Table Mountain [3582 feet], at the Cape of Good Hope, may be compared in form to an immense altar.

One of the most curious configurations is that of Peter Botte's Peak (Figure 41), in the Isle of France (the Mauritius). It bears the name and perpetuates the memory of one Peter Botte, who, after

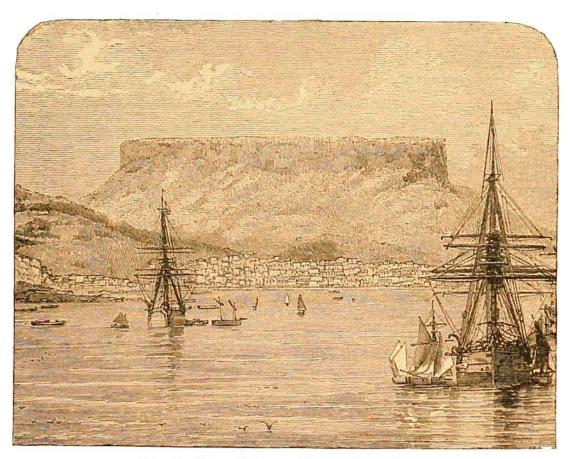


FIG. 40 .- - TABLE MOUNTAIN (CAPE OF GOOD HOPE).

having succeeded in gaining its summit, perished in re-descending. An enormous block of stone hangs poised on the very crown of the peak, and raised more than 300 feet above it. In 1832, an English adventurer, more fortunate than Peter Botte, ascended to the summit of this great natural spire, and accomplished the descent without accident.

In China occur some mountain-summits which offer the rude image of a dragon's head, a tiger, or a bear; just as Arthur's Seat, near Edinburgh, from some points of view, bears a striking resemblance to a lion couchant. Sometimes we meet with a labyrinth of rocks, elevated like "quills of the fretful porcupine," as is the case