

these are all boiling briskly. This boiling is due, however, chiefly to the escape of carbonic acid, and of vapor formed below, for the temperature even of the hottest springs does not seem to rise to above 90° C. The largest of the springs is a well about twelve feet in diameter, inclosed within a circular wall. The water hisses up in a wide column nearly at the boiling-point, bubbling in the centre to a height of a couple of feet, and sending up columns of steam with a slight sulphurous smell. A little farther on there is a smaller spring in even more violent ebullition, tossing up a column five or six feet high; and beyond this a vent opening into a kind of cavern, not inaptly called "Bocco do Inferno," which sends out water, loaded with gray mud, with a loud rumbling noise. The mud comes splashing out for a time almost uniformly, and with little commotion, and then, as if it had been gathering force, a jet is driven out with a kind of explosion to a distance of several yards. This spring, like all the others, is surrounded by mounds of siliceous sinter, and of lime and alumina and sulphur efflorescence. The mud is deposited from the water on the surface of the rock around in a smooth paste, which has a high character all round as a cure for all skin complaints. When I looked at it first, I could not account for the grooves running in stripes all over the face of the rocks; but I afterward found that they were the marks of fingers collecting the mud, and I was told that such marks were more numerous on Sunday, when the country people came into the village to mass, than on any other day.

At a short distance from the "Caldeiros" a spring gushes out from a crack in the rock of a cool chalybeate water, charged with carbonic acid and with a slight dash of sulphureted hydrogen. There is a hot spring close beside it, and on the bank of the warm stream and in the steam of the Caldeira there is a luxuriant patch of what the people there call "ignami," or yams (*Caladium esculentum*), which seems to thrive specially well in