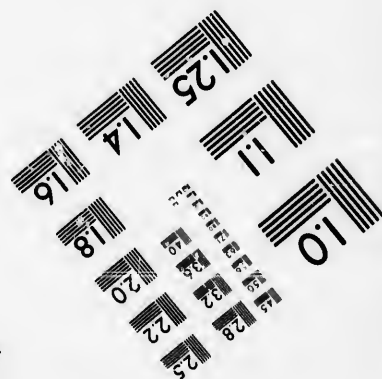
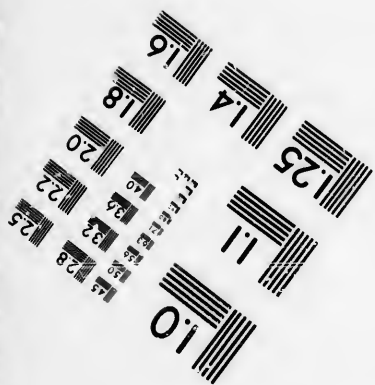
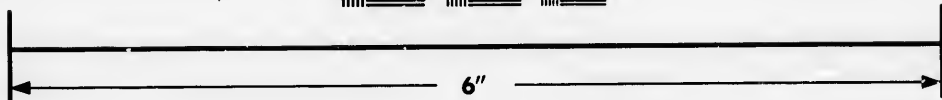
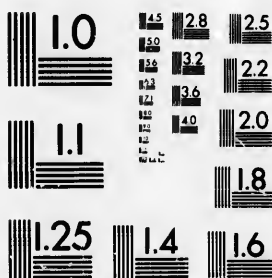


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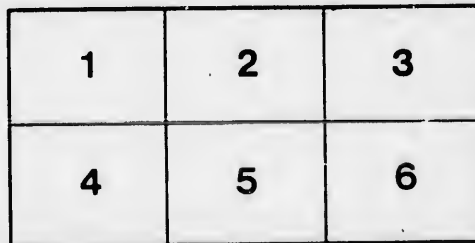
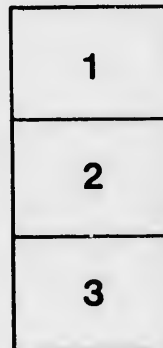
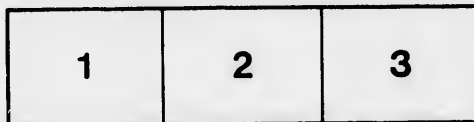
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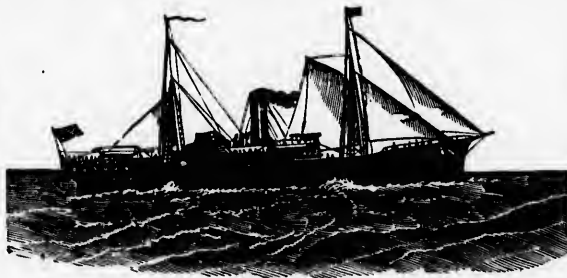
# NASSAU,

New Providence, Bahamas.

COMMUNICATION EVERY TEN DAYS WITH THIS  
FAVORITE WINTER RESORT.

## The New York, Nassau and Savannah

Under Contract with the Bahama  
Government.



And Carrying the British and  
United States Mails.

## MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

WILL PERFORM THE SERVICE DURING THE WINTER AND SPRING, AS FOLLOWS:

A First-Class Passenger Steamship will leave New York for Savannah every week from PIER 16, East River, foot of Wall Street.

Connecting at Savannah with a Steamship of this line, sailing from Savannah and Nassau

### EVERY TEN DAYS,

and close connection also being made at Savannah with Railroads for all parts of the Country, thus giving the option of a short sea voyage from Savannah, or an additional voyage from New York, and also affording Tourists and Invalids sojourning in Florida a special opportunity to visit this unrivalled Sanitarium.

### ONLY 48 HOURS FROM SAVANNAH.

For the convenience of those desiring information, the line will have an Agent in Jacksonville, and other points in Florida, from whom Through Tickets can be procured and State Rooms secured for Nassau.

A Schedule giving dates of departure from New York, Savannah and Nassau is issued monthly, and will be furnished on application to any of the advertised Passenger Agents, or to

**MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Owners and Ag'ts,**

No. 62 South Street, New York.

**HUNTER & GAMMELL, Ag'ts, Savannah. | T. DARLING & CO., Ag'ts, Nassau.**

For particular information, Staterooms and Through Tickets from Cities in New England, Northern New York, the North West and Canada, apply to

**GUSTAVE LEVE, Gen'l Passenger Ag't,**

Head Office, No. 202 St. James Street, Montreal, Canada,

—OR TO—

*Agent at*

# THE BAHAMAS.

*"The air breathes upon us here most sweetly."*

## The Great Sanitarium of the Western Hemisphere.

TO THOSE WHO DESIRE HEALTH, LONG LIFE AND PLEASURE, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF THE FINEST AND MOST EQUABLE WINTER CLIMATE IN THE WORLD—LOVELY SCENERY! SPLENDID YACHTING! FINE SEA BATHING! CHARMING DRIVES! &c., &c., &c., IS COMMENDED:—

THE History of the Bahamas began in 1492, when COLUMBUS, the great pioneer, navigator and discoverer of a new world landed on the shore of Guanahani, and named it "St. Salvador." Commerce did not immediately follow in the wake of discovery, but about two hundred and fifty years after that event, Pine Apples were grown at and exported from Eleuthera; and fifty years later Cotton was extensively cultivated, and Salt and Wood added to the exports. At the present time the colony's staples are Salt, Fruit, Sponge, Barks, Dye, and Furniture Woods, Guano and Straw, Turtle Shell, Fish Scale, and Shell Work. The articles on exhibition at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, fairly represent the productions and manufactures of the Islands, and both might be indefinitely extended. But it is not the commercial resources of the "Bahamas" only, which should make a knowledge of them general.

