

1 the cliff has at some time been elevated or upheaved some 32 feet above its original position.
2 The road cuts through the Monte Olibano. This mountain is formed of lava from the ancient
3 eruptions of the "Solfatara." The eruption of 1198 formed the Olibano. This stream of lava, $\frac{1}{4}$
4 of a mile wide and 70 feet high, buried the town of Aliba. The lava is extensively quarried for
5 building purposes. A prison is built at the quarries and the convicts are employed in working
6 there. At Pozzuoli we left our carriage to examine the cathedral of St. Proculus. It stands on
7 the site of a Roman temple erected by Calpurnius and dedicated to Augustus. The ancient
8 temple was constructed of white marble in Corinthian style of architecture. Six of the columns
9 with a part of the cornice remain, indicating that the ancient temple was an imposing and
10 magnificent building. Standing upon a rocky promontory 100 feet above the sea near the base
11 of this rock is a small chapel covering the spot where St. Paul landed on his way to Rome. We
12 now started to examine the old crater of Solfatara. Left the carriage at the edge of the town
13 and footed it about a mile up a very steep road paved with blocks of lava. Our guide assured us
14 that it was the very pavement over which Paul footed it on his way to room [Rome] 1800 years
15 ago. Turning a lane to the right, we passed a gate (fee 2 francs) and descended to the level
16 plain known as the Crater of Solfatara. It is a circular basin about a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile diameter. When
17 near the centre, the custodian lifted a large boulder above his head, and, bringing it down with
18 a heavy thump on the ground, we were convinced by the tremor of the earth and the hollow
19 sound, that we were on a thin crust or sort of pot lid covering a hole or cavern of unknown
20 depth or other particulars. The fellow repeated the thump, but we told him that he might
21 desist for I wasn't sure that he wouldn't cave the whole thing in. We then walked across the
22 crater to a point where a volume of red hot steam was issuing from a small cave. The pressure
23 was so great that the steam made a noise in escaping like the blowing off of a steam boiler
24 under 20 pounds pressure. The rocks at the mouth of this cave are incrustated with brimstone
25 and crystals of prussic acid. The fellow gathered a few pieces for us, at the same time
26 remarking that they were a deadly poison. We took them, paid him a small fee for his trouble,
27 but I failed to appreciate the specimens and dropped them soon after. Walked back to our
28 carriage. Passed between the ruins of a Temple of Diana, square outside and circular internally.
29 On the opposite side of the road, the temple of Neptune. The parts remaining of both these
30 temples are without form or comeliness, being simply huge walls and piers of brick work,
31 indicating, however, that the buildings of which they formed a part were of great extent and
32 solidity, but time, savage conquerors & earthquakes were too many for them. Passing down a
33 zig-zag road west of the town of Pozzuoli, we came to the ruins of the Temple of Jupiter
34 Serapis. Called the "Serapeon," this remarkable ruin lay buried for ages. In 1750 the tops of 3
35 columns were discovered projecting above the soil amidst the bushes & brush which had so
36 long concealed them. Charles 3^d gave orders to excavate around them. The result was a
37 discovery of an edifice rich in marble decorations and filled with such quantities of broken
38 sculpture that it was supposed to have been the depository for the fragments of all the heathen
39 temples in the city when they were suppressed. The 3 columns now standing are of marble 40
40 feet high. There were formerly 6 of them. These formed a part of the portico in front of the
41 temple. The court was paved with marble. Beneath it at a depth of 6 feet, a more ancient