

*Pico*, remarkable for its perfectly regular trachytic cone, and its constant ejection of clouds of smoke. It is 7613 feet above the sea-level, and its sides are rugged with solidified lava. In most of the islands hot springs are found, and they are all subject to considerable earthquake shocks. It has been conjectured that they are therefore the Islands of Fire marked upon various fourteenth century maps.

The CANARY ISLANDS are a more interesting, as well as a more beautiful group. They are all of volcanic origin; extinct craters being found on the summits of the loftiest elevations, which are also furrowed by deep fissures, exposing to view the successive strata of volcanic rock. The famous *Pico de Teyde*, or Peak of Teneriffe, whose snow-crowned height has been the beacon of so many wandering vessels, attains a total altitude of 12,182 feet, of which the actual cone is about 550 feet. Its summit-crater occasionally discharges columns of sulphurous vapour, but has not ejected lava or ashes since the discovery of the island by Europeans. Two lateral eruptions in 1704 and 1706, however, terminated in the ruin of the principal harbour.

A subsidiary elevation of the Peak, named Chaborra, also contains a crater, which opened in 1798, and continued in eruption for upwards of three months, pouring out great quantities of stones and ashes, and streams of lava. To such a height were some of the stones projected that their fall occupied twelve to fifteen seconds, showing that they must have attained an elevation of not less than 3000 feet.

The summit-crater of the Peak was visited by Humboldt, who found it to be of an oval form, 300 feet in its major and 200 feet in its minor diameter, with a depth of 100 feet. But Von Buch, who examined it more closely, estimates its depth at upwards of 650 feet.

The island of Palma contains a huge crater, called the Great Caldera, not less than 5000 feet in depth. The mountain itself is cleft with deep *baraccos*, or ravines, which are supposed to be the results of past igneous action.