

regions of southern Europe ; so much so, that the Abbé Ferrara, a man of high scientific acquirements, long ago foretold the event that has caused us moderns so much astonishment. Pantellaria was disturbed of old by severe shocks of earthquake ; but after 1740, remained exempt from these terrible visitations until 1816, when certain movements were felt there which extended to the opposite coast of Sicily, and resembled the precursory signs, in 1831, of the birth of Ferdinanda Island. These shocks have invariably taken place in the direction of S.W. to N.E.—that is, in the linear direction of the Italian volcanoes.

It was reported, early in 1864, that Ferdinanda was again rising, and that the ocean-bed, at the present time, is not very far removed from the surface. Supposing the phenomenon to be real, there would be nothing in it to surprise us, after the retrospective *exposé* in which we have just indulged : it would be the preparation for a new eruption of the same submarine volcano, and would again afford, perhaps, the marvellous spectacle which, in 1831, the geologist Hoffmann contemplated at the hazard of his life.

More than one example might be given of the ephemeral appearance of an island through the effect of volcanic forces. It will be sufficient to name the island Ny-Oë, which rose off the coast of Iceland in 1783 ; and that of Hiera, off the volcanic island of Santorin, in 1480.