Their equability and wonderful salubrity of climate commend them to all who seek a genial, healthy, life-giving atmosphere. As a winter home for the afflicted, PETER HENRY BRUCE wrote nearly a century and a half ago, "It is no wonder the sick fly hither for relief, being sure to find a cure here." Modern travelers also testify, that as a resort from damp and cold to sunshine and summer, for those who require change and climatic benefit, the Bahamas offer peculiar advantages. The heat is tempered by an ocean breeze of softness and purity seldom experienced elsewhere. Tropical flowers gladden the eye, and the luscious

pine-apple, orange, pomegranate and melon tempt the palate with their freshness and beauty. Fish abound in the clear pellucid waters surrounding these Islands, and the northern fowl seek a home on the lakes. In a word, the Bahamas seem by nature fitted, as a grand sanitarium for the afflicted from the North American Continent, and as a most desirable winter resort for all who wish to escape the rigors of a northern season.

New Providence is the most important of the Bahamas group; Nassau, its chief and only town, was settled by Europeans in 1629, since which time it has been the seat of government. It is situated in north latitude  $25^{\circ} 5'$ , and west longitude  $77^{\circ} 20'$ , covering an area of 85 square miles, with a population of about 12,000. Its history is full of interest to the student, but limited space and desire to place before the reader important facts regarding it as a winter resort, compel us to ignore the claims of both history and romance.

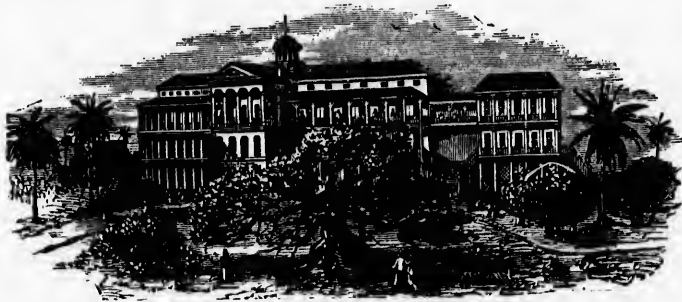


STREET IN NASSAU.

The City of Nassau is built on the northern side of the Island, which slopes down to the water's edge, affording sure and perfect drainage. It extends along the water-front for about three miles and back to the crest of the slope, on which stands the Government House, the Royal Victoria Hotel, and many of the finest private residences, at an elevation of about 90 feet from the waters of the harbor. The streets are laid out

at right angles with each other, and are uniformly macadamized, as are also the drives around the Island. The houses are, for the most part, built of stone, and the grounds surrounding them are ornamented with flowers and trees. The City has a fine public library of over six thousand volumes. Nassau has as much right to be called "the City of Churches" as our own Brooklyn. All creeds find themselves at home in the services of the various churches and chapels.

The drives are not to be excelled—the roads being equal to the best; the scenery, both seaward and inland, is varied and beautiful, and the harbor and neighboring waters afford at once a safe and extensive boating ground—while the shores are covered with marine treasures, in the form of shells and corals. In the interior and on the out Island game rewards the labors of the sportsman; while the adjacent waters supply fish in abundance, unrivaled for beauty and size.



ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL.

The Royal Victoria Hotel was built by the Government in 1860, to meet the demands of invalids and others seeking to avail themselves of the peculiar natural advantages offered by Nassau for a winter residence, and neither pains nor expense was spared in answering the requirements of the most modern and scientific theories of architecture.

The building is of limestone—four stories high; each of the three first stories being surrounded by a piazza ten feet wide, forming an uninterrupted promenade of over one thousand feet in extent—affording to those unable to withstand the fatigue of out-door exercise, perfect facilities for enjoying the fine scenery and refreshing breezes. The rooms are large and perfectly ventilated; those of the first, second and third stories being provided with French casements, opening on the piazza, and each door and window having a fan-light. The house is provided with bath-rooms and other modern improvements. The tanks for rain water exceed 300,000 gallons in capacity; while spring water is forced through the building from a fine well on the premises. The parlors are large and conveniently situated. The dining room will seat one hundred and fifty persons comfortably. Sea-bathing is conveniently



near the house, and salt water baths, either in the bathing-rooms or private apartments, can be furnished at all times.

In order to meet the requirements of Nassau, as a great Sanitarium, frequent and regular communication with the United States is necessary; with that view, the Winter Service is now performed direct between Savannah and Nassau *every Ten Days*, making close connections at Savannah with first-class steamers, to and from New York, or by rail to all parts of the country, thus giving the option of a short sea voyage to or from Savannah, or a longer voyage to or from New York; and it is contemplated during the season of 1876-77, to increase the mail service by running a steamer direct from New York every four weeks, and another from Savannah three times a month, touching at one of the Florida ports for passengers, thus reducing the run from *Florida to Nassau to less than thirty hours*.

Heretofore, the transfer outside the bar to the shore, and the infrequent communication, has been a barrier in the minds of many to a visit to this favored resort, but the schedule run by the present line does away with this, the steamers being of light draft especially fitted for the service, at all times entering the harbor and going to the wharf, and having all state room and cabin accommodation on deck, are eminently adapted to the climate. The trip from Savannah is made in about forty-four hours, following the coast line from Savannah River nearly south to Cape Florida, then crossing the Gulf Stream occupying about five hours, and thence with Bahama Banks on the right, and the Islands of Grand Bahama and Abaco on the left hand, a pleasant run of a few hours brings the ship into the harbor of Nassau.

