

In our remarks on the Samoan Group, we commence with those to the eastward.

I. MANUA, OFU, OLOSENGA, AND ROSE ISLANDS.

The island of Manua is described as having the form of a regular dome.* The sea is bordered in most parts by a cliff of three or four hundred feet, above which the ascent is gentle and comparatively even. Along the shores, layers of conglomerate were observed consisting of coarse fragments of the basaltic rock often as large as the head. "The stratification in the cliffs was distinct, and appeared to be horizontal, although in some places much undulated, and at times contorted."

Ofu and Olosenga form a narrow line of land divided into the two parts which constitute the separate islands merely by a boat channel a fourth of a mile wide. They were apparently once united. Olosenga has bold precipitous shores and is three miles in length. Ofu is similar in its features, but smaller, the length not exceeding three-fourths of a mile.

Rose Island is a low coral atoll. Masses of basalt were observed in one or two places on its reefs, which had probably been carried there by floating logs, or as the ballast of some canoe.

II. ISLAND OF TUTUILA.

Tutuila, in the distant view, is less varied in its outline and less lofty in its mountain heights than the islands of the Society Group.† The highest summit, Matafoa, according to observations with a sympiesometer by Mr. Couthouy, is 2327 feet in height. Its surface presents the same general features as Tahiti, though on an inferior scale. The ridges are precipitous, often rising with mural fronts, and thinning out above to a sharp trenchant edge. A few serrated summits and needle peaks are interspersed among the tamer heights, and distinctly indicate by their features the geological structure of the

* See Narrative, ii. 65.

† We came to anchor at Tutuila late on Friday, and by Saturday noon all hands were ordered aboard to sail for Upolu. A single ramble of four hours and a half was, therefore, all the opportunity I had for examining the island.