

of June the Governor-general left Orléanville to join **Lamoricière** and Bourjolly, and to attack the mountainous country of the **Beni-Ouragh**. General Bourjolly, commanding the column of Mostaghanem, alone reached the rendezvous, and penetrated on the night of the 15th into the most difficult part of the country. Upon this, Sid Mohammed Ben **Hadj**, and Ben Marabot, two influential men of the district, came in and facilitated the submission of the tribes. Nevertheless, the devoted partisans of the Emir protested energetically against uniting with the French. The Governor-general's column had to fight the Mekenessa and the **Beni-Islem**, and General Bourjolly sustained a spirited attack of the Matmatas. A great convocation of the tribes was held at Telata, where the **Khalifah** of the Warensenis was instituted, the command being given to Ben-Marabot, Sid Mohammed acting as his Agha.

On the 20th, General de Bourjolly separated from the Governor-general to cover the tribes of the Lower Mina and **Cheliff**, and to attack the refractory Flittas, whilst Marshal Bugeaud traversed the chain of the **Beni-Ouragh** and penetrated among the Kerreich. Numerous tribes had taken refuge in these mountains, flying from General **Lamoricière**. In one word, the whole population of the fertile countries between the desert and the valley of the **Cheliff**, driven from their establishments by the appearance of the French columns (sometimes marching away from one only to fall upon another, and successfully attacked and thinned by each), wandered miserably here and there, excited partly by their own enthusiasm, and partly by fear of reprisals from Abd-el-Kader.

The Governor-general on the 20th of June fell in with a portion of these emigrants, made a few prisoners, and took 8,000 head of cattle. A series of operations succeeded which ended in the submission of several important tribes.

On the 3rd of July, information was received that the **Khalifas** of the Emir were encamped not more than five leagues from the French bivouac, and **Lieut.-col. Leflo** was charged with the task of seizing them if possible. But the unexpected retreat of the enemy prevented a surprise, and the Colonel divided his troop to "cut up" the flying tribes. A part of his column suddenly came in contact with the **Khalifas**, and a desperate conflict

ensued, in which the French claimed the victory, though a retreat to join the main body immediately took place. After this the whole army moved back upon **Orléanville**, the enemy hanging on their flanks and attacking them at every step. A brilliant exploit of **140 "chasseurs"** checked their audacity, and the same day the Governor-general entered **Orléanville**.

Several other operations and ghazias were performed in June by Changarnier and Jusuf, the details of which would not be interesting ; but we must not forget to notice that on the 8th, Abd-el-Kader himself made a grand ghazia on the Arars, which had prevented **Lamoricière** from joining the Governor-general at **Beni-Ouragh**, as above stated. The Emir having moved to the west, the General declined pursuing him, preferring to attack an assemblage of tribes on the Upper Rihoo. After an obstinate combat, he obtained possession of a considerable booty. On the **21st** he was within six or seven leagues of the Emir. A forced night march brought him by daybreak to the camp, when after a few charges it was entirely destroyed ; **Abd-el-Kader** himself escaping with difficulty. **250** regulars, horse and foot, were killed, **140** prisoners taken; **1 flag**, some drums, the spurs and saddle of the **Emir**, more than **400** guns, **121** horses, **500** camels, **300** loaded mules, **800** oxen, and other booty, were the trophies of this day.

A young officer of **Spahis**, Mohammed-el-Aboudi, distinguished himself on that occasion by his courage and devotedness to the chief Commander. His conduct was reported to the **Duc d'Aumale**, who brought him to Paris at the end of the campaign, and obtained for the gallant Arab the decoration of the Legion of **Honour**. It is said, that being present one evening at the equestrian performance in **the Champs-Elysées**, he expressed the greatest admiration for a certain beautiful horse, and exclaimed ; " Poor black horse ! what a pity thou art not the property of **El-Aboudi** ! thou wouldst soon put him in possession of a large stock of sheep, camels, and oxen ! "

It would be useless to give the particulars of General Bedeau's operations against the **Djaffra**, which were eminently successful. The division of **Constantina**, although in constant activity, performed nothing remarkable, except killing Si Zerdood, the implacable enemy of the French, and reducing to

ral tribes which had not yet acknowledged the supremacy of France.

