



FRUITS OF THE MACAUBA PALM.

In the vicinity of towns many of the palms are cut to obtain the tender, white terminal bud, which is boiled and eaten as a vegetable. The fruit clusters are very large, sometimes weighing 60 or 70 pounds. Surrounding the hard seed in the center of each fruit is a thick layer of white, woody flesh which is very nutritious. Because of its insipid flavor it is not commonly eaten by the natives, but is used to fatten hogs with, for which purpose it is considered excellent. It also contains an oil, which is sometimes expressed in small quantities and used for lubricating. Photo No. 1294, by Brazilian Expedition, taken at Lavras, Minas Geraes, Jan. 22, 1914.