

The Lunar Eclipse of August 3.

I OBSERVE the account given by "H. H." (p. 367) of the eclipse of the moon as seen at Hamburg on August 3. Here the appearance was certainly unusual; at least I never saw anything like it. The shadow cast on the moon (with a perfectly cloudless sky) was irregular and jagged. I at first thought it was a cloud, but, on looking repeatedly at intervals, I continued to observe the same appearance; allowance being made for the progress of the eclipse. I was prevented by circumstances from

watching continuously, but observed it at a little before 9, and again repeatedly between 9 and 10. M. C.
La Tour de Peilz, August 22.

As seen from Killin, on Loch Tay, the shadow on the moon had no form similar to that given by "H. H.," in your issue of August 18 (p. 367); the sky was clear, and it seems possible that the clouds caused the straight lines shown in the diagram. H. P. MALET.

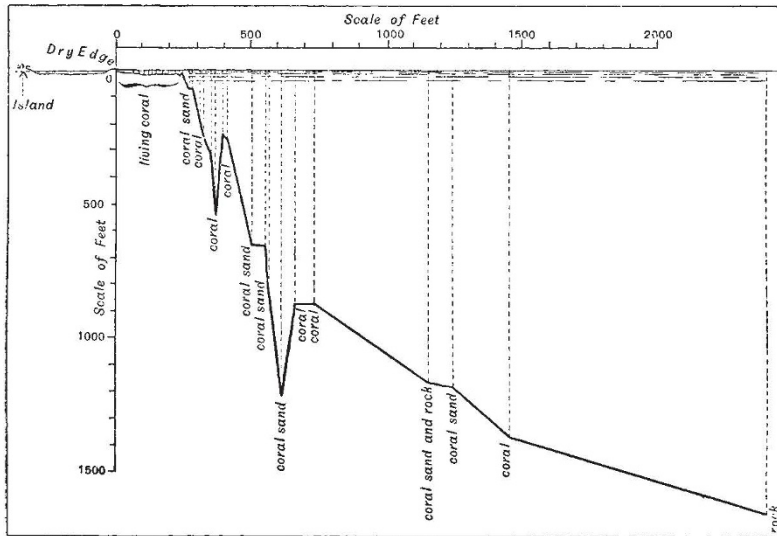
MASÁMARHU ISLAND.

CAPTAIN MACLEAR, commanding H.M.S. *Flying Fish*, obtained, during his voyage home in April last, two sections of the slope of the coral reef surround-

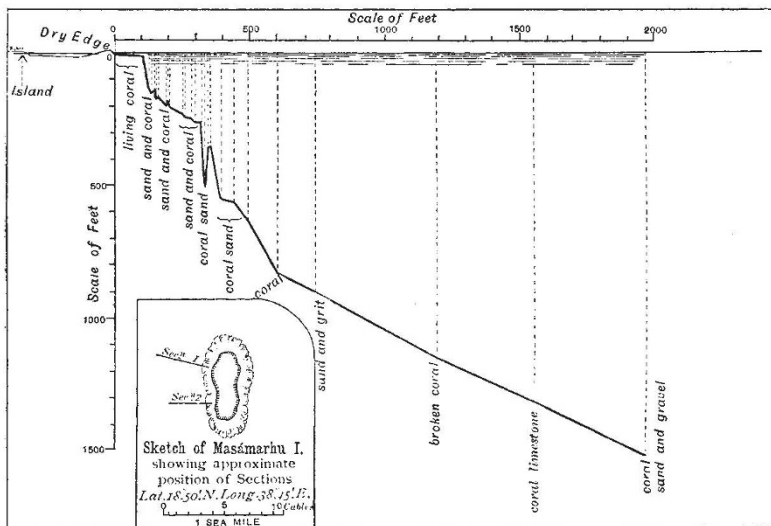
ing the small island of Masámarhu, situated in the Red Sea in lat. 18° 49' N., long. 38° 45' E.

As accurate sections of reefs standing in deep water are comparatively rare, I have thought that a permanent record of them in the pages of NATURE will render them

SECTIONS OF CORAL REEF OF MASÁMARHU, RED SEA.



No. 1.



No. 2.

more available to those interested. The reduced copies of these sections, appended, show most of the more important features. They are drawn on equal scales vertical and horizontal, showing the true slope. The dotted vertical

lines show where the soundings were obtained. Specimens of coral sand brought home were not from depths sufficient to show the changes of the life on the coral slopes. Mr. John Murray, who has examined them, reports as follows:—