

matter deposited by the hot water. No doubt the present hot springs are the dwindled remains of former fully developed geysers. The principal spring consists of a basin about 12 feet in diameter, full up to within about 2 feet of the brim of a bluish water, which in the centre is in constant and most violent ebullition, the water being thrown up a foot in height as it boils forth. A constant column of steam rises from the basin. Near by is a sort of fissure, from which issue at short irregular intervals jets or splashes of boiling water mingled with steam and sulphuretted hydrogen in abundance. This spring makes a gurgling, churning sort of noise; the large basin, a sort of roar.

In the sides of the fissure grow, in the area splashed by the hot water, some green lowly organized algæ (*Botryococcus*), which form a thick crust upon the rock surface. Similar growth of lowly organized plants in the water of hot springs have been observed in various parts of the world.* At a couple of feet distance from this hot spring rushes up a perfectly cold iron spring with a considerable stream of water.

All around are small openings, from which sulphuretted hydrogen and other gases issue with a fizzing noise, and coat the openings with bright yellow crystals of sulphur. The ground around is hot, too hot in many places for the hand to rest upon, and it is somewhat dangerous to approach the pools of hot water at all closely, since the hard crust on the surface may give way and one may be let fall into the boiling mud.

Just above these hot springs is a beautiful mountain stream, which forms little cascades as it tumbles down to the lake valley from the fern-clad moor above.

At the town of Furnas is an inn kept for families who come in the season to drink the waters and bathe. There is a free bath house built by the Government, with marble baths and hot and cold mineral water laid on to each. The whereabouts of the springs near the town are marked by clouds of steam. The springs are scattered over a larger area than at the lake springs, and the grey geyser formation is piled into irregular hillocks around them, instead of presenting a nearly flat surface as at the other springs. Here the principal spring is like that at the lake, but the amount of hot steam rushing up is much greater, and the noise is almost deafening. The water is thrown up about two or three feet in a constant hot fountain. Close by are sulphur springs with hot water issuing

* For further account of the vegetable growths in the hot spring of Furnas, see Linn. Journ. Bot., Vol. XIV., p. 321. Also papers on the same by Mr. W. T. Thiselton Dyer and Mr. W. Archer, *ibid.*, pp. 326-328.