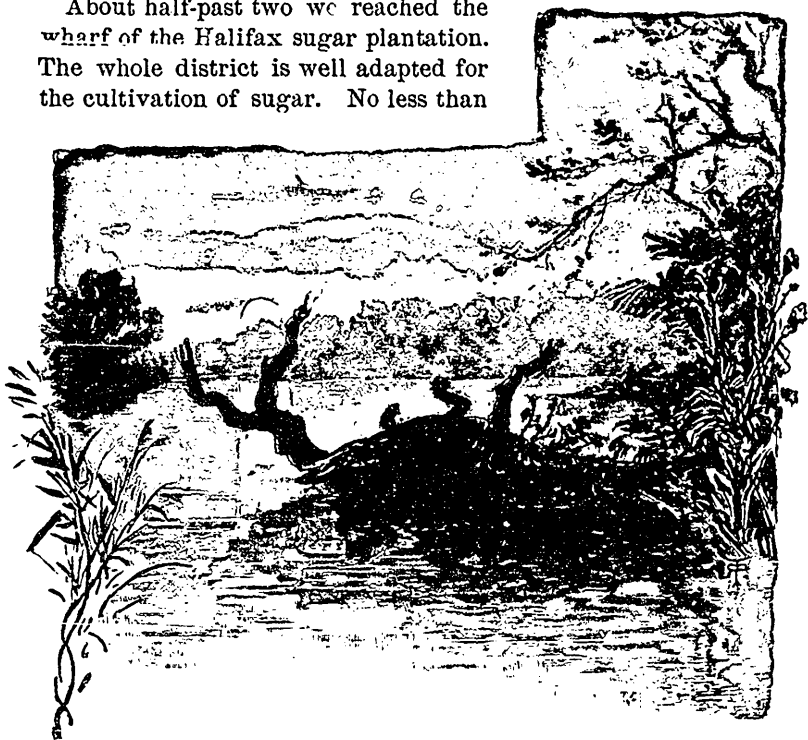


some picturesquely built of wood thatched with sugar-cane or palm-leaf, while others were constructed of corrugated iron, which must be frightfully hot in summer. The white people, so far as we could judge, as we passed up and down the river, were suffering from the climate. The Kanakas and Chinamen seemed more prosperous; and the few aboriginals looked quite happy in their natural surroundings.

About half-past two we reached the wharf of the Halifax sugar plantation. The whole district is well adapted for the cultivation of sugar. No less than



DEAD CROCODILE ON SNAG.

9,600 tons were produced in 1886. The growth is steadily increasing, and the country will sooner or later become the centre of a large and prosperous trade.

For the cultivation of sugar both British and coloured labour is employed—British workmen in the mills, the coloured people in cutting the cane. We spoke to some of the wives of the workmen, several of whom are recent arrivals from Lancashire. Their dwellings are of the simplest description, made of corrugated iron or of straw. These pioneers of cultivation have to lead a hard life and bear many privations—circumstances in which the