In addition to these details of military operations, we may remark, that several of the Arabs of the Desert. have come into



MOHAMMED-EL-ABOUDI.

Algiers to make their submission. Whether this is or is not a temporary expedient, remains to be seen. We have little faith in such obedience. Experience testifies to their unsoundness. Still we do not pretend to predict any great reverse of fortune in <sup>Al-</sup>ria, nor look forward even to any check to the progress

of the French victories until other circumstances shall arrive. Our principal object is to consider the question as bearing on the theory of Colonies, and certainly the difference is great between the plan pursued in Algiers and that which has proved successful in other instances. The truth is, that **colonisation** is there attempted to be carried on simultaneously with war. Let us look at the financial results of the system, from which our readers will be able to draw their own deductions.

The conquest and occupation of Algeria have already cost France **£26,800,000**. The Government has received-tit, the treasure taken at Algiers, in all **£2,189,480**; second, the proceeds of revenue from 1831 to 1843, **£ 1,840,000**. The total loss, therefore, up to the present time, has been **£22,870,520 !**

We do not mean to say, however, that our **Gallic neighbours** ought to be discouraged by the expenses attending the management of their new colony. That the outlay is very considerable, and many thousands of lives have been **sacrificed** to the conquest of Algeria, cannot be denied; but, on the other hand, the authentic reports of the state of the settlements furnished by the official paper of **Algeria** represent them in a most progressing and satisfactory condition. We subjoin an abridged account of some of the latest establishments.

**DELY-IBRAHIM**, founded in 1832, is an important village, the buildings of which are valued at about **£10,000**; its *matériel* consists of horses, carts, cattle, &c. to a large extent. Population, 384 inhabitants, to whom the Government has granted new lots of land, a church, a parsonage, and a school.

. **BOUFFARICK** was settled in 1836. Owing to its situation in a plain, this village was open to the incursions of the Arabs and the attacks of fever-two disasters to which it is no longer subject, thanks to a protective system of war and immense improvements in the culture of land. There are 192 inhabited houses, valued at **£27,000**, and many others in progress of building. Population, 559 Europeans.

**BIRKHADEM** is already flourishing, though as yet quite in its infancy. The fineness of the climate, and the great extent of upland soil, render it extremely suitable for grazing purposes, and capable of supplying a large quantity of wool. This **village** is indebted to the public administration for a fine church and several useful establishments.

**DRARIAH**, now entirely completed, boasts of a strong enclosure, with fine gates and other means of defence, a large church and parsonage, barracks, public plantations, and several roads in good condition connecting the settlement with the adjoining villages. The colonists of Drariah have built 59 houses at the cost of £4,400. They possess also a large stock of cattle, hay, and 'cerealía. The soil has been found well adapted to cultivation; the meadows are spacious, well watered, and producing excellent gasses. The population consists of 160 souls, including the militia. The colonisation of Drariah was commenced in March 184%

**ACHOUR**, settled on the 23rd of April, 1842, contained last year a population of 89 inhabitants, and according to the latest returns there has been an increase of 31 persons, making a total of 120 souls. There are 38 houses, representing a value of £3,000, and 5 are in progress of building. The road between Achour and the neighbouring villages leads through a wild and mountainous country, the scenery always picturesque, sometimes magnificent in the extreme. The soil is generally a light black mould mixed with gravel and clay, and in some parts there is a rich vegetable stratum formed by the decayed leaves of the forests.

**CHERAGAS** possesses a population of 206, and 60 militia.

The land produces hay and cerealía. All the public works are now completed, and an important road connects 'this beautiful village with the highway from Algiers to Delj-Ibrahim, and is to be continued through the plain of Staweli to Nassafran and Koleah. The soil throughout this large settlement is in general good, and though the population is considerable-compared with other districts, there is yet abundance of room for more settlers.

**SAOULA** was settled in February 1843; it has 19 houses, which are valued at £2,000, and contains 82 persons. Food is plentiful, and vegetables of every kind are raised in great quantity.

Looking to the small number of colonists and to the short time they have been established in this district, the extent of land under cultivation and the quantity of useful animals in their possession are highly satisfactory. The settlement will soon be independent of other places for the support of its inhabitants.

**OULED-FAYET**, commenced in December 1842, contains 25 houses and a population of 120 persons, including 75 militia.

The country is partly tilled and sown with corn, or planted with olive and other fruit trees, and partly left for pasture.

