

## **Tobacco : its use and abuse / by Louis Silberberg.**

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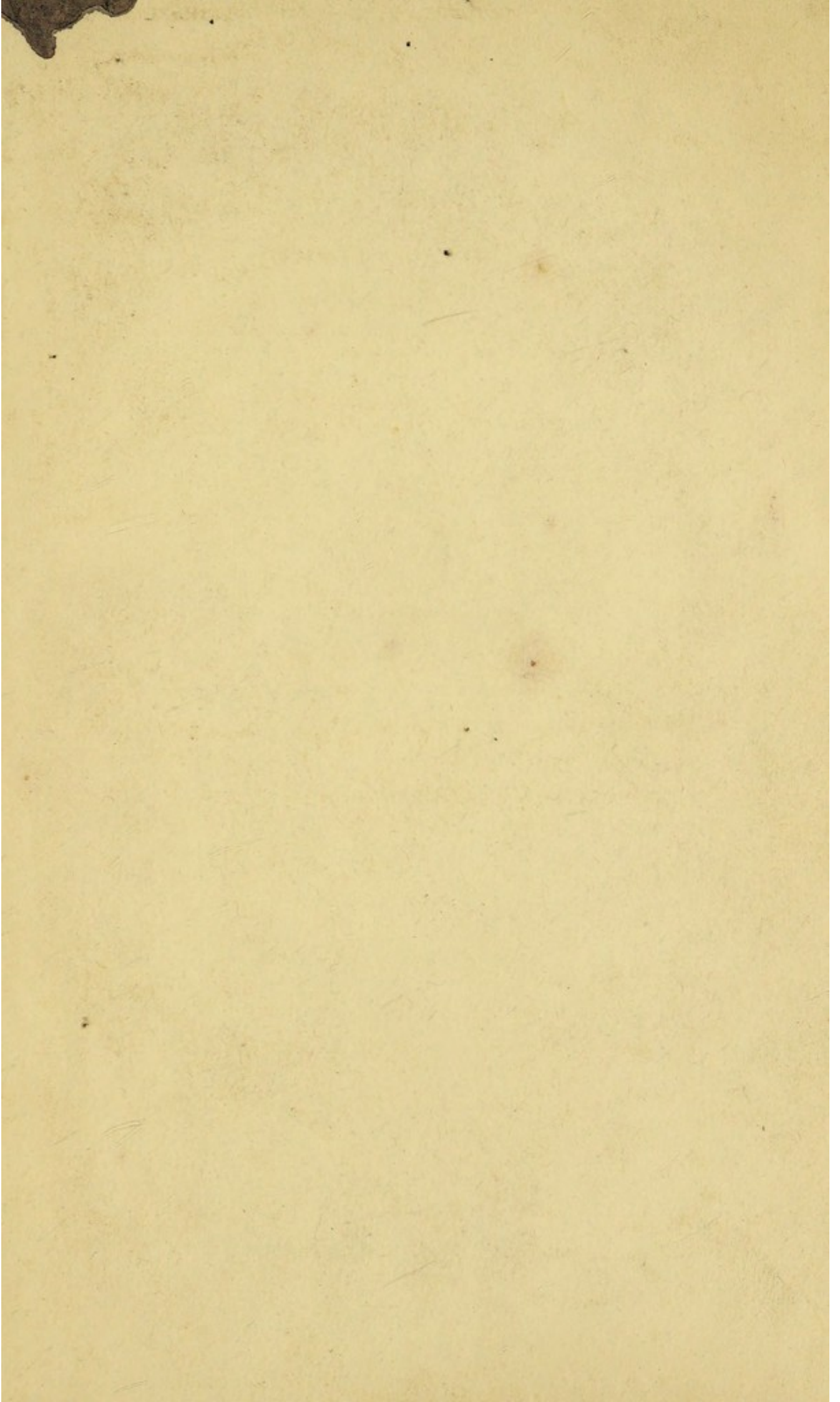
TOBACCO.  
ITS USE AND ABUSE.



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TOBACCO:  
ITS USE AND ABUSE.

[*Entered at Stationers' Hall.*]

“The pungent, nose-refreshing weed,  
Which whether pulverised it gain  
A speedy passage to the brain,  
Or, whether touched with fire, it rise  
In circling eddies to the skies,  
Does thought more quicken and refine  
Than all the breath of all the Nine.”

COWPER.

# TOBACCO:

ITS USE AND ABUSE.

BY

LOUIS SILBERBERG,

MANAGER OF THE HABANA CIGAR COMPANY.



LONDON:

THE HABANA CIGAR COMPANY,

104, CHEAPSIDE; and 48, PALL MALL.



