

*Hibiscus tiliaceus*, "haw," also serves many purposes, among which is the manufacture of ropes: its wood being light and tough, is used for out-riggers, and for sticks to carry burdens on.

Acacia, which is used in a variety of ways.

The black mustard has become naturalized.

Turmeric (*Curcuma*) is also found, I understood, in considerable quantities on Maui, of which some has been procured for sale, and was pronounced to be of excellent quality.

Indigo is found growing wild, particularly in Hawaii. Almost all kinds of foreign fruits and vegetables have been introduced, and with but few exceptions, succeed well: this is also the case with many ornamental trees, shrubs, and plants.

It was observed by our botanists, that the character of the flora of the Hawaiian Islands is similar, in many respects, to both the Indian and Polynesian, yet in some particulars it bears a strong contrast to the southern Polynesian islands. This difference consists in the absence of all species of *Ficus*: the small varieties of trees are also absent, although there are some extensive forests. Orchideous plants are extremely rare, and the epiphytic species wanting altogether, while the *Compositæ* are much more abundant than in the more southern islands.

In the ferns, however, the difference is most obvious, and consists in the predominance here of different genera and tribes.

The absence of American plants was also observed here: they did not appear to be much more numerous than at the southern islands, notwithstanding what has been generally reported.

The most remarkable feature of the flora is the woody *Lobeliaceæ*; these are in great variety, and constitute several distinct genera.

It is believed there are more than fifty genera of different families peculiar to these islands; and with regard to species, it is thought all that are unequivocally indigenous, will be found strictly confined to this portion of the globe.

The botanical regions may be divided into that of the sea-coast, the wooded district below the altitude of six thousand feet, and a third division at a still higher level. Alpine plants do not occur here. For further remarks on the interesting botany of this group, I must refer to the Botanical Report of the cruise.

Having spoken so much of the climate of the different districts, it will only be necessary here to take a general view of that of the whole Hawaiian Group. The monthly mean temperature ranges between 70° and 78°. This remark applies to the coast almost exclusively; for, as would naturally be expected, on higher elevations the thermo-