

path. I shot one, and it proved to be a very large toucan (*Ramphastos ariel*). The bird was not quite dead when I picked it up, and it bit me severely with its huge bill. Most of the plumage of the bird is of a jet black colour, but the throat is of a brilliant orange, and the breast has a bright scarlet patch. The bill is brightly coloured yellow at its base, and has a light blue streak along its upper crest, but these colours soon fade after the bird is skinned. The skin round the eye is coloured scarlet.

Into the wide bay of Bahia, which is twenty miles across in the broadest part, open several navigable rivers, on two of which steamers ply regularly. The Peruaguacu is the largest of these rivers, and it is navigable for 54 miles up to a town called Caxoeira. At Caxoeira a railway was in process of construction. The English engineer of the line, a Mr. Hugh Wilson, most hospitably provided me with a free pass by the steamer to Caxoeira, and one of his own mules, and a guide for a trip up country thence.

The river steamers are small paddle-boats, old and dirty. The Caxoeira boat was crowded with passengers, mostly Brazilians and negroes, but amongst them several German Jews going up to buy diamonds.

The bay has all the appearance of an inland lake, there being several islands scattered about in it covered with green to the water's edge. Near its mouth the banks of the river are somewhat low but backed by hills, and here and there are mangrove swamps. As the river was ascended the hills and cliffs on either hand soon became higher. They are thickly covered with vegetation, but with cliffs and occasional rock masses showing out bare amongst it.

The scenery on the whole is not unlike that of the Rhine, excepting that there are no castles: but the white buildings of sugar estates perched here and there on the tops of the lower hills take their place. The far-off hills appear of the usual bluish green due to distance, and successive ranges become gradually yellower as they lie nearer to the eye of the observer and show more and more plainly the forms of the vegetation clothing them; only in the actual foreground do the palms and feathery bamboos, planted in long lines as boundaries, distinguish the scenery as tropical. The bamboos are especially conspicuous, from the bright yellow green of their foliage. The steamer left Bahia at 10 A.M. and reached Caxoeira at 4 P.M.

There are two towns at Caxoeira, one on each side of the river. These consist of the usual whitewashed houses and two or three churches, one broad street and several narrow ones,