

as they choose. In this way the blocks seem to be driven into the positions in which they can best resist the particular forces to which they are exposed, and they are subsiding into a solid foundation on which the building work is making satisfactory progress. Ponta Delgada is much larger than Horta; the streets are wider, and there are many more good-sized houses.



FIG. 8.—*Altingia excelsa*, in the Garden of M. José do Canto, San Miguel. (From a photograph.)

The churches are numerous and large, but commonplace and immemorial; the only one which has any claim to a monumental character is an old church near the centre of the town, which was formerly attached to a Jesuit convent.

The market at Ponta Delgada does not appear to be very