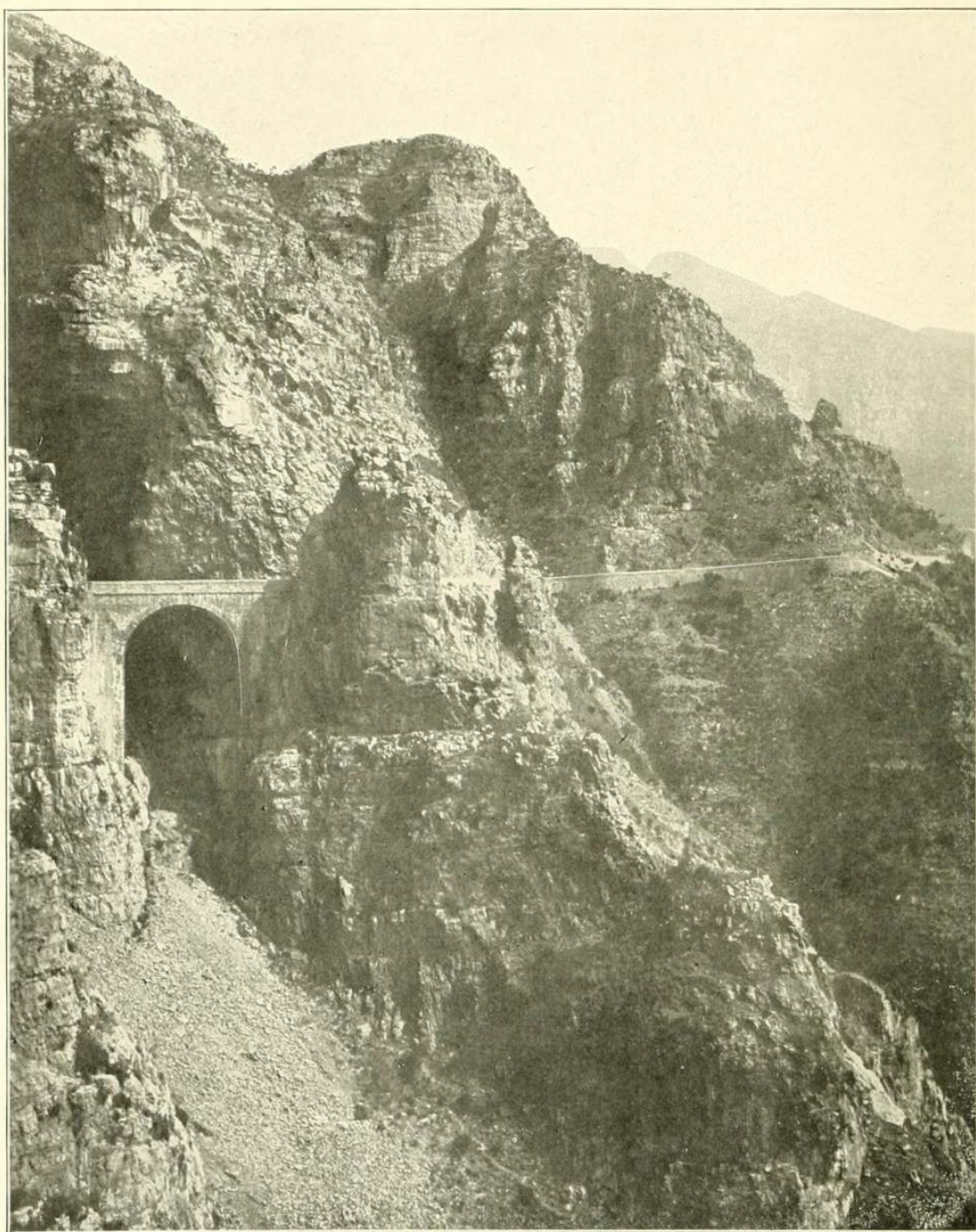
Venice has about 140,000 population, and is not making much, if any, increase, but seems to hold her own very well. The city looks old and worn in many places, but not as worn as one might expect in a city built two thousand years ago, and always standing in the water. The St. Mark's Cathedral is of most importance to the sightseer, begun in 828 A. D., and completed some centuries later. The cathedral has the body of St. Mark, the Evangelist. We saw the marble box containing his remains. Also they have an immense number of Mosaic pictures, over nearly the entire interior of the cathedral. These pictures have been there eight hundred years, but look as bright today as when first made. They also have two alabaster columns in this cathedral, brought from the ruins of Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem. These alabaster columns are very beautiful. You can see the light of a candle shining through them. The outside decorations are quite elaborate. The cathedral is built in the shape of a Greek cross, and has five large domes, also a great deal of fine, carved marble, many statues and columns. The most noted of the outside decorations is four bronze horses, which stand on the roof of the cathedral, in front. Viewed from the ground they appear about life size, but must be much larger, as they are at least a hundred feet above the pavement. These bronze horses have been twice captured, and taken to other countries, the last time by the great Napoleon, who took them to Paris to decorate one of his triumphal arches, but they were brought back and put in their original positions again, after Napoleon's downfall. Then we viewed the Doge's Palace,



