

Windsor and long-pod beans, three sorts of peas, five varieties of gourds, two of pumpkins, two of cucumbers, three varieties of musk and water-melons, two kinds of turnips, parsley, cabbage, cresses, several kinds of small salad, a few tomatoes, together with the Peruvian cherimoyer and Tahiti orange, were vegetating together, and I trust will establish themselves in these islands for the benefit not only of the natives, but of our navigators who may hereafter visit these parts for refreshments. The garden was left under the charge of David Whippy, a native of New Hampshire, of industrious habits, who I trust will not fail to take the best means to preserve and perpetuate what will no doubt prove a great blessing to the future population of this group.

The climate of the Feejee Islands is well adapted to all the various tribes of tropical plants, and to not a few of those of the temperate zone; for many of the islands are of a mountainous character, and numerous localities present themselves adapted to the growth of the latter.

These islands were once covered with vegetation from the coral reefs to the top of their highest peaks, but below the elevation of one thousand feet, on the leeward side of the large islands, the original vegetation has been for the most part destroyed by the fires which the natives use to clear their planting grounds. During our sojourn we occasionally saw the fire running over vast fields. The forest above that elevation, having escaped its ravages, forms umbrageous masses, where the underwood and herbaceous part of the vegetation disappear. As the ridges and summits are approached, the trees become more sparse, giving an opportunity to the numerous species of ferns (Filices), to receive both light and air; these are found in great quantities, and varieties, both terrestrial and parasitical, intermingled with various forms of epiphytical orchideæ, and many mosses, with which the trees are decked. Climbing plants are numerous, but are found chiefly to prevail around the margin of cultivated patches and the banks of rivulets, finding there more nutriment for their support. Three species of Freycinetia, a melastomaceous and asclepiadeous plant, were the only climbers observed above the height of two thousand five hundred feet. The lower region is usually appropriated to plantations of fruits and roots. The yams are generally planted in dry open situations, but the bananas and plantains are found in extensive plantations, growing in rich soil, protected by the bread-fruit and ivi trees from the violent winds which they occasionally experience. The plants that strike the eye of a stranger visiting these islands, are those immediately above high-water mark, viz.: Hibiscus tiliaceus, Barringtonia, Hernandia