

black soil. As we neared the top the trees grew short and wind-beaten, and their branches were covered with moss. Up to the very top the mountain is covered with forest, which indicates that it must be a very long time since the crater was active. The top has two peaks, and on the highest point of the southernmost of these we found a big stone boulder marked with the number 1211. This number was carved in the rock by a Mexican engineer, Ismael Loya, who made a survey of this area in 1897. The number stands for the altitude of the mountain, 1211 meters.

Loya was the first one to see the idol on the mountain top, and he told the writer in 1922 that he had removed this idol a short distance in order to use it as a

corner mark for his survey. In doing so, he broke the arms of the image. Before having broken it, though, he made a drawing of it which is shown in figure 41. Under the figure a small pit was found in which stood some pieces of pottery containing various small objects of jade. Mr. Loya had given all these away but one, which is a small piece of light green jade carved in the form of a rattlesnake.



FIG. 41.—San Martin Pajapan, Ver. Drawing of Idol from top of the Volcano made by Ismael Loya in 1897.

The idol is squatting and according to Loya's drawing, holds a bar horizontally with both hands, its body leaning forward. Arms, feet, and the bar have disappeared, and the

face is badly mutilated. The total height of the figure is 1.35 meters, of which 57 c.m. is taken up by the head-dress. The head is well carved and has large plugs in the ears. The head-dress is very elaborate. On its front is a face with slanting eyes, a small broad nose, and a downward curved mouth with a broad flaring upper lip. This face resembles a jade head now in the National Museum of Mexico City. Over this is a kind of small hat, the top of which appears to have been broken off. Seen from the side, the head-dress shows a band with some figures that may represent a conventionalized rattlesnake, and over this band are feathers (figs. 42 and 43).