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# TOBACCO :

## ITS USE AND ABUSE.

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“Do you smoke?” What a question, at this time of day!

When all people smoke, both the grave and the gay—  
Except ladies and infants—and queer kind of things,  
That we know to be tied by invisible strings!

If you don't, then “you ought to”—an elegant phrase  
Much in vogue in the parlance of our refin'd ways,

In this year Sixty-two ;

So without more ado

Put me into your pocket, and, when in the train,  
We can gossip together—may be to our gain—  
Of all the known countries and all the known men—  
Where THE WEED grows “promiscuous” on hill or in  
glen ;

And see if the “poisonous fume of a smoke”

Is not somewhat allied to a capital joke.

I CANNOT ask you to make the  
Voyage of the World with me  
to see the tobacco plants as cul-

tivated for trade,—there are some forty odd species, of which, however, only eight or ten are under cultivation, and yield all the varieties of the shops. But I can invite you to go by yourself to Kew, by rail or boat, and see all these species and an endless variety in all their stages of growth—leaf, flower, and seed; then to visit the South Kensington Museum, to see and judge for yourself what a dried leaf should be in its perfection; after which to go to the far East, to the Tobacco Warehouses in the London Docks, to understand what an important article of Commerce and Revenue tobacco

has become ; and finally, to call at either 104, Cheapside, or 48, Pall Mall, and perfect your knowledge by acquiring that nicety of perception of the flavour of the manufactured article, which marks the man of refinement and education quite as much as a smattering of Latin and Greek, and a recognized judgment in wines.

Kew Boats run from most of the river-piers above bridge ; from the Waterloo Station the rail conducts you, through landmarks of the past and pretty market-gardens and orchards, to the most celebrated Botanical Garden in the world, of

which, as a tax-payer, you are part proprietor; for Kew Gardens belong to the nation, and are thrown open to the public. Once arrived, you will need to be told where the tobacco grows; you have only to ask any of the men you see at work in the gardens, and the place will be pointed out to you. Let me use Mr. Steinmetz's description of the *Nicotiana Tabacum*, so named after M. Nicot, who introduced it into France—the plant most abundantly cultivated, to whet your appetite for the treat in store for you.

“This species,” he says, “may be taken as the type of the most

beautiful symmetry of all the family. I have seen the plant full six feet in height,—the growth of four summer moons,—rising from the soil with a pyramidal stem, the base of which nearly equalled the wrist of a man in thickness. Stout tendons fix it to the soil; but it is constantly observed that the plant tends, as it were, to emerge entirely from the ground, which must be repeatedly heaped up round the salient root. Its cylindrical stem is divided by numerous branches, adorned with magnificent leaves, oval, lanceolate, alternate, and twenty-four inches in length by eighteen in diameter.

The tips of the leaves are acute, their borders wavy, the surface velvety, and strongly marked with a mimic nervous system, dividing the leaf in spaces at right angles nearly from the central spine, and of a yellowish green colour, glutinous to the touch, and bitter to the taste. The flower is of a purple tinge, the fruit-pod oblong, membranous, with two lobes containing an immense number of exceedingly fine seeds, — Linnæus counted 40,320. So vigorous is the reproductive energy of the plant, that I have seen it blooming a beautiful flower after having been cut down, and

hung up to dry for three weeks,—the flower-bud having been developed from the juices of the hanging stem. The seeds have been known to retain their vitality for fifteen years.”

Philosophy has proved that Nature never works without a beneficent purpose, and we are taught that “every creature is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving.” We know that those creatures, both animal and vegetable, which possess within themselves the greatest powers of reproduction, are specially intended for the use of man; and though, as yet, in our imperfect knowledge, we may



not be able to account for the peculiar uses of some, from analogy we come to the conclusion that, as cereals in the vegetable world, and fish of all kinds amongst animals, are the most productive, they were specially devoted to man's use. From the earliest antiquity narcotics have been used by the human race, and to this practice amongst the heathens, Isaiah probably alludes, when he upbraids the Jews for "remaining in the graves, and lodging in the monuments;" for at that period, it is well known, men went into the heathen temples to obtain prophetic dreams; or, in other words,

to place themselves under the influence of some narcotic, similar in its properties to the opium of to-day.

