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yarmouth with train for training and internal station.

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[FOR THE CRITIC.]

NATURE'S PLEADING.

NATURE'S PLEADING.

Lo' the river gently flowing,
Past its willow-bordered shore,
And the air so softly stirring,
Laden with its sweets galore.

Hush't the river-reeds are whisp'ring,
In voices full of sweet content,—
See the sedges gently swaying,
By the wind's caresses bent.
Silvery threads, of spiders' weaving,
Floating o'er the shady stream;
Thro the foliage thick o'erhanging,
Struggles down a golden beam.
On a messy hank reclining,
Fancles wandering far astray,
Dreamily I stop to wonder,
What the murmuring ripples say.
Shyly too the tree tops bending,
As the soft winds o'er them pass,
And I hear the same sweet language
In the rustling of the grass.

Tis mother nature's gentle pleading,
Floating on the wooing breeze,
Vinispering us to cease from toiling,
And to rest and take our case.

COLLEGE BAWS.

FOR THE CRITIC.

PEN AND INK SKETCHES OF JAMAICA.

(Continued.)

Kingston has no public buildings to pride itself upon, and no attractive places of amusement. There is a well built and well managed. "Lunatic Asylum" on the east side of the city, a "General Penitentiary," where the "long sentences" for the whole Colony are worked out; a creditable "Public Hospital; and there the Government structures proper may be said to end.

The "Legislative Colonial Chamber," "Governor's Office," and "Colonial Secretary's Office," are all included in an inconveniently converted private dwelling house, which used to be occupied by the General-in-Command of the Troops. It is still with the inaccuracy and carelessness common in matters of speech known as "Headquarter House." At the time it was bought from the Imperial by the Colonial Government, it seems to have been

"Hobson's choice," as no other place could be obtained.

Another marked instance of inaccuracy, is the title of "Director of Roads" for the official in charge of the "Public Works Department." This officer has all the public buildings—Court Houses, Government offices, Railway Stations, Lighthouses, principal Bridges, Government Lands and Main Roads, under his control; but by way of concealing all such important duties from the public, he is simply entitled, "Director of Roads. Fortunately, the buildings in which he and his subordinates "do ddty" is not to be regarded as an idea of the state of other public works in the Colony. It is dilepideted leaking to adapte on the District and City. Colony. It is dilapidated looking to a degree, as is the District and City Court room on the opposite side of the untidy old barrack yard. For this is another instance of "conversion" from former "Kingston barracks" to these offices of Government.

The "Customs Department" at the west end of the town, is also a "converted merchant's warehouses and wharves." It is only fair to say, however, that the officers, boats, etc., exhibit signs of care and good order, and that the officials as courteous and obliging as a passenger could desire. The Ordnance Yard is near the "Customs," and presents the usual striking effect of bright black and white. It is a pity that the pains bestowed by the Naval and Military Services in this Colony on their various premises is not more closely copied by the local authorities. The latter have

great difficulty in inducing habits of tidiness in the lower classes.

The "Victoria Market" is a fine looking public building, and is an interesting point to visit early on a Saturday morning. Country produce and manufactures are brought in from great distances, and the variety of family and acceptable of the same and the same and the same are brought in from great distances, and the variety of fruit and vegetables is striking. As cultivation is pursued from high water mark to a height of 5,000 feet above the sea, it is not so extraordinary to see marrowfat peas and oranges, pine apples and potatoes, ground nuts and strawberries, bananas and yams, mangoes and groon beans, mingled together, and all grown with a minimum of trouble and attention. Almost any of the small fruits and vegetables which we are accustomed to enjoy in a northern climate can be produced in Jamaica, so that the variety of fruits and vege-

tables is really very great.

The theatre is an old one, and in much disrepair. Theatrical and Operatic Companies soldom visit Kingston, and are rather "scratch" when they do. Dissatisfied with the poor reception they receive, they generally break up soon after trying their luck. The best class of residents possess too much taste to be content with account or third-rate entertainments. And besides, a large proportion live outside the town. After driving into town in the morning, and transacting business all day in the dirt and "confusion," it requires a strong inducement to drive two or three miles back again over wretched rough streets, and the trial of two or three hours in a close room,

with the thermometer over 80 degrees. Circusses seem to take pretty well with the lower classes, and the invariable circular tent pitched on the so-called race-course is no infrequent sight. Under the action of the Kingston Building Society, private houses are rapidly improving and increasing. Repairs, painting, and re-building, and the occupation of old vacant lots, has been going on without intermission for the last six or seven years. In that time a new colony of very tasteful villas has sprung up among the Acacia thickets between the town and the Park Camp. It is known as "Kingston Gardens." In many respects the Colony is a hundred years behind the age. When I first visited Jamaica, seven