

by the U.S.S. "Tuscarora" in 1874. A considerable portion of this deep is covered by depths exceeding 4000 fathoms, including one large elongate area founded on eight soundings, and two small areas founded each on single soundings—one towards the southern end of the deep and the other in the extreme north.

Wharton Deep lies in the eastern Indian Ocean, extending from lat. 10° S. to the Tropic of Capricorn, and is estimated to cover an area of 883,000 square miles; it includes the two deepest soundings yet recorded in the Indian Ocean, viz. 3828 and 3703 fathoms, taken in 1906 by the German ship "Planet" in what is called by the Germans the "Sunda Graben" at no great distance from the coast of Java. Wharton Deep.

Nares Deep is the largest deep lying wholly in the Atlantic Ocean, and at the same time the deepest. Its outline is most irregular, extending from lat. 18° N. to 34° N., and in the neighbourhood of the West Indies the floor of the deep sinks to depths exceeding 4000 fathoms over a limited area, the maximum depth being 4662 fathoms, recorded by the U.S.S. "Dolphin" in 1902. This deep is estimated to cover an area of 697,000 square miles. Nares Deep.

Aldrich Deep lies in the Central South Pacific, extending from lat. 15° to 47° S., and is estimated to cover an area of about 613,000 square miles. It includes seven small areas lying along its western border in which the depth exceeds 4000 fathoms. In three of these the depth exceeds 5000 fathoms, viz. 5022, 5147, and 5155 fathoms, recorded by Commander Balfour on board H.M.S. "Penguin" in 1895. Numerous soundings have been taken round these seven deepest areas, and seem to prove that they are all separated from one another by ridges covered by water between 3000 and 3700 fathoms in depth. The outline of this deep is remarkable, and it is possible that future soundings will show it to be two distinct deeps, for a rise, on which soundings in 2000 to 2900 fathoms have been recorded, interrupts the sequence of great depths. Aldrich Deep.

Swire Deep lies in the North-West Pacific in close proximity to the Philippines, and extends from about lat. 4° N. to lat. 25° N., covering an area of about 550,000 square miles. It is broken up by several rises on the ocean-floor where depths of 2700, 2800, and 2900 fathoms have been recorded; on the other hand, at remarkably short distances from the coasts of Mindanao and Samar Islands in the Philippines are two areas with depths exceeding 4000 fathoms, a similar depth being Swire Deep.