

Colonizing Nature The Tropics In British Arts And Letters 1760 1820.pdf

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With its control of sugar plantations in the Caribbean and tea, cotton, and indigo production in India, Britain in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries dominated the global economy of tropical agriculture. In Colonizing Nature, Beth Fowkes Tobin shows how dominion over "the tropics" as both a region and an idea became central to the way in which Britons imagined their role in the world.

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Beth Fowkes Tobin, Colonizing Nature: The Tropics in British Arts and Letters, 1760-1820, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005, xvi + 255 pp. Tropical "houseplants are an eighteenth-century invention: the trophies of empire used to decorate the bourgeois home"; they "represent the

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