POMPEII—HOUSE OF CORNELIO RUFO.

which is now a public picture gallery, and has many very fine paintings. The famous "Bridge of Sighs" adjoins this palace. We walked over it, and through the prisons, or dungeons. They are about as bad as they have been reported, being simply stone made cells about nine feet square, with no light, and only a small hole through the door, large enough to pass in the food. Also we visited the "Academy of Fine Arts," which is a very large picture gallery, with many very fine paintings, by the most famous artists. Their great show picture here is called "The Assumption," by Titian; it is a large painting, about forty feet high, and twenty feet wide, the central figure being the Virgin Mary, with many other figures both above and below her. The Campanilla, which was one of the attractions of St. Mark's Square, fell to the ground about a year ago. It is now being rebuilt. We were pleased with Venice, and left with regret that we could not stay longer. In going from Venice to Milan we passed through a wide valley which is irrigated in all parts, and very highly cultivated, and looks most delightful. The Italians cultivate every foot of the land that will produce anything, and the whole country, except the mountains, is traversed by many irrigation canals, both large and small, and many rock walls and very fine graded macadamized roads, in all directions.

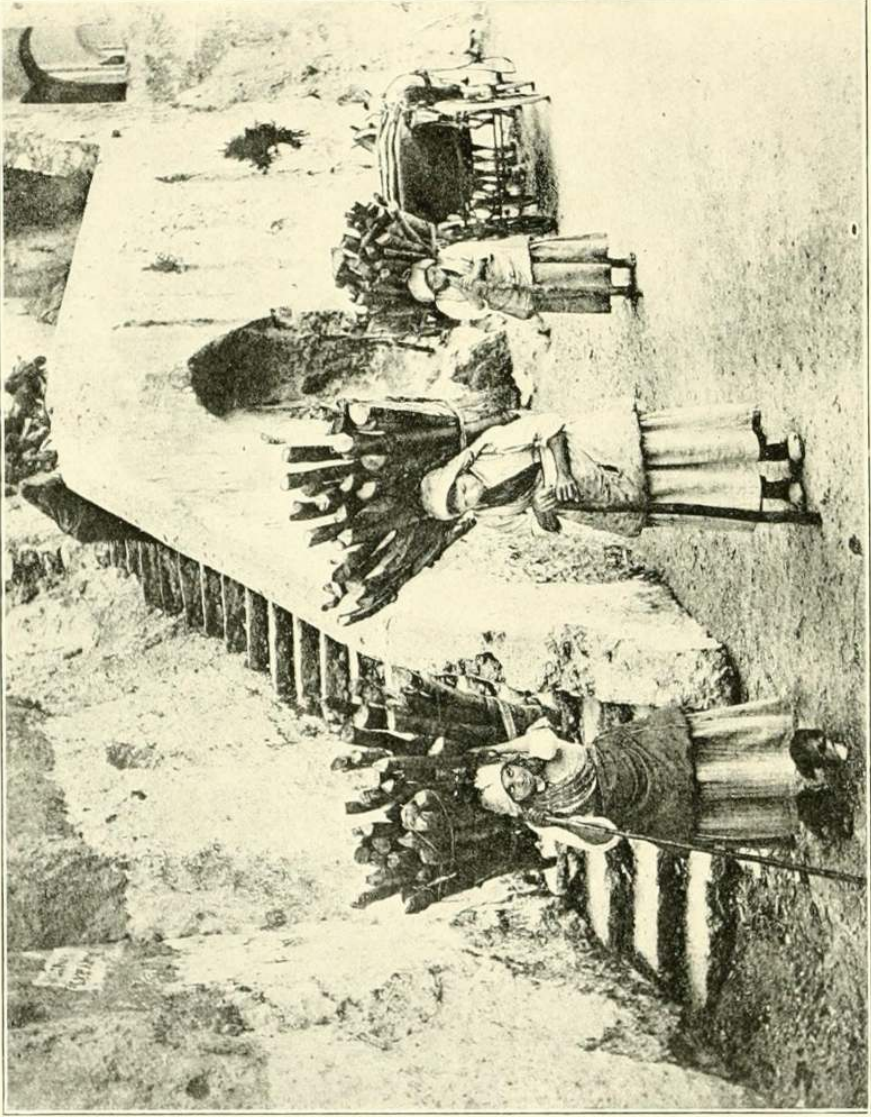
We stopped one day at Milan, which is a large city, about 450,000 population, bright and clean, up-to-date in almost all the latest improvements. The Duomo, or Cathedral here, is the most beautiful in the whole world. There are only two cathedrals larger. These two are St. Peter's in Rome, and the great cathedral of Seville, in Spain, but neither these nor any other church building will compare with the Milan Cathedral in outside decoration. It has probably five hundred spires and pin-



VIEW NEAR AMALFI—SHOWING THE CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY
AND OUR DRIVE FORTY MILES ALONG THE SIDE OF THE
MOUNTAINS FROM LA CAVA.

