The Market in Jamaica

Written for The Western Home Monthly by Jessie B. Dixon

IFFERENT lands, different peoples,

can in the morning, certainly not later

than eight o'clock, to see it at its best.

As we go many colored women on their

way to market too, pass us on the road, for

if it comes to a walking contest we are

beaten in the race. Everyone seems to

be going, some have baskets on their

heads for this is the chief way of carrying

their stuff to market, some lead a donkey

whose paniers are filled with fruit or veg-

etables, a bit of sugar cane, a few eggs, etc.

and some lead the donkey and carry the

The market enclosures cover about

a half acre of ground, part is covered and

part is open. When we get near the gates

we see some women selling these market

basket too.

different things to eat. We start

out from our hotel as early as we

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Negro Hut, Jamaica, B.W.I.

a picturesque group they make with their colored cotton dresses, the dull green of the baskets and the shade trees behind them. The colored women do all their carrying in these baskets, whether they are going to market to sell their produce or to buy for their own household or the white people for whom they work.

If the country woman has a donkey, and merely a place of protection from the rain. she is considered in very good circum- and at other times the outdoor life.



Hats and Brooms of Native Manufacture. Scene

We are accustomed to seeing the men doing the most of the marketing in the North but the women do all in this Island; she also works in the fields for her housekeeping is very light, a small house or hut about eight by ten feet is her home,



Street Scene, Market Day in a Jamaican village 'B.W.L.



Market woman with basket on healf ending donkey

Passing through the big gates we enter the market enclosure—such strange looking eatables; the principal thing is a large, unshapely root of a dark brown color, but when it is cut as some are the inside is snow white; this is the white yam, the chief and sometimes only food of the colored people. There are tomatoes about the size of an egg and smaller because they allow the plant to keep on bearing instead of pulling it up and putting out fresh plants and so the tomato gets smaller and smaller, squash, okras, ackees, oranges, a few bananas, some bundles of sugar cane, mango, lettiree (tough and bitter , laundry starch from the cassaya plant, sweet polatoes, eggs wrapped singly and in pairs in the leaves of the banama tree, a pigeon or two, and a few other things in small quantities. These women walk

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money writing song poems. Past experience unnecessary. Our proposition positively unequaled. We accept available work for publication and separate of acceptance of the contraction of the contraction of the contraction of the contraction of the contraction. pigeon or two, and a few other things in small quantities. These women walk sometimes ten and fourteen miles to market carrying all their produce on their

