

currents may be traced as readily as those of Vesuvius.

42. CRATER OF PUY DE COME.—One of the most remarkable cones is the Puy de Come, which rises from the plain to the height of 900 feet; its sides are covered with trees, and its summits present two distinct craters, one of which is 250 feet in depth. A stream of lava may be seen to have issued out from the base of the mountain, which at a short distance, from having been obstructed by a mass of granite, has separated into two branches; these can be traced along the granitic platforms, and down the side of a hill into an adjacent valley, where they have dispossessed a river of its bed, and constrained it to work out a fresh channel between the lava and the granite of the opposite bank. Another cone rises to the height of 1,000 feet above the plain, having a crater nearly 600 feet in vertical depth, and a lava current, which first falls down a steep declivity, and then rolls over the plain in hilly waves of black and scorified rocks. In one part of this volcanic group is a circular system of cones, apparently the produce of several rapidly succeeding eruptions. “The extraordinary character of this scene impresses it for ever on the memory; for there is, perhaps, no spot, even among the Phlegræan fields of Italy, which more strikingly displays the characters of volcanic desolation. Although the cones are partially covered with wood and herbage, yet the sides of many are still naked;