

## GOORNEH TEMPLE.

45

## The Façade, Goorneh Temple.

THE last temple on the western bank of the Nile which we shall visit is the Goorneh Temple, or Temple of Errebek. The former name is derived from the old village of Goorneh, which at one time flourished around a Coptic church that occupied the site of the ancient courts. The latter name is probably derived from *Ra*, the sun, and *baki*, a city. The edifice was built by King Sethi the First, and finished by his son, Rameses the Great, and is remarkable for an order of architecture which is particularly elegant. The columns of the façade are mostly at unequal distances apart, presenting to the eye irregularity, which, though not conspicuous, is yet quite noticeable. Cut out of sandstone, they still remain unaffected by the lapse of time, excepting near their bases, where seemingly later generations of masons have sharpened their tools, if we may judge from the grooved notches that apparently have been worn away through this cause. The plan of the temple shows two pylons and three towers, little of which, however, remain, except traces of the foundations. Connecting them was a dromos of sphinxes, and yet another, extending from the second pylon to the façade. The remains of these can scarcely be traced, owing to the débris accumulated over them. On the architrave over the façade is a dedication of the temple by Rameses to "his father Amunre, King of the Gods," and a statement implying that the building was commenced by Sethi I.