nacles, on the top of each is a statue, and in niches in every place where a statue could be placed, are statues representing the Bible characters. In all I should guess there are more than a thousand statues on the outside of this great structure. The style is Gothic, and the roof is marble slabs, resting on brick arches. We walked over these marble roofs, which are so closely joined together with cement that they are as solid and water tight as one solid piece of marble. We also climbed up to the top of the steeple, which is four hundred and ninety-four steps, and viewed the cathedral and surrounding country. The city of Milan lay spread out before us from this great height, a beautiful city of red tile roofs, and compactly built, with many fine blocks of four and five story buildings, many fine, wide streets, open plazas or squares, and many public statues of heroes in battle. Before leaving the city we went to see the world famous picture by De Vinci, called "The Last Supper," representing Christ and the twelve Apostles at the table. This is painted on a plaster wall, and is much damaged by rough usage. It is said that Napoleon once used this church for a stable for his horses, and at that time this picture was greatly marred. Still, it is well worth the trouble of going to see, by any one who visits Milan; in fact it is a wonderful picture. There are copies of it in all parts of the world, but none have the fine expressions of the original.

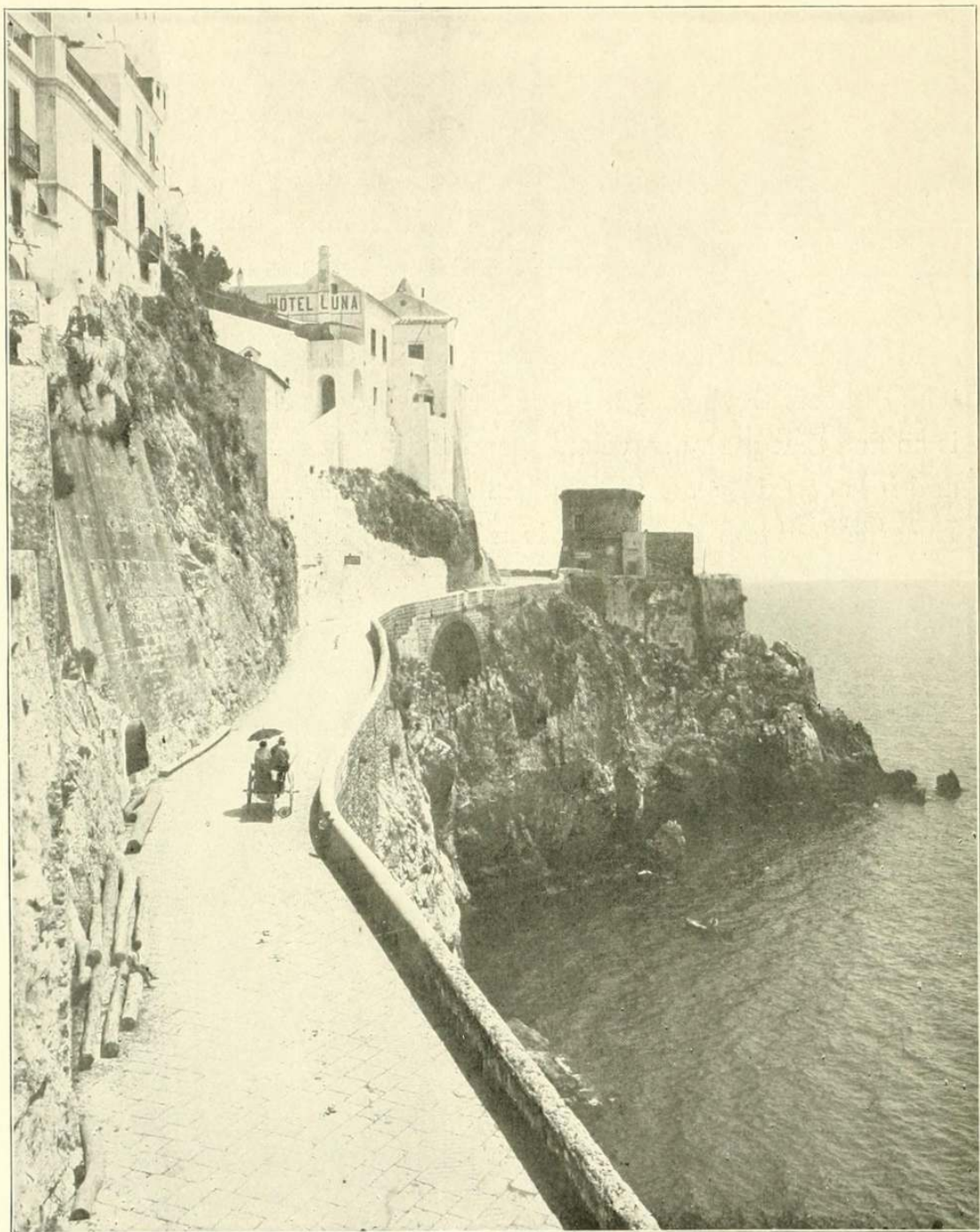
Next we took the train from Milan to Lucerne, over the famous St. Gothard tunnel route. This is mountainous nearly all the distance, and at once the grandest and most beautiful, at this season of the year, that we have seen. There are so many beautiful waterfalls and rushing torrents that it would be impossible for me to describe them. A large number of smaller tunnels



