

persons afflicted with scrophulous disorders. Under the declivity of a hill, westward from Saint Ann's church, are found springs of a similar kind, which are much used by the neighbouring inhabitants. These flow in currents from a precipice, and are some of a hot, others of a cold temperature, although only a few feet asunder.

To the westward of these is placed the lake, whose circumference is only three miles, and whose water is of a greenish colour, being powerfully impregnated with sulphur. On its north side there is a small plain, where the earth, perforated in a thousand places, incessantly emits sulphureous exhalations. Thither, during the heat of the day, the cattle repair to avoid being tortured by flies.

The united waters of the springs produce a considerable river, called Ribeira Quente, running for a course of nine miles through a deep rent in a mountain, and discharging itself into the sea, on the south side of the island. Along the precipices, which confine it on either side, several spots emit smoke; and in the sea at some distance from its mouth, there are springs which boil up so strongly, that their heat is sensibly felt at the surface.

The Furno contains two parishes and about a thousand inhabitants, whom necessity compelled to pass the mountains, and to cultivate a spot which was formerly believed to be inhabited by demons. Many years elapsed before the other inhabitants of the island began to visit it; but, since the healing qualities of the waters have been discovered, many invalids, as well as others, have resorted thither; and notable effects have been produced by their use upon those afflicted by the gout, scrophula, and other cutaneous maladies.

The eastern and western parts of the island rise into lofty mountains; but the center, which is lower, is interspersed with a variety of conical hills, every one of which discovers evident tokens of volcanic eruptions. Their summits are hollowed into basins, containing a quantity of water. On the west side of the island another gulph is to be viewed, not less singular and extraordinary than that already described, which is known by the appellation of *Seté Cidades*, or the seven cities; and whose extent is double that of the Furno. It is surrounded by steep precipices, and contains a fine lake of considerable depth, and two leagues in circumference. No hot springs have been discovered in its vicinity, nor do the waters possess any mineral quality. It has no visible discharge, and is on a level with the sea. The mountains which form the boundaries of the valley, appear to have experienced the most violent and uncommon