

continued up to its close. The trachytes present considerable analogy in their composition to the felspathic porphyries, but their mineralogical characters are different. Their texture is porous; they form a white, grey, black, sometimes yellowish matrix, in which, as a

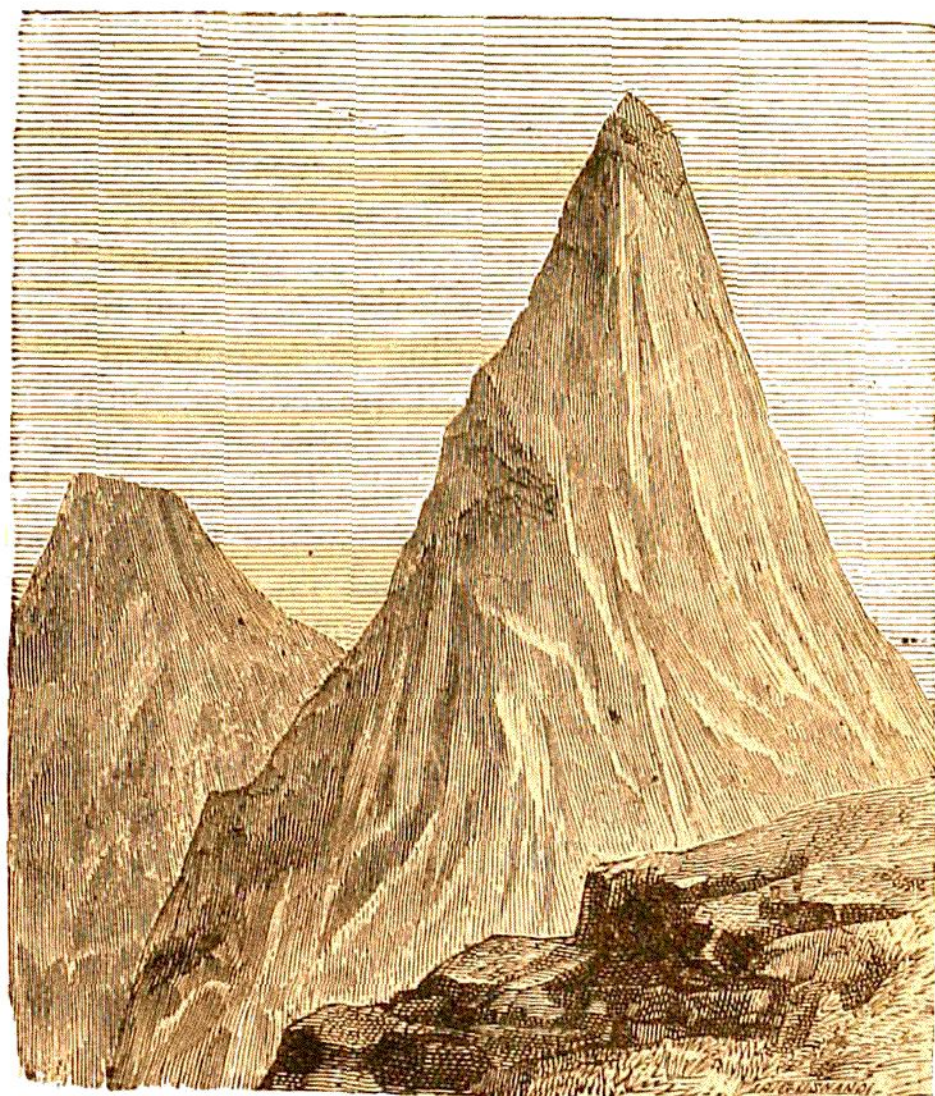


Fig. 4.—A peak of the Cantal chain.

rule, felspar predominates, together with disseminated crystals of felspar, some hornblende or augite, and dark-coloured mica. In its external appearance trachyte is very variable. It forms the three most elevated mountain ranges of Central France; the groups of Cantal and Mont Dore, and the chain of the Velay (Puy-de-Dôme).\*

\* For full information in reference to the rocks and geology of this part of France, the reader is referred to the masterly work on "The Geology and Extinct Volcanoes of Central France," by G. Poulett Scrope, 2nd edition, 1858.