

side, the safe reef is attached to the coast and is a fringing reef. From these examples we perceive the close relation of barrier and fringing reefs. While a reef is sometimes quite incircling, in other instances it is interrupted, or wholly wanting, along certain shores; and occasionally it may be confined to a single point of an island.

Above Angau lies *Nairai*; although a smaller island than Angau, the barrier reef is of greater extent, and stretches off far from the shores. To the eastward of Nairai are *Vatu Rera*, *Chichia*, and *Naiiau*, other examples of islands fringed around with narrow reefs. *Lakemba*, a little more to the southward, is also incircled with coral; but on the east side the reef is a distant barrier. In *Aiva*, immediately south of Lakemba, the same structure is exemplified; but the coral ring is singularly large for the little spots of land it incloses. The *Argo Reef*, east of Lakemba, is a still larger barrier, incircling two points of rock called Bacon's Isles. It is actually a large lagoon island, twenty miles long, with some coral islets in the lagoon, and two of basaltic constitution, of which the largest is only a mile in diameter. Aiva and Lakemba are in fact other lagoon islands, in which the rocky islands of the interior bear a larger proportion to the whole area. The same view is further illustrated by comparing the Argo reef with Nairai, Angau, or Moala: these cases differ only in the greater or less distance of the reef from the shores and the extent of the inclosed land.

Passing to the large islands *Vanua Levu* and *Viti Levu*, we observe the same peculiarities illustrated on a much grander scale. Along the southern shores of Viti Levu, the coral reef lies close against the coast; and the same is seen on the east side and north extremity of Vanua Levu. But on the west side of these islands, this reef stretches far off from the land, and in some parts is even twenty-five miles distant, with a broad sea within. This sea, however, is obstructed by reefs, and along the shores there are proper fringing reefs.

The forms of incircling reefs depend evidently to a great extent on that of the land they inclose. That this is the case