

made, through which gas, steam, ashes, and scorix were vomited forth. The ejected material fell back again, partly into the vent, partly round its margin, gathering by degrees into a cone with a crater in its centre. A column of lava rose in the vent, began to fill the bowl-like cavity of the crater, and continued to well upward until the loosely-compacted sides of the hill were no longer able to withstand the pressure of the increasing mass of melted rock. The northern side, being probably the weakest, gave way, and then the lava burst out into the plain below. Taking at once an easterly course, owing to the general slope of the ground, it descended in a sheet of dark rugged rock, now swelling up against ridges that opposed its progress, and then sweeping past them until it reached the beginning of the hill of Pradelle already noticed. Here, in a scene of singular confusion, it broke into two streams, one leaping like a torrent down the valley of Villar, the other plunging into the valley of Gresinier.<sup>1</sup> But the emission of this vast body of melted rock did not conclude the eruptions of the Puy de Pariou. When the lava had perhaps ceased to flow, the vapour and gases still continued to escape with violence. By their means another cone was in time produced, not quite on the former site, but, as so often happens, a little to one side, so as to cover the southern half of the older cone, and leave visible that northern segment of it from which the lava issued. Thus arose the later cone of Pariou. No subsequent eruptions have disturbed its regularity or filled up its crater. The hand of time has not effaced its smooth curves and slopes, but has covered them with vegetation, whereby the loose dust and scorix are protected from the destructive effects of heavy rains. After the lapse

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Scrope's description of these lava-streams is a model of graphic and accurate description.