and on the eaſtern side is a pretty large town, ſeated at the foot of a mountain, with a fine harbour commanded by a caſtle. E. Long. 27. o. N. Lat. 29. 30.

TENERIFF, an iſland of Africa, and one of the Canaries, being the moſt conſiderable for riches, trade, and extent. It lies to the ſouth of the iſland of Salvages, to the west of the Grand Canary, to the north of the iſland of Gomera, and to the eaſt of that of Palma. It is of a triangular form, being about 45 miles in length and 20 in breadth ; and in the centre is the famous *peak,* called by the natives *El Pico de Teyde,* which in clear weather may be ſeen at the diſtance of 120 miles, like a thin blue vapour very little darker than the ſky.

The moſt frequented harbour is called *Santa Cruz,* which is on the ſouth side of the iſland, and where ſhips with good anchors and cables may be ſafe in all weathers. At this port is the principal commercial town in the iſland, called also *Santa Cruz,* in the middle of which is a mole, built at a vaſt expence for the convenience of landing ; between the mole and the town is a fort called *St Philips,* and near it is a ſteep rocky den or valley, beginning at the ſea ſhore, and running far in land, which would render the attack of an enemy very difficult ; there are alſo other sorts for its de­fence, all joined together by a thick ſtone wall, and mount­ed with cannon.

Santa Cruz is a large town, containing ſeveral churches and convents, an hoſpital, and the beſt conſtructed private buildings of any in the Canary iſlands@@. It contains about 7000 inhabitants ; it is not fortified on the land side, and all the country near it is dry, ſtony, and barren.

About four leagues to the ſouth of Santa Cruz, cloſe to the ſea, there is a cave, with a chapel called the *chapel of our Lady of Candelarie,* in which is an image of the Virgin Mary, that is held in as much reverence here as that of Diana was at Epheſus. This chapel is endowed with ſo many ornaments that it is the richeſt place in all the ſeven iſlands. At a certain ſeaſon of the year almoſt all the in­habitants go thither on pilgrimage, and innumerable and incredible ſtories are related and universally believed con­cerning this image.

About four miles in land from Santa Cruz ſtands the city of St Chryſtobal de la Laguna, which is the metropolis of the iſland, and contains two pariſh churches and five con­vents, but has no trade, being inhabited principally by the gentry of the iſland ; the inhabitants are numerous, yet no­body is ſeen in the ſtreets, which are ſolitary and deſolate, ſo that graſs grows in thoſe that are moſt frequented. There are many other towns in the iſland which contain a great number of people, but none are more than three leagues from the ſea.

All the fertile ground within a league of the ſea is co­vered with vines ; that of the next league is ſown with corn, the third is adorned with woods, and above the woods are the clouds, for the iſland gradually aſcends from the ſea, rising on all ſides till it terminates in the peak, which is the centre.

On the ſouth-eaſt of the iſland inland from *Candelaria* is a town called *Guimar,* where there are ſome families which know themſelves to be the genuine unmixed offspring of the original natives ; but they know nothing of the man­ners of their anceſtors, nor have they preſerved any remains of their language. They are fairer than the Spaniards of Andaluſia.

Teneriff contains about 96,000 perſons, ſuppoſed to be equal to the number of inhabitants of all the reſt of the ſeven islands put together. The peaſants in general are wretchedly clothed ; when they do appear better, they are habited in the Spaniſh faſhion. The men, in a genteeler line, dreſs very gayly, and are ſeldom ſeen without long swords. It is remarked, that few of them walk with dignity and eaſe ; which may be attributed to the long cloaks they uſually wear. The women wear veils@@: thoſe worn by the lower ranks are of black ſtuff, thoſe of the higher of black ſilk ; and ſuch among the latter as have any claim to beauty are far from being over careful in concealing their faces by them. The young ladies wear their fine long black hair plaited, and faſtened with a comb or a riband on the top of the head.

The common people, and in this they reſemble the inhabitants of moſt of the iſlands in the Pacific Ocean lately dis­covered, have in them a ſtrong tendency to thieving ; they are beſides lazy, and the moſt importunate beggars in the world. “ I obſerved likewise (says Mr White) that the itch was so common among them, and had attained ſuch a de­gree of virulence, that one would almoſt be led to believe it was epidemic there. Some of the women are ſo aban­doned and ſhameleſs, that it would be doing an injuſtice to the proſtitutes met with in the ſtreets of London to ſay they are like them. The females of every degree are ſaid to be of an amorous conſtitution, and addicted to intrigue; for which no houſes could be better adapted than thoſe in Teneriff.

“ The manufactures carried on here are very few, and the product of them little more than ſufficient for their own conſumption. They conſiſt of taffeties, gauze, coarſe linens,blankets, a little ſilk, and curious garters. The principal dependence of the inhabitants is on their wine (their ſtaple commodity), oil, corn, and every kind of ſtock for ſhipping. With theſe the iſland abounds : and, in their ſeaſon, pro­duces not only the tropical fruits, but the vegetable pro­ductions of the European gardens, in the greateſt plenty. Teneriff enjoys an agreeable and healthful mediocrity of climate. Indeed none ſeems better adapted for the reſtoration of a valetudinarian ; as, by going into the mountains, he may graduate the air, and chooſe that ſtate of it which beſt ſuits his complaint. But although the inhabitants are thus healthy, and have ſo little occaſion for medical aid, they loudly complain of the want of knowledge in the profesſional gentlemen of the iſland.”

The height of the peak of Teneriff has been ſo variouſly eſtimated and calculated by different travellers and geogra­phers, that we can only take the mean between the two extremes of their deciſions@@. Dr Halley allows but two miles and a quarter from the level of the ſea to the ſummit of the ſugar-loaf, whilſt the Spaniſh account of the Ca­nary iſlands, tranſlated by Mr Glas in 1763, makes it no leſs than five miles ; and others have aſſigned a height dif­ferent from both these. That it is an extinguiſhed vol­cano is univerſally known ; and we are perſuaded that the following account of the crater, and of ſome experiments made on its brink by Μ. Mongez on the 24th of Auguſt 1785, will prove not unacceptable to our chemical readers.

“ The crater of the peak of Teneriff (says he) is a true ſulphur-pit, ſimilar to thoſe of Italy. It is about 50 fa­thoms long, and 40 broad, riſing abruptly from eaſt to west. At the edges of the crater, particularly on the under side, are many ſpiracles, or natural chimneys, from which there exhale aqueous vapours and sulphureous acids, which are ſo hot as to make the thermometer rise from 9⁰ to 34⁰ of Reau­mur@@. The inſide of the crater is covered with yellow, red, or white, argillaceous earth, and blocks of lava partly decompoſed. Under theſe blocks are found superb cryſtals of ſulphur; theſe are eight-ſided rhomboidal cryſtals, sometimes an inch in length, and, I ſuppoſe, they are the fineſt cryſtals of volcanic ſulphur that have ever been found. The water that exhales from the ſpiracles is perfectly pure, and not in the leaſt acid, as I was convinced by ſeveral experiments.

@@@[mu] Glas's Historical Account of the Canary Islands.

@@@[mu] White's Voyage to New South Wales, p. 18.

@@@[mu] Rye's Excursion to the Peak of Teneriff.