

there followed again a line of columns, and walls, with occasional arches as before. The reef, formerly lying at the level of low tide, had been raised above the sea, and subsequently had undergone degradation from the waves. The standing columns had some resemblance in certain parts to the masses seen here and there on the shore platforms of other islands; but the latter are only distantly scattered masses, while on this island, for the greater part of the course, there were long walls of reef-rock. The height, moreover, was greater, and they occurred too on the *leeward* side of the island, ranging along nearly its whole course, while the north side, according to the map, *is wooded throughout*.

The elevation here indicated is at least *six* feet; but it may have been larger; the observations were made from ship-board.

Thirty miles to the southward of Dean's Island we came to Metia, one of the most remarkable examples of elevation in the Pacific.

*Metia*.—This island has already been described, and its elevation stated at *two hundred and fifty* feet. (See page 157.)

*Clermont Tonnerre* shows the same evidence of elevation from Tridacnas as Honden Island. Clermont Tonnerre and Honden are on the north-eastern limits of the Paumotus.

*Elizabeth Island* was early shown to be an elevated coral island by Beechey. This distinguished voyager represents it as having perpendicular cliffs over fifty feet in height. From his description it is obviously like Metia; the elevation is *eighty* feet. It is one of the south-eastern Paumotus, near Ducie's.

*Ducie's Island* is described by Beechey as twelve feet high, which would indicate a probable elevation of *one* or *two* feet.

*Osnaburgh Island*, according to the same author, affords evidence of having increased its height since the wreck of the *Matilda*, in 1792. He contrasts the change from a "reef of rocks," as reported by the crew, to a "conspicuously wooded island," the condition when he visited it; and states, further, that the anchor, ironworks, and a large gun (4-pounder) of this