



(1)
The Survey area, taken from the
College farm, I.C.T.A., looking
due North.

1.) INTRODUCTION.

The area in which this survey takes place consists of one of the valleys of the Northern Range Mountains that stretch from east to west along the north coast of Trinidad. This impressive range seldom rises to much over three thousand feet, and yet, so abruptly does it rise out of the sea to the north, and give way to the monotonous flat central plain to the south, that it has all the rugged features of far larger mountain areas. The peaks are sharp, and each pinnacle is deeply gullied on all sides, so that knife edged spurs spread out fanwise, enclosing steep sided, V-shaped, valleys. All of these valleys are themselves cut up by minor gully systems down which the surplus water pours for a few hours after torrential rains, which are the normal form of precipitation in the area. It is with such a valley that we are here concerned. It lies on the slopes of Mount Tabor, running north-south, and opens with a southern aspect to drain into the St. Joseph river. The St. Joseph river flows south to join the Caroni river of the Central Plain which then flows west and empties into the gulf of Paria via the Caroni swamp.

(2)
A general view of the
Survey area, looking
down the valley from
Mount Tabor.

