

Breaker Channel), *f* (the Channels affording the nearest routes to Murray Anchorage and St. George's Harbour), *g* (Channel by St. David's Head, shallow), and *h* (Hog-fish cut). The reef-grounds, inside, are encumbered with countless clumps of corals and coral-heads, one to four fathoms under water with intervals between of five to ten fathoms; some large tracts are without corals, and these have a nearly uniform depth of seven or eight fathoms. To a vessel entering, the positions of the coral clumps are made known by the brownish or discoloured water above them. The bottom, over large areas, is a calcareous clay or mud; that of Murray Anchorage, a fine chalky clay.

The wind for three-fourths of the year is from the south-east or south-west, and this may in part account for the south-east side of the atoll being highest. But this feature is probably owing much to the configuration of the land upon which the coral reefs were built up. The reefs along the south-east and south sides are narrow, not over a fourth of a mile wide, and the waters abruptly deep; and consequently we may conclude that this south-eastern side of the original island was bold and high, while off to the north the surface was relatively low and flat.

Twenty miles south-west-by-west from the Bermudas there are two submerged banks or shoals, both reported as having a "corally and rocky bottom;" one has 22 to 40 fathoms over it, and the other 33 to 47 fathoms. Dredging on these banks might make some interesting disclosures.

The following observations bearing on the question as to the former extent of the Bermudas group are from a paper by Mr. S. Matthew Jones, in *Nature*, August 1872:—

"As my late visit to the Bermudas has placed me in possession of facts relating to their original aspect of a somewhat conclusive nature, I deem it advisable to communicate such in a brief form, instead of awaiting the time requisite for the preparation of a more elaborate paper on the subject. On previous occasions I have always regretted my inability, from lack of time, to look more closely into their geological char-