

Long Island, or Bermudas, extends as a narrow strip from Somerset Island round the great Sound. At the head of the bay, where Hamilton, the principal town, is situated, it widens out, being about two miles in width; it then forms the singular quadrangular frame round Harrington Sound, and ends on the shore of Castle Harbor. The road from Somerset to Hamilton passes Gibbs's Hill, 245 feet high, with a light-house—120 feet, showing a revolving light, brightening up every minute into a strong glare which continues for six seconds. As the height of the lantern is 360 feet above the level of the sea, the light can be seen for a distance of about thirty miles. Cottages and patches of cultivation are scattered along the side of the road for the whole distance.

Hamilton is a quaint, rather pretty little town of about 2000 inhabitants. A half street of irregular houses and stores with green verandas faces the harbor, with a commodious line of wharves and sheds along the shore. The better houses are scattered, and a little inland; and some very pretty villas, the residences of the leading merchants and some of the Government officials, occupy pleasant situations round the head of the bay. The suburbs of Hamilton show well the peculiarity of the contrast between the white-roofed houses and the dark junipers. Nearly the best examples of these so-called "cedars" form a fine avenue just behind the town (Fig. 85).

St. George's Island, running along the northern shore of Castle Harbor, terminates the series to the north-east. The town of St. George's is the second on the islands, even more prettily situated than Hamilton, and having likewise a good harbor for vessels of moderate size, and a good line of wharves. The streets of the town are, however, close and narrow, and the drainage is bad; so that St. George's, one of the principal military stations, is by no means healthy. St. David Island, Cooper Island, Castle Island, and many smaller islets, form a broken barrier, closing in Castle Harbor to the southward.