**BABA-HASSEN** was settled in March 1843. The village consists of 9 houses, and other buildings in progress. Population, 57.

**DOUERA**, the most important centre for the military operations of Sahel, was founded on the 30th December, 1842. This large village has a population of nearly 700 inhabitants, and contains 50 houses, a beautiful church, a school, and other public buildings. Since the occupation of the country by the French, carriage roads have been constructed at a vast expense, which were soon covered with the vehicles of commerce. The main road from Douera to Drariah, a work; of great magnitude, has been carried through some difficult passes in the hills, and connected by several bridges. The public works in relation to the above places are the following :—

1st. 9 enclosures, with towers, gates, and walls or ditches. 2nd. 42 aqueducts, fountains, watering places, 8x. 3d. 5 churches and 4 parsonages. 4th; 3 barracks. 5th. Public plantations of 10,000 trees. 6th. 14 new roads, with 9 bridges built on the American system.

Length of the roads :—

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| From Ain Zeboudja to Drariah . . . . .             | 4,366 metres.* |
| “ Drariah to Achour . . . . .                      | 200 “          |
| “ Drariah to Douera . . . . .                      | 1,866 “        |
| “ Drariah to Haddous . . . . .                     | 2,210 “        |
| “ Achour to Dely-Ibrahim . . . . .                 | 1,642 “        |
| “ the Bivouac of the natives to Cheragas . . . . . | 7,000 “        |
| “ Cheragas to the Caron Farm . . . . .             | 2,566 “        |
| “ Dely-Ibrahim to Ouled-Fayet . . . . .            | 1,806 “        |
| “ Ouled-Fayet to St. Ferdinand . . . . .           | 6,642 “        |
| “ Berkhadem to Saoula . . . . .                    | 2,200 “        |
| “ Saoula to Krecia . . . . .                       | 6,000 “        |
| “ Saoula to Drariah . . . . .                      | 3,269 “        |
| “ Krecia to Douera . . . . .                       | 502 “          |
| “ Dely-Ibrahim to Cheragas . . . . .               | 1,700 “        |

Total 41,845 metres.

We here pause, lest our readers should be of opinion that we have too long detained them upon a subject which has no immediate connexion with the interests of our Empire. We have said however, enough to show that France pursues perseveringly her system of colonisation, such as it is. The result of her exertion; remains yet to be seen.

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\* The metre of France is equal to 3 feet and 281 parts of a foot.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES OF THE WEST INDIES,  
RECOMMENDED FOR THE INVESTMENT OF SURPLUS  
BRITISH CAPITAL.

BY EDWARD BINNS, ESQ. M.D. F.S.A. &c. &c.

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“It would be inconsistent with the **candour which** I desire at all times to maintain in my intercourse with you, were I to conceal my conviction, the result of earnest and attentive observation, prompted alike by duty and the heartfelt interest I take in your welfare, that the **present condition of the Island does not afford cause for despondency or alarm. JAMAICA OFFERS ATTRACTIONS TO THE CAPITALIST SUCH AS FEW PARTS OF THE WORLD PRESENT.**”—LORD ELGIN’S *Speech to the Jamaica Assembly at the opening of the present Session.*

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**SIR,—Improvements** in agriculture having recently attracted the attention of the West Indians, and the Earl of Elgin, the Governor of Jamaica, having given the munificent sum of one hundred pounds for the best Essay on the Cultivation of the Sugar Cane, which was published in your first number, I think I may venture to offer a few observations on the culture of tropical productions generally, without being accused of occupying a portion of your estimable Magazine unnecessarily or uselessly ; because it seems to me that an undue, a very undue preference is given to the cultivation of the sugar **cane**, to the exclusion of the minor products of the West Indies, among which may be enumerated pulse of every description, arrow-root, turmeric, the nutmeg, cinnamon, cassia, pepper (black and red), gamboge, **mangosteen\*** (*Gar-*

