

changes. They are composed entirely of white pomice-stone, unmixed with black lava, affording unquestionable indications of the operations of a volcano, and of its more elevated parts having subsided into the centre of the mountain. There are two hills placed in the bottom of the valley, whose craters are yet open, although almost overgrown by shrubs.

The lower parts of the island are very fertile, and in a state of high cultivation. The soil in general consists of decomposed pomice-stone, which is easily worked; and it usually yields two crops every year.

A vegetable called tremosa, or blue lupin, supplies the deficiency of animal manure. It is sown on the fields with the first rains in September, and from the effects of moisture and warmth, growing to a very rank state, about the end of November it is mowed down, left for a few days to flag, and is afterwards plowed into the ground.

Oranges and lemons abound throughout the country; the first are of an excellent quality, ripen earlier than those produced in Portugal, and are brought sooner to market. The best kind of orange is raised by layers. Water melons grow abundantly in the fields. The farms produce wheat, Indian corn, and calavancés. Vines are also cultivated on tracts of black lava bordering on the sea coast; but their juice is thin and feeble, soon acquiring an acid taste.

The convents and other religious establishments placed in various situations along the borders of the island, and constructed of a white coloured stone, produce a pleasing effect when viewed from the sea.

The aromatic herbs, trees, and fruits, perfume the atmosphere with their sweets; and the breeze thus impregnated, becomes, when blowing from the land, highly grateful to the traveller in sailing along the shore.

The island of Pico, from the superior altitude of one of its mountains, is the most remarkable of all the Azores. From the village of Guindasté to the summit of the peak, the distance is stated to be nine miles. The road passes through a wild, rugged, and difficult country, which is entirely covered with brushwood. When, at seven o'clock in the morning, we arrived at the skirts of the mountain, which form the region of the clouds, the wind became extremely cold, attended by a thick mist, the thermometer falling to forty-eight degrees, and at eight o'clock to forty-seven. About ten we arrived at the boundary of the ancient crater, and the sun then acquiring power, the thermometer rose to forty-eight degrees. This appears to have been more than a mile in circumference. The southern and western boundaries yet remain, but those of the north and east have

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