In Asia, the use of the Betel leaf is universal throughout the south, even where tobacco has since been introduced. It is taken rolled round Areca nut, and encloses a little Chunum—lime produced from shells. It soothes the nervous system, at the same time that it promotes digestion and increased pulsation. In these respects, it is like the Coca of South America, which is also eaten with lime, without the use of which the poor miners

of Peru would sink beneath the heavy toil of their calling. The use of opium is much more universal than the outside world believes ; and I could adduce many other narcotics to show that, spread as they are all over the earth, Nature intended them, in some way, to benefit mankind ; for, whether in civilized or savage life, man's instincts discover them, and apply them to still an inborn craving.

Now, of all narcotics that which seems to agree best with the human constitution, is tobacco. To whatever clime it has penetrated, whether as seed to be cultivated, or as dried

leaf to be consumed, there tobacco-smoking takes its firm hold; and all the sophistry of the "Jeameses," the followers of that royal pedant's *Counterblaste*, will never shake the estimation in which it is held, simply because it ministers to a natural want. "Where Nature gives a strong tendency, there must be a strong reason in the cause, and still more so when she superadds a pleasure."

In the South Kensington Museum you will not only see the dried leaf of all the varieties you witnessed growing at Kew, but of other sorts, which are imported in a dry state,

both raw and manufactured. It is not my province to give you a catalogue of what that noble Institution contains in the way of tobacco. Everything is there ticketed, with full particulars of its nature and properties, and the various applications to which it is available. It is to the London Docks that I am desirous to accompany you, because there, unless you have a guide, you will scarcely get the information now placed before you. The whole of the tobacco in the Docks is kept under one roof, or rather under one succession of roofs, to facilitate the collection of the duties, which are

not demanded till the quantity purchased is about to be removed.

Each country has its method of packing tobacco for exportation, and in this enormous warehouse you will find hogsheads, boxes, bales, and *serons*, these latter being panniers, a Spanish mode of package for transit. But it is the hogsheads that outnumber every other variety, because this form is admirably adapted to stow away the large Virginian and Maryland leaf, the article in the greatest consumption. The mass of leaves, by means of lever pressure, is reduced to one fourth of its bulk, and comes to us

a hard compressed substance; this compressure assisting essentially to spread the natural oil of the plant, and so to keep the tobacco sound and pure. The hogsheads are forty-eight inches long by thirty-two in diameter, each holding some twelve hundred pounds' weight. Turn where you will, the eye takes in nothing but long ranges of these hogsheads, generally two in height, all running in parallel lines in interminable passages, each several hundred feet long, and generally exposing not less than twenty thousand hogsheads for an expert to select from. The only break in the

dense mass, is here and there a small space for the counting-house of an officer of Customs.

When a hogshead is opened, it is so managed that the entire mass of tobacco is at once denuded of the covering, and the whole exposed to view. This is necessary because, if any of the contents is “spoiled”—damaged by salt-water, bad packing, or any other cause—it is not allowed to be taken away without payment of the full duty of 3*s.* 2*d.* per pound; and if the broker objects to do this, not seeing his way clear to sell it at a remunerative profit, that portion which has become injured



is cut away by two men, with long cutting instruments, a work of considerable labour, owing to the density and hardness of the mass. The remainder is then weighed, its duty determined, and the brokers take samples in the usual way.

Near the north-east corner of the Warehouses is a door inscribed: "To the Kiln," in which all the spoiled or damaged tobacco, upon which the brokers object to pay the duty, is burnt; and the long chimney, which carries off the smoke, goes by the name of "The Queen's Pipe." The Tobacco Warehouse is rented by Government at £14,000

a-year, and covers no less than five acres of land. But large as this sum may appear, the annual duty levied on tobacco being upwards of five millions, it is better for the convenience of trade that the Tobacco Warehouse should be where it is, than in a separate Government establishment away from these great centres of commerce, even at the saving of a few thousand pounds per annum. The duty paid upon foreign manufactured cigars forms but a very small item of this five millions and odd, being of late years about £150,000 as the average; not because there are not

willing buyers enough of foreign cigars, but owing in a great measure to the demand of other countries as well as our own for the true Havannah, which cannot be met without the introduction of inferior tobacco. For this purpose the coarse growths of Holland and Germany are shipped to Cuba and North America, to be coated with a leaf of the genuine plant, and re-shipped to Europe and America as true "Habanas." Pure cigars can be manufactured in England quite as well as in Cuba, and, by only paying 3s. 2d. instead of 9s. 6d. duty, can be sold at considerably less than

half the price of these adulterated articles. To prove this to your entire satisfaction, is why I have asked you, after your visit to the Docks, to call in either at 104, Cheapside, or at 48, Pall Mall, the warehouses of the Habana Cigar Company, and to judge for yourself.

