

A large hammer-headed shark (*Zygæna malleus*), about 12 feet long, was also netted, and put an end to the net fishing for some time by tearing the net to pieces.

We left St. Vincent on August 15th. I went on that day with Captain Nares on a boat excursion to collect corals in a small bay with a westerly aspect, not far from Porto Grande. On our way we passed under a rocky mountain, 1,594 feet in height, which has an outline remarkably like that of a man; the nose, mouth, and chin are well marked, and the entire range in connection looks like a giant lying on his back.

The small bay we visited was bounded by steep cliffs. On the rocks beneath was the usual zone of calcareous seaweeds. A coral (*Cænopsammia Ehrenbergiana*), composed of bundles of delicate tubes fused together side by side, covered the rocks profusely just below tide level, forming bright vermilion and bright yellow masses, which showed out conspicuously as the swell fell now and then and exposed the rock surface lower down than usual. The coral appears to vary in colour in an irregular manner, some clusters of the coral being red, with the exception of one or two tubes at one corner of the mass, which were yellow, and I saw a young yellow bud given off from a red parent tube. Some masses were entirely yellow, and in some places only yellow corals were to be seen, but on the whole the red predominated.

At the north point at the mouth of the bay was a regular fishing station, where two young Africans were fishing, and where the whole rock was reeking of dead and decaying fish, and a small cave was full of *débris*, having evidently been made use of by fishermen for many years.

The two young negroes at first occupied themselves in catching small fish with a short bamboo rod, baiting with pounded fish, and catching various little rock fish and a *Scarus*. They then began pounding and breaking up the small fish and throwing largish pieces of the mass into the verge of the surf off the point to attract large fish.

They watched until they saw a large fish taking these baits on the top of the water, and then they threw a bait on a hook attached to a long cod line. They thus caught a large *Cavalli* (*Caranx*), of the mackerel tribe, which they had to play for some time and finish with a spear. Large Garfish (*Belone*) sometimes came within reach, and were easily caught, being very ravenous.

One fish, a kind of Bonito or tunny (*Thynnus argentivittatus*), of about 25 lbs. in weight, was attracted by the baits, and coming close in swam backwards and forwards in front of the stand on the rock, taking every bait thrown on to the top of