

RECENT TERRESTRIAL DISTURBANCES.

From the San Francisco Bulletin, Dec. 14.

The last two months have been somewhat notable for unusual volcanic activity at various points on the earth's surface. On the evening of Nov. 4 an earthquake shock was experienced in this city and vicinity. It was very brief in duration, but it was also one of the sharpest felt here in many years. Twenty-two hours later one of the most remarkable eruptions of the century occurred on the island of Hawaii, the volcano Mauna Loa belching forth a torrent of molten lava which, at latest accounts, was 30 miles long and rapidly approaching the sea. The ship *Ivv*, which arrived in port a few days ago from New-York, reported having experienced a severe earthquake at sea in the middle of October, while off the coast of Chili. Mount Vesuvius, in Italy, has been in active eruption for some time past. This volcano has developed a new crater, the old one remaining closed and dormant. Ordinarily an eruption of Mount Vesuvius produces a disturbance, more or less marked, in Mount Etna, Sicily, and in Mount Hecla, Iceland. On the present occasion, however, so far as known, Etna and Hecla are quiet. A Seattle (Washington Territory) dispatch of yesterday reports an earthquake at that place on Sunday evening, and it is reported also that Mount Baker, one of the volcanic cones in the Cascade range in Washington Territory, has recently been active, emitting flame and lava. It is possible that there is an intimate relation between these volcanic convulsions which are occurring, it may be said, simultaneously in the four quarters of the globe.

From the San Francisco Alta, Dec. 15.

Mount Baker, reported by a telegram from Seattle to be in a state of eruption, or at least exhibiting volcanic lights at its summit, is a snow-covered volcanic peak, 11,000 feet high, in latitude 48° 40'. Rumor says that it has on several occasions illuminated the clouds over it as if there were molten lava in its crater; but such a light might be made by a fire in the timber on the mountain-side; and, so far as we know, no observation of such a light has been made in a manner deserving credence. The telegram of Tuesday was based on an anonymous letter written in Whatcom, 20 miles from the summit of the mountain, and, to say the least, needs confirmation. Six or eight months ago Portland invented an eruption of Mount Hood, but it would not stick.

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