

ations, on returning hence, are more attributable to the voyage and to simple change and rest than to the climate of Europe.

One of the greatest luxuries in the low lands is an early morning drive. Setting off before sunrise, one finds the air deliciously cool and balmy. Travelling is done in Jamaica at all hours; but the knowing ones, who study the welfare of themselves and their horses, and journey at their own option, rest during the noontide heats, especially in the low lands, and travel in the cool of the morning and afternoon. The interval between sunset and dark is very short, quite unlike the slow decline and long gloaming of an old country day; and as the sun begins to disappear the heavy dews begin to fall, which prudent people, especially the delicate, avoid. But at midnight, the fall of the dew has ceased, and then travelling may be commenced at any hour with safety. As the morning light prevails, the foliage appears wet with dew, in large beads, as if heavy rain had fallen; but long before the usual hour of breakfast, every trace of dew disappears, under the glowing heat of the ascending sun.

The chief produce of the low lands is sugar, and of the mountains coffee. The vegetation of the island is singularly rich and luxuriant. Dr. Macfadyen, of Kingston, ascertained and assorted no less than 598 botanical species, in the plain of Liguanea alone. Some sort of sugar cane appears to have been indigenous to Jamaica, but under English rule, the Bourbon cane and the Guinea-grass have been introduced,—the latter by a singular accident. A cage of African birds had been presented to Chief Justice Ellis, of Jamaica, and with them was sent a small bag of their native food, the wild-grass seed of the coast of Guinea. The birds died; the seeds, carelessly thrown out, quickly grew and spread; and the eagerness of the cattle to reach the grass called attention to what has since become one of the island's most valuable productions, growing in luxuriant clusters, and clothing the country from coast to hill-top. Cocoa was the favourite staple of the Spaniards in Jamaica, and at first of the English, and is also indigenous. The Cocoa bean, found in large pods, that makes the beverage (chocolate) that Linnæus loved so well and called "*Theobroma*," the food of the gods, must always be distinguished from the large and well-known cocoa nut, and from