B. NORTHEASTERLY SYSTEM OF TRENDS. — The body of New Zealand has a mean N. 40° E. course. The line is continued to the south, through the Auckland and Macquarie Islands, to 58° S. To the north, in nearly the same line, near 30° S., lie the Kermadec Islands, and farther north, near 20° S., the Tonga or Friendly Islands.
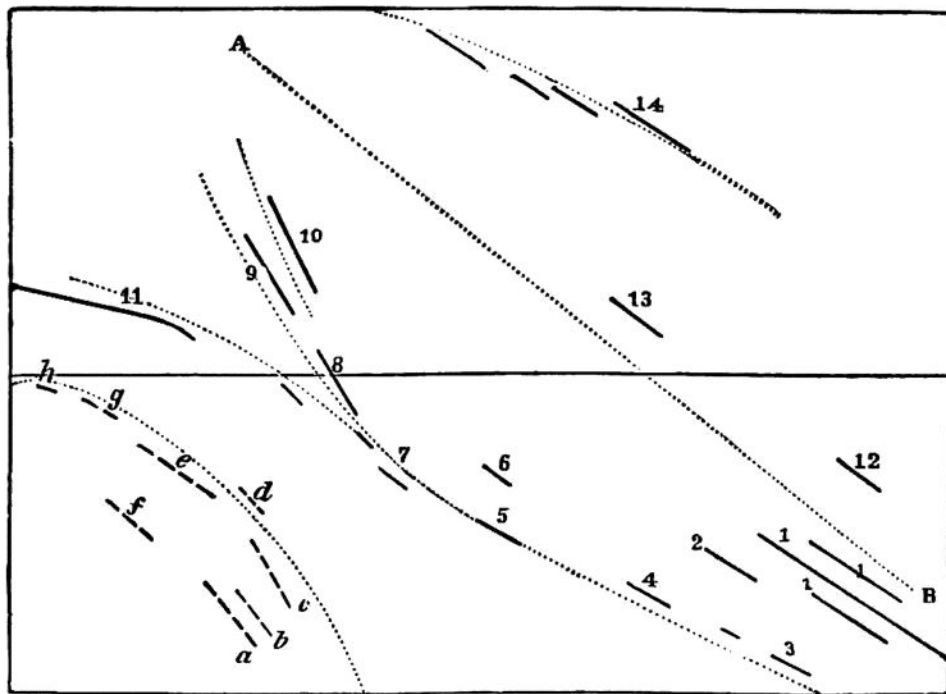
The Ladrones, north of the equator, follow the same general course. It also occurs in many groups of the northwesterly system characterizing subordinate parts of those groups. Thus, the westernmost of the Hawaiian Islands, Niihau, lies in the north-northeast line, and the two lofty peaks of Hawaii have almost the same bearing.

PACIFIC ISLAND CHAINS. — The groups of Pacific islands, with a few exceptions, are not independent lines, but subordinate parts of island chains. There are three great island chains in the ocean which belong to the northwesterly system, — The *Hawaiian*, the *Polynesian*, and the *Australasian*, — and, excluding the Ladrones, which pertain to the western Pacific, one belonging to the northeasterly system; viz., the *Tongan* or *New Zealand chain*.

Hawaiian chain. — This chain has already been described.

Polynesian chain. — This chain sweeps through the center of the ocean, and has a length of 5500 miles, or nearly one fourth the circumference of the globe. (See Fig. 24.) The Paumotu Archipelago (1), and the Tahitian, Rurutu, and Hervey Islands (2, 3, 4) are parallel lines in the chain,

24.

1 to 10, the Polynesian chain: 1, Paumotu group; 2, Tahitian; 3, Rurutu group; 4, Hervey group; 5, Samoan, or Navigators; 6, Vakaafo group; 7, Vaitupu group; 8, Gilbert group; 9, Ralick; 10, Radack; 11, Carolines; 12, Marquesas; 13, Fanning group; 14, Hawaiian. *a* to *h*, part of the Australasian chain: *a*, New Caledonia; *b*, Loyalty group; *c*, New Hebrides; *d*, Santa Cruz group; *e*, Solomon Islands; *f*, Louisiade group; *g*, New Ireland; *h*, Admiralty group. — D.