

tions by the late Alexander Agassiz on board the U.S.S. "Albatross" showed that this rise from the general depth of over 2000 fathoms was not continuous. This has led to a great decrease in the figures given for the area with depths between 1000 and 2000 fathoms, and a corresponding increase in the area with depths between 2000 and 3000 fathoms.

Pacific area exceeding 2000 fathoms.

The area exceeding 2000 fathoms in depth in the Pacific is connected with the corresponding area in the Atlantic by a comparatively narrow trench running to the south of Cape Horn between South Georgia and South Orkney, and is continuous throughout the Pacific except for detached areas in several of the fringing seas on the west, one in the Coral Sea, and one large and six small areas in the South-West Pacific, where the soundings are very numerous and the contour-lines of depth are very sinuous.

The areas exceeding 3000 fathoms in depth will be referred to under a later heading.

Area of the Indian Ocean sea-floor at different depths.

Indian Ocean.—The Indian Ocean may be looked upon as extending southwards from the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea to the Antarctic continent, including the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, and as being separated from the Atlantic in the south at the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope (long. 20° E.) and from the Pacific at the meridian of Tasmania (long. 147° E.). As thus defined the Indian Ocean covers an area of about 29,340,000 square English miles, the distribution of depth being shown in the following table:—

Fathoms.	Square English Miles.	Percentage.
0-1000	3,163,000	10.78
1000-2000	7,170,000	24.44
2000-3000	17,209,000	58.65
Over 3000	1,798,000	6.13
	29,340,000	100.00

Continental shelf and slope in the Indian Ocean.

These figures show that, like the Pacific, nearly nine-tenths of the Indian Ocean sea-floor are covered by water exceeding 1000 fathoms in depth, while nearly two-thirds are covered by more than 2000 fathoms of water. The shallowest zone in the Indian Ocean (0-1000 fathoms) is much smaller than the succeeding zone (1000-2000 fathoms), indicating that the average