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J A M A I C A .

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FIRST PAPER.

JAMAICA is deserving of attention on various grounds. Ascending the stream of time, we reach that noble Englishman, Cromwell, under whom it became ours; and that famous Italian, Columbus, by whom it became the world's. Descending thence, what changes it exhibits, and with what suggestions and lessons is it fraught! We see it swept by hurricane, shaken and partially entombed by earthquake, singed by fire, saturated by flood, ravaged by epidemics, revolutionized by emancipation, darkened by adversity, stranded by party, sifted and searched for mineral wealth, and always abundant in the most valuable agricultural produce. How many British families it has enriched, and how many it has ruined! What English homestead has not some immediate or remote connection with "the isle of springs," as its name denotes, or some interest in its fortunes? It is one of our noblest colonial possessions, and deserves much more than trivial contemporary regard. Though a speck on the map, it is the queen of the British Antilles; and in fertility of soil, riches of productions, variety and salubrity of hill-climate, magnificence of scenery, and convenience of geographical position, yields to few.