

often be seen tumbling downwards in considerable masses. Mr. Thornton is of opinion that Kilimanjaro is the north-eastern part of an ancient volcano, whose south-western portion has sunk; he discovered the ruins in a singularly rocky mountain which is situated at a short distance from the present summit. Far away to the south-west, on a clear day, three lofty protuberances of a conical form are plainly visible, belonging probably to the central chain.

According to Dr. Livingstone, the table-land of South Africa is depressed or concave at its centre. Ethiopia, situated to the north of the Equator, is a table-land arranged in a series of terraces. The elevations on the western side are not very considerable, the mountain-groups only attaining a respectable height in the Gulf of Guinea, where the Cameroons Mountains exceed 12,000 feet. In the interior, south of Timbúktu, Dr. Barth was much impressed by the fantastic conformation of the Hombori Mountains.

The Atlas group, which, in Northern Africa, traverses Morocco and Algeria, seems connected, by its general direction and elevation, with the mountains of the Iberian peninsula. The culminating point does not rise above 13,000 feet. The flanks are richly wooded, and interspersed with romantic valleys, through whose hollows the crystal streams ripple onward to be lost in the sands of the Sahara.

The chain is continued along the Tripoli coast, where it seems to form a subordinate branch of the Apennines, the mountains of Sicily being considered as links of the same chain interrupted by the sea.

Abyssinia is entirely a mountainous region, the highlands beginning at an inconsiderable distance from the Red Sea coast, and the passes which lead into the interior being of a difficult character. The principal summits have been indicated in the Table prefixed to this chapter.

[There are several mountains, remarkable either for their height or their picturesque scenery, in the African Islands. Madagascar possesses a magnificent mountain-range, broken up by tremendous