

facts, as they show us that, even in a country subject to frequent and violent shocks of earthquakes, the interior of our planet has retained for upward of 2000 years its ancient configuration in reference to the course of the open fissures that yield a passage to these waters. The *Fontaine jaillissante* of Lillers, in the Department des Pas de Calais, which was bored as early as the year 1126, still rises to the same height and yields the same quantity of water; and, as another instance, I may mention that the admirable geographer of the Caramanian coast, Captain Beaufort, saw in the district of Phaselis the same flame fed by emissions of inflammable gas which was described by Pliny as the flame of the Lycian Chimera.*

The observation made by Arago in 1821, that the deepest Artesian wells are the warmest,† threw great light on the origin of thermal springs, and on the establishment of the law that terrestrial heat increases with increasing depth. It is a remarkable fact, which has but recently been noticed, that at the close of the third century, St. Patricius,‡ probably Bishop of Pertusa, was led to adopt very correct views regarding the phenomenon of the hot springs at Carthage. On being asked what was the cause of boiling water bursting from the earth, he replied, "Fire is nourished in the clouds and in the interior

in Strabo, p. 379; the spring of Erasinos, at Mount Chaon, south of Argos, in Herod., vi., 67, and Pausanias, ii., 24, 7; the springs of Ædipsus in Eubœa, some of which have a temperature of 88°, while in others it ranges between 144° and 167°, in Strabo, p. 60 and 447, and Athenæus, ii., 3, 73; the hot springs of Thermopylæ, at the foot of Cæta, with a temperature of 149°. All from manuscript notes by Professor Curtius, the learned companion of Otfried Müller.

* Pliny, ii., 106; Seneca, *Epist.*, 79, § 3, ed. Rubkopf (Beaufort, *Survey of the Coast of Karamania*, 1820, art. Yanar, near Deliktasch, the ancient Phaselis, p. 24). See, also, Ctesias, *Fragm.*, cap. 10 p. 250, ed. Bähr; Strabo, lib. xiv., p. 666, Casaub.

[“Not far from the Deliktash, on the side of a mountain, is the perpetual fire described by Captain Beaufort. The travelers found it as brilliant as ever, and even somewhat increased; for, besides the large flame in the corner of the ruins described by Beaufort, there were small jets issuing from crevices in the side of the crater-like cavity five or six feet deep. At the bottom was a shallow pool of sulphureous and turbid water, regarded by the Turks as a sovereign remedy for all skin complaints. The soot deposited from the flames was regarded as efficacious for sore eyelids, and valued as a dye for the eyebrows.” See the highly interesting and accurate work, *Travels in Lycia*, by Lieut. Spratt and Professor E. Forbes.]—*Tr.*

† Arago, in the *Annuaire pour 1835*, p. 234.

‡ *Acta S. Patricii*, p. 555, ed. Ruinart, t. ii., p. 385, Mazochi. Dureau de la Malle was the first to draw attention to this remarkable passage in the *Recherches sur la Topographie de Carthage*, 1835, p. 276. (See, also, Seneca, *Nat. Quæst.*, iii., 24.)