

basin of the spring, forty to fifty feet broad, encloses a tranquil sheet of water of a beautiful azure blue, which evaporates, but does not boil. At the northern base of the terraces smokes a solfatara, the Whaka-Taratana, a complete pond of sulphur, whose superabundance empties itself into the lake with a muddy current.

With these details, whose length, it is hoped, the reader will excuse on account of their comparative novelty, we turn from the volcanic region of New Zealand to that of South America.

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#### SOUTH AMERICA.

The chain of the Andes, from Quito to Patagonia, and from thence to its termination in Tierra del Fuego, furnishes a magnificent ex-

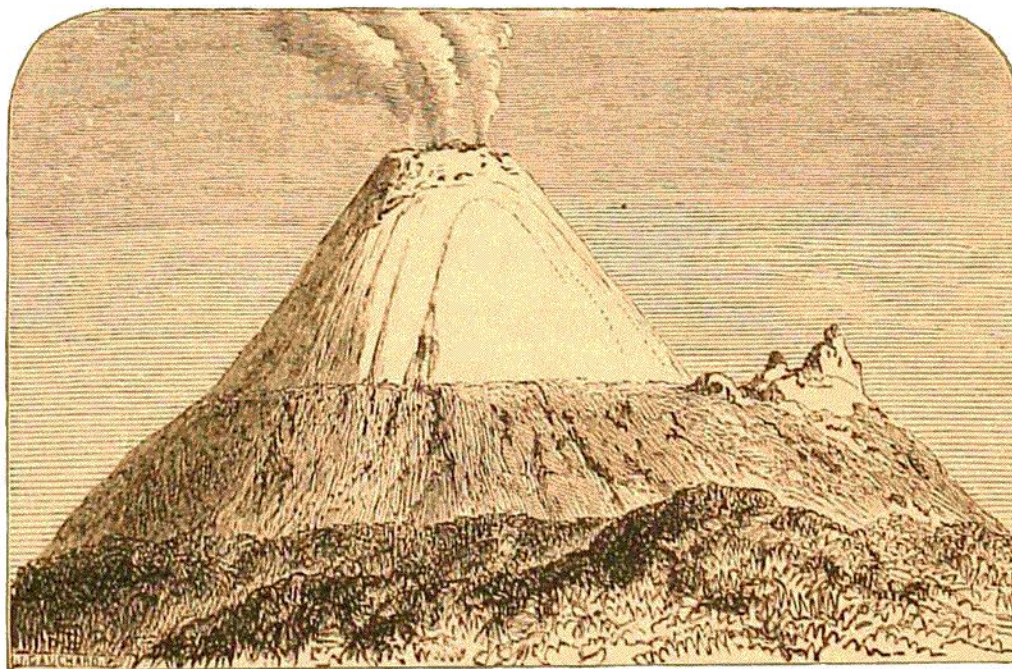


FIG. 155.—COTOPAXI (AFTER HUMBOLDT).

ample of linear volcanoes. This is particularly the case in that portion of the great mountain-range which hems in the valley of Quito. Here, on the east, rise the snow-shrouded summits of Antisana, Cotopaxi—one of the most superb of active volcanoes, whose “dazzling cone” soars to a height of 18,775 feet—and Tunguragua. On the west soars the pyramidal peak of Illinissa, “the wreck of an