continuous lava cliff, of the hard metallic kind, like that which is still found on both sides of the sand-hills for several miles. There was no appearance whatever of sand. At present there are three large hills, composed of sand and gravel of a light yellow hue, with little mixture of lava or scoria. The last unite with the lava plain near the sea, which may be observed in some places to flow under them.

Beds of sand and gravel, similar to those composing the hills, exist for some distance along the sides of the lava streams. From all accounts, the formation of these took place at the time the lava stream joined the ocean, which must have produced a violent sand-storm, the effects of which are rendered evident for a mile on either side of the stream, by the quantity of sand and gravel that is lodged in the pandanus and other trees.

From the top of the hill I could perceive no appearance of a shoal having been formed, for the water appeared quite as blue as in mid-ocean. This point I particularly attended to, for it had been reported to me that such a shoal had been formed. The sand-hills appeared to have encroached upon the line of the coast about one hundred feet.

Through the sand that was near the sea-shore chrysolite was disseminated in greater abundance than it was met with elsewhere, and of larger size. This mineral is found throughout all the lava formation, in greater or less quantities. To account for the presence of greater quantities of it at this place, it may be supposed that the melted lava, coming in contact with the water, has freed the chrysolite, which the sea has thrown on the shore.

The width of the lava stream was found to be three-fourths of a mile. The portion of it nearest the sand-hills is in a very confused and rugged state, and there are some large accumulations in mounds, that have been forced up by pressure from above and beneath. It is said to have passed over the ancient village of Nanavalie, and left upon its site and cultivated grounds a deep layer of rock. The natives told us that they had remained till the last moment, hoping the torrent might be stayed or turned aside, and thus save their houses. It however swept on, and they had barely time to remove the few articles they possessed. I was somewhat surprised at the natives making so light of these appalling streams of fire, of which the first notice they have is a few shocks of earthquake, and shortly after a distant fire in the woods.

I was particularly struck with the difference between the old and recent flows of lava: the old looks the more fresh of the two, and has the smooth dark metallic lustre before observed, without any vitreous crust; it seems to have flowed over the surface when of the consistence of tar. The late flow has a decided vitreous character, with