

where on the islands, it very generally bears traces of having been at one time the floor of a cave; and as the weather-wearing of the surface goes on, the old concretionary structures are gradually brought out again, the parts specially hardened by a localized slow infiltration of lime resist disintegration longest and project above the general surface. Often a surface of weathered rock is so studded with these symmetrical concretions, that it is hard to believe that one is not looking at the calcified stumps of a close-growing grove of palms.

All the figures are portraits, and are taken from a single group on Boaz Island.

Ireland Island, the extreme island of the chain to the westward, contains the dock-yard with the Government basin and the wonderful iron floating-dock, which was made in England, and towed across the Atlantic with so much labor and risk a few years ago. It is covered with Government buildings, and is under strict naval discipline—an appanage and extension, in fact, of the guard-ship, H.M.S. *Terror*. Boaz Island succeeds; it is united to Ireland Island by a bridge, and is the site of a military hospital and barrack. A short ferry then leads to Somerset Island, the richest and best cultivated, and perhaps the prettiest, part of Bermudas. The houses here are numerous and good, and the market-garden style of culture is fully carried out. The soil is excellent; red earth with decayed vegetable matter, and “mixed with it a white meale”—that is to say, the large-grained free coral-sand. When we arrived in the beginning of April—very early in the season—they were already dispatching to the New York market weekly ship-loads of delicious early potatoes, for which they were getting seventeen pounds a ton, onions at seven shillings and sixpence a box, and the earliest tomatoes—just beginning to ripen—at three shillings a small box. In Somerset the fields and gardens are small, separated and intersected by tall oleander hedges, and all the rugged ground is covered with cedar woods.