AMALFI.

are passed before and after St. Gothard's, which is nine and one-fourth miles long, and took us fourteen minutes to pass through, at a rapid rate. Many of these tunnels are built in circles, and on up grades, before reaching the great tunnel. We passed one small church three times in circling up the mountain, and another four times. The great St. Gothard tunnel starts into the mountain just above the snow line, as it is to-day, and about five hundred feet below the top of the mountain. Certainly the engineer who did this work is a man of great ability in his line. The air is so fine that many travelers spend the hot summer months here, and it is certainly an ideal place for summer. We stopped at Lucerne for two days. It is a beautiful little city between the snow clad mountains, on Lake Lucerne, 35,000 population, and about half the people are in the hotel business. They have many good hotels here. We stopped at the Schweizerhoff, and liked it better than any hotel we have tried in Europe.

The principal crop in all Switzerland is the tourist; he is everywhere, and right he is, for the health-giving vigor of the mountain air, and the beautiful scenery of mountains, lakes and rivers, cannot be excelled. We went to see the Lucerne Lion. It is quite an artistic piece of statuary, cut into live rock. Also we went to the top of a small railway in the southern part of the city, called "The Gutch," about five hundred feet elevation, and the ascent is made by a wire rope railway. They have two cars; one going down pulls the other up. There is a water tank under each car, and while the car is at the top, the tank is filled with water. This gives it weight enough to pull the other car to the top with a load of passengers. When the car reaches the bottom the tank is emptied, and this car is in turn hauled up by the weight of the water in the other car,—a very simple and yet effec-

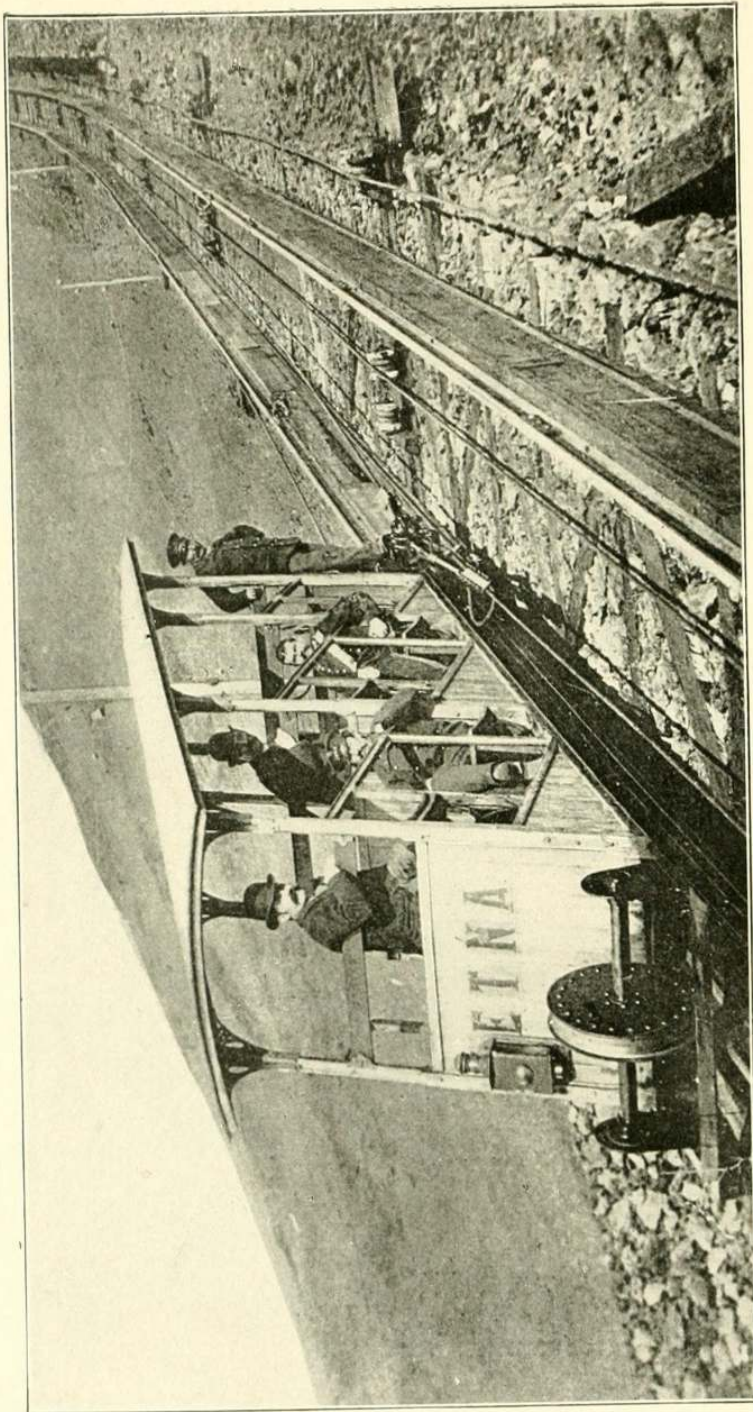


AMALFI AND THE SORRENTO DRIVE.

tive water power. We viewed the city, lake and mountains, from this high elevation, and in was certainly a sight to be remembered, although the weather was rather too cold, and the mist did not give us a very good view of the most distant peaks, but there are mountains here in every direction, and many of them covered with snow at this date, April 17, 1905.

