



[Photo]

[G. H. Lambert and Co., Singapore.]

## COCO-NUT PLANTATION.

blaze of the flame-coloured gloriosa, climbing lilies, an undergrowth of exquisite ferns of infinite variety, all crowned by slender palms 90 or 100 feet high—it is vain to attempt a description of such a scene.’—H. W. CANE.

THIS island is separated from India by the **Palk Strait**, which is too shallow for large vessels to navigate; and by the **Gulf of Manaar**, where some pearl-fishing is still carried on. The island is low in the north, but rises steeply towards the centre in the south. The prevailing scenery is extremely picturesque; and, in spite of the more southern latitude, the climate is less trying than on the mainland, on account of exposure to ocean winds. These winds bring moisture from the north-east to the east coast in early winter, and from the south-west to the west coast in summer.

Forests cover a large part of the island, and coco-nut palms fringe the