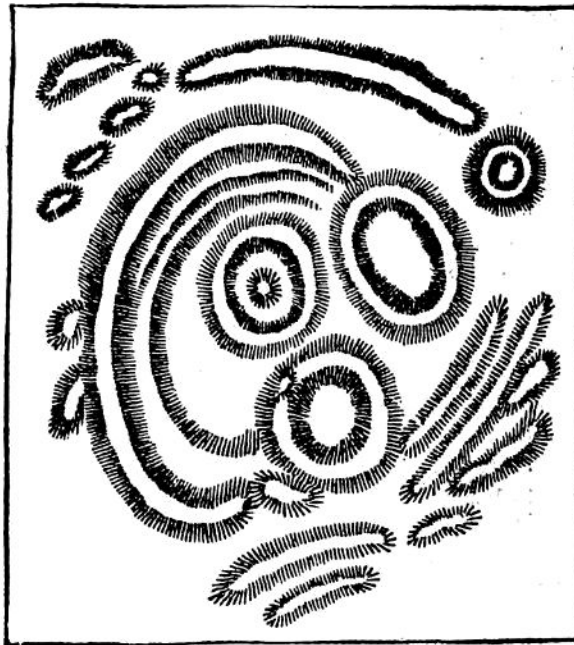


any volcanoes upon it are now active. But craters, cones, and circular walls, or mountains, exist of extraordinary dimensions. Some of the cones are nearly 25,000 feet high; and some of the craters, 25,000 feet deep, below the general surface; and the latter are of various diameters, even up to 150 miles. The inside of some of these craters presents all the wild and jagged appearance of similar rocks on our earth. Of the mountains and cavities of the moon, about 1,100 have been measured with great accuracy, and we have a more accurate map of the surface of the moon turned towards us, than of our own planet. There appears to be no water or air upon its surface.

Fig. 137 is a sketch of one of the most remarkable volcanic regions in the moon, seen a little obliquely, called Heinsius.

Fig. 137.



*Volcanoes in the Moon.*

The question of the habitability of other worlds geology does not answer, further than to suggest that beings of such an organization as man could not exist in the intensely heated celestial bodies, or upon planets whose specific gravity or want of water and air present insuperable obstacles to his abode. Whether such worlds are inhabited by other orders of beings is a matter of conjecture. If the moon was inhabited by beings like men, it must be that their works would be noticed by our powerful telescopes, for objects can be discerned through them having a diameter of 300 feet.