

diflora" and other varieties, many varieties of the palm, the pepper tree, "Schinus Molli;" the eucalyptus or gum tree, which grows with great rapidity and to a great height, nearly all varieties of the acacia, which grows to a size that renders it an excellent shade tree, the "Mespelus Japonica;" the Norfolk Island pine, "Arancaria Excelsia;" the olive, "Olea Verrucosa;" the century plant, "Agave Americana," which has been known to bloom here at the age of twelve years; the Florapenda or "Brugmansia;" the camilia japonica; the "Daphne Odora;" the oleander, "Nerianes;" the lemon, "Aloysia Citriodora;" the verbena; the crape myrtle; fuchsias; heliotropes; pittosporams, abutilons, the Indian Shot, "Canna Indica;" pomegranates, figs and a large number of other ornamental trees and shrubs. Is it remarkable that such a profusion of foliage and bloom as flourishes in this charming city, should attract hundreds of æsthetic tastes to her borders? It would seem that life amid such surroundings must of necessity be colored to the scene, and be infinitely more enjoyable than amid the dust and din and whirling sand of the peninsula.

The natural scenery of Oakland and her suburbs is surpassingly beautiful. The Bay in its front stretches to the northward and the southward, dotted with its clear, sharply outlined islands, and out to that magnificent portal the Golden Gate; the promontories of Marin lift their rugged surface to the sky on the far right, while the whole picture is set as in frame by the encircling San Pablo range of lofty and picturesque hills. These hills approach in some instances the dignity of mountains, and are seamed throughout with the paths of impetuous water courses, full in winter, but only little rills during the summer. The variety of scene is so great and the range so extended that the eye need never be surfeited.

The climate is equable; there are no extremes of heat or cold. Snow never falls and but rarely is the ground whitened by frost. The fierce winds that sweep over the opposite