

how rapid this disappearance may be. The island of Volcano has the base of its slopes truncated by a line of cliff due to marine erosion. The island of Teneriffe shows, in the same way, that the sea is cutting back the land toward the great cone (Fig. 68). The island of St. Paul (Figs. 67, 69) brings before us in a more impressive way the tendency



Fig. 69.—View of St. Paul Island, Indian Ocean, from the east (Capt. Blackwood in Admiralty Chart).

a, Nine-pin Rock, a stack of harder rock left by the sea; *b*, entrance to crater lagoon (see Fig. 67); *c*, *d*, *e*, cliffs composed of bedded volcanic materials dipping toward the south, and much eroded at the higher end (*c*) by waves and subaerial waste; *f*, southern point of the island, likewise cut away into a cliff.

of volcanic islands to be destroyed unless replenished by continual additions to their surface. At St. Helena lofty cliffs of volcanic rocks 1000 to 2000 feet high bear witness to the enormous denudation whereby masses of basalt two or three miles long, one or two miles broad, and 1000 to 2000 feet thick, have been entirely removed.¹⁸²

ii. *Fissure (Massive) Eruptions*

Under the head of massive or homogeneous volcanoes some geologists have included a great number of bosses or dome-like projections of once-melted rock which, in regions of extinct volcanoes, rise conspicuously above the surface without any visible trace of cones or craters of fragmentary material. They are usually regarded as protrusions of lava, which, like the Puy de Dôme in Auvergne, assumed a dome-form at the surface without spreading out in sheets

¹⁸² Darwin, "Volcanic Islands," p. 104. For a more detailed account of this island, see J. C. Melliss' "St. Helena," London, 1875.