

The seventeenth and eighteenth, in May 1698, and July 1701, respectively.

The nineteenth began on the 20th of May 1707, and lasted until August of the same year. It had been preceded by earthquakes, and was accompanied with violent ejections of ashes, which, at four o'clock on the afternoon of August 2nd, involved Naples in such darkness that persons could not recognize one another in the streets.

The twentieth eruption occurred in February to November 1712.

The twenty-first, on June 7th, 1717, when a stream of lava descended to within three miles of Torre del Greco.

The twenty-second, May and June 1720.

The twenty-third, July 26th, 1728.

The twenty-fourth, on the 14th of March 1730.

The eruptions then succeeded one another at such frequent intervals, that we must be contented with a bare enumeration of dates:—

May 20, 1737.

October to November 1751.

December 3, 1754.

January 24, 1758.

December 24, 1760.

March 28, 1766.

October 19, 1767.

March 14, 1770.

January 3, 1776.

August 8-11, 1779.

October 12, 1784, to December 20, 1785.

October 31, 1786.

July to December 1787.

February 1793 to June 1794. This was one of the most formidable eruptions on record. A stream of lava flowed through Torre del Greco—destroying great part of the town—which is estimated to have contained 46,098,766 cubic feet. The showers of ashes fell at Taranto, and at places in Calabria, 140 miles distant.

August 12th to December 3rd, 1804.

August 12, 1805.

September 4, 1809.

June 12, 1812.

December 25, 1813.

December 22, 1817.

April 1820.

October 22, 1822. "Between the end

of the eighteenth century and the year 1822," says Sir Charles Lyell, "the great crater of Vesuvius had been gradually filled by lava boiling up from below, and by scoriæ falling from the explosions of minor mouths which were formed at intervals on its bottom and sides. In place of a regular cavity, therefore, there was a rough and rocky plain, covered with blocks of lava and scoriæ, and cut by numerous fissures, from which clouds of vapour were evolved. But this state of things was totally changed by the eruption of October 1822, when violent explosions, during the space of more than twenty days, broke up and threw out all this accumulated mass, so as to leave an immense gulf, or chasm, of an irregular, but somewhat elliptical shape, about three miles in circumference when measured along the very sinuous and irregular line of its extreme margin, but somewhat less than three-quarters of a mile in its longest diameter, which was directed from N.E. to S.W. The depth of this tremendous abyss has been variously estimated; for from the hour of its formation it diminished