We left Lucerne for Paris on April 18, 1905, at 2 p. m., and had excellent train service, and a fine large compartment for our exclusive use, which enabled us to make the long railroad trip very comfortably. The railroad company has a "restaurant" car on this train, where they serve dinner. At Basil, or Bale, as it is pronounced, the German frontier, we were required to get out of the train with our luggage and pass through the German custom house for examination. As we had nothing dutiable, we were not detained more than an hour, but when we arrived at the French frontier we were routed out again with our luggage, to pass the inspection of the French custom house. We got through here without much delay, as we had sent our trunks straight through to Paris from Venice. Then we had an examination of our trunks when we claimed them on arrival at Paris. We passed this examination also without much delay, but three custom house inspections in one day are too much to please the ordinary tourist, and should be legally avoided, by allowing the traveler to pass through on a declaration that he has nothing for sale in their domain.

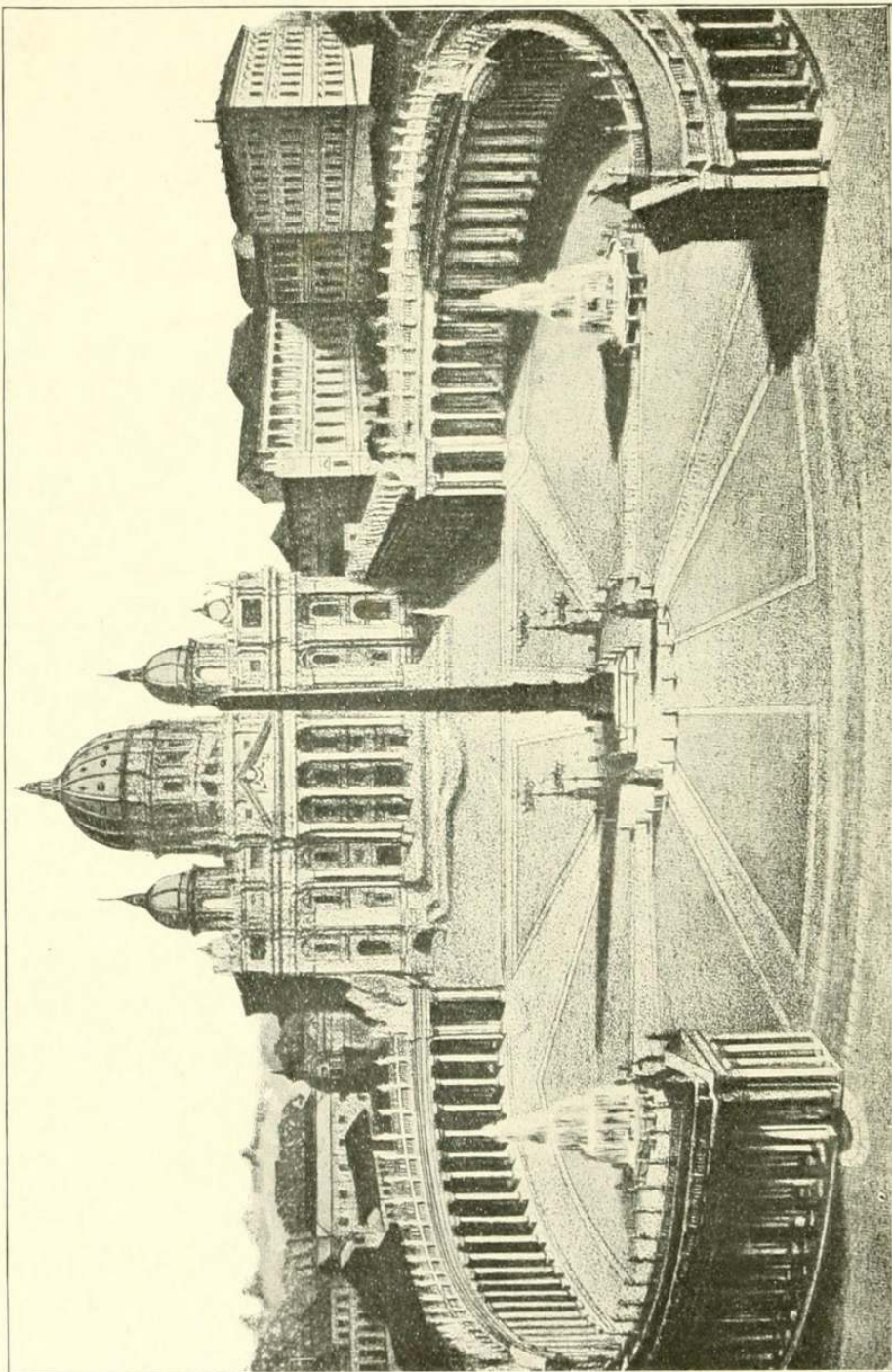
The country from Lucerne to Paris is not as fertile as in Italy. After leaving Lucerne we had about two hours through the mountains of Switzerland, and passed many bright little towns, then through the German territory of Alsace and Lorraine, which is fine farming country, and appears prosperous, but when