Of all indirect taxation the duty on tobacco is one that is least felt, because the outlay for the article is in that gradual form, that it is scarcely perceptible. Yet it is in the aggregate such a source of national income, as to become one of the chief items in our annual

balance-sheet. The sum is so startling that an attempt has recently been made to get up a crusade against the Tobacco Duties. Five millions a-year, however, is a hopeless sum of money to expect any Chancellor of the Exchequer to remit, while war and rumours of war, and all the contingencies of peace, depend upon Armstrong and Whitworth guns, iron-clad ships, and experiments at Shoeburyness. "Put that in your pipe and smoke it," said punning Old Fuller, in his celebrated sermon; and that is just what is the wiser course to pursue with regard to the present agitation

respecting the Tobacco Duties. Paradox as it may seem, the cure for the grievance of high-priced tobacco is to be sought in the increased consumption of the article. Hitherto, very little superior tobacco has been imported for the purpose of being manufactured into cigars. What British cigars generally consist of is a mystery, something like the fruit on the shores of the Dead Sea, fair and seeming from without, and dust and ashes within ; a leaf of fine tobacco, mostly imported for the express purpose, covering up, in many cases, simply the waste cuttings,

dust, and refuse of the manufactory. Hence the increased consumption of foreign manufactured cigars, the consequent rise in the price, and this crusade against the Tobacco Duties.

Smoking has become an institution—a necessity; and what but a few years ago was the luxury of the rich, is now the solace of overworked clerks and others, whose daily employment binds them to desk or warehouse for the greater part of the day. The rapid rise in the price of cigars has led to the most extensive use of the short pipe; but the evil of the short pipe

is, that it is apt to engender the tobacco-cancer in the lip. The cigar being, at all times, the surest means for smokers to avoid the risk of this dangerous complaint, it has been my great study to introduce an article of British make, prepared from the pure American leaf, equal to that in use in the Royal Navy, which shall scarcely be inferior to the finest manufactured cigars of tobacco-growing countries, and yet, being subject only to the duty on unmanufactured foreign tobacco, may be sold at a price which places these cigars within the reach of the great class of persons to whom "a



smoke," as they walk or ride to or from business, is looked upon as little less than the morning's or evening's meal. To meet the requirements of this great class of consumers, I have had these cigars manufactured in four forms :—

1. REGALIAS of 80 to the pound ;
2. LONDRES of 100 to the pound ;
3. KING'S 120 to the pound ; and
4. QUEEN'S 240 to the pound.

The silly cry against the use of tobacco as a sedative is dying out ; as a restorative its merits are placed beyond dispute by the experiments of the highest medical authorities,

these experiments having shown its powers of increasing the sluggish pulsation of men of sedentary habits and a studious turn of mind, and of invigorating and soothing the nervous system of commercial men, after the wear and tear of the day's business, and its consequent excitement. But if it is thus found to soothe the nervous system when overtaxed, either by mental labour or bodily exhaustion, tobacco is also shown to be the best antidote to that now common evil, the oscillation of railway-travelling, night and morning, between one's place of business and suburban home. Like the pre-

judices once raised against the introduction of tea and coffee as beverages, the prejudice against smoking must die out, only the tobacco itself must be pure. According to Dr. Gallagher, for fourteen years a naval surgeon, "the use of tobacco in the Navy has done no harm, but much good;" but he adds, "the tobacco they use is the pure dried leaf from America, one pound of which is equal to a pound and a half, or two pounds used on shore."

But the use of tobacco in the Navy has also an advantage, which even Dr. Gallagher's years of professional

service have not discovered to him. Let Commodore Wilkes, the American hero of the Mason and Slidell capture, tell what this is. You will find it in his *Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition*. He says a savage of the Feejee Islands told him that a ship, the hull of which was still lying on the beach, had come ashore in a storm, and that the crew had fallen into the hands of these cannibals. "What did you do with them?" asked Commodore Wilkes. "Killed 'em all," answered Feejee. "What did you do with them after you had killed them?" put in Wilkes. "Eat 'em

— good !” returned the savage. “Did you eat them all?” asked the half-sick Commodore. “Yes, we eat all but one,” replied Feejee. “And why did you spare that one?” inquired Wilkes. “Because he taste too much like tobacco; couldn’t eat him no how,” said the savage. I have given this passage of the “truth-loving” Commodore for what it may be worth; but I am told that the Arabs and Bedouins never suffer from the myriads of fleas and insects which swarm in their tents, owing entirely to their smoking tobacco.

