

I had a ramble on shore through some of the gardens, and although flowers were not exactly in full bloom, yet some of the most beautiful plants were in their highest development. Amongst others were seen sweet-smelling rose-trees, blooming oleanders, aloes more than 30 feet high, the shining green foliage of the camellia, chestnuts, cypress, plane-trees, Brazilian pine, laurels, myrtles, odoriferous magnolias, fuchsias, together with bananas, sugar-cane, coffee shrubs, mangroves, pomegranates, tamarinds, pine-apples, and gigantic dragon-trees. One must travel a long way indeed before meeting with prettier scenery, or a place that will surpass in fragrance and loveliness the floral beauty of this island; and yet it is only within five or six days' run of our cold shores of England.

The product which has made the name of Madeira famous and familiar is its wine, which is now produced in great quantities; this and the cultivation of the sugar-cane form its principal trade.

The public buildings offer little to attract notice; the churches are insignificant, and even the Cathedral, a building in the basilica style, is in no way remarkable otherwise than by the innumerable garlands and flowers, offerings of pious devotees.

The charms of beautiful walks in the most enchanting neighbourhood enhance the pleasantness of the climate of Funchal, so much resorted to by invalids, for within a short distance of the landing-place