

Fortis,¹ Dolomieu,² Faujas de St. Fond, Montlosier, and Breislak.³ But a still more numerous and more

on the former existence of mammoths in the northern regions, and was afterwards elected an honorary Fellow of the Society. His industry and the wide range of subjects on which he employed his facile pen were truly remarkable. In 1775, after being sent to Italy to collect antiquities and other objects for the Landgrave of Hesse, he was accused of peculation, and was arrested. He succeeded, however, in escaping to England and spent there the remainder of his life. He spoke and wrote English well, and among the works which he published in this country was an interesting little volume entitled *An Account of some German Volcanoes and their Productions* (1776). Turning his knowledge of minerals to account, he obtained a precarious, and apparently not always honest, livelihood as a mining prospector. He is understood to have been the prototype of Dousterswivel in Scott's novel *The Antiquary*. But his chief title to fame must be admitted to be his authorship of the original *Baron Munchausen's Travels*. He had finally to escape to a remote part of Ireland, and died at Muckross in 1794.

¹ J. B. A. Fortis (1741-1803) was born at Padua and was educated for the church in the order of St. Augustine, but was eventually allowed to spend his time in travel, which he did with much success in regard to the natural history and antiquities of Dalmatia and the other tracts visited by him. He was not only a naturalist and learned man, but also a poet and author of verses on love and friendship. He wrote many papers on the geology of different parts of Northern Italy. Having accompanied Desmarest in his excursion through the volcanic parts of that region, he adopted the views of the French geologist as to the origin of basalt, but he indulged his fancy in supposing the heat caused by the eruptions of the Vicentin to have been so great as to raise the temperature of the Adriatic to such a degree as to permit tropical species to live in its waters. His *Mémoires pour servir à l'Histoire Naturelle et principalement à l'Oryctographie de l'Italie et des pays adjacents* were published in two volumes at Paris in 1802.

² See *postea*, p. 254.

³ For notices of these geologists, see *postea*, pp. 255-258.