WIRE CABLE RAILWAY—CLIMBING MT. VESUVIUS.

we passed the French frontier the soil was not so good. In places, where irrigated, they have fine crops, but a large part of France cannot be irrigated, as it is too far from the mountains. There are several good towns in this part of France, being occupied principally by people who operate factories of various kinds.

We spent ten days in Paris, and were there a little too early, as the weather was too cool and wet for out door pleasure. But there is always "something doing" in Paris. The Roman says, "See Rome and die." The Parisian would say, "See Paris by day light and gas light, and spend your money here, before you die." Paris is a beautiful city. The French are the most polite nation on earth. They excel in art. The Louvre Gallery is probably the largest picture gallery in the world. It would take several days to do the Louvre. The "Grand Opera House" is the most expensive opera house now in use in the world. The entrance, built entirely of marble, outside and inside, is the finest we have seen. It is the center of the business portion of Paris, and has six of the principal streets, which lead direct to it, like the spokes of a wheel. The Arc de Triumph, which was built to commemorate the victories of Napoleon, is the most imposing structure of this kind, about one hundred feet high, with an inside stairway to the top. It is located at the crest of the hill on Champs Elysees, and is the radiating center of twelve wide avenues, and has a remarkably commanding position. The Eifel Tower, one thousand feet high, is the best place to get a bird's eye view of all Paris. An elevator runs to the top every fifteen minutes. We took a drive on the Bois de Bologne Avenue to the Park, which is the largest city park in the world, about three miles long and one mile wide. While it has no hills,

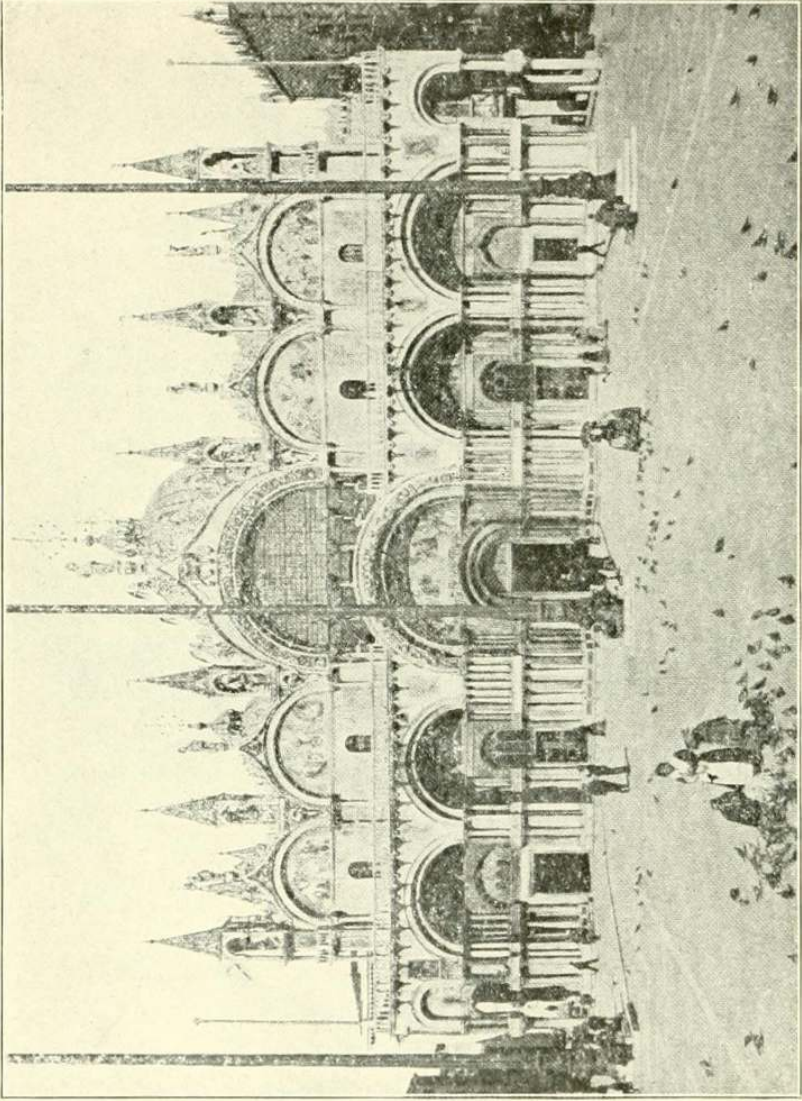


ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL IN ROME—SHOWING THE COLONNADE AND FOUNTAINS IN FRONT.
THE LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT CATHEDRAL IN THE WORLD.

like Central Park, New York, it has a large river, which is supplied with an unlimited number of pleasure boats. The drives and walks are very fine, with grassy lawn and forest. The park makes an ideal place for Paris in summer.

