

dreaded; it only differs from yellow fever in not being so deadly, and not being infectious or contagious. Tsetse fly is disappearing as cultivation spreads. Horse sickness is a more serious difficulty. More than seventy-five per cent of the natives are friendly and supporters of the British administration, but the slave-traders hate us. As for the Arabs, they must go, every one, and never be readmitted. The negro will do most of the heavy work; but for intelligent labour which needs to be executed under British supervision, Mr. Johnston would import coolies from India.

### COFFEE LANDS IN MEXICO.

The Bureau of the American Republics is informed that the Mexican Cotton-Coffee Colonization Society has purchased 2,500,000 acres of land in the State of Coahuila on the Mexican Central Railway, which will be colonized with both white and colored people. It is reported that coal has been found. Mr. J. S. McNemora, of San Antonio, Texas, is President of the company.

Another company, The Mexican Land and Improvement, having headquarters at Kansas City, Mo., has brought a large tract of coffee land in the vicinity of Tancanhuitz lying near the line of the Mexican Railroad. They will commence colonizing at once.—*American Grocer.*

### SISAL HEMP IN THE BAHAMAS.

A correspondent writes concerning sisal hemp in the Bahamas as follows:—"Our fibre industry continues to advance rapidly. A new company with very large capital has commenced operations on Little Abaco, and employs 300 men. J. S. Johnson has turned his business into a Limited Company with \$80,000 capital. They have about 3,000 acres already planted. Chamberlain has 2,000 and commences clearing next year. Monroe has about 2,500 and has just put up a Tod machine, and is only waiting to finish his railway to bring the leaves to it to commence steady cleaning. Albee Smith has two machines in the Colony now, but the only one I have heard from (at Rum Cay) is a failure, as the second grip (gutta-percha over chain) gave out after very little work. Menendez in this island is cleaning steadily now, using Van Buren's machine, until he can find a better, think we shall have a large export in 1895, and very fair one in 1894"—*Planters' Monthly.*

### VARIOUS PLANTING NOTES.

**LIBERIAN COFFEE** is taking a stronger hold year and year in the coffee-districts. The Travancore Government are realising more than ever the importance of the planting industry, and are distributing Liberian seed free of cost for experimental cultivation. If only experimental gardens had taken up the question a decade ago, the question would have been practically settled by this time. It is not too late now to start them if only a little energy could be imparted to all concerned.—*S. I. Observer.*

**TEA** is now successfully raised in China, Japan, Ceylon, India and Java, and experiments are being made with it in the United States, the Azores, Fiji, Mexico, Hawaii and perhaps other countries. A recent Scotch paper states that a chest of the new crop from the Azores had been received and was found to be very superior, though hardly equal to that raised in Ceylon and Japan. The experiment, however, shows that good tea can be produced in the Azores, and if there, why not here. It will cost more no doubt, but still it can be sold here at a profit, as compared with the Asiatic-tea, and, still better, guaranteed to the pure article.—*Planters' Monthly.*

**PLANTING TREES.**—This is, I am sorry to say, practically a failure. They will not grow near the sea, and where they are planted in the interior, notably near Matara, the natives ruthlessly destroy them, they will not grow in the Hambantota District except near water.—*Mr. Ormsby's Report for 1893.*

**A NOTABLE SALE OF GLASGOW TEA.**—The sales in Colombo went exceedingly well today (1st August), teas selling from ½d to ¾d better than last week. A fine invoice of Glasgow estate in the Agras realized splendid prices. The sale is so notable that we reproduce it here:—

Glasgow 30 Chests bro. or. p.k.	2,400 lbs	Rl. 11
25 Hf-chests "	1,500 "	80
22 Chests pekoe "	2,200 "	68
	Average	... 86cts

**SANITARY QUALITIES OF WATERCRESS.**—The Watercress is a plant containing very sanitary qualities. A curious characteristic of it is that, if grown in a ferruginous stream, it absorbs into itself five times the amount of iron that any other plant does. For all anæmic constitutions, says the "Scientific American," it is therefore specially of value. But it also contains proportions of garlic and sulphur, of iodine and phosphates, and is a blood purifier, while abroad it is thought a most useful condiment with meat roast or grilled. The cultivated plant is rather more easy of digestion than the wild one.—*Journal of Horticulture.*

**A PIONEER OF THE TEA INDUSTRY.**—The death occurred last week, at Brighton, of Mr. G. Treutler, a pioneer of tea planting in Darjeeling from 1862 to 1865. He was a Prussian by birth, and, we believe, went to Darjeeling more than half a century ago as a missionary. Having secured some experimental plots of land in 1857, Mr. Treutler planted tea on a small scale, ultimately disposing of his gardens to the Himalaya Tea Company. He returned in 1866, having made a fortune by his experiments in tea and trade.—*H. and C. Mail, July 13.*

**COFFEE IN QUEENSLAND.**—Mr. W. J. Thompson writes to the *Australian Agriculturist* that "when the plants have matured the work of an expert will become necessary. A knowledge of the requirements of the market, and the best and quickest modes of curing must be given. Then a knowledge of the various habits of the tree, combined with the art of handling and pruning to obtain the greatest possible crop; and the addition from time to time of suitable manures to any patches that do not come up to the proper standard will be necessary. I think you were much under the mark in estimating half a ton to the acre as he return. I have 70 or 80 trees under my charge that are giving from four to five five lb to the tree, and they have been much neglected and in tor soil. With 646 trees to the acre, 4 lb. to the tree, would be 2,484 lb, or 1 ton 2 cwt. 20 lbs value £124 4s.

**EUCALYPT.**—The Calcutta Exhibition of 1883-84 lent a stimulus to the introduction of the *Eucalyptus* tree in India, its timber having some economical value, though not to the same extent as the mahogany, teak or a score of others which could be named in this connection. The planting of that foreign tree has been continued in the Northern Division of the Ganges Canal. *Eucalyptus robusta* is found to be the most suitable variety for the work for which they are intended, supplying timber for the cribs required for the head bunds. *Eucalyptus rostratus* grows quickly and well, but does not yield sufficiently straight logs for crib work. Col. C. W. I. Harrison, B.E., Chief Engineer, Irrigation Works, however, recommends that it would be as well now to suspend the planting of *Eucalyptus* until it has been ascertained if the wood is really a suitable one, and if it can be grown and delivered at Bhimgoda at a lower rate than the timber supplied by contractors.—*Indian Engineers.*