It is a well-known fact that the

light soils of Great Britain and Ireland are particularly adapted for the growth of tobacco, which was extensively cultivated on the Cotswold Hills in Gloucestershire, and in Yorkshire, till its growth in Great Britain was prohibited by an act of the legislature. It is cultivated extensively in France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, and the Levant; but it thrives best, as far as the stronger varieties are concerned, between the 40th and 47th degrees of latitude, though a somewhat warmer climate is required for the more delicate sorts. The finest tobacco is

undoubtedly that produced at the Havannah. That known as Manilla is chiefly grown in the Island of Luzon, one of the Philippines. A real Manilla cheroot is quite guiltless of all opium; if opium is detected in one so called, it is an imitation. Latakia tobacco comes from Syria, and is grown in the neighbourhood of that town, the ancient Laodicea, from whence it takes its name. Persian tobacco is chiefly cultivated at Shiraz; and large quantities of the tobacco of commerce are obtained from India. But our great supply is brought from the other side of the Atlantic,

from Cuba, Tabago, St. Vincent ; from Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, and Louisiana ; from Columbia, the Brazils, and Porto Rico.

Like wine, prepared tobacco, whether as cigars or for the pipe, depends for its flavour greatly upon its mode of culture, the nature of the soil it is grown upon, the method of harvesting the crop, the distance it has to travel, and the process of its preparation for use. To understand this is the study of those who deal in the article ; and without this knowledge no dealer can be said to be acquainted with his business, or to be considered an



expert, whose authority may be relied on. Such knowledge, however, is not required by the buyer; his experience, as with wine, is sufficient if it enables him to select a cigar of pure flavour, and to detect any "sophistication" in its manufacture. If he deals with those who know the peculiar flavour of the tobacco he likes, he is always safe to receive the article he will approve of, in the same way that he trusts his wine-merchant to select his wines for him.

Bad, unsound wine is injurious to the constitution; bad, unsound tobacco no less so. But to say, in

the one case, that all wine is unwholesome, is not more absurd than to maintain a like proposition in the other; this is simply arguing from unsound premises. No doubt tobacco, when inhaled for the first time, commonly produces sensations the nature of which, long remembered in after-life, may be compared to sea-sickness, but with greater prostration and more uneasiness; so much so indeed, that in some well-authenticated cases the experiment was never repeated; and by a singular coincidence, Napoleon and Wellington, the great rivals in arms, had each the same antipathy to

tobacco ; but as both had a tendency to epilepsy, it is just possible that that tendency may have been the cause.

On the evening of his first return from the Peninsula, Wellington was induced to join the circle of smokers at the hotel in Portsmouth at which he put up for the night, and at which the Duke of Cumberland and some field-officers were also staying. In after-life, the Iron Duke described the scene himself. "He sat," he said, "behind the pipe, whiffing away with a feeling of wonder, and watching with interest the countenances of the rest of the

company.” There were other novices there besides Lord Wellington. One by one these left the room, and did not return. He saw the old smokers were on the look-out for his turn to follow the seceders. As he continued to puff away, he said to himself, “ Well, it will come to an end, I suppose ;” and it did come to an end, before the pipe was finished, and that too in such a way that he never attempted to smoke again.

Napoleon’s disgust was even more rapidly attained ; and yet he was the most inveterate snuff-taker of his day. Constant says the Persian

Ambassador had presented to the emperor a magnificent Oriental pipe. After being shown how to operate, he desired Constant to light the pipe. Let Constant tell the rest. "I obeyed, and returned it to him in order. But scarcely had he drawn a mouthful, when the smoke, which he knew not how to expel from his mouth, turned back into his palate, penetrated into his throat, and came out by the nose and blinded him. As soon as he recovered breath, he said, 'Take that away from me—what an abomination! Oh, the brutes!—my stomach is quite upset!' In fact," adds

Constant, "he felt himself so much annoyed for more than an hour, that he then and there renounced for ever all desire to try the experiment again."

Tobacco-smoking may therefore be said to be like eating olives, an acquired taste, but once acquired it is seldom laid down again ; for, if a real smoker, after this first little episode you feel no ill effects in body or mind from indulging either in pipe or cigar. Those who have become the violent opponents of the habit of smoking, seek to make one believe that "tobacco is a slow poison ;"—to the young and grow-

ing it may be so, but not to adults.

Dr. Christison, of Edinburgh, our highest medical authority on poisons, implies the reverse to be the case. I print his words in italics, that they may stand out the more prominently. “*No well-ascertained ill effects have been shewn to result from the habitual practice of smoking.*” To this testimony let me add that of Dr. Ranking, of Norwich, himself a moderate smoker of long standing. “I have had ample opportunities,” he says, “of seeing the effects of smoking in all degrees; from one pipe a-day, like my own, to the

practice of hourly fumigation, even in bed. The result of this experience is the conviction that tobacco, like tea, is only pernicious in its abuse, and that, used temperately, it is harmless, and may, under certain circumstances, be salutary.”

