

ing a fine background for the barren and uninteresting coast scenery. Scarcely any supplies were to be obtained here. We left on the 5th of August, and the next day reached Santiago, another island of the same group. Here we had somewhat better success, and a fair supply of fruit and vegetables was obtained.

Porto Praya is prettily situated, at least it appears so from the sea, on an elevated piece of land at the extreme end of an open roadstead, which is well protected from the prevailing winds: still there is generally a long Atlantic swell setting in, which makes landing unpleasant and difficult.

Visiting the shore on one occasion under a very hot sun, the walk to the town was found exceedingly fatiguing. The roads were deep with sand, and the views obtained on reaching it anything but enticing; and any idea previously formed in its favour was soon dispelled.

The houses, with but few exceptions, are poor specimens of habitations, usually built of stone, one story high. The interiors present only a few articles of absolute necessity; of home comfort or cleanliness, in our sense of the word, they seem to have no idea.

The population appears to be made up of an intermixture of descendants from Portuguese settlers and negroes from the adjacent coast, who cultivate little patches of land in the valleys, where are produced a few varieties of tropical fruits for the market.

It had been reported that a species of pink coral