

in anticipation of an increased tariff, were very large, and the decrease above noted really occurred within the last four months of the year. During the current year, it is estimated that the importation of manufactured tobacco will not be a tenth of that of former years. A better idea of the growth of the trade will be found in the great increase of the raw tobacco imported. The following are the figures for the two years:—

	Montreal.	Toronto.
	lbs.	lbs.
1862.....	4,464,000	606,000
1861.....	1,043,060	151,000
Increase.....	3,421,000	255,000

Total increase in the two ports amount to 3,676,000 lbs. These figures show that even in four months of the year a great change had been effected, and indicate an immense increase during the current year. The falling off in revenue from this source will of course be very large, and the expediency of imposing an excise duty on tobacco manufactured within the Province is now freely discussed by the trade. It is understood that Mr. Howland is very reluctant to again meddle with the tariff, and especially to propose anything that will adversely affect manufacturing interests. But it is probable he will be compelled to take action in the matter from the great decrease in the revenue from this article, and in view of the facility with which this luxury will bear a tax—an excise of 10c per pound, with an additional import specific duty of an equal amount, would, we believe, not be distasteful to manufacturers. With reference to the import duty it may be remarked that some such provision will be necessary, if an excise is imposed, else American manufactured tobacco can be again brought in and enter into competition with our own, and thus defeat the object of the excise. It is probable that the subject will be legislated upon during the present parliament, and in the meantime there is a good deal of speculation, and a strong desire on all hands to increase stocks. The quality of home manufactured tobacco has taken a high character, and as good if not a better article is now produced in Canada than ever imported.

The fluctuations in prices of groceries during the year for many articles have been violent, and when not steady, generally partaking of an advancing tendency. In sugars, the prices in January were somewhat advanced, which, however, was not sustained—in March declining 1½c to 2c per lb. Toward June, however, the market revived, partially on account of purchases prior to imposition of increased tariff, and prices recovered their former level. From this period the stocks were very large, and notwithstanding the advanced tariff prices did not materially respond. Only toward the end of the summer did the rate show much prospect of a higher figure, and a slight advance was established. The following are the present quotations:—Bright Cuba and Porto Rico, 8½c to 9c; fair do., 8½c to 8½c per lb.

In tea, the advance on greens has largely in-

creased the consumption of blacks and uncoloured Japan. The latter are in growing favour, and if they can be bought on at the reasonable rates of last year, the demand will certainly increase. The great advance in teas occurred in the spring, the quotations of April, 1862, being for Young Hyson 73c to 98c, against 60c to 70c in the same month of the previous year. Low grades advanced in even a greater ratio. The stocks were heavy prior to the enactment of the increased tariff, and notwithstanding a specific duty of 4c per lb. and 30 per cent. *ad valorem*, prices did not materially advance, but have remained firm through to the summer and autumn. The year closed with tight stocks of higher grades, and a quiet demand for all descriptions.

Coffee has continued to advance in value throughout the year. Importations were heavy in the spring, which prevented an advance after the enforcement of the tariff. The stocks became rapidly exhausted, and for the past four months rates have advanced nearly a cent per pound per month. Laguayra, that this time last year could be got at 19c, could not now be had at less than 33c. Java is at least 4c a lb. higher than in January of last year.

In tobacco, the constant tendency has been upward, advancing from the spring, when the range extended from 30c to 40c, to November, when quotations covered from 42c to 60c for all grades. With large increase in home supplies, prices have recently eased off, though a continued advance of leaf will hardly permit much decline.

The following is a list of the wholesale dealers in groceries:—

Geo. Michie & Co.
Moffat, Murray & Co.
William Ross & Co.
A. M. Smith & Co.
F & G. Perkins & Co.
Howland, Fitch & Co.
Boyd & Arthur.
Charles Moors & Co.
W & R. J. Griffith.
Wm. Henderson & Co.
Dodgson, Shields & Morton.
Robert Reford.
Robert Davis & Co.
D. Hill & Co.
J. E. Smith & Co.
William Ramsay.
J. B. Boustead.
John M. McKay.

The following will show the comparative amount of produce moved by these three railways during the past and previous years:—

	FLOUR, BUS.	GRAIN, BUSH.
1862.....	1,053,951	4,353,616
1861.....	829,051	4,673,796

Reducing the flour to wheat at the rate of five bushels to the barrel, the entire movement amounts to 9,623,371 bushels, against 8,819,051 in 1861.