

its well known mahogany, now scarce, there are cedar, yacca, mahoe, ebony, wild orange, yellow sanders, bully tree, lignum vitæ, brazaletta, maiden plum, mountain guava, and several others. The cotton tree excels every other in size and grandeur, rising and spreading in its enormous trunk and majestic branches like the lord of the forest. It flourishes in both hills and lowlands; but its wood is so soft that it serves scarcely any purpose but to be scooped out for canoes. Its exquisitely fine cotton is not manufactured. At a considerable elevation fern begins to abound, and in the higher mountains it becomes a tree. The varieties are very great, and many of them are exceedingly delicate and beautiful. Parasitical plants abound everywhere, except in the cool climates of the greatest heights; and if allowed to grow, intertwine and cover everything. One kind, called "the Scotchman," encircles trees from bottom to top, and eventually kills them. This of course, like the thistle, is intended to symbolize only old Scotia's terrible antagonism. "The chew-stick" may be ground into an excellent tooth powder, and nothing is more common than to see negro women, early in the morning, as they walk the streets or emerge from their places of rest, freshening the pearly whiteness of their teeth with a piece of chew-stick. The sensitive plant grows in the mountain pastures, in some places very abundantly. The plant called "live-for-ever" will grow anywhere, even hung up in the house, and is so indestructible and prolific that it becomes a troublesome weed. The fruit of the akee, a tree transplanted from Africa, is a very palatable article of food, and is often eaten with salt-fish.

Justice cannot be done to Jamaica without a word or two on its esculent vegetation. The yam, now widely known, looking in its raw state very much like large tree-roots, needs neither description nor eulogy. Even an Irishman would utterly forget the potato in his enjoyment of the white and Indian yam. The latter yam, commonly called "yampy," is exceedingly delicate and pleasant, and is probably unrivalled as an esculent root in all the world. Sweet potatoes are plentiful. The cocoa root is of a firm texture and suits persons of strong digestion. The enormous leaves and beautiful clusters of the plantain and banana greatly heighten the picturesque appearance of the field and garden; the banana