

the sun. Every house, of high or low degree, appears to have its latticed windows and balconies, behind which the ladies of the household seem to pass a large proportion of the day, gazing out on the passers-by.

In the course of a few years the breakwater will probably be completed; it is being carried out for some distance, and will be sufficient to shelter all the shipping that visit the port during the fruit season, which commences in November and ends in May, during which period it is usually very bad weather.

On the evening of July 9th we left the anchorage under steam, and proceeded to the offing, when the ship was swung for magnetic and azimuth corrections. On their conclusion, a course was shaped for Madeira, which was reached on the 15th. Here, as at Fayal, we were informed by the health officer that small-pox was very prevalent; it was therefore decided to have very little intercourse, and no communication with the shore was permitted. The island scenery, as viewed from the ship, is certainly very charming, and one cannot help enjoying the beautiful prospect stretching out before us. As there appeared to be no prospect of landing, it was decided to proceed on our way; accordingly, on the morning of the 18th July, we left, and commenced to make a section along the west coast of Africa. The weather on the whole was very fine, and, with a capital breeze in our favour, good progress was