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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Pichincha, Extracts From a Discourse: Delivered in the Chapel of Racine College, During the Week of Commencement, in July From the days of Pliny and Strabo, (A.D. 79,)to those of Sir Humphrey Davy, Von Humboldt, and Agassiz, of the present century, much learning has been displayed, and many graphic pens employed, in elucidating the arcana of Volcanoes. The profound investigations, and the elaborate experiments of savans, in relation to the orological characteristics of these phenomena, have become familiar to scholars accustomed to scientific research. But admonished by the fate of the elder Pliny, the ardor of whose philosophic mind drew him into so perilous a proximity to Vesuvius, at the period of its first disastrous eruption of which history affords us any circumstantial account, that his life was the forfeit of his peering curiosity, - very few of the devotees of science, during the last seventeen or eighteen centuries, seem to have been tempted to take the hazard of similar risks, by emboweling themselves in volcanic craters, either for the disinterested purpose of enlarging the field of scientific discovery, or for satisfying their own thirst after that knowledge which is said to dwell in heads replete with the thoughts of other men. But my friend Dr. Moreno, of the Equator, who is not of the speculative sect of philosophers, is never satisfied with merely deductive results, but is ever intent on practical demonstrations of new truths in physical science. And it appears from the memoir I hold in my hand, that this was the third time the Doctor had adventured into the depths of the crater of Pichincha. Undaunted by the perils previously encountered,...

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