For the accommodation of visitors to the Island, arrangements have been made by which telegraphic communications may be forwarded to all parts of the country on the arrival of the steamer in Savannah, and answers received will be brought over by the steamer on her return trip, thus bringing sojourners on the Island almost within telegraphic communication with their own homes.

A reference to the subjoined table, compiled by Surgeon General BAGOT, R. A., will show the mean temperature at Nassau, during the winter months, for *ten years* :

THERMOMETER AT 9 A. M.			
November,.....	74°	February,.....	71°
December,.....	73°	March,.....	72°
January,.....	70°	April,.....	75°

General JAMES WATSON WEBB, in writing of Nassau, in 1870, says:

"Madeira is the great *Sanitarium* of Europe, and until lately, was considered to be without a rival throughout the world. Recently, however, Nassau has not only been proved to be superior to all other localities as a *Sanitarium* in the New World, but superior also to Madeira itself. From the first November to the first June, *there is not, in all*

probability, any spot on the face of the earth so desirable for persons suffering from pulmonary complaints.

Such are the facts of the case in regard to the climate of Nassau; and extraordinary as they are, when compared with other places on the globe noted for their salubrity, there are great natural causes, visible and apparent to all, why it should be found free from frost, although in Lat.  $25^{\circ} 05'$  North; and at the same time, boasts all the benefits of the Tropics with a warm summer climate, equable as man can desire. Those causes consist in the very peculiar and remarkable position of the Island. Look at the map, and you will at once perceive that on the *South* it is bounded by the South Atlantic, and the *warm* waters which constitute that mighty arm of the ocean—the Gulf Stream. On the *West*, that great wonder of the ocean separates it from the continent of America, and again protects Nassau on the North, and modifies all the cold winds of the continent into gentle zephyrs by the time they reach New Providence; and on the *East* we are open to the broad Atlantic, which, in Lat.  $25^{\circ}$ , never emits any amount of cold which the invalid may not safely inhale."

A writer from Nassau to the *Albany Evening Journal*, under the *nom-de-plume* of "V. Q.," also says:

"We luxuriated in a soft, balmy atmosphere of seventy-four degrees, and could but feel that there was health in every breath.

All the ordinary tropical fruits abound in great perfection, and are had for little more than the gathering. The senses are rapt by the novelty of the surroundings, the suddenness and entirety of the change. In a less distance from New York than Chicago, the transformation is perfect; not a shrub or tree is seen which surrounds alike both those places; not any other dress than a light and summer toilet."

Governor RAWSON, in his report upon the Bahamas, says:

"The reputation of New Providence for salubrity and the charms of its climate has been long established, and has annually attracted to Nassau numbers of invalids from the United States and British North American Provinces."

Governor ROBINSON, in his report to the British Government on the Colonial Section, at the Vienna Exhibition, 1873, says of the Bahamas:

"Lying as they do in one of the most serene, genial, and delightful climates of the world, and yielding by cultivation most of the vegetable productions of the temperate as well as the torrid zone, it might seem strange that the Bahamas have not hitherto become generally settled. Nassau however, has become, for many years past, a winter's resort for those seeking to escape from the rigors of a Northern to a milder Southern clime. Many eminent American Physicians strongly recommend such of their patients as may be suffering from or threatened with pulmonary disease to proceed to Nassau for the winter, in consequence of the mildness and equability of the temperature. With a view to attract such a class of visitors, a very commodious hotel, built on the American plan, was erected at the expense of the Government. The lessees of the hotel, Americans, are bound to conduct it like a first-class New York hotel. Ample and good accommodation has therefore been provided. Besides there are several excellent boarding houses. A line of well built steamers, occupying three and half days in the passage, connect Nassau with New York every three weeks."

Frost is positively unknown; and a glance at the following carefully prepared tables will demonstrate the equable character of the climate:

## WINTER RESORT.

TIME.	THERMOMETER.					
	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Greatest change in 24 hrs.	Number Records above 78°	Number Records below 68°
<b>November:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	73 $\frac{3}{4}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	71	4	0	0
12 M.,.....	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	81	73	7	7	0
6 P. M.,.....	76 $\frac{3}{4}$	79	72	7	0	0
12 ".....	75	77	72	4	0	0
<b>December:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	72 $\frac{3}{4}$	75	66	6	0	1
12 M.,.....	75	81	68	11	0	0
6 P. M.,.....	73 $\frac{3}{4}$	77	67	8	0	1
12 ".....	74	78	68	8	0	0
<b>January:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	70 $\frac{1}{2}$	76	64	9	0	8
12 M.,.....	72	78	63	9	0	5
6 P. M.,.....	70	78	64	9	0	9
12 ".....	70	77	64	12	0	8
<b>February:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	70	76	64	6	0	7
12 M.,.....	72	78	67	8	0	5
6 P. M.,.....	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	78	64	8	0	5
12 ".....	71	76	64	9	0	6
<b>March:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	73	78	64	9	0	4
12 M.,.....	76	82	66	8	9	1
6 P. M.,.....	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	80	66	8	6	1
12 ".....	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	78	65	8	0	2
<b>April:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	77	80	74	4	5	0
12 M.,.....	79	82	75	4	24	0
6 P. M.,.....	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	82	73	7	19	0
12 ".....	77	80	73	5	4	0
<b>May 1st to 11th:</b>						
6 A. M.,.....	75	82	72	3	2	0
12 M.,.....	76	82	73	5	1	0
6 P. M.,.....	75	80	73	5	1	0
12 ".....	74	80	73	5	1	0

The above tables, representing as they do the average temperature of morning, noon, evening, and midnight, with highest and lowest markings of the thermometer during each month, and the greatest change in any one period of twenty-four hours, furnish valuable data from which to derive an idea of the temperature of these islands. To make the tables even more complete, there is added the number of times each month the mercury rose above 78 degrees or fell below 68 degrees. We doubt not that these thermometric results will be of interest to the majority of our readers—they certainly will be to those having patients for whom they are seeking a milder climate.

