

FAWCETT, W., Guide to the Botanic Gardens, Castle-
ton, Jamaica. 1904. Price 1 s.

The Castleton Botanic Gardens were formed in 1862, and during the following years were stocked, largely through the action of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, with large numbers of economic and other plants. The work of introducing, propagating and distributing plants, especially those of an economic nature was steadily pursued until 1897, when it was decided to develop the Hope nurseries, on account of their more convenient situation. The elevation of Castleton is 496 feet above the sea-level; the average mean temperature is 75°9 F. and the average annual rainfall is 115,02 inches.

The guide gives a descriptive account of what is suggested as the best route around the garden for the visitor with only a limited time at his disposal.

Notes are given on some 220 of the more interesting plants, whose position in the garden are indicated by numbers on the accompanying plan.

The following quotation will serve to indicate the nature of the information afforded:

Artocarpus integrifolia Linn. f. Jack Fruit. East Indies and Polynesia. A tree with milky sap and large fruit. The bark yields a gum used as cement and bird lime, and also a fibre. The juice is applied externally to glandular swellings to promote suppuration. The wood yields on boiling a yellow dye. The timber is used for carpentry, cabinet work etc. Yellow, hard, takes an excellent polish, is beautifully marked and is one of the handsomest furniture woods. Weight 40 lb per cubic foot. (*Urticaceae*).

The notes on the plants are alphabetically arranged. The guide is illustrated by 16 excellent plates, on which the following plants are represented; *Archontophoenix Cunninghamii*; Nutmeg, *Cyathea arborea*, *Mauritia flexuosa*, *Cycas circinalis*, *C. revoluta*, *Pandanus odoratissimus*, *Araucaria Cunninghamii*, *Araucaria excelsa*, *Oreodoxa regia*, *Cocos botryophora*, *Diptlothemium caudescens*, *Stevensonia grandifolia*, *Alpinia nutans*, *Corypha elata*, *Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*, *Raphia Faedigera*, *Dypsis pinnatifrons*, *Victoria regia*, *Nymphaea* spp., *Artocarpus integrifolia*, *A. incisa*, *Acrocomia lasiospatha*, *Caryota urens*, *Bassia latifolia*, *Euterpe oleracea*, *Phoenix acaulis*, *Livistona australis*, *Phoenix rupicola*, *Hyophorbe Verschaffeltii*, *Lecuala elegans*, *Livistona chinensis*, *L. olivaeformis*, *Dendrocalamus strictus*, *Ravenala madagascariensis*, *Thrinax parviflora*, *Cocos plumosa*, *Raphia vinifera*, *Sabal Blackbur-niana*.

W. G. Freeman.

Personalnachrichten.

Botaniker **Dinter** aus D. S. W. Afrika wird sich nach 8jährigem Aufenthalte in Afrika vom 10. Mai bis 10. Septbr. in Europa auf Urlaub befinden. Correspondenz bitte nach Bautzen (Sachsen) zu richten.

M. le Dr. **E. Pfitzer**, professeur à l'Université de Heidelberg, est nommé membre associé de la Société royale de botanique de Belgique.

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