

least as far as Canada was concerned, no doubt would remain of the impolicy, as well as the injustice, of such restrictions as now exist with respect to them. Tobacco, however, as an article of luxury (although in Canada almost become a necessary) from which a legitimate revenue for the purposes of the state might be raised, together with the concurrent view of encouraging, fostering, and protecting, those incipient trials that are making to grow the article in Canada, and raise it to such a quality as to compete with the American,\* ought probably to remain

\* Tobacco has, from time immemorial, been grown in Canada for private consumption; almost every Canadian has a plot in his garden, in which it is cultivated for family-use, and the Canadian tobacco is sold in considerable quantities in the markets of Montreal and Quebec, to the inferior classes of the French inhabitants; but it has hitherto been wholly neglected as an article of commerce. In Upper Canada it has, however, at length attracted attention, and should it ever become a staple article of export, from this country, it may be worth while recording the commencement of its introduction into the market, as communicated to the public by the public papers lately in the following paragraph.

*Extract of a letter from Amherstburgh, U. C. December, 1822.*

"There has been some stir this winter, in consequence of the tobacco-trade. Next spring I think there will not be less than one hundred hogsheads shipped from here. The Lower Canada merchants will soon have to find us other markets than Montreal and Quebec, for the quantity will increase at least ten fold the year after."

The information contained in the above extract is very important, and comes from an authentic source. The tobacco is said to be even of a better quality than the Virginian, and will probably soon become another valuable staple in the commerce of His Majesty's North-American colonies. To lessen the expense of bringing it to market, a canal-communication between the Lakes Erie and Ontario is requisite. We are happy to observe that this subject begins now to excite the public attention, and we trust it will not be lost sight of until fully accomplished. A practicable water-communication by way of the St. Lawrence, from the Atlantic to the great lakes, would speedily develop the vast commercial resources of Upper-Canada, and augment the demand for British manufactures in remote parts of America, now rapidly increasing in population and wealth. Perhaps no country in the world is favoured with such natural facilities for a great inland navigation as the Canadas; and certainly no country offers greater inducements for the investment of stock