To sum up the advantages offered by Nassau: We find a place where the invalid, (after a short sea voyage), may enjoy the finest and most equable climate in the world, during the winter months, absolutely free

from all danger of epidemic disease, hurricanes, earthquakes and other dangers and disadvantages usually incident to tropical countries, good society, fine educational and religious privileges, the use of a choice library, medical talent of the highest order, recreations of varied and healthful character.

By special permission, reference is made to the following named gentlemen:—

<i>Dr. ALONZO CLARK,</i>	<i>New York.</i>	<i>Dr. EDWARD P. FOWLER,</i>	<i>New York.</i>
<i>Dr. JOHN T. METCALF,</i>	"	<i>Dr. JAMES R. WOOD,</i>	"
<i>Dr. WILLIAM A. HAMMOND,</i>	"	<i>Dr. FORDYCE BARKER,</i>	"
<i>Dr. T. GAILLARD THOMAS,</i>	"	<i>Dr. JOHN J. CRANE,</i>	"
<i>Dr. WM KIRKWOOD,</i>	<i>Florence, Italy.</i>	<i>Dr. AUSTIN FLINT,</i>	"
<i>Dr. JAMES P. WHITE, Buffalo, N. Y.</i>			

The Royal Victoria Hotel opens annually the first of November, and closes about the first of May. Neither pains or expense will be spared to give entire satisfaction to those who either from necessity or fancy may choose to spend a winter in the tropics. The table will be provided with the very best imported and native supplies, and the attendance will be prompt and willing.

Terms at the hotel three dollars per day, American gold. Visitors will find letters of credit, certificates of deposit, U. S. gold notes or coin the more convenient form of funds. Letters of credit or drafts on Nassau can be procured of the agents of the steamship line at par.

A schedule is issued monthly, giving the exact date of sailing of steamers, both from New York and Savannah; also, the rates of passage from different points, including excursion tickets. This may be had on application to MURRAY, FERRIS & Co., 62 South Street, New York, the agents of the New York, Nassau & Savannah Mail Steamship Line, who will mail guide books and furnish all information in their power on application.



*The following letters will be found of interest, as containing, not only valuable information, but the impressions and observations of those whose indorsements should be of value.*

## THE BAHAMAS

TO THOSE INTENDING TO VISIT US—HOW TO GO AND WHAT TO CARRY.

*Special Correspondence of The Detroit Free Press.*

NASSAU, Sept. 15, 1875.

A WORD TO THOSE INTENDING TO VISIT US.

Having told you where we live, how we live, and what we live upon, let me say a word to any of your invalid—or healthy readers. For all diseases of the lungs, throat, liver, kidneys or spine, there is no climate on the face of the earth superior, and I doubt if any equal, to the climate of Nassau. While in Florida the mercury often shows a change of twenty to thirty degrees in the temperature in twenty-four and often twelve hours, we never see a change of over five degrees in the same time, and often for weeks



HARBOR ISLAND.

there is not a variation of five degrees, our island being completely surrounded by the ocean, and of not a very high elevation—like Cuba, Jamaica and St. Domingo, or St. Thomas—we have the full benefit of the cool, invigorating sea-breeze, directly from the Atlantic. Some most wonderful cures of pulmonary diseases, asthma, rheumatism, neuralgia and bronchitis have been performed almost entirely by the climate. Let me impress upon you not to delay coming until your disease is so firmly seated that neither climate or your physician can render you any aid. In the first stage of the disease your recovery is almost certain. In the second stage your chances are more than even, but if you delay until you are a fit subject for an undertaker you had better not try the experiment, but stay home. If you make up your mind to try our climate don't put it off too late in the season. You should be here as early as on the first of November, and make up your minds not to leave before the middle of May, or still better, the first of June. Your ordinary fall clothing will be as thick as you will require in our coolest weather. The price of board at the Royal Victoria Hotel is *three dollars per day*, the

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smaller hotel charges *one dollar and fifty cents*, boarding-houses from *ten to fourteen dollars per week*, and some even less. Carriage and boat hire is very reasonable. The white population is very hospitable and kind to strangers—the negroes very civil. Our physicians are considered at the head of the profession and their charges are very moderate. We have Churches of every denomination (of the Christian sect) and our pulpits are supplied with men of more than ordinary intellect. Our custom house officials are very gentlemanly and never disturb your baggage, and in fact the *whole community* exert themselves to make the sojourn of the stranger pleasant.