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\* Dr. Duncan, jun. [*Disp.* p. 351, 11th ed. Edin. 1826] says, “Some of the **rind** of another species [of gamboge], *G. Mangostana*, was sent to me as a native remedy in dysentery, upon which portions of a yellow concrete juice are adhering, apparently more resinous than true gamboge.” So that, independent of the **mangosteen** being the most delicious fruit in the world, “the concrete juice of the rind” is a valuable remedy in dysentery, one of the most **untractable** and fatal diseases of the West Indies. One species was introduced into Jamaica in 1782, which Edwards [*West. Ind.* vol. i. ed. 2, 1794, Appendix] says is the *G. cornea*. I have not my friend Dr. Macfayden’s excellent work on the Plants of Jamaica at hand, or I should be enabled perhaps to inform the reader whether the species introduced into Jamaica be the true mangosteen or not. However, this is not of any consequence, since it is evident **that** if one species of a plant or shrub will grow in a certain latitude, another will. The

*cinia Mangostana*), the **vine**, cocoa-nut, mango, cochineal, senna, oil-nut (*Ricinus communis*), **vanglo\*** (*Sesamum Indicum*), **vanilla**, † **sago**, mahogany, cabbage-tree, cedar, and numerous hard woods ; date, aloes, camphor, sassafras, **croton**, limes, lemons, citrons, tobacco, **ramoon**, † caoutchouc, cinchona, indigo, cotton, cocoa, maize or Indian corn, **Guinea corn** (*Holcus Sorghum*), buck-wheat, rice, wheat, barley, oats, **moringa** (*Hyperanthera Moringa*), Adansonia or boabab, or monkey's bread, and, in short, every variety of food that ministers to the necessities or panders to the luxuries of life ; for, as his Excellency Lord **Elgin**, in his luminous speech to the House of Assembly at the opening of the present session, remarked—" Situated on what seems destined to become the highway for the **trading** nations inhabiting the remotest regions of the east and west, amply provided with convenient **harbours**, accessible from **every** district, Jamaica combines a soil of exuberant fertility with a climate so **singularly** varied, **that it is calculated to supply in abundance the valuable productions of the tropics, and the most highly-prized vegetables of Europe;**" while the editor of the *Jamaica Despatch*, (Oct. 28,

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**high** estimation in **which** the mangosteen is held in the East, especially in **Java, Malacca**, and Batavia, is thus stated by Dr. **Garcin**, who first described it, and after whom it was in consequence named *Garcinia* : " It is esteemed the most delicious of the East Indian fruits, and a great deal of it may be eaten without inconvenience; it is the only fruit which sick persons are allowed to eat without scruple. It is given with safety in almost every disorder." And we are told that "Dr. Solander, in the last stage of a putrid fever in Batavia, found himself insensibly recovering **by** sucking this delicious and refreshing **fruit**. The pulp has a most happy mixture of the tart and sweet, and is no less salutary than pleasant." [Phil. Trans.] Mr. **Loudon** says it was introduced into England in 1789—of course as a hothouse plant. I never saw the fruit of the mangosteen but once *in* Jamaica. It was much decayed, as the late **learned** Dr. **Brebner**, of Green Island, who **showed** it to me, had procured it from the eastern parts of the island for propagation.

• "The **vanglo**," says Bridges [Annals Jam. vol. i. p. 587, Append.], "was first brought to Jamaica by the Jews as an article of food. It yields an **express** oil, which is clear and sweet as that from **almonds**; and probably the **Behen'** oil used in varnish is no other."

† *Epidendrum vanilla* was discovered not many years since in the **mountains** of Jamaica, by Dr. Swartz, a Swedish botanist.

‡ **Ramoon** (*Trophis Americana*)-an invaluable tree, the leaves of **which** are not only wholesome **fodder** for cattle, horses, sheep and **goats**, but silkworms **fed** on them produce the best silk. This discovery was made by Mr. Jarvis Harker, of St. Ann's, to whom the House of Assembly, with its usual liberality, awarded a sum of money for the discovery. The fruit is **greedily** eaten by **swine**. See an article by **myself** on "the Ramoon Tree," in the *Penny Magazine* for 1838.



