

fill up the space ; there are narrow passages between these reefs, and those surrounding Nukumanu and Nukumbasanga, but safe to pass through. Brown's Reef lies to the north-northwest of Nukumanu 3 miles. Dye's, Robinson's, Poukeepsie, and Porpoise Reefs, are situated between Nukumanu and Nanuku Reefs ; they are detached from each other, and although they have passages between them, yet this part of the group ought to be avoided. These last-described islands and reefs are believed to be the Scylla and Charybdis of the Duff.

RINGGOLD ISLES.

The islands which I have named the Ringgold Isles lie to the west of the before-mentioned reefs. They form a small group of high volcanic islands, which have been named Budd, Maury, North, Holmes, and De Haven, after officers of the Expedition. Budd Island is an extinguished crater ; the lip is broken down on the north, and admits the sea. The highest point is 800 feet above the level of the ocean. These islands are surrounded by many outlying reefs to the northeast, concentric with each other, through which there are a few breaks to the southwest ; many detached patches of coral extend several miles to the southwest. Under Budd Island, we found anchorage, near the shore, in 7 fathoms, sandy bottom. These islands are not inhabited, and produce nothing but a little wood. The whole of the Ringgold Isles with their reefs form such a labyrinth, that none but a small vessel should venture to navigate among them, and they ought to be avoided if possible.

KOROTUNA AND NUKULEVU.

Korotuna and Nukulevu are the most northeastern islands of the group : they are both situated in the eastern end of extensive reefs which surround them. The former extends to the westward of the island 8 miles, and is from 3 to 5 miles in width ; the latter is 9 miles long and 2 miles wide. The reefs are separated 3 miles, the east end of the reef of the former lying due north of the west end of the latter. There are no breaks in these reefs, but the natives pass over them in their canoes. Both of these islands, as well as those of Nukumanu and Nukumbasanga, are thickly inhabited, and covered with fine groves of cocoanut trees. The distance between the reefs of