

25' S., 146° W. 15 miles by 6, trending E. N. E. A large lagoon with a deep entrance on the west side. Shape oblong triangular.

Shore platform as usual; mostly under water at low tide. Large masses of coral here and there, standing on this reef, either cemented to it or loose. One top-shaped mass is figured on p. 146. High water did not reach the part of it which was most worn; and this was evidently owing to the fact that the action of the swell or waves is greatest above the actual level of the tide at the time. The reef-rock is either a compact limestone, showing no traces of its composite origin, or a conglomerate. Beach, regular as usual, six to ten feet high, consisting of coral sand, and fragments of worn shells, with occasional exuviæ of crabs, remains of Echini, fish, &c. The entrance to the lagoon is deep and narrow, with vertical sides.

*Aratica* or *Carlshoff*, Paumotu Archipelago, 15° 30' S., 145° 30' W. 17 miles by 10, trending N. E. Large lagoon with a good entrance for vessels. The reef fronting south bare for nine miles; on north-west side, mostly very low, with only here and there a clump of trees; occasionally a line of wooded land for a quarter of a mile on the east side; more continuously wooded on the north. The bare parts mostly covered with blocks of coral, one to thirty cubic feet and larger, tumbled together as on the preceding. Some blocks of coral on the shore platform very large; one eight feet high and fifteen in diameter, containing at least 1,000 cubic feet.

*Nairsa* or *Dean's*, Paumotu Archipelago, 15° S., 148° W. 44 miles by 17, trending W. N. W. Northern shore mostly wooded; southern with only an occasional islet, connected by long lines of bare reef. In these intervals, the reef stood eight feet or so out of water, according to estimate from ship-board, and was worn into a range of columns, or excavated with caverns, so as to look very much broken, though quite regularly even in the level of the top line.

We might continue these descriptions; but the above, with the details before given, will convey a general idea of the whole.