Dr. Hassell's testimony, in his book on the *Adulteration of Food*, is of more value still. “In persons whose circulation is brisk, and who have an abundance of red blood—in other words, in the sanguine and plethoric, or when the functions of digestion and assimilation are active—we should say that this habit, when not indulged in to excess,



would be calculated to be productive of beneficial rather than injurious consequences . . . . . There is another class of persons, too, on whom tobacco-smoking, practised in great moderation, may possibly exert a beneficial effect—namely, those of nervous and irritable temperament, *especially those who are so from the over-excitement of business rather than from disease*; and this applies to a considerable number of residents in large towns and cities.”

Indeed, where there is any unusual demand on the powers of the constitution, whether by bodily exercise, or still more by mental exertion,

the sedative, soothing, tranquillising effect of smoking is so unquestionable, that none but a weak-minded man would allow himself to be argued out of its moderate use ; for experience in every climate, and in all the occupations of life, bears testimony to its salutary operation in retarding a too rapid waste of tissue, and in invigorating the exhausted frame. To those who assert that tobacco-smoking is injurious to the brain, Dr. Bucknill, Physician to the Devon County Lunatic Asylum, thus replies: "The use of tobacco has certainly no influence on the production of insanity. It is far

more likely to prevent it by blunting the keen edge of bodily distress and mental grief. I have had some experience in this department of medicine, and I never knew a case in which the use, or even the abuse of tobacco has appeared to assist in the production of insanity. My experience convinces me that the moderate use of tobacco is advantageous in the treatment of insanity; and Dr. Conolly, the most eminent authority we have in this matter, even recommends tobacco to be given in the middle of the night to patients who are restless." And he adds: "the preponderance of

lunatics of the female sex is conclusive evidence against the theory that tobacco either causes or predisposes to mental disease.”

Sir Walter Raleigh smoking was at once a sight and a caution. Returned from the primitive forests, swamps, morasses, and all the mass of decaying vegetation of the New World, the savage inhabitants of which would have been entirely swept away by miasma in all its forms but for the use of tobacco, contemplate the first smoker in Great Britain; and the spread of the WEED throughout all civilized lands, irrespective of creeds and anathemas,

till its progress was only stopped by the great Pacific !

And here let me add a concise list of some of the most celebrated men of this country who have indulged in the luxury of "a smoke," since its first introduction into England. There is a very rare book, of which you may see a copy in the library of the British Museum, the title of which is, *Briefe and True Report of the new found land of Virginia, etc., made in English by Thomas Hariot*, which was printed at Frankfort in 1590, with very curious and interesting plates by Theodore de Bry. Thomas Hariot was an Ox-

ford man and a great mathematician, a man of deep thought and active energies. He accompanied Sir Walter Raleigh to America, and gave this first account of the new colony, which upon its discovery in 1584 by Philip Amidas and Arthur Barlow—who had been sent out under letters patent, granted by Queen Elizabeth to Adrian Gilbert and Sir Walter Raleigh, named it in honour of that virgin queen, Virginia, which then became the name of the whole of North America. You may put sovereigns into one scale, and the book, which is a thin folio volume, into the other, and

still find that a copy of it is worth more than twice its weight in gold. In that rare book, amongst other things, old Hariot gives an account of the plant *Uppowoc*, used by the Red Indian inhabitants, which he says, “the Spaniards call tobacco,” with the uses of which Sir Walter Raleigh and himself then first became acquainted. “We ourselves,” he adds, “during the time we were there, used to suck it after their manner through pipes made of clay, as also since our return, and have found many rare and wonderful experiments of the virtues thereof: the use of it by so many of late, men

and women of great calling, as also by some learned physicians, is sufficient witness." To this habit of ladies smoking as well as men, King James also alludes in his *Counterblaste to Tobacco*, showing that, as in Spain now-a-days, the habit was then common to both sexes in England.

Curious that in the first account of that part of America, which, from a British colony, on the 4th of July, 1776, became the "Model Republic" of the world, and is now the great riddle of statesmen, tobacco is placed before the reader as one of the great acquisitions given to Europe



by that discovery. Sir Walter Raleigh, of whom the apocryphal story is told of his servant believing him to be on fire, but which has long since been given to the Marines, from his position at Court soon made smoking fashionable. At Shakespeare's theatre, the Globe, at Bankside, on part of the ground of which one of the brewing-houses of Messrs. Barclay and Perkins now stands—"the amusements of the audience," says Mr. Dyce, "previous to the commencement of the play, were, reading, playing at cards, *smoking tobacco*, drinking ale, and eating apples and nuts. Even during the

performance," he adds, "it was customary for wits, critics, and young gallants, who were desirous of attracting attention, to station themselves on the stage, either lying on rushes or seated on hired stools, while their pages furnished them with *pipes and tobacco*."

