

some isolated peaks occur. Mount Bruce, near the Fortescue river, is 4000 feet high.

A chain of mountainous islands extends across Bass's Straits to Cape Portland in Tasmania, continuing the eastern range of Australia. From Cape Portland it crosses the island in an irregular line of lofty and picturesque mountains to South Cape. Its mean height is 3750 feet, and its average distance from the sea, forty miles.

A reference to the gloriously rich islands of the Indian Archipelago must suffice us. In Papua, or New Guinea, mountains loaded with aromatic verdure rise above mountains, till in the west they tower to the height of 16,000 feet. Borneo is traversed throughout its whole length by noble mountain-ranges, their sides heavy with luxuriant forests, and their waters collecting in noble rivers. In New Zealand the English traveller meets with numerous lofty volcanic mountains, which, in the northernmost island, rise 14,000 feet above the stormy ocean, but, for fully two-thirds of their height, are buried in *eternal snow and majestic glaciers*.

The volcano of Tangarara pours forth deluges of boiling water, which deposit considerable quantities of silicious sinter, like the Icelandic geysers; but so vigorous is the growth of vegetation, that plants flourish nobly on the banks, and even in water too hot for the human body to endure.

The Banda archipelago forms an extensive volcanic zone; and probably no other spot on the face of the earth contains so many volcanoes as the fertile island of Java. Its central crest consists of a huge volcanic range, from 5000 to 13,000 feet high, ending eastward in a series of thirty-eight separate volcanoes with broad bases, tapering gradually into richly wooded cones. In Bali and Sumbawa the mountains do not exceed 8000 feet in height. Sumatra contains summits both of a volcanic and granitic character. To the Volcanic mountains, however, we shall hereafter recur.

The following Table will conclude our synopsis of the principal mountains of the world:—