

The next morning, at six, we made sail for the southern point of the larger island; and, about this time, discovered another high island. At nine o'clock, we were abreast of the middle island, and within the distance of a mile from it: but Captain Gore, finding that a boat could not land without running some risque from the heavy surf that broke against the shore, continued his course, to the westward.

The length of this island, in the direction of south-south-west and north-north-east, is about five miles. Its south point is an elevated barren hill, rather flat at the summit, and when seen from the west-south-west, exhibits an evident volcanic crater. The sand, earth, or rock, (for it was difficult to distinguish of which of these substances its surface was composed) displayed various colours; and we imagined that a considerable part was sulphur, not only from its appearance to the eye, but from the strong sulphureous smell perceived by us in our approach to the point. The Resolution having passed nearer the land, several of the officers of that ship thought they discerned steams proceeding from the top of the hill. These circumstances induced Captain Gore to bestow on this discovery the appellation of Sulphur Island.

A low and narrow neck of land unites the hill we have just described, with the south end of the island, which extends itself into a circumference of between three and four leagues. The part bordering on the isthmus has some bushes upon it, and presents an aspect of verdure; but those parts that are situate to the north-east are extremely barren, and abound with large detached rocks, many of which are of great whiteness. Some very dangerous breakers extend about two miles and a half to the eastward, and two miles to the westward, off the middle part of the island, against which the sea breaks with a great degree of violence.

The north and south islands had the appearance of single mountains, of a considerable elevation; the former was peaked, and of a conic form; the latter more square and flat at the summit.

Sulphur