

Osnabruck, which proved that the ancients smoked. M. Kefersteiu, in his "Celtic Antiquities," boldly declares that the Celts smoked. Klemm, in his "History of Christian Europe," states that the smoking of intoxicating plants was known to the Scythians and Africans long before the introduction of tobacco into Europe. Herodotus, in speaking of the Scythians, does not go quite so far, but mentions that the people spread hemp seed on red-hot stones and inhaled the vapour sent forth. It is therefore thought by Baron de Bonstetten that the pipes of which he gives the drawing were used before the introduction of tobacco into Europe.\*

This is by no means the first time that classic authorities have been quoted in proof of the antiquity of smoking. In the *Anthologia Hibernica*,† for example, a learned treatise aims to prove, on the authority of Herodotus (lib. I. Sec. 36,) Strabo, (lib. vii. 296), Pomponius Mela, (2.) and Solinus (c. 15,) that the northern nations of Europe were acquainted with tobacco, or an herb of similar properties, long before the discovery of America, and that they smoked it through small tubes. Pliny has also been produced to show that Coltsfoot (*tussilago farfara*, a mucilaginous and bitter herbaceous plant, the leaves of which were once in great favor for their supposed medicinal qualities,) furnished a substitute for the American plant which superseded this and other fancied supplies of the ancients' pipes. Speaking of that plant as a remedy for a cough, (Nat. Hist. xxvi. 16.) Pliny says:—"Hujus aridæ cum radice fumus per arundinem, haustus et devoratus, veterem sanare dicitur tussim; sed in singulos haustus passum gustandum est." This, however, is nothing more than a proof of the antiquity of a process of applying the fumes or steam of certain plants, for medicinal purposes, which is recommended in a treatise on "the Vertues of Colefoot" in the *Historie of Plantes*, by Rembert Dodoens, translated and published in England in 1578. "The parfume of the dryed leaves" says he, "layde upon quicke coles, taken into the mouth through the pipe of a funnell, or tunnell, helpeth suche as are troubled with the shortness of winde, and fetche their breath thicke or often." So far, how-

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\* Quoted in the North British *Daily Mail*, July 24th, 1856, but without naming the original source. It was copied into the *Illustrated Times*, of July 26th, and by other periodicals, but there also without reference to the original authority. In this case I cannot doubt that the writer who thus loosely quotes, or misquotes, the "Archæology of Scotland" does it at second hand, from Dr. Bruce.

† Vol. I., p. 352 quoted in *Notes and Queries*, X. 48. The subject has been handled in all lights, and each view of the questions it involves has found its defenders in this useful periodical,—doubly useful to those who are cut off from the great public libraries. In N. and Q., vol. II., p. 154, much curious information is concisely given relative to the assumed use of tobacco, anciently, and in the East. Ibid p. 150. Its Eastern antiquity finds a contradiction on the authority of Lane, and still more of Dr. Meyer of Königsberg, who discovered in the works of an old Hindostanee physician, a passage in which tobacco is distinctly stated to have been introduced into India, by the Frank nations, in the year 1609.