

Sea Islands, having but few wants, and those easily supplied; for bananas, bread-fruit, oranges, pine-apples, and fais (a sort of wild plantain) grow luxuriantly in all directions. All around are picturesque and rugged hills, imparting a beauty to the scene which cannot fail to arrest one's attention; while in close proximity, yet separated from each other by deep, dark gorges, showing up their precipitous and inaccessible sides, are great crags, almost entirely overgrown with the guava (a plant which was first imported from South America, in 1815, by an American missionary, and which has since increased at so rapid a rate as to extend over some of the loveliest spots in the island). The "Diadem," a name given to several peaks which have a striking resemblance to a crown, displays itself from this point in all its wondrous loveliness; and away in the distance are still more and more lofty mountains, 6000 or 7000 feet high, which probably have never yet been trod by the foot of the naturalist.

All visitors unite in praise of the beautiful appearance of Tahiti, and speak of the climate as being uncommonly delightful and salubrious. It is moderated by sea and land breezes; this, combined with the fertility of the soil, makes it perfectly evident that almost every tropical plant may be extensively cultivated with but little labour. As it is, the sugar-cane, coffee-tree, cotton shrub, the vanilla, cocoa plant, indigo, rice, and maize are produced;