

*THE COLOSSI OF THE PLAIN.*

the legend. In one inscription we read that three Roman officers, Instuleius Tenax, Valerius Priscus, and Lucius Quintus Viator, "heard Memnon in the year XI. of Nero, our Emperor, the 12th of the calends of April, at 1 o'clock." And again, Titus Lutius Lupus, Prefect of Egypt, says, "I have heard Memnon the 12th of the calends of April, at the 1st hour."

These old monuments, which bear the name of Amunoph III., were the outcome of regal magnificence, being erected by his successors in his honour. Memnon seems to have been a Greek corruption of the name of one of the Egyptian kings, and further reference will be made as to its derivation. The Arabs called these statues "Shama" and "Tama," and when speaking of them together gave them the appellation of Sanamât, or the idols. Both were monoliths of sandstone conglomerate. The northern one, however, was once overthrown and broken, but was repaired by Septimus Severus. We see the marks of the reparation from the shoulders down to the waist, this part being built up of slabs of stone varying in composition from the original blocks.