## HOW TO COME AND WHAT TO BRING.

The Bahamas Government has just concluded a contract with Messrs. MURRAY, FERRIS & Co., 62 South Street, New York, for the conveyance of mails and passengers to and from Nassau. Messrs. T. DARLING & Co. are the agents here. The steamers and accommodations are first-class. They make the trip inside of five days from New York, and land you at the wharf. The old lines dropped you into a boat outside the bar. They are to make semi-monthly trips until the first of January, 1876, when they make *one trip every ten days from Savannah*. It is well to secure your state-room for a trip at least in advance as you may be crowded out if you put it off until you arrive in New York. It is not a good plan to bring either greenbacks or gold. American gold brings its full value, but there is more or less risk in carrying it about with you. The best plan is to get a letter of credit from a New York banker on their agents here; if you lose it you can get a duplicate. If you start with gold and lose it, it is "done gone," as our darkies say. Greenbacks are always at a discount; also American silver. Messrs. MURRAY, FERRIS & Co. will sell you sight drafts, or issue letters of credit on their agents if you prefer it. Don't be discouraged if you find that you haven't improved much in the first two or three weeks after your arrival. It often takes a little time to get accustomed to the change of climate, diet, etc., and recover from the effects of your sea voyage. I have known invalids brought on shore on a stretcher, and seen them walking about the streets in a week afterward. Others would apparently grow worse for the first week or two and then take a favorable turn and improve rapidly. To those who come, simply to rid themselves of a cold Northern winter, I would say they will find plenty to amuse themselves with.

EPES SARGENT.

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[Extracts from letters from Hon. C. L. MACARTHUR.]

## "BAHAMA BUBBLES."—LIFE IN NASSAU.

(*Editor's Correspondence of the Troy Budget.*)

ARRIVED.

NASSAU, New Providence, Bahamas, Wednesday, March 8.—We arrived here yesterday morning at nine o'clock, having left Savannah on Saturday at 2 p. m., in

THE STEAMER LEO

which leaves Savannah every ten days for Nassau. She is commanded by Capt. JAMES DANIELS, a thoroughly experienced and most excellent officer. The LEO is a screw steamer of about 950 tons, and is first-class in every particular, staunch in build, having good sea-going qualities, and being very commodious for passengers. She is admirably adapted for this route. A larger ship would have difficulty in getting into this harbor

## WINTER RESORT.

from lack of depth of water. The appointments of the vessel are all complete and first-class for the comfort of passengers, and the table is superior to that of most vessels that I have been on along the American coast. Purser WILDMAN and the steward, whose name I have forgotten, are unremitting in their efforts to make the voyage pleasant. We had twenty-four passengers, which is above the average of this season. This year there has not been as much travel to the South as usual, and the hotels and travel lines are complaining and suffering in consequence. When we arrived at the Royal Victoria Hotel yesterday

## THE THERMOMETER.

stood at 74 degrees, and it does not vary more than four or five degrees from this during the twenty-four hours of the day, or for the week. The daily average of the thermometer for March ranges from 72 the lowest, to 79 the highest. As I write, from my window can be seen masses of

## DELICIOUS VERDURE.

overflowing from walled gardens and grounds on all sides, wherein orange trees loaded with both fruit and blossoms, palm trees, silk cotton trees in full pod and leaf, cactus, crape myrtle, tuberose, jasmine, geraniums, etc., are prominent in the foreground. There are oleanders everywhere—here it is an outdoor tree—covered with a profusion of red, white, pink, scarlet, and variegated flowers. They grow thirty feet high and are always in blossom. Nearly all the flowers here are perennial, and the landscape is profusely dotted with their charming shades and glows. This is the home of the night-blooming cereus. There is an infinite variety of roses here in the full bloom of pristine beauty. There is

## SUPERB FISHING

all about Nassau, and the outlying islands. The water is beautifully clear and transparent, and with the aid of a water-glass it is claimed that the sands, shells, fish, coral and submarine plants may be seen at the bottom to the depth of some seventy feet. I reserve for future letters a description of our hotel,

## THE ROYAL VICTORIA,

which is admirably kept by Mr. T. J. PORTER, an American, and which is in fact the only real hotel in the Bahamas. The house was built by Government in 1860, and is leased at a merely nominal rent. It is a model of neatness throughout, first-class in everything, with very moderate charges. Last night, sitting in the open air in its front, with the odors of orange blossoms wafted on the genial air, the evening hours were whiled away in listening to the melodies and string-music ground out by groups of darkey minstrels.

Mac.

## ON THE CONSTANT GO.

NASSAU, New Providence, March 16.—We have been in this delightful winter resort for eight days, during which time we have been on the constant go, the time gliding by as if propelled by the wings of birds of paradise. The ceaseless activity generated by a Northern clime has gradually given way to the lazy indolence of tropical life. We don't rush at activities with the hungry vigor we did on first landing, but take things much easier. If there is any overworked Trojan who wants to learn to be absolutely lazy, let him come to the Bahamas immediately.

## DREAMY REPOSE

is the normal state of human existence here, and it is astonishing to see how quick our Northerners drop into the *dolce far niente* life that prevails here generally. There is

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enough to do however in the sporting and amusement line, if one so desires. Fine fishing, sailing over crystal waters through a magnificent bay, excursions to the neighboring islands, beautiful drives, and all the diversions of refined and hospitable social life invite the sojourner to their enjoyment. We saw on this day, and at other times, that most remarkable of all growths,

#### THE BANYAN TREE.

Its main limbs are usually fifteen or twenty feet from the earth, and after they have rowng out horizontally from the trunk some twenty or thirty feet, the branches turn down to the earth, taking root and forming a column as support for its parent branch as well as another tree of itself. Some of these trees form vast circles with columns supporting dense leafy roofs. It is a very curious tree, furnishing friendly shade, ever extending by new trunks, ever widening its circle by its tops striking down and taking root, and every new growth and stem being still a part of the parent tree to which it is ligamented as were the Siamese Twins. If there is any such thing as an earthly,

