opening toward the sea, or upon the surface of the Key. Beyond the reach of ordinary tides, and of the waves raised by moderate winds, the pot-holes are generally lined with coatings of solid, compact, and hard limestone, varying from a thin layer to a deposit of several inches in thickness, and following all the sinuosities of the cavities in which they are accumulating. It is plain from their structure that these coatings are a sub-aerial formation, increasing by the successive accumulations of limestone particles left upon the older rock by the evaporation of water thrown upon the Key when the ocean is so violently agitated as to dash over the whole Key. Frequently the hollow of these coated pot-holes is further filled with consolidated oölite; or thin layers of fine-grained oölite alternate with a coat of compact limestone, throughout the excavation, which often has been filled in this way up to the general level of the surrounding surface. Occasionally these regenerated surfaces are again hollowed out by the action of storms, and the result is a dismantled pot-hole, in which their structure and the mode of their filling is distinctly exhibited.

"The stratification of the main mass of these Keys is very peculiar. Though evidently the result of an accumulation of oölites through the action of high waves, the beds are pretty regular in themselves, but slant in every direction toward the sea, showing that they were deposited under the action of winds blowing at different times from every quarter. It is further noteworthy, that, while the thicker layers consist of oölitic grains distinguishable by the naked eye, there are at intervals thin layers of very hard, compact limestone, alternating with the oölitic beds, which have no doubt been formed in the same manner as the coating of the pot-holes."

The oölitic limestones, referred to by Prof. Agassiz as the description states, are not the true coral reef-rock, the basement rock of the reefs, but the superficial beach sand-rock and drift sand-rock of the preceding pages, which are very generally oölitic in structure.

The Bermuda or Somers' Islands.—The Bermudas are the parts of a single atoll, as first announced by Major-General (then