The Palace of Versailles is about fifteen miles out from Paris. We took a coach drive out and back, and enjoyed it very much. The large palace is now a "Public Picture Gallery." The fountains at Versailles play only one day in two weeks. We happened to be there the day they were playing and it is certainly a great sight, when the water is spouting from a hundred of these large fountains. Coming back to Paris we halted a moment at the Arc de Triumph, for a view of the Avenue "Champs Elysees." From here a grand view is obtained for a mile down this great avenue, which is a hundred feet wide, and at this time was filled, the entire distance, with a moving mass of vehicles, of all kinds, from a go-cart to a six-horse coach, or a ninety-horse power automobile.

The Hotel des Invalides was a great church, but is now the "Tomb of Napoleon," as his remains lie in the center of this great edifice, in an immense red porphyry casket, about ten feet wide and fifteen feet long. Around this casket stand twelve statues about ten feet high, representing twelve of his generals. Also there are around these statues many flags which were taken in battle. This is one of the greatest tombs, if not the greatest, ever occupied by man, much larger and finer than the tomb of General Grant, in Riverside Park, N. Y., which was modeled after it. The bodies of two of Napoleon's brothers, Joseph Bonaparte and Jerome Bonaparte, lie in large granite sarcophagi at either side of the great doors as you enter. Napoleon is almost worshipped in France.

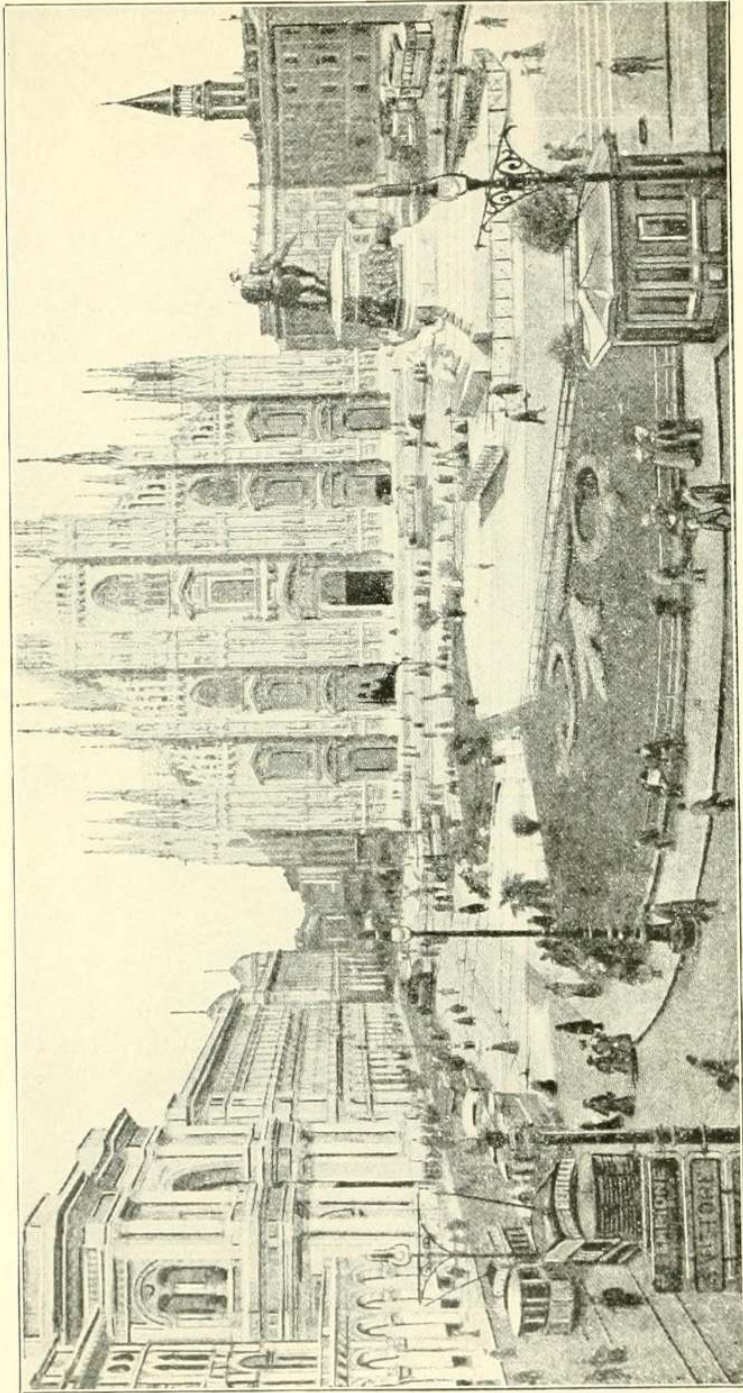


ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL—VENICE.

