

A NEW "VANITY."

Since the Rev. Mr. Stiggins rebuked the gay and absorbent Weller the younger, by observing that "all taps were vanities," and added that a little pine apple rum, warm with sugar, was the vanity least objectionable to his moral and physical sense, we remember nothing like the clerical beverage that has been brought to public notice in the recent trial of a clergyman before a New York Presbytery.

A reverend gentleman was arraigned for drinking gin and milk. This is the gravamen of his offence. But the indictment, which embraces no fewer than eight counts, is a most remarkable paper in its cumulative presentation of guilt, and in strokes of an unconscious humor beyond the reach of art. Here it is:—

"First—After he had finished the sermon, he called together the six reporters who were present and asked them to take some refreshments.

"Second—That then he led them to a well-known liquor and refreshment saloon in the avenue near by.

"Third—That they passed in by the private door.

"Fourth—That beefsteak and oysters having been ordered, he turned to the reporters and asked them what they would drink.

"Fifth—That their orders having been given, he himself requested the barkeeper to bring him some of the same.

"Sixth—That this turned out to be gin and milk, of the former of which liquids he took five fingers.

"Seventh—That he swallowed the dose with evident relish.

"Eighth—That the viands having been disposed of, all arose to leave, and Mr. Smyth turned to the barkeeper, carelessly requesting him to "hang that up."

It will be seen that the climacteric is reached in the request to the barkeeper that he would "hang that up." One glass of gin and milk might possibly be pardoned. The entrance by the private door did, indeed, suggest a previous acquaintance with the "outs and ins" of the restaurant, yet even this, and the beefsteak and oysters for the hungry reporters, might be condoned. But "hang that up" was a bit of bar-room slang that too painfully bespoke familiarity with the place and former transactions with the barkeeper. Such, at least, seems to have been the view of the facts taken by the framers of the indictment.

But in drawing that instrument they themselves betray a somewhat intimate knowledge of bar-room slang, indicating in like manner a possible liking on their own part for "vanities." Of gin the unhappy clergyman took "five fingers!" What means this playfulness in a Presbyterian prosecution? It is not playfulness, it is only the plain, intelligible phrase by which to convey the quantity of gin that entered into the clergyman's guilty cup. But it is such a phrase as would be naturally employed or adopted only by professionals or rum drinkers.

But this distressing suspicion need not be pursued. Perhaps it may not be improper, however, to say that the public prosecution and the indictment are little calculated to advance the cause of religion, and that all such *linge sale* of the churches might be properly bleached in private.—*American Paper.*

The sun's spots are now numerous and interesting, and can be seen with a smoked glass. The planet Saturn is in a peculiarly favorable position for observation, with the rings at their fullest opening.

Iron Masts.—We had the pleasure of visiting the iron-works of Mr. Robert Neil, St. Rochs, a few days ago, when we saw under course of construction the main mast of a splendid vessel, the property of Mr. John Lane, lumber merchant, to be launched from his yard on the River St. Charles in the course of a few days. These masts are made of the best  $\frac{3}{4}$  boiler plate iron, rivetted and counter sunk, the rivet being cut flush with the late. This vessel will be the first leaving the port of Quebec with iron masts of local manufacture, which reflects great credit upon the gentleman who has made the venture. It is to be hoped that the city of Quebec will see at no distant day, not only iron masts made in it but iron ships, and marine steam engines. We have the material, the mechanical skill, and why not the enterprise.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

THE NAVIGATION OF THE OTTAWA RIVER.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA.

Wednesday, 11th May, 1870.

Mr. Wright (Ottawa), from the Select Committee to which was referred the petition of M. McBean, and others; praying that the House will take such measures as to cause the obstructions to the navigation of the Ottawa river to be removed, and an uninterrupted line to the full capacity of the leading channel, and the supply of the water from summit level opened throughout, presented the following report:—

That the statistics of the trade of the Ottawa valley shows that the enlargement of the canals and the improvement of certain portions of the river between the city of Ottawa and Lake St. Louis cannot be longer postponed without detriment, to the very large interests involved.

That there are now engaged in the sawed lumber trade alone, at and below Ottawa, twenty steamers and two hundred barges, giving employment to two thousand two hundred men; and that the material to be moved the present season will not fall far short of three hundred millions of feet board measure.

That the fixed capital embarked in the manufacturing and carrying off sawed lumber amounts to \$3,675,000, and the annual expenditure for wages and supplies to about \$2,812,425.

That owing to the insufficient canals and insufficient depth of water at certain points in the river great embarