

gulf less than the former. It was in this gulf, and between these two burning islands, that in the year 1707, on the 23d of May, at day-break, the island in question was seen to rise out of the sea, a league from Santorin. Its appearance was preceded by a slight earthquake, occasioned no doubt by the motion of that enormous mass of matter, which was beginning to break off from the bottom, and gradually to ascend towards the surface of the water. Some mariners, perceiving from the shore something which seemed to float upon the sea, imagined it might be part of a wreck, and went towards it in their boats; but finding that it consisted of a large mass of rock and earth, which were visibly rising higher, they were terrified, and returned to Santorin with all speed, where they spread a general consternation by their report.---At length some of the inhabitants, who had more courage and curiosity than the rest, resolved to examine into the affair themselves. Accordingly they went up to the new island, and seeing no danger, they landed upon it. In going from one rock to another, they observed the ground every where covered with white stones, as easily to be broken as bread, and very much like it. They found likewise a large number of fresh oysters sticking to it, with which they were going to fill their vessels; but perceiving the rocks rise under their feet they were alarmed, and immediately made off in their boats. This shaking was occasioned by the rising of the island, which in a few days gained above twenty feet in height and forty feet in breadth, so that by the beginning of June it stood upward of thirty feet above the surface of the sea, and might be five hundred paces round. But the five or six following days, its increase being almost imperceptible, it was imagined it would rise no higher. The part that now appeared was round and consisted of a white earth, from whence they gave it the name of the White Island.

The different motions of the island, and the rocks that were detached from it, which sometimes rose above the sea and sometimes sunk down again, often changed the colour of the water. For some hours it appeared green, then yellow or reddish, according to the different minerals which came from the bottom of this abyss. Sulphur was the most prevalent; and for twenty miles round, the waters were tinged with it. The boiling of the waves about this new island was very extraordinary; and an excessive heat was felt as one came near it. All the sides were covered with dead fish, which were driven ashore by the dashing of the waves, and

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