

fragments of magnetite, augite, felspar, and glassy fragments, and when a large quantity of the rock of Bermuda is dissolved away with acid, a small number of fragments are also met with. These mineral particles most probably came originally from the pumice which had been cast up on the island for long ages (for it is known that these minerals are present in pumice), although possibly some of them may have come from the volcanic rock, which is believed to form the nucleus of the island.

The land surface of the islands is almost entirely composed of blown calcareous sand, more or less consolidated into hard rock. In several places, and especially at Tuckerstown and Elbow Bay, there exist considerable tracts covered with modern sand dunes, some of

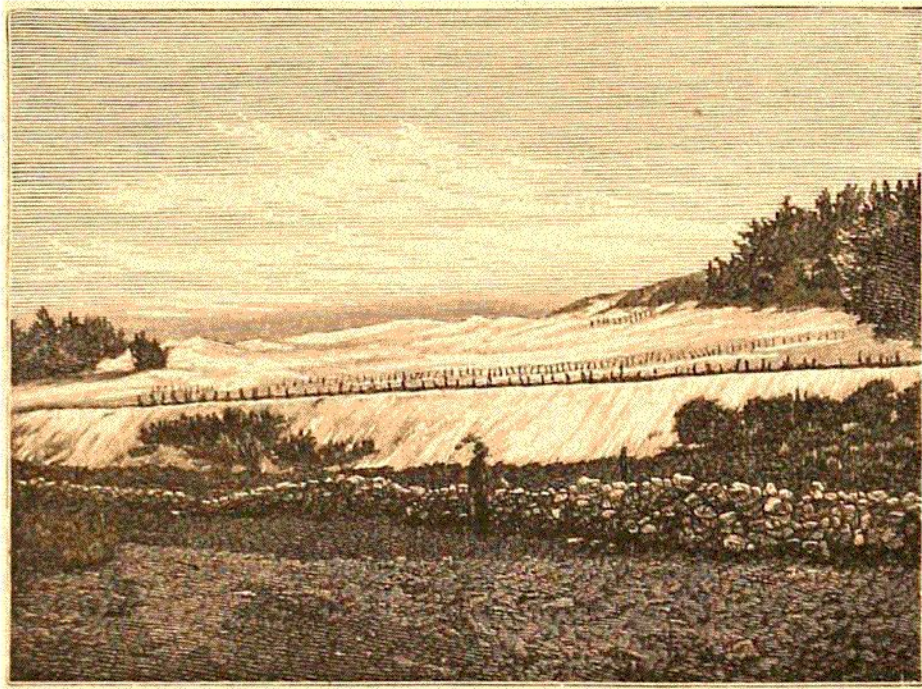


FIG. 56. — "Sand-Glacier" overwhelming a garden. Elbow Bay, Bermuda.
(From a Photograph.)

which are encroaching inland upon cultivated ground (see fig. 56), and have overwhelmed at Elbow Bay a cottage, the chimney of which only is now to be seen above the sand (see fig. 57). The constant encroachment of the dunes is prevented by the growth upon them of several binding plants, amongst which a hard prickly grass (*Cenchrus*), with long, deeply penetrating root-fibres, is the most efficient. When these binding plants are artificially removed, the sand at once begins to shift.

The scenery of Bermuda is in some respects not unlike that of certain northern lake districts, for the numerous small islands which are dotted over the sounds and land-locked sheets of water are covered with vegetation down to the water's edge. The dark colour of the Juniper (*Juniperus bermudiana*, a species peculiar to these islands and the West Indies), called in the island "Cedar," the prevailing foliage, not unlike that of Pines in appearance, gives the landscape a northern aspect, and on cloudy days, the island, as viewed from the sea, looks cold and bleak. The extreme lowness of all the land, however,