

VALUE OF BAMBOO AS A FIBRE.

We have referred heretofore to the value of the leaves of the palmetto of the Southern States as a material for textile fabrics, and other applications as fibre, and the impossibility of supplying the commercial demand for it. We are now informed that the bamboo of the West Indies has become an article of similar importance. At the present time the exportation of this substance from Jamaica to the United States is very large; and although at first the bulk of the article constituted a serious difficulty in the way of its exportation, the experiment has recently been tried of crushing the bamboo between mill rollers, and, by a screw press, preparing it for being carried in bales. This condenses the bulk greatly, and relieves the obstacle to its transportation at a reasonable expense for freight.