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Notes by the Way.

Tobacco.—We mentioned in our last the enormous falling off in the cultivation of tobacco, as shown by the government returns of last season. Now, as we have been a smoker for more than 60 years, we think we shall not be accused of vanity when we lay claim to the title of a judge of tobacco, and we can most sincerely say that, as long as we can get *good* Canadian tobacco for our pipe, we do not care a fig for all the tobaccos, however grandly named, that are offered in the shops.

We say "*good* Canadian tobacco," because there is an immense proportion of the weed grown here that is utterly ruined by the grower. Just as the fraudulent orchardist is ruining the export-trade in apples by his dishonest packing, so does the greedy tobacco-grower injure his market by mixing up the immature leaves, that sprout after the main crop is cut, with the well-ripened first crop. Hence comes that *spitting* sound so often heard by the smoker when his pipe is well a light; which sound is invariably accompanied by blistered tongue and lip.

Again, there is the practice too prevalent of allowing the leaves immediately after they are cut to lie in a heap and sweat. The sweating should take place after, not before, the tobacco is dry. The practice we complain of, which is carried out to hasten the drying, invariably produces that abominable *hot* smell that almost all the lower classes of tobacco grown in the renoter districts of this province develop; the odour is unmistakable; if you hold a pinch of the leaves to your nose, you will perceive it at once.

The business of the grower is to grow the plant, dry it, and pack it: the manufacturer's business