ejected to the surface, one of which struck the bottom of a boat with considerable violence and then floated. When we reflect, indeed, to what a considerable extent the bottom of the great ocean-basins is dotted over with volcanic cones, rising often solitary from profound depths, we can believe that a large proportion of the actual eruptions in oceanic areas may take place under the sea. The immense abundance and wide diffusion of volcanic detritus (including blocks of pumice) over the bottom of the Pacific

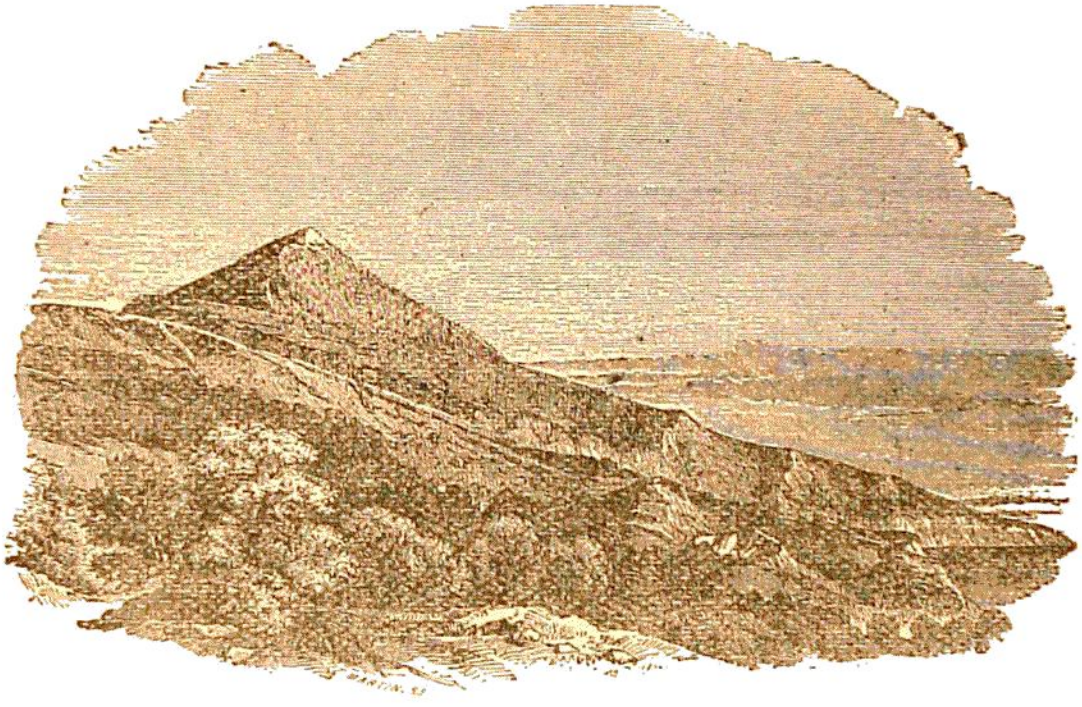

Fig. 68.—View of the Peak of Teneriffe and its coast-erosion.

and Atlantic oceans, even at distances remote from land, as made known by the voyage of the "Challenger," doubtless indicate the prevalence and persistence of submarine volcanic action, even though, at the same time, an extensive diffusion of volcanic débris from the islands is admitted to be effected by winds and ocean-currents.

Volcanic islands, unless continually augmented by renewed eruptions, are attacked by the waves and cut down. Graham's Island and the other examples above cited show