

P R E F A C E
TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE principal additions which have been made to this work in the preparation of the second edition are : an abstract of an important paper on the Bahamas, by Captain (now Major-General) NELSON, R.E., read before the Geological Society of London in 1852 ; an account of the interesting observations of Mr. J. MATTHEW JONES, from *Nature* of August 1872, bearing on the former extent of the Bermudas ; facts stated by Mr. S. J. WHITNELL with regard to some Pacific coral islands ; and a report of the planting, by MM. LE CLERC and DE BÉNAZÉ, of slabs of coral rock at Tahiti, near the slab placed by Admiral Wilkes, to aid in future determinations of the rate of growth of the Dolphin Shoal, together with a Map of the region. Other minor changes have been made which it is not important here to enumerate.

JAMES D. DANA.

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