

Red, or precious, Coral occurs at St. Iago and also at St. Vincent, the fishery being carried on by Italians, Spaniards, and Americans. One ship, which was employed during the season with seven boats, is said to have taken thirty barrels of the Coral in the rough state. Professor Thomson and Mr. Murray dredged over the ground in the steam pinnace during the whole of the 8th August and were very successful. The Coral occurs in 80 to 120 fathoms, and is dragged for by rough nets and swabs, and a duty of a dollar per kilogramme is paid to the Government.

The insect fauna at St. Iago, so far as cursorily examined, was found to be the same as that at St. Vincent, though much richer.

The rocks collected at St. Iago are felspathic basalts and phonolite. The raised beach described by Darwin¹ appears as a conspicuous white streak underneath the cliffs surrounding the harbour. Immediately below the lava bed is a crystalline limestone cementing volcanic debris, in which appear small fragments of palagonite, and elastic grains of shells. Under the microscope it is seen that the organic structure of these shells has not entirely been lost. The fragments of volcanic origin enclosed in the limestone are small splinters of basalt, fragments of crystals of augite, olivine, hornblende, black mica, and magnetite. Some specimens of incrustation on the lava are almost entirely made up of carbonate of lime, present all the characters of a stalactitic deposit, and do not contain organic remains discernible under the microscope. The organisms found in the limestone are, as pointed out by Darwin, the same as those now living in the harbour.

¹ Darwin, *Journal of Researches during the Voyage of H.M.S. "Beagle,"* pp. 4-6, ed. 1871.

