

sands much greater height than they have in the Paumotus. *Birnie's Island* is a small bank of coral, only six feet above the sea, according to Wilkes (Narr. v. 4).

*Gardner's, Hull's, Sydney,* and *Newmarket* were visited by the Wilkes Expedition. No satisfactory evidences of elevation were observed on the first three. *Newmarket* is stated by Captain Wilkes to have a height of *twenty-five* feet, which would indicate an elevation of six or eight feet.

*h. Sandwich or Hawaiian Islands.*—*Oahu* affords decisive proof of an elevation of twenty-five or thirty feet. There is an impression at Honolulu, derived from a supposed increasing height in the reef off the harbour, that the island is slowly rising. Upon this point we have nothing satisfactory. The present height of the reef is not sufficiently above the level to which it might be raised by the tides, to render it certain, from this kind of evidence, that the suspected elevation is in progress.

*Kauai* presents us with no evidence that the island, at the present time, is at a higher level than when the coral reefs began; or, at the most, no elevation is indicated beyond a foot or two. The drift sand-rock of *Koloa* appears to be a proof of elevation, from its resemblance to that of Northern *Oahu*; but if so, there must have been a subsidence since, as it now forms a cliff on the shore that is gradually wearing away.

*Molokai*, according to information from the Rev. Mr. Andrews, has coral upon its declivities three hundred feet above the sea.

Mr. Andrews, in his communication, informed the author that the coral occurs "upon the acclivity of the eastern or highest part of the island, over a surface of more than twenty or thirty acres, and extends almost to the sea. We had no means of accurately measuring the height; but the specimens were obtained at least three hundred feet above the level of the sea, and probably four hundred. The specimens have distinctly the structure of coral. The distance from the sea was two to three miles."