valley of the Nile is rising at the rate of six inches in a century; a fact which is proved by the gradual sinking of the monuments of ancient Egypt. Mr. Horner's excavations under the statue of Rameses at Memphis, professed to show that the deposit of the Nile is nearly 30 feet thick beneath its base, which of itself is 9 feet 9 inches beneath the present surface of the soil. From these imperfect data he boldly inferred that the Nile must have begun to inundate Egypt 10,000 years before the era of the great Rameses, or 13,500 years ago. At a depth of nearly 15 feet, a bed of pottery ware has been discovered. Are we then to conclude from this "treasure-trove" that the existence of man dates back to the remote antiquity of 14,000 years.

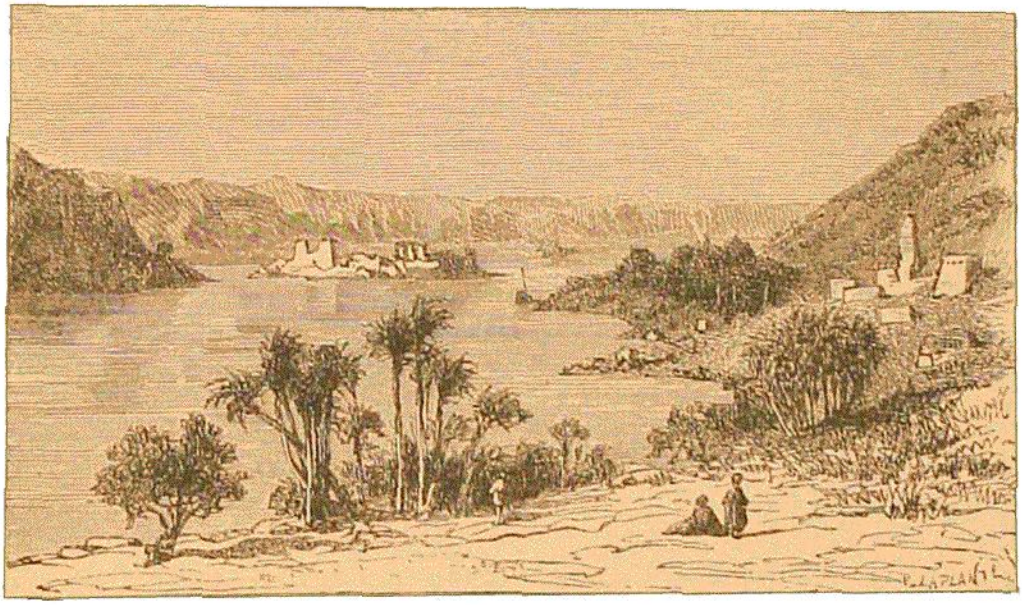

FIG. 188.—A SCENE ON THE NILE.

[After passing the hills of Gebel-el-Mokatem, and a little below Memphis, the Nile enters upon the great alluvial plain of the delta, and thence makes its way to the Mediterranean through two main arms, forming the sides of an isosceles triangle, and numerous branches; some of which discharge their waters into the sea, others into the two principal channels. These are now known, from the towns situated at their mouths, as the Damietta (E.) and Rosetta (W.) arms.

The deposit of the Nile has been ascertained to consist of—

Clay, ...	48	parts out of 100.
Carbon,...	9	,,
Carbonate of lime, ...	18	,,
Carbonate of magnesia, ...	4	,,
Silica, Oxide of iron, } in varying quantities;		

forming a compost of extraordinary richness.]