

water poured in Rewa Harbour at 500,000 cubic feet per minute, and that discharged by all the mouths of the river together at 1,500,000 cubic feet. The area of the Delta is 60 square miles.

The mangrove thickets had ceased before the main river was reached, and here above Navusa the low banks on either hand were hidden by a dense mass of a tall grass, a species of *Saccharum*, or wild sugar-cane. For the first twelve miles or so of its lower course, the river flows through its delta, and hence the banks are low and the country flat. Some few miles above Navusa the banks become steeper, and low hills commence. These gradually become more frequent as the ascent is continued, until steep slopes, with intervening stretches of flat land, are of constant occurrence on either hand. The view up the river now shows a succession of ridges, one behind the other, rising gradually in the distance, and terminating in a line of distant blue mountains.

The steep slopes are covered with a thickly interwoven vegetation, the large trees being covered with Epiphytes, Ferns, Lycopods, and climbing Aroids, and festooned with creepers. These creepers in places form a continuous sheet of bright green, falling in gracefully curved steps from the top of the slopes to the bottom, and almost entirely concealing their supports. Here and there tall Tree-ferns rear their heads amongst the tangled mass, and palms (two species of *Kentia*) form a conspicuous feature amongst the foliage.

We were forced to anchor in the evening to await the turn of the tide. As it became dusk numbers of Fruit-Bats flew overhead, whilst in the beds of reeds a constant cry was kept up by the coots and water rails. On the tide turning we had to take spells of an hour each at the oars as our time was short, and by paddling on gently all night we reached before daylight a spot about 35 miles from the mouth of the river called "Viti."

At Viti, a Mr. Storck and his wife live. Mr. Storck is a German, and was the assistant of Mr. Seemann during his investigation of the plants of Fiji. He was extremely hospitable. He had taken to growing sugar, as cotton had failed, and had a splendid crop, which he calculated to weigh 62 tons of cane to the acre. Mills were about to be erected, and there seemed every prospect of sugar paying well. There were already 20 plantations of sugar on the Rewa River. It was curious to see a man from the New Hebrides islands, so notorious for the murders of white men committed in them, acting as nurse to one of Mrs. Storck's children, and hushing the baby tenderly to sleep in his arms. He was one of the