

mutterings and strugglings, the rapid explosion of gases, the rushes and roarings, the sudden and startling bursts, as of crashing thunder.—all, all were awe-inspiring, and all combined to render the scene one of indescribable brilliancy and of terrible sublimity. The rivers of fire from the fountain flowed about thirty-five miles, and stopped within ten miles of Hilo. Had the fountain played ten days longer, it would probably have reached the shore.

THE GREAT AFRICAN DESERT.—Recent explorations have corrected many of the erroneous impressions respecting the great desert of Sahara. Instead of being a nearly level sandy plain, it is only so at its eastern and western extremities, the central portions rising in the form of terraces 900 or 1,200 feet above the valleys of the Atlas and Soudan, while Barth speaks of mountains 4,000 or 5,000 feet high. The opinion of Humboldt is undoubtedly correct, that it is the bed of a former sea elevated by great geological convulsions, mounds of fossil shells and other debris of marine animals being met over its whole extent, besides immense deposits of rock salt. The fact has been revealed by numerous wells, that there are extensive sheets of water a short distance below the surface—a fact known for a long time to the Arabs, who call this watery bed the subterranean sea.

ANCIENT DATES.—Astronomers have been enabled to fix the dates of many events in ancient history, by means of the natural phenomena recorded in connection with them by historians. Thus a battle between the Medes and the Lydians is proved to have been fought May 28, B. C. 585; for there was a total eclipse of the sun during its progress, and unerring calculations prove that the only eclipse total in Asia Minor at that era was on the day above named. In a similar manner Hailey ascertained the precise day of the landing of Julius Cæsar in Britain, August 26, B. C. 55, guided by the notices in Cæsar's Commentaries respecting the full moon and the tides. Some of the dates thus determined by modern science are of importance, as they help to fix the time of other memorable events.

AN EGYPTIAN RELIC.—A stone has been discovered in Egypt, at ancient Tanis, which promises to be of almost equal value with the famous Rosetta stone. It contains a long inscription in the ancient hieroglyphics, with its counterpart in Greek; the whole in a most excellent state of preservation. It has already been three times photographed, and is ready for the labors of scholars.

AN AUSTRALIAN MONSTER.—An extraordinary reptile has arrived in England from Australia, which seems to be more nearly allied to the pre-Adamite Saurians than anything before discovered. It possessed enormous claws and teeth, which enabled it to cause great destruction to the natives, while its almost impenetrable skin shielded it from their rude weapons. The body is perfect with the exception of one claw, torn off in the final contest.

Fixed

Epiphany
Septuagesima
St. David.
Quinquagesima
Ash Wednesday
Quadragesima
in Lent.
St. Patrick
Annunciation
Palm Sunday
Good Friday
Easter Sunday
St. George
Low Sunday
Birth of Queen
Rogation Sunday

Golden Number
Epact
Solar Cycle

In 1867
Moon, viz :
I. An annular
but visible
II. A partial
day, March 1st,
ends at 6h.
III. A total
IV. A partial
Visible in
9h. 49m.

Winter begins
Spring " "
Summer " "
Autumn " "
Winter " "

The Year
1867. Ram
begins on J
The Year