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NOTICE.—The subscription to the *Illustrated Journal of Agriculture*, for members of Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, as well as of Farmers Clubs, in the province of Quebec, is 30c annually, provided such subscription be forwarded through the secretaries of such societies.—**EDITORIAL MATTER.** All editorial matter should be addressed to A. R. Jenner Fust, Box 109, Lachine, Que.—or to the Director of Agriculture, Quebec.

OFFICIAL PART.

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TOBACCO.

An attempt is now being made to encourage the cultivation of tobacco in England. Whether it will be successful or not, I cannot say, but, at all events, I am sure from the names of those who are foremost in the promotion of this revived industry; no pains will be spared to find out the best paying sorts to grow, and the best and most suitable to the climate-methods of cultivation.

The nearest region to England in which the plant is grown on a large scale is the departments in the North-West of France—Picardy, in fact—and to this district the Royal Agricultural Society of England, always foremost in good works, sent, in 1885, their late Secretary, Mr. Jenkins, to investigate the system of culture there pursued, and to report thereon to a special committee of the Society, that measure might be taken to advise all intending English growers of the plant how to proceed in their first attempts, lest, by blundering at the first start, they might be hindered from pursuing what might ultimately turn out to be an easy as well as profitable pursuit.

Mr. Jenkins' report, which I have just received, is very full, and deeply interesting to me, though I do not believe tobacco will ever be grown in England on a large scale. I do not wonder at the English farmer catching at anything likely to help him in his present unfortunate position, but knowing, as I do, the intense abhorrence of the tenant-farmer of anything savouring of the "*petite culture*," I predict that within five years the fashion of tobacco-growing will have gone out in smoke.

One thing struck me very forcibly in the report: the extraordinary expenditure of the Belgian peasant on this crop. According to the report, the following shows the cost, per hectare of the tobacco in Belgium. The first column is taken from the English newspaper, "*Agriculture*," the second from a statement furnished by the Agricultural Society of East Flanders to the government:

COST OF GROWING TOBACCO IN GRAMMONT.

	"AGRICULTURE."		OFFICIAL REPORT.	
	fr.	\$	fr.	\$
Manures.....	1,000	=200.00	1,536	=307 00
Labour.....	1,000	=200 00	601	=120.00
Tax.....	800	=160.00		
Rents, rates and taxes.....	300	= 60.00	261	= 52.00
	3,100	=620.00	2,398	=489.00

As the *hectare* is equal in round numbers to 2½ acres, this will be something about, taking the first column, \$250 an acre; and for the official report \$190 an acre. The latter, it will be observed, contains no item for taxes, which in the former amount to one-third of the whole cost.