

2. *The Bonin Islands*, a group of volcanic formation, lying about 650 miles south-east of Japan, have been annexed by Japan.

3. *The Caroline Islands*, a series of small lagoon-shaped coral reefs, stretching for 2,000 miles over a belt of the Pacific, belong to Germany, having been purchased from Spain in 1899.

4. *The Marshall Islands*, of coral growth, belong to Germany.

5. *The Gilbert Islands*, a group of British islands, are all small. They are all coral reefs or atolls. The chief crop is cocoanuts.

III. POLYNESIA PROPER, embracing all the remaining islands of the Eastern Pacific, east of 180°, and between 30° north and 30° south latitude. These islands are all small, are all oceanic islands (see page 25), and hence are either of coral or of volcanic formation, or of both. The important groups of this subdivision are the following :—

1. *The Friendly or Tonga Islands*, a group lying about 400 miles south-east of the Fijis. These are a protectorate of Great Britain. They are mostly of coral formation, but there are some of volcanic formation. The soil is fertile. Cotton, fruits, and wool are produced and exported.

2. *The Samoa or Navigator's Islands*, a group of volcanic islands lying 600 miles north-east of the Fijis, are divided between Germany and the United States. They grow cocoanuts for exportation.

3. *The Society Islands*, a group of volcanic islands belonging to France, lying 2,000 miles directly east of the Fijis. *Tahiti* is the largest of the group. The central volcanic cone rises nearly 8,000 feet. The soil is fertile, and there are sugar, cotton, and coffee plantations.

4. *The Low Archipelago*, consisting of a large number of atolls lying east and south-east of the Society Islands, belongs to France. There are remarkably rich pearl fisheries. The mother-of-pearl is chiefly exported to Britain.

5. *The Marquesas* are all of volcanic origin, have no coral reefs, lie north of the Low Archipelago, and belong to France.

6. *The Ellice Islands*, a group belonging to Britain, and lying about 700 miles nearly due north of the Fijis, are all of coral formation.

7. *The Cook Islands* about 1,000 miles due east of the Friendly Islands. They are partly volcanic and partly coralline, and are all encircled by coral reefs. They belong to Britain.

8. *The Sandwich Islands* are of volcanic origin, and are of importance owing to the fact that they are on the high road of commerce between America and Australia. The soil is fertile and very productive. Sugar and rice are the leading exports. Honolulu is the chief city. These islands constitute the Territory of Hawaii of the United States.