for day after day has there been a succession of earthquake shocks, that, as the Plutonic paroxysm increases in intensity, become stronger and more frequent, and the mountain-waves roll outwards in ever-widening circles, to rise and fall in distant and solitary seas, or to break in long lines of foam on nameless islands unknown to the geographer. And over the roar of waves or the rush of tides we may hear the growlings of a subterranean thunder, that now dies away in low deep mutterings, and now, ere some fresh earthquake-shock tempests the sea, bellows wildly from the abyss. The billows fall back in boiling eddies; the solid strata are upheaved into a flat dome, crusted with corals and shells; it cracks, it severs, a dark gulf yawns suddenly in the midst; a dense strongly variegated cloud of mingled smoke and steam arises black as midnight in its central volumes, but chequered, where the boiling waves hiss at its edge, with wreaths of white; and anon, with the noise of many waters, a broad sheet of flame rushes upwards a thousand fathoms into the sky. Vast masses of molten rock, that glow red amid even the light of day, are hurled into the air, and then, with hollow sound, fall back into the chasm, or, descending hissing amid the vexed waters, fling high the hot spray, and send the cross circlets of wave which they raise athwart the heavings of the huger billows propelled from the disturbed centre within. The crater rises as the thick showers of ashes descend; and amid the rending of rocks, the roaring of flames, the dashings of waves, the hissings of submerged lava, and the hollow grumblings of the abyss, the darkness of a starless night descends upon the deep. Anon, and we are startled by the shock of yet another and more terrible earthquake; yet another column of flame rushes into the sky, casting a lurid illumination on the thick rolling reek and the pitchy heavings of the wave: seen but for a moment, we may mark the silvery glitter of scales, for there is a shoal of dead fish floating past; and as the corus-