

constant prayer is a clear night, then he is happy. Alas! Fiji wasn't created that way. I was told that there was a rainy season there, and by experience found that during the rest of the year it rained. Here, in Ottawa, the weather gives one a premonition what it is going to do; there it doesn't. With the slightest provocation it rains, and generally without any apparent provocation whatever.

Sitting in the observatory hut one is kept busy opening and closing the shutters in the roof to catch a star in the kaleidoscopic sky. It does try one's patience. However, by dint of perseverance the work is accomplished.

In my occasional strolls amongst the rampant flora, I thought of my friends Professor Macoun and Dr. Fletcher; but pressing musa or banana leaves 10 feet long and other tropical plants, even if accomplished only to find them turn mouldy, made a hotanical collection out of the question. I spoke of the spider in my bedroom; that was a small one. There's a telephone line from the village to Government House, a mile or so distant. The spiders throw their massive webs across the line, and with the constant moisture or rain the effect is that the line is often short-circuited, won't work, until the spider webs have been cleared away.

Along the roadside my attention was arrested by many red flowers, which I mistook for our clover, for the resemblance is very strong. Examining the plant that bore them I found it was a thorny vine, the sensitive plant, which when touched closes or folds its small leaves.

Commercially the principal products of Fiji are sugar, copra, (dried cocoa-nut) and green fruits. One might be tempted to say that everything grows or will grow in Fiji on account of the richness of the soil, ample moisture and warmth; but this is not the case. Its very exuberance and fertility, and want of seasons of rest for Nature's work, are incompatible with the successful growth of grapes, apples, raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes, potatoes and other of our common and valued products. Prodigious as Nature is in the tropics, it is the temperate zone that produces the staff of life.

I was interested in a visit paid to a plantation where were