

far within it. The valley-bays of the islets of the lagoon are of great depth, and afford additional evidence of the subsidence.

*Tahitian Islands.*—The Tahitian Islands, along with Samoa and the Feejees, are near the southern limits of the area pointed out. Twenty-five miles to the north of Tahiti, within sight of its peaks, lies the coral island Tetuaroa, a register of subsidence. Tahiti itself, by its barrier reefs, gives evidence of the same kind of change; amounting, however, as we have estimated, to a depression of but two hundred and fifty or three hundred feet. The north-western islands of the group lie more within the coral area, and correspondingly, they have wider reefs and channels, and deep bays, indicating a greater amount of subsidence.

*Samoa or Navigator Group.*—The island of Upolu has extensive reefs, which in many parts are three-fourths of a mile wide, but no inner channel. The subsidence is estimated on page 126, at one or two hundred feet. The volcanic land west of Apia declines with an unbroken gradual slope of one to three degrees beneath the sea. The absence of a low cliff is probable evidence of a depression, as has been elsewhere shown. The island of Tutuila has abrupt shores, deep bays, and little coral. It appears probable, therefore, that it has experienced a greater subsidence than Upolu. Yet the central part of Upolu has very similar bays on the north, which would afford apparently the same evidence; and it is quite possible that the facts indicate a sinking which either preceded the ejections that now cover the eastern and western extremities of Upolu, or accompanied this change of level. The large island of Savaii, west of Upolu, has small reefs, small because probably of volcanic action; for it bears, everywhere, evidence of comparatively recent eruption; from it, therefore, we gather no certain facts bearing on this subject. East of Tutuila is the *coral island*, Rose. It may be, therefore, that the greatest subsidence in the group was at its eastern extremity.

*Feejee Islands.*—We have already remarked upon this group