

in the aid of subsidence as is done by Darwin and Dana, and it is argued further that the form of atoll and barrier reefs generally can be explained on the same principles, when taken in conjunction with what is now known of the bathymetrical distribution of animals, and the mode of formation of deep-sea deposits. The recent discoveries of Dr. Guppy¹ in the upraised coral islands of the Solomon group confirm the view here advanced.

Observations were taken at the lighthouse on Point Venus in order to connect the observing stations with those of Captains Cook, Beechey, Fitzroy, &c.

The following meteorological table shows the climate at Papieté from observations made by the French during three years.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE compiled from observations made at Papieté, in the island of Tahiti, during the years 1854, 1855, and 1856.

Barometer reduced to 32° and sea level.

MONTH.	BAROMETER.		Mean Temp. in shade.	Mean Range of Temp.	Max. Temp. in shade registered.	Min. Temp. in shade registered.	Clouds—0 to 10 Mean Amount.	RAIN.		WIND.										No. of days Galea.	No. of days Fogs.	Relative Humidity Sat. 100.					
	Mean Height.	Ext. Range.						Total Fall.	No. of days.	Av. Hourly velocity.	NO. OF DAYS FROM																
											N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm								
January, .	29.789	in.	78° 1		87° 8	69° 8		6.00	13																	82.5	
February,	29.840		77.8		87.8	69.8		4.12	11																		84.3
March, .	29.834		78.0		88.7	68.0		3.71	12																		81.6
April, .	29.843		77.9		88.9	67.5		3.41	10																		82.2
May, .	29.864		76.4		86.0	66.2		4.08	8																		82.8
June, .	29.905		75.1		84.2	61.7		0.90	7																		79.0
July, .	29.922		74.4		84.2	60.8		0.65	5																		79.7
August, .	29.965		73.8		84.2	60.3		0.61	4																		80.0
September,	29.968		73.0		86.4	62.6		3.37	5																		81.2
October,	29.931		75.3		86.0	66.2		1.68	5																		82.9
November,	29.876		76.5		85.3	66.2		5.03	8																		86.7
December,	29.858		76.2		87.8	70.0		4.67	11																		85.4
Means and Totals, }	29.883		76.1		88.9	60.3		33.23	99																		82.4

The beauty of Tahiti as seen from the sea cannot be overrated ; it forms a most striking contrast to the barren looking Oahu (see fig. 272). During the stay of the ship an excursion to the mountains in search of plants was made by Mr. Moseley, accompanied by Lieutenant

¹ *Nature*, vol. xxix. pp. 214, 215, 1884.