

ing with fish of the most delicious flavor, and yielding this repast in surprising abundance and variety ; while the moon and the stars shine with lustre unknown in colder climes. Their shores are indented with many spacious and safe harbors ; fertile lowlands, rich green meadows, valleys waving with the silken plume of the sugar-cane as the gentle breezes play across their surface and mountains, losing their tops in masses of white rolling clouds, greet you at every turn. The forests, which up to the present cover great portions of those islands, are brightened by the vivid coloring of tropical flowers, and are full of the most valuable and beautiful timber. At every step the eye is charmed and the taste gratified by the exuberance and variety of vegetable life. There is the gigantic mahogany, the red cedar, the ebony and the *lignum vitae* ; the stately palm, with its white stem glistening in the sunbeams like a column of burnished silver ; the graceful bamboo, growing in clumps and waving to every breeze ; groves of the dark mangol, forming with its dense leafage an impenetrable shelter from the heat of the sun, and pressing its rich and luscious fruit upon the acceptance of the weary traveller ; the wild orange tree, the myrtle-leaved vine, the guana, the tamarind, and the aloe, intermingled with flowers of every hue ; whilst the creeping convolvulus nets over and beautifies the very jungles of the forests. All around you there is a brightness of colouring, and a teeming profusion of vegetation everywhere bursting forth, and bearing the strongest testimony to the richness of the soil, and the mildness of the climate. In brief, they are countries in which nature seems to have poured out in luxuriant profusion everything necessary for the conveniency and comfort of man ; and in which she appeared to present an extensive garden, planted, cultivated, and beautified by the hand of Deity himself.

My first acquaintance with the magnificent island of St. Vincents, lying in latitude 13° north, and longitude $61^{\circ}, 20'$ west of Greenwich, was made from the first vessel belonging to the Royal West India line of steamers that visited its harbor. It was the Sabbath morn ; and the calm air and the cloudless sky harmonized with the associations of that holy day. Nature was at rest ; and the balmy zephyrs which fanned your cheeks seemed winged with the perfume of paradise, and irresistibly raised your thoughts to those regions undimmed by clouds of ignorance, unmarred by the hand of sin. The panoramic view from the deck of the steamer was of the most enchanting kind. The waters of the spacious harbor spread out before you like a glassy mirror, the soft airs rippling their surface, and refracting the rays of light in all the prismatic colours of the rainbow, and gently laving the pebbly beach in front, or whirling in eddies around the bold rocky promontories at either extremity. To the