

five thousand feet. Numerous streams rise in these mountains, especially on the eastern side, some of which, before reaching the sea, become large rivers, which we might have thought of continental origin, were we not acquainted with the limited extent of the land before us. One of the most remarkable of these rivers empties by several mouths along the coast near Rewa, on the southeastern side of the island. It is reported that a large portion of it also disembogues by a separate stream, which runs to the southern shores, the two continuing together till within forty miles of Rewa. The Rewa mouths are eight or ten in number: the more northerly one comes out near Mbau, eight miles above Rewa. The main branch at Rewa has a breadth of three hundred yards, with an average depth of four feet; during heavy rains it increases to eight or ten feet, and sometimes floods the whole district. Captain Eagleston, of the ship *Leonidas* of Salem, informed me that he had watered ship with the water alongside, while lying at anchor in the bay three miles from the entrance of the river. The bay is a large open area many miles in extent, lying within the barrier reef. It is impossible, with the limited data we have, to ascertain accurately the quantity of water brought down by this river. The means at hand afford us the approximate result that, in each minute of time, 500,000 cubic feet of water flow out at the principal Rewa mouth; and by all the mouths in this region, at least treble this amount, or 1,500,000 cubic feet. This is the average during a period of comparatively dry weather, in which the stream, as it passes Rewa, runs about a knot and a half an hour, and has the dimensions above stated. In times of freshets we may estimate that at least five times this quantity is brought down, which gives 4,500,000 cubic feet as the quantity of fresh water which during each minute of time reaches the sea.

Two of our boats, under the charge of Lieutenant Budd and Mr. Davis, ascended the river for thirty-eight miles on a surveying expedition. With the exception of two or three shoals, they found sufficient water for the boats, and in many parts there was a depth of six or seven fathoms. For twelve or thirteen miles, the river winds along through a flat country, between regular alluvial banks; beyond this, the surface of the country becomes undulating, and the rocks which prevail in the mountains make their appearance.

The alluvial tract which has been formed by the deposits of this river, covers an area of about sixty square miles, and has a breadth of ten miles in its broadest part. Like the deltas of other rivers, it is