

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

Latitude (Lighthouse on Gibb's Hill) $32^{\circ} 15' 4''$ N. Longitude $64^{\circ} 51' 36''$ W. Shape; a narrow elongated strip of land about twenty-three miles long, running nearly east and west, bent inwards at one extremity like a fish hook, and indented throughout by inlets with numerous little inlets scattered over the whole extent. Distance from Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, about 600 miles; and from Halifax, Nova Scotia, 750 miles. The land lies very low; the highest point being only 250 feet above the sea level; but it is pleasingly diversified throughout its whole area with little hills and dales. It is covered, more or less, with groves of cedar (*Juniperus barbadensis*) having an underwood of sage bush (*Lantana odorata*) and (*L. cumara*.) A few depressions, slightly below the sea level, are wet and marshy, tenanted by coarse grasses; reeds and sedges, with palmettos and cedars where the ground is dry, and mangroves and avicennias where it is muddy. There are no lakes, streams, or wells of fresh water; the only supply of that element being from the clouds. The roofs of the houses are prepared on purpose to allow the rain to run freely into tanks underground; some of which are of large size and keep an abundance of water perfectly clear and fresh for two or three months, if a drought should occur.

The climate, during the winter months of November, December, January, February, and March, is