1843,) who has enjoyed, and does enjoy, abundant opportunities of proving what he states, in commenting on this passage, says--" Few tropical countries possess the natural advantages that Jamaica does : **the** nature of her climate, so variable (varied), and applicable to the productions of the different parts of the earth, that independent of the spontaneous profusion with which she yields the luxuriant products **indigenous** to her own soil, in the colder and more mountainous districts whole families subsist by cultivating and bringing to market those **fruits** and vegetables belonging to the remote region of Europe,"

It will thus be seen, that I am not in want of ample and competent authorities to support what I shall endeavour to establish, viz., that the climate, as well as the products of Jamaica, are grossly misunderstood **or** misrepresented in Great Britain, and that independent of " Jamaica offering to the capitalist attractions such as few parts of the world present," she opens her arms also to those whose capital is but **labour**, since she is capable of producing not only sugar and rum, coffee, ginger, and pimento-which may be considered her staples-but every possible variety of food, as well as spices, medicinal drugs, and the more **rare** and valuable woods, the bare enumeration of which would swell this paper to a very inconvenient length ; while land is cheap, and building materials on the spot; and that, consequently, she could support, **in** competence and comparative **affluence**, a hardy and healthy race of Europeans, as well as she does an **African** or derivative race, and I may add, to ten times the amount of the present population, which, perhaps, in round numbers is little short of five hundred thousand.

I shall not dwell upon the rapid growth and maturity of beans and **pease** of every description, particularly the black-eye or pen-pea, as it is called near Kingston ; French beans and the yard-long bean (so called **from** its amazing length-for though delicate and exquisite eating, it measures nearly three feet) ; the two latter of which I have myself planted, and eaten of their produce within six weeks, and that in the dry season, in the immediate vicinity of Kingston, where the land is extremely poor ;-but confine myself to such products as, in a **commercial** point of view, will interest English agriculturists and English capitalists. I shall first speak of **INDIGO**, a former export of Jamaica.

Presuming that the reader is acquainted more or less with the natural history of the plant, I proceed at once to speak of the mode or manner in which the indigo is obtained from it, both in the Central States of America and in the East Indies. The species generally cultivated is the **tinctoria**, which requires a rich moist soil and warm weather. The seed, **which** is at first sight not unlike coarse gunpowder, is sown three or four

inches deep, in straight lines, twelve or fifteen inches apart. The shoots appear above ground in about a week ; at the end of two months the plant flowers, when it is fit for cutting, which is done with a pruning knife. It must be mentioned that great care is requisite in weeding the indigo field when plants first shoot through the earth. In the state of St. Salvador, large vats made of mahogany or other hard wood are constructed for the reception of the plant, where it is allowed to undergo maceration and fermentation. In a short time the water becomes greenish and emits a strong pungent smell, while carbonic acid gas is freely evolved. In about twenty-four hours it is run off into large flat vessels, and stirred about until a blue scum appears, when additional water is added and the blue flakes sink to the bottom. The **supernatant** water has now acquired a yellowish tinge, when it is run off **carefully**, and the blue deposit or sediment put into bags to drain. It is subsequently dried in the shade, or sometimes in the sun, then placed in cotton bags and carried to the indigo fair, or forwarded to the city of Guatemala.

The East Indian mode of manufacturing the indigo differs materially, and many suppose it preferable to the Salvador. It consists *in steaming* the fermented mass in large pipes enclosed in huge boilers. I am inclined to believe this to be the most economical, if not the best way of manufacturing indigo. From Guatemala alone, it is computed that from **6000**. to **8000** serons of indigo are exported annually; while San Miguel, Chalatenango, Tejulta, Secatecolnea, St. Vincent, Sensuntepepe, **not** only, it is said, produce a larger quantity, but the four last-mentioned places have the advantage as to quality. *The Belize Advertiser* stated; some time since, that the value of this dye **from** one State in 1830 produced **2,000,000** dollars, the minimum of an immense sum which has been most unjustly and unwisely wrested from the people of **Jamaica** and the other West India islands.

Bridges (*Annals of -Jam.* p. **584**, Append.), speaking of the vast returns of an indigo plantation, says, “The **labour** of a single negro would often bring to his owner **£30** sterling per annum clear **profit**,—a sum which **was at** the time the labourer’s highest price. It continued the **staple** of Jamaica till an intolerable tax oppressed it, while its price was lowered by the competition of other colonies. Its cultivation immediately declined throughout them all, but nowhere so rapidly as here. The financial error was quickly **discovered**,—a remedy was attempted by a bounty ; but it came too late, the plantations were thrown up, and the planters, attracted by the temporary **gain**, abused the tardy boon, by introducing, as of their own growth, large quantities of foreign indigo.” **As** Bridges may be said in this passage to be