Amongst these "wits, critics, and young gallants," must be included the greatest English philosopher, Lord Bacon, the founder of the School of Inductive Science; for he must have been a smoker, or he never would have written upon mere hearsay, "no doubt tobacco hath power to lighten the body, and to

shake off uneasiness." Such a name is a host in itself.

John Locke, the philosopher, a deep thinker of the latter part of the same century, whose giant intellect has left its impress upon ours, says, "bread and tobacco may be neglected, but reason at first recommends their trial, and custom makes them pleasant."

His great contemporary, Sir Isaac Newton, one of the names of which England is so pre-eminently proud—

"God said, Let Newton live, and all was light"

—was an inveterate smoker. Though at times so absorbed in his studies

as to forget whether he had dined or not, he never forgot his pipe. He died at the good old age of eighty-five, never having made use of spectacles, and only having lost one tooth in his life.

John Milton, when writing "Paradise Lost," thus divided his day — recollect he was then blind. When he rose, he heard a chapter in the Hebrew Bible, and then studied till twelve; after an hour's exercise he dined. After dinner he devoted himself to music, playing on the organ or singing, and then studying till six o'clock. Visitors he received from six till

eight, at which hour he supped, and, having had his pipe and glass of water, he retired for the night.

In the reign of Queen Anne, Addison makes that type of a true English gentleman, Sir Roger de Coverley, smoke ; and Addison, Steele, and the other wits of the day, were great smokers. "The knight asked me," are the words he puts into the mouth of the *Spectator*, "if I would smoke a pipe with him over a dish of coffee at Squire's," then a celebrated coffee-house in Fuller's Rents, patronised by the benchers and students of Gray's Inn. The *Spectator* goes on to tell

us, that this perfect gentleman “had no sooner seated himself at the upper end of the high table, but he called for a clean pipe, a paper of tobacco, a dish of coffee, a wax-candle, and the Supplement, with such an air of cheerfulness and good humour, that all the boys in the coffee-room, who seemed to take pleasure in serving him, were at once employed on his several errands.”

But to come nearer to our own times, I may adduce Bishop Warburton, one of the greatest ornaments of our Church, and a profound thinker ; the Rev. Dr. Parr, only

excepting Richard Porson, the greatest Classical scholar of his day; Lord Byron, the first poet of the age; and the late Duke of Sussex, whose collection of pipes told the history of a life, as all inveterate, not moderate smokers.

Our Premier enjoys his cigar; is there any other man who can lay claim to greater versatility of powers, stronger determination of purpose, or clearer insight into what is passing around him? He has lately been presented by some ladies of Nottingham with an elegant smoking-cap. May he long be spared to wear it, as he smokes his cigar,

and enjoy the soothing influence of a "smoke" after the cares and anxieties of the day!

"That most extraordinary plant tobacco," says Dr. Paris, "that once insignificant production of a little island, or an obscure district, has succeeded in diffusing itself through every climate, and in subjecting the inhabitants of every country to its dominion. The Arab cultivates it in the burning desert—the Laplander and the Esquimaux risk their lives to procure a refreshment so delicious in their wintry solitude—the seaman, grant him this luxury, and he will endure



with patience every privation, and defy the fury of the raging elements; and, in the higher walks of civilised society, at the shrine of fashion, in the palace, and in the cottage, the fascinating influence of this singular plant commands an equal tribute of devotion and attachment.”

Buy sound tobacco, as you would buy sound wine. Good wine, owing to the French Treaty, is rapidly bringing into disuse the wretched abomination of bad cider and villainous chiropiga, which so long has formed the great staple of the town of Cette, in Languedoc, and the chief stock of bonded Port in our

