

the animals, for they now frequently seize men working in the immediate vicinity, but because the sum is too small to be an equivalent for the risk and trouble. From a stuffed specimen we saw at Singapore, it would appear that these animals do not differ from those of Bengal.

While walking with Mr. Balestier around his plantation, he pointed out to us the spot where two of his men had been killed by tigers, and he said it was no uncommon thing, when he first began his plantation, to see the tracks of tigers about his house in the morning. Since the jungle has been cut away to a greater distance, this occurrence is not so frequent. Tigers have been known to attack persons in the daytime, but they seldom frequent the highroad. It is considered too dangerous for an individual to venture near the jungle.

Some accounts speak of vestiges of the primitive inhabitants of Singapore, consisting of mounds, temples, &c., but I could not get at any well-authenticated account of them. Some, indeed, suppose that the island of Singapore may contain many remains of a former race, but there seems to be little or no foundation at present for such an opinion.

Although it was impossible from the number of tigers for our gentlemen to frequent the woods to any great extent, yet many very interesting plants were procured here. Through the kindness of Mr. Balestier, Captain Scott, (the captain of the port,) and others, Mr. Brackenridge obtained many live plants, which we succeeded in bringing safely to the United States.

The soil of the island is a stiff yellow loam, in which the nutmeg, coffee, black pepper, chocolate, and gamboge, (*Garcinia*), grow to a great extent. The three first appear to be particularly well adapted to the climate and soil. As I have before mentioned, the cultivation of sugar is attended with success. Captain Scott is planting the durian, which, independently of its fruit, yields a timber highly valued for ship-building. This gentleman has left numerous forest trees standing on his plantation, many of which are of large dimensions, being full one hundred feet in height. These consisted chiefly of species of *Quercus*, *Myrtaceæ*, *Melastomaceæ*, and *Rubiaceæ*. The undergrowth is almost impenetrable, on account of the vast number of creeping plants which intertwine and clasp around the trees. Two species of *Nepenthe* (pitcher-plants) were found in the swamp, which were preserved and brought to the United States. The Botanical Report will embrace many more varieties, and to this I must refer the reader for further information.

Fruit seemed to be very abundant, and it is said, that there are one hundred and twenty kinds that can be served as a dessert: among