

and been scattered during the hurricanes. The feral fowls are very wary, like their progenitors, the Indian Jungle-fowl, and are not at all easy to shoot. The entire bag consisted of only one wild fowl. Flights of the brown Pelicans were met with passing over-head, flying one after another along the shore almost always exactly over the same spot on their way from one feeding ground to another.

The late Dr. R. von Willemoes Suhm states in his diary, that the doctor of the garrison assured him that of the human internal parasites, only *Ascaris* and *Oxyuris* were common; *Tænia* was very rare, and found, not among the natives, but usually among foreign sailors. *Phthirius pubis* and *Pediculus capitis* were both known but also very rare; when upon negroes they have a dark colour, a curious fact already known with regard to these parasites on several dark human races, which recalls the correspondence between the colour of the species of Anoplura, and that of the feathers of the birds they infest.

One day a party landed on one of the small outliers of St. Thomas, Little Saba Island, about a mile and a half distant from the main island. A Puffin (*Puffinus* sp.) was nesting in holes amongst the grass, laying a single large white egg; the birds allowed themselves to be caught in the nest with the hand. In the beach of the island there was being formed a reddish conglomerate sandstone rock, composed of the débris of the rock of which the higher parts of the island consist, cemented together by calcareous matter derived from the corals, and calcareous sand. This rock, which was hard and compact, contained embedded in it plenty of the various corals from the beach and large *Turbo* shells (*Turbo pica*), with their nacre quite fresh in lustre, and their bright greenish colour unimpaired. In St. Thomas large examples of these *Turbo* shells, as much as two inches in diameter at the base, are carried up far inland by terrestrial Hermit-crabs. A large number of them were seen amongst the bush at an elevation of 1000 feet, some of them containing crabs, many empty. These large heavy sea shells occurring in abundance at great heights, puzzled geologists, until it was found that they were carried up by the crabs. On the shore at Little Saba Island grew a number of plants of *Guilandina bonduc*. This plant bears a pod covered with prickles, containing nearly spherical beans of about the size of a hazel nut, which have a perfectly smooth, as it were, enamelled surface, and are flinty hard. These seeds float, and are carried by ocean currents to distant shores, and in Tristan da Cunha and Bermuda are known as "Sea-beans," and supposed to grow at the bottom of the sea; they are also found occasionally washed up at the Azores.

The stay at St. Thomas extended to eight days, which time was fully occupied, as far as the naval staff was concerned, in refitting and coaling the ship, in obtaining magnetic and other observations on shore, and in correcting the charts. The evidences of the destruction caused at St. Thomas by the hurricanes and occasional earthquake waves, more especially by that of 1867, were everywhere conspicuously apparent. Numbers of small houses were constructed partially with the bulkheads of wrecked ships; and