

silver—as a rule, neither counted nor weighed it. Should the last receiver, even after taking it away, find one or more parcels short, it was the custom for the party who first put up the amount, to make good the deficiency without questions. There were no “hard up” borrowers in Nassau; merchants were never seen waiting—hat in hand—at the door of the bankers’ sanctum.

Very many Bahama negroes have a fashion of “fingering” small things, “pocketing,” or in other language, appropriating to their own use the property of others. Like *Rob Roy*, I suppose they think that if opportunity offers for a “lift” they should not let the prize slip through their hands.

For why? Because the good old rule,
Sufficeth them; the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can.”

I once missed my gauging-rod, and suspecting one of four employés of having stolen it, challenged the supposed thief concerning it, quite sharply. “Jeffrey,” said I, “what makes you fellows such confounded prigs?” “What Massa?” “Why thieves, I mean.” “Now Massa Johnny, you kind ob hurt my feelens, I no nodden ’bout dat stick.” You say nigger great tief! I say no—no sah—Nigger sometimes tief little, but white man tief big! he tief befo’ your eyes and you don’t see um?” Next day I found the rod. It had been replaced in its old quarters.

There are several good Hotels in Nassau. The “Royal Victoria” is very superior. It is built of stone and is quite spacious. It stands on a beautiful hill, surrounded by orange and other fruit trees.

The negro soldiers of Nassau attract considerable attention. Every morning about five o’clock, they form for the purpose of marching to the bathing grounds. Like statues, they would stand awaiting the order to move forward. Their well-made leggings, strong English shoes, blue zouave breeches, scarlet coats, and white caps, contrasting with their intensely black, and sometimes scorched faces, gave them a decidedly foreign and somewhat fierce appearance. At the sound of their plaintive fife, and rattle of their well-played drums, away they would march—tramp, tramp, with their long white towels carelessly flung over their shoulders, fluttering in the early breezes.

During my first residence at Nassau in 1861, I had experienced

a severe
through
had been
this I di
then the
occurred,
not really
were the
with ther
disease.
poisonous
must be
the gras
from such

The su
in New F
horrifying
amongst
island.
human b
who alas
Among
their and
poor em
to-day
them and
brains ra
women
forbid th
death
through
one mou
on the c
were de
went, be
little co
dying w
spirits m
almost
stood at