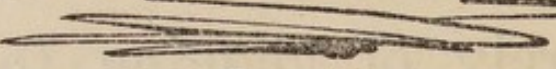
docks. An article need not be dear to be good and healthful, and cheap Bordeaux and Burgundy wines are infinitely more so than fabricated Ports and Sherries, which never come from Spain or Portugal. What applies to wine applies even more forcibly to tobacco. If British cigar-makers would only use tobacco of one growth and description, in the manufacture of each individual sort, why should not our home-manufactured cigars be only slightly inferior to those made in the tobacco-growing countries of the West Indies and America? As it is, in almost every case, the outer leaf, known in

the trade as the "cover," which charms the eye of the buyer, is of a greatly superior quality to the interior, which is flavoured with a small modicum of sound tobacco, and filled up with cuttings, dust, and refuse of many varieties, even when the whole consists of tobacco, which is not always the case. Such cigars are alike destructive to health of mind and body ; and, like dram-drinking, afford but a momentary relief to an over-excited nervous system, to be paid for in time by derangement of the stomach and falling-off of appetite, leading, in many cases, to rapid decline and

death. Now, a good genuine cigar does not engender tobacco-cancer, as does the short pipe, nor does it tend to destroy health, as does such a cigar as has just been described. On the contrary, it soothes the nervous system when overtaxed, either by mental labour or bodily exhaustion, as the eminent authorities, whose words I have quoted, all tend to show, and the example of the great men I have referred to, so completely proves.

Such a sound cigar, made entirely of genuine tobacco, is that which I have mentioned at page 28. I am told I should have asked twice

the price for it, and I should be sure to sell double the quantity. I give no credence to such a surmise. Good wine needs no bush, nor does a good cigar either. I am content with a minimum profit, trusting, as the cheap periodicals do, to an extensive sale, to enable me to continue to supply the lovers of a good cigar, at 9s. 6d. the pound, or with a choice mixture of the finest tobaccos or the pipe at 5s. the pound.

*Louis Silberberg*  
  
*Manager*

HABANA CIGAR COMPANY,

104, Cheapside, and 48, Pall Mall.

48, PALL MALL; and  
104, CHEAPSIDE.

# THE HABANA CIGAR COMPANY'S PRICE LIST.

(DUTY PAID.)	Per lb.	Per 100.
CABANAS—		
Londres Regalia . . . . .	40/	
Regalia Britannica . . . . .		65/
Brevas . . . . .		55/
Emperors . . . . .		48/
Cacadores . . . . .		42/
Medianos . . . . .		40/
FIGAROS—		
Londres Regalia . . . . .		48/
Regalia Britannica . . . . .		65/
Kings . . . . .		42/
PARTAGAS—		
Londres Regalia . . . . .	42/	
Regalia Britannica . . . . .		70/
Principe . . . . .		55/
Princesas . . . . .		50/
INTIMIDADS—		
Londres Regalia . . . . .		42/
Regalia Britannica . . . . .		60/

(DUTY PAID.)	Per lb.	Per 100.
INTIMIDADES—		
Media Regalias . . . . .		42/
Medianos . . . . .		35/
Super Omnia . . . . .		35/
SEVILLANOS—		
Londres Regalia . . . . .		35/
Regalia de Reina . . . . .		42/
Kings . . . . .	38/	
Queens . . . . .	45/	
GLOBOS—		
Londres Regalias . . . . .	38/	
Regalia Kings . . . . .		42/
LA ROSALIA—Kings . . . . .		32/
MARTINEZ—		
Regalia . . . . .		50/
Londres . . . . .		32/
Trabuco . . . . .		36/
AZUCENA—Kings . . . . .		30/
TRIUNVIRATO—Londres . . . . .		32/
CARBAJAS . . . . .		30/
CONCHAS . . . . .		35/
NECTARS . . . . .	24/	
LARRANAGOS—Kings . . . . .		22/
REGALIAS . . . . .		45/
HENRY CLAY—Kings . . . . .	32/	
LA PATRIAS . . . . .	24/—28/	

(DUTY PAID.)	Per lb.	Per 100.
FILOTEOS—		
Londres . . . .		34/
Kings . . . .		29/
PLANTERS . . . .		28/
SENECAS . . . .	36/	
CHURRUCAS . . . .	36/	
MANILLA CIGARS—No. 1. .	24/	
No. 2. .	24/	
No. 3. .	24/	
MANILLA CHERROOTS—		
No. 2. .	24/	
No. 3. .	24/	

*N.B.—All Cigars in Bond 10/ per lb. less than the above prices.*

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THE COMPANY'S BEST MADE BRITISH  
CIGARS.

Regalias . . . . 80	} 9/6 per lb.
Londres . . . . 100	
Kings . . . . 120	
Queens . . . . 240	10/0 per lb.

*For Export, 2/9 per lb. less.*

The finest selected Havana Leaf, British made, equal to Foreign Regalias, Londres, Kings and Queens, 18/ per lb. Bird's-eye, Virginia, Cavendish, and Smoking Mixture at 5/ per lb.

LOUIS SILBERBERG, *Manager.*





