

nese, that they are in the habit of opium smoking, and introduce that habit in the places where they are permitted to dwell.

Opium forced on
the Chinese by the
British.

Apart from the historical fact, that our country within the last thirty years forced the use of opium upon the Chinese, burned their towns, demolished their fortifications, and slaughtered their people, to compel them to admit it into China, against the wish of its government and its inhabitants, as an article of trade and consumption, besides making them pay seventeen millions of pounds sterling as indemnity and war expenses, for

The Jorcha Arrow.

presuming to resist its importation, and seizing a little vessel, on board of which it was found, entering one of their ports, that vessel bearing the British flag, and the article itself being the production of our own East Indian possessions, and an essential factor, from which we derived the means of bearing the expenses of the East Indian Government; the startling fact meets us that it was in use among the British people themselves long before the advent of the Chinese into British Columbia, or as working classes either into America or Great Britain, and was and is used in

Its ancient use.

immense quantities among the European nations where a Chinaman never was seen. That the flower from which it is derived grows in almost every garden of Europe and America, and that it is a common article of barter and of trade among the civilized nations of the world. That it is used in half a dozen different ways, and may be found in every apothecary's shop in England and America. That as chloral, morphine and chewing, it is far more extensively and more dangerously used, and less capable of being detected than the practice of opium smoking.

The poppy.

It may be not inappropriate, in discussing this phase of the question very briefly, to refer to some of the authorities bearing on its use. The British, French and American scientists recognize it as derived exclusively from the *papaver somniferum*, or the ordinary white and black poppy. In India the flower appears in February, in Europe and the United States not earlier than June, July or August. All parts of the poppy contain a white opaque narcotic juice. In the capsule the juice most abounds; the seeds are destitute of narcotic property. It was cultivated by the ancient

Cultivation.

Greeks, and is mentioned by Homer as a garden-plant. It is at present cultivated very extensively in India, Persia, Egypt and Asiatic Turkey for opium, and in several parts of Europe, especially France and Germany for the seeds, though in both countries, good opium is at the same time produced. Though until recently only found in the gardens as an ornamental flower, of late, attempts have been made to cultivate it on a somewhat larger scale in the United States; and with success in Australia and in the Province of Victoria. Commerce is supplied with opium chiefly from Hindostan, Persia, Egypt and Asiatic Turkey. Immense quantities are produced in the Indian Provinces of Bahar and Benares, and in the more interior province of Malwa. The opium of Hindostan is distributed extensively through continental and insular India, where it is habitually employed in the place of spirituous liquors. Great quantities are also sent to China, into which it finds an easy entrance notwithstanding prohibitory laws. Much was formerly produced in the district of ancient Thebes, Upper Egypt, and laudanum was well known as *Tinctura Thebaicum*. The increase of consumption in the United States may be judged from the following importations:

In United States
and Australia.

Increase of
Consumption in
the United States

In 1878.....	207,752 lbs.
" 1879.....	278,554 "
" 1880.....	372,880 "