The "Bon Marche" is a great department store in Paris, also the Louvre Department Store. These are the only department stores of large size in Paris, and they are not as large as many department stores in the United States. The most of the merchandising in Paris is done in small shops, carrying one special line.

The hotels in Paris are excellent, and the French are the best cooks in the world. In all the large hotels English is spoken, so that the American has no trouble in making his wants known. The rates are about the same as the best hotels in this country. Many travelers go to Pensions (boarding houses), and there the charges are moderate, about one or two dollars per day, according to the location and rooms. The cab fare is one franc fifty centimes (thirty cents) for a mile drive, or less, and that includes all that can get in the cab. The fare is all the same for one person or for five.

We left Paris April 28th, by fast express train for Boulogne, France. The country from Paris to Boulogne is poor, thin soil, and near the English channel is almost a barren sandy waste, the poorest country we have seen in France. The railway train was first-class in every respect, and the trip was made pleasantly and quickly. On arrival at Boulogne we immediately went aboard a small steamer, which took us out about two miles in the channel, where we transferred to the S. S. Blucher, of the Hamburg-American line, for New York. This steamer is a twin sister of the S. S. Moltke, built at the same time, and all parts are alike in each vessel. We had the same number of state room as on the Moltke, and were greatly pleased with the ship and crew. The passenger list was one hundred and ninety first-class, one hundred and seventy-five second-class, and six hundred and ten



THE GREAT CATHEDRAL AT MILAN.

steerage. The first-class passengers were about half Germans, some coming to America to visit relatives, and many to make their homes here. The other half were Americans returning to their homes, among which were several very pleasant friends whose acquaintance we had made going over on the Moltke. The second-class and steerage passengers were immigrants from Germany, and a few from France, coming to America to find employment, and they were good, sturdy, honest looking people. We never get too many immigrants of that class. They make good citizens.

The S. S. Blucher is a fine, large vessel, 12,335 tons, and a steady boat in rough seas. We had fair weather the first day out, and after that heavy head winds and high seas, all the voyage. Her regular time is eight days, but we were nine days in making the trip, on account of storms. The Blucher has a first-class brass band, which is pleasant on a long voyage. On Sunday morning they awakened us by playing the hymn "Nearer My God to Thee" just outside our door. We had fog one day, and the blowing of the fog-horn about once a minute is not pleasant. This steamer has the Marconi wireless telegraph system, and we were in telegraphic communication with other steamers much of the time. Mr. D. F. Henry, of Pittsburg, Pa., one of our passengers, sent a Marconigram to Pittsburg while we were a thousand miles at sea, and received a reply from Pittsburg promptly. In order to do this great telegraphic feat there happened to be two other steamers between us and the land, about equi-distant, and the Marconi message was taken and forwarded by each. The toll on a Marconigram is two dollars for ten words, to which is added the ordinary telegraph tolls on land.

No doubt you can imagine that the last day of our voyage was the most pleasant to us. We were favored with a beautiful bright day on May 7, 1905, and took on our pilot for New York harbor about four p. m. This harbor is one of the best in the world, and it certainly looks good to an American who has been long enough in foreign lands to realize and appreciate the great advantage America has over any other country on the face of the earth, with a form of government "of the people, for the people, and by the people." Situated far from Europe and Asia, there is no probability or reason for any entanglements or wars with other nations; with both the great oceans of the world washing our shores, with mines of gold, silver, copper, iron and coal sufficient to supply the world, with oil to light and lubricate the world, with the most of the timber land on earth, with the soil and climate to produce the cotton to clothe the world, also wheat and corn in abundance and to spare,—a country discovered by Columbus only four hundred years ago, really an infant in age compared with the nations of Europe and Asia, and already the foremost nation of the earth; a country where every young man has the opportunity to make a great name for himself, if he has the zeal, ability and application; a Christian land, where Christianity is taught in every city, village and hamlet; with a public school system so efficient that every child in the whole country has an opportunity to get a good education. "To whom much is given, of him shall much be required." Then let us, as a nation, so discharge our duties that the United States may be a blessing to all mankind.

We landed about seven p. m., and were delighted to get many letters and telegrams from friends and relatives before bid-

ding good bye to the good ship Blucher, which had brought us safely through the rough seas.

And now, after a delightful trip of over three months in foreign lands, we are more pleased to return to our own native country than we were to leave it. Our visit has been most pleasant, we think also educational and healthful.

As the foregoing has been written in the steamer social room, with many ladies within hearing, discussing the merits of their purchases, or in the hotel reading room, or in the hotel sleeping room, anywhere I could get an opportunity to write a few lines, I beg you to excuse the disjointed composition, also the grammatical errors, as well as all other errors.

Yours truly,

W. W. WHEELER.

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