

and the Indian ginger in Jamaica. Tea may be cultivated out of China; but the noble codfish, this is beyond man's control, this is the gift of nature to those northern seas, and as long as the world lasts, Newfoundland will be the great fish producing country. The cod fish, the chief of the family of the *Gadus*, inhabits in general the North Atlantic between the 40 and 60th degree of latitude on the European coast, but extends further south on the American side. In another country the description of the capture and curing of cod would furnish materials for a very interesting lecture, but here it is superfluous to say anything on that subject. The Grand Bank appears to be the great breeding ground of the species, and the finest fish is caught there. In the Lofoden Islands in Norway under the Arctic Circle, a great cod fishery is carried on, but as far as I could learn the catch is under 100,000 quintals. The fishers there pay great attention to the curing: the fish is nicely pucked in boxes, the fins trimmed off, and though in reality not as good a fish as that of Newfoundland, brings a higher price as fancy fish among the Spaniards and Cubans. I will not offer an opinion of the use or abuse of cod-seines, the improvements in curing or catching, for our people know more about these matters, than any other race on the face of the earth. I may remark, however, that the want of a population in many of the outports causes a loss of a great quantity of the most nutritious and delicate food, the air bladder, or as we call it cod's sound, which consists almost altogether of pure gelatine, and sells at a high rate in any market into which it has been introduced. The medicinal qualities of the fresh liver oil have been fully proved, and the manufacture of that article has brought a great increase of wealth to the country. Like all good things, however, it is easily imitated; the common cod oil, made by the putrifying process, has been refined at home by animal charcoal, filtered so as to deprive it of all bad smell, being already deprived, by putrefaction in the manufacture, of iodine and all other medicinal qualities, and pawned off by dishonest dealers as the genuine article. It would be well, therefore, for the credit of the article, and the advantage of those who require to use it, if some particular seal or mark was fixed on the bottles or vessels here, which would, in some sort, serve as a guarantee of its purity in Europe. We have not only, I may say, a monopoly of the cod fishery in Newfoundland, (of course I now include the French) but we see the market every day increasing. See what a prodigious expansion the Brazil trade has taken within the last few years: what will it be in future ages when