

## VARIETIES.

The two main varieties are the Cuban and the Comstock Spanish. The Cuban yields an aromatic tobacco, with a short leaf, which is used as filler in the manufacture of cigars; the Comstock tobacco has a light aroma and a fine texture and is used for binders. The ribs are more prominent in leaves of the same thickness in Kelowna grown Comstocks than in Eastern Comstocks. As to the Cubans, none of the products obtained in other parts of the Dominion can be compared to them. Their burning quality and their aroma are of a high order. They will head the list for a long time among 'filler' tobaccos of Canadian growth.

The Comstocks grown in the valley are from seed imported from Wisconsin and acclimatized since several years. The Cubans are also from Canadian seed, which has been obtained from seed imported from Cuba and renewed after two or three generations. The leaf of the Canadian Cuban is slightly larger than that of the original Cuban and it increases in size as the seed is produced in Canada. Unfortunately, this increase in size is obtained at the expense of aroma, and this is why growers have to use imported seeds periodically.

However it is not known as yet what aroma could be secured by growing entirely acclimatized Cuban seeds, and it would be interesting to ascertain how far the Canadian Cuban would increase in size and what would be the final aroma.

Judging by the money returns, these two varieties are about equal. A good aromatic 'filler' will sell at a higher price than a good 'binder', but the latter will yield about twice as much in weight on the same area. On the other hand aromatic tobaccos must be handled with much greater care than binder tobaccos, particularly during the curing process. However the growing of 'fillers' appears to be a safe industry for the tobacco grower of British Columbia. There is as yet no competition in this branch, and competition will always be comparatively difficult while excellent 'binders' are produced in Eastern Canada, and at such cost that they may easily compete with British Columbia products. The British Columbia grower has a better protection in the climate of his province, which allows him to secure an aromatic product almost unique in Canada, than in his remoteness from the tobacco growing centres of the East, and in the high rates of transportation across the Rockies.

## SEEDLINGS.

On account of the mild climate of their province, British Columbia growers do not have to go to the expense of making hot-beds as must Quebec and sometimes Ontario growers.

Even glazed sashes can be done away with, although they may be useful at times to stimulate the growth of late seedlings. A good frame with 12 in. x 1 in. boards sunk in the ground to the depth of 4 in. x 5 in. and covered with a light cotton cover is all that is required in Okanagan to protect the young seedlings against severe weather and the sudden changes of temperature that may occur during the first part of the spring.

Provision should be made for the draining away of rain-water. The cotton cover may be set up as a tent, with sloping sides held up at the central part of the bed with a longitudinal bar which is supported by posts a few inches above the level