

bottom of a harbour. It has been further demonstrated that in different groups, as the Ladrões, Sandwich Islands, Navigators, New Hebrides, there is an inverse relation between the extent of reefs and the evidences of recent volcanic action in the island ; and that the largest reefs exist where there is no proof of former igneous action, or where it has long ceased. The existence of large reef-islands in open seas where the neighbouring lands are mostly destitute of coral reefs, harmonizes with the conclusions announced, since such islands are in general removed from the deleterious influences just mentioned ; yet it is very possible that in some cases of this kind the region of the open sea may have undergone a subsidence not experienced equally by the lands on either side.

The modifications of form and interruptions of reefs, arising from abrupt or sloping shores, and tidal or local currents, have also been exemplified.