

flowers, and French marigolds are naturalized; the pinks grow in immense numbers in every crack and crevice.

The cabbages here are woody and arborescent, like the cow or tree-cabbage, the trunk and branches being quite hard and covered with bark; they have at a distance some resemblance to the *Brugmansia suaveolens*.

The thermometer stood at 50°, and the weather, in comparison with the day before, was quite mild.

The hot spring is close to the village; owing to their thermometer being for low temperatures, not graduated above 140°, they did not get its exact temperature; but eggs put in were cooked in about three minutes, and their tea was prepared by a vessel being placed in it, so that it could not be far from the boiling point, at ten thousand feet elevation. No steam was seen to issue from the orifice, but vapour rises afterwards to mark the spot; there is also a strong smell of sulphur, and at night a thick cloud hangs over the spring. The water was tasteless, and there was a coating of the red oxide of iron on the substances over which the water had passed; and in some places a white powder was observable. A few yards distant from the hot spring was a cold one, which, mingled with the hot, is found to have a very agreeable temperature for a bath, in which the people bathe and women wash clothes; the hot spring was estimated to discharge several gallons in a second.

The soil in this valley is good, and cultivated in some places with care: no fruit was observed. The largest trees were a species of Elder, and a *Buddlea*; *Calceolaria*, *Salvia*, and *Heliotropium*, abounded.

On the 22d they determined to remain at Baños. At an early hour in the morning they found the village deserted, and it appeared on inquiry that all the inhabitants had gone abroad to tend their herds. For the purpose of taking as wide a range as possible in search of plants, our gentlemen separated, some going up while others descended: they all met with great success in their botanical researches. Dr. Pickering attempted the ascent of one of the summits; by noon he had reached a high elevation, and looking up, he espied a huge condor soaring down the valley. He stopped to observe the majestic bird, as it sailed slowly along. To his surprise, it took a turn around him, then a second and a third, the last time drawing so near that he began to apprehend it meditated an attack. He describes himself as being in the worst possible condition for a fight, his strength being exhausted by climbing, and his right hand having been lamed for some days from a hurt. The nature of the ground, too, was any thing but favourable for defence; but there was nothing left but to prepare for a