#### DREAMY, SENSUOUS PARADISE,

I should think it might be found under a banyan tree in the delicious mid-winter climate of Nassau. This leafy paradise should be enjoyed in a hammock swung from the banyan's branches. You can get a very good manilla hammock for fifty cents. A delicious segar, such as is found here, will help to intensify the tropical felicity. If that don't do it, the Cannabis Indica grows within sight from which is derived the famous hasheesh, which is the king of all narcotics in weaving a dreamy spell about its votaries. The air will be spiced with the fragrance of the pimento of commerce, for here grows the tree. If you want to take a dose of medicine prior to taking your banyan tree siesta, here's the spot where the drug can be easiest had. Here grows from the sands of the sea-shore the dear friend of our earlier youth, old squills. He's a lily-like plant with a bulbous root, like an onion, and by his side is the companion of our later growth, ipecac, who never failed in hours of agony to come to our relief when squills were in vain. If you would dispel your malady with none of these then reach out and pluck the Castor Bean, whose genial juice in the shape of Castor oil is familiar to juvenile days. Castor oil isn't a bad beverage in this its native clime. We know a person who was persuaded to take a dose of it, and found it very pleasant and effective. Two drops were taken in a pint of sherry, and I recommend all invalids to take it that way. But as we dreamily open our eyes from our siesta in the hammock under the banyan tree shade, let our gaze fall on something more delightful to the senses. Very well, yonder are

#### THE FEATHERY TOPS

of the cocoa palm loaded with green cocoa nuts. Bring us one of those green cocoas and open its soft shell and we shall have from "the milk in the cocoa nut" a delicious drink fit for the gods. Higher still than the cocoa palm does the royal palm, the king of all the palms, send its noble tops far up in the tropical ether. Crouching lower down grows the cinnamon tree, most delightfully aromatic of all the restorative spices. Here, too, the pleased eyes fall on all the green and golden fruits of

#### "THE ORCHARDS OF THE HESPERIDES."

There's the cashew, sweet and sour sops, all the oranges, lemon and citric growths, star apples, seaside and other grapes, watermelons Spanish and cocoa plums, mamee, plaintain, banana, love in a mist, guava, tamarind, custard apple, bread fruit, Spanish fig, shaddock, rose apples, pomegranates, dates, balsam apple, mulberry, jujube, papaw, and I can't tell the reader how many more. Returning to the hotel we passed numerous

#### GROVES OF COCOA TREES,

loaded with clusters of cocoa nuts almost ripe. A grove of cocoa trees is one of the most picturesque and pleasant features of a Bahama landscape. Returning by a road



## WINTER RESORT.

that skirts the beach, in the inland direction near by was a range of hills that slope up about ninety feet above the level of the sea. Nassau lies at the foot of a portion of this range and spreads back from the sea to the summit of the hills. Entering Nassau from its western extremity we passed near

## FORT CHARLOTTE,

which is on the crown of one of these hills. We subsequently visited this fort. It faces and was intended to protect the western entrance to the harbor. The fort was supposed to have been commenced by the Spaniards. It was finished in 1792. The eminence on



SILK COTTON TREE.

which it stands gently slopes down to the shore, where there is supposed to be a water battery of four guns en barbette, and adjoining it the Esplanade, which affords a favorite strolling resort to Nassauvians and strangers. Seen at sea Fort Charlotte looks like a huge side-wheel steamer perched on a hill. It is a stone fort of considerable magnitude, with numerous underground vaulted rooms, and dark recesses, and dungeons and "sich" of fabulous and fathomless magnitude and extent which I took for granted without dispute, rather than to explore its cimberian mazes and abysmal depths where the solemn bat, and silence and darkness reign supreme. There is said to be an underground passage to the governor's house half a mile away. If so, the passage is cut through the solid rock. But Fort Charlotte is now a thing of the past. Its water battery is rusty and its guns Quakery. That portion of the fort above ground is tumbling to decay.

"Its silly walls the winds are strewing."

A solitary shoe maker appears to be its only occupant and guard. He keeps watch over its ruined battlements, and ramparts, and moats, and drawbridges and posterns, and

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bastions, and et ceteras, and while cobbling shoes in his airy lookout all the time keeps his weather eye peering away to the blue waters of the ocean to discover if any stray sail or craft or steamer is in the offing. If so be that, the green and blue and purple waters give to the vision the faintest speck of a coming vessel, then up goes from the flag-staff signals of the coming craft. And the signals are repeated on Fort Fincastle, another fort on the hill to the eastward. There are different signal flags that indicate the kind of vessel in the offing, and the direction from which she is coming. And when the signal flags go up of a vessel in sight, all Nassau is excited and happy, and all the floating and much of the better portion of the male population hies to the dock to greet the welcome guest. We arrived back at our hotel in the

#### DELICIOUS COOL OF THE EVENING,

the thermometer standing at about 70 degrees. While we have been here the range of the thermometer has been from 69 to 76 degrees. At this season it rarely varies more than four or five degrees in twenty-four hours. The days are bright and beautiful, for a couple of weeks there has been no rain, and the nights are brilliant and sparkling with the glow and flame of tropical skies. Low down in the horizon the famous constellation of

#### THE SOUTHERN CROSS

flames and glows with tropical brilliance. We sat up late o' nights to catch the first fires of its flame in the far South, and got up in the early hours before the breaking of the dawn to gaze on its radiance as seen from the observatory of the Royal Victoria Hotel.

#### EVENING SHADES AND MORNING GLOWS.

While the evenings are beautiful, still more delightful are the mornings, when the sun first "opes the gates of day." Then the landscape looks delightfully fresh and green, and the air is redolent of all the flowers and odors of "Araby the blest." In the rising glories of the morn it seemed as if

"The Queen of the Spring as she passed in full sail,  
Left her robe on the trees and her breath on the gale."

#### A MOONLIGHT NIGHT

on the observatory of the Victoria Hotel, while you are watching for the Southern Cross to straighten itself up on the rim of the southern horizon, is a thing long to be remembered and cherished, especially if enjoyed under favorable auspices. Up high in the heavens is the chaste mild moon coursing her silent journey on through the dazzling ether, pouring down a flood of silvery radiance. Yonder is the crystal bay, its waters gleaming with diamond, opalescent and phosphorescent flames, under the glow of the pale moonlight. Lights are dancing on the rippling waves, as yachts and pleasure boats spread their white wings to the gently moving breeze. There's Hog Island, (IDA GREELEY gave it the more poetic name of Porcina), with its green and emerald crown, quietly and dreamily sleeping in the white haze beyond the bay—and beyond that, stretching away until sea and sky blend in the harmonious horizon, lays the ocean, its waves breaking in dreamy murmurings on the island beach. Intermediate between your lookout in the observatory and the bay, peep out the white roof tops of Nassau dwellings and church and cathedral spires, the tall cocoa and silk cotton trees blending their beautiful green tops with the diamond peaked roofs of the town. It is a waving sea of verdure diversified by islands of white roofs. Still

#### SWEEPING THE HORIZON

with the eye, the white monumental outline of the light-house stands sentry at the junction of bay and ocean, in the northwest, plumb up against the deep blue wall of the sky. On the west of the government house looms up from the verdure of feather palm tree tops, and beyond that on the hill range, looking in the moonlight: like an old ruin on the



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Rhine, stands Fort Charlotte, haloed by the memory of the Earl of Dunmore, memorably connected with our American Revolutionary struggle, who built it about 1788, just as our United States were in the first years of that infant nationality, which our victorious arms had wrung from one of the Georges whose Queen this fort was named in honor of. Towering above the sea of foliage, here and there are Royal African palms, the monarchs of all the palm tree kind. In front of the government house, peeping out from the foliage of tropical trees, may be seen the white Statue of COLUMBUS, modeled by the aid of our own WASHINGTON IRVING, who was in London at the time of its conception. Fitting spot or such a statue, for it was one of the out islands of the Bahamas, (Watling's and not San Salvador), in these waters which was the first land that the anxious vision of COLUMBUS fell upon when he discovered the Western world. To the Southwest some three miles distant gleam the crystal waters of the Lake of Killarney. In the same direction the blue hills of New Providence pencil their outlines against the sky. On the hills to the East stands Fort Fincastle, a prominent feature in the landscape. "Swinging around the circle," still farther to the East and North, the vision again takes in the outlying waters of the bay, which are gemmed with several small verdure covered islands surrounded by crystal waters, like emeralds surrounded by diamond settings. Our notes mention the fact that while taking in the

ENJOYMENT OF THIS OUTLOOK

from Victoria's top by moonlight, "there was a sound of revelry by night" on that occasion, and "music rose with its voluptuous swell,"—and the Consul told stories of stump campaigning in New York and Ohio, and repeated most admirably T. BUCHANAN READ's poem of "Drifting," most apropos to the time and scene, and altogether there was a very good time. That night's experience is a fragrant leaf on which is recorded in life's book, one of our most delicious memories of Nassau.

MAC.

Dr. KIRKWOOD writes as follows:

"New York, July 22d, 1876.— \* \* \* I have had a long experience, both as a physician and an invalid; in the latter character, fortunately, only from the first year of my residence, but in the first capacity of nearly 28 years, namely, from 1844 to 1872, and the result of this experience has induced me to believe that the climate of Nassau, during the winter months, is superior to any winter resort for pulmonary invalids which I have visited as yet, and that compete with principal resorts in Italy and the South of France, in which I have spent the last four years. Very truly yours,

W. KIRKWOOD, M. D., Florence, Italy."

(*New York Evangelist*, March 30.)

## NASSAU IN THE BAHAMAS.

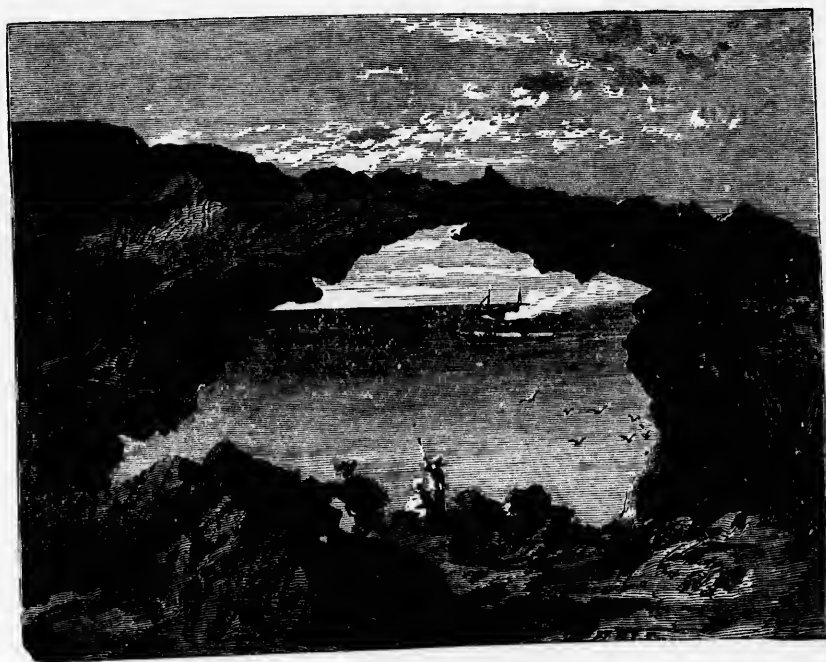
BY REV. NELSON MILLARD, D. D.

NASSAU, N. P., March 14, 1876.

*Editor Evangelist*:—As I write the date at the head of this letter, I recall that it is two months to a day since we landed at Nassau. Although it was a January morning, our judgments needed to correct our senses, in order to believe it was not a June afternoon. Indeed one soon comes to feel in tropical and semi-tropical climes, that TENNYSON might have called not only the fabled home of his Lotus Eaters, but many an actual

region, "a land where it was always afternoon"; for in these realms of sun and palm, a dreamy, *afternoon* softness, suffuses, almost perpetually, scene and sea and sky. And yet they are flooded, too, with a splendor and a glory unknown to our more sombre northern climes. The midday, in its overflowing brilliance, makes one feel as if, according to MILTON's superb expression, "another morn had risen on mid-noon." The very ocean loses its northern aspect of gray sombreness or monotonous blue, and is here dashed and permeated with ever-varying colors, as if it had caught and imprisoned some of the rays of the many thousand suns that have sunk into its bosom, or the iris hues of the rainbows that have spread their glories over its "mirrors large and round."

Until one has become accustomed to their strangeness, the novelty of these regions challenges a northern eye fully as much as their beauty. The questions that rose earliest and involuntarily to our lips, were, "Can this be a part of the same earth we have always known, or have we reached the shores of a new and more beautiful planet?" The



THE GLASS WINDOWS—HARBOR ISLAND.

first experience here, I think, of any one accustomed only to our less luxuriant latitudes, would be that of being surrounded by a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth not, indeed, perfect righteousness, but where beauty, balminess, and bloom find their perpetual home.

All the islands of this Bahama group are of coral origin. Fertile by virtue of soil, the Bahamas are not; for like most coral islands, they have but a thin covering of earth. But vegetation here performs the prodigy once attributed to the chameleon; it lives on air. At least let it obtain but some little hold in the pores, or along the disintegrating surface, of the coral rocks, and an atmosphere which never knows frosts seems to compel it to grow. Unlike the seed in the Parable of the Sower, which fell where there was

"no deepness of earth," it does not wither away; but nourished by what may be fairly called a *fertile* air, it comes to bloom and fruitage in the orange, or waves long plumes and bannerets in the palm.

The year at the Poles has, it is said, but one day; so here, we may say, it has but one season. For in a land where the thermometer's midday marking averages seventy-five degrees in January, and eighty-five degrees in August, it is evident that the seasons are a little more than a name. Certainly Nassau needs only to be known to become the great resort of those who desire to exchange for six months of the year northern snows for southern suns. It is the climate of climates: so say travelled invalids, of whom one naturally meets many here. As equable in temperature as St. Croix, it is not so uncomfortably warm; as balmy as Egypt, it is for inhabitants of the United States much nearer at hand. *Sudden changes* of temperature, which are the bane of most Winter resorts, are here unknown. The "northers," which bring nipping frosts to the orange groves of Florida, and which even at Havana send people shivering indoors, signify here only a decline in the thermometer's midday mark from seventy-five to seventy degrees. Most of the time the days roll on in a nearly unvarying warmth, in a seldom interrupted sunshine, and with an almost constant trade-wind breeze. Such a climate, if resorted to in time, often works with wondrously curative power upon affections of the throat, bronchia and lungs—as, in the case of bronchitis, I can testify from personal experience. And in such a climate there is especially during the less heated part of the year, but very little indigenous sickness. Indeed from November to May there is scarcely any sickness in Nassau, save what comes here to be cured.

In this connection I must not omit to add that the hospitality of the inhabitants is as warm and genial as their clime. The polite cordiality extended to non-residents, makes them forget that they are strangers in a strange land.

About all the religious denominations that would be met with at the North, in a city of 10,000 inhabitants, have organizations here. Presbyterianism is represented, and well represented, in a united and influential church—or "kirk" rather, for its ecclesiastical connection is with the Scotch Establishment. Its pastor, Rev. ROBERT DUNLOP, is a North-of-Ireland man, of Scotch-Irish descent, and in both his physical and mental sinew, maintains the reputation of that famous blood. His hands are well stayed up in his work by men like the Hon. T. DARLING and the Hon. S. O. JOHNSON, whose names are familiar to many in the States.

The Bahamas are to add their strain to our Centennial jubilee. There was recently a public exhibition of the articles useful and curious which they will send to the great Exposition. Of these, the handsome and highly polished native woods and the ornamental shell-work, will, I think, attract most attention. The success of cunning hands in forming the latter into articles of exquisite beauty is quite marvelous.

A hotel so well kept as the Royal Victoria at Nassau, deserves a word of mention before I close. It can challenge comparison with any throughout the Southern States or West Indies, having few equals, and no superior, among them all.

On the whole, let me say (if it be not too nearly an Irish bull) that if one is compelled at some period of his life to have an experience of hibernation, let him have it in this land of perpetual *Summer*. If one *must* rest, Nassau is an earthly Paradise; but far more attractive than rest in any earthly Eden, is the prospect of a return, upon the accession of Summer weather at the North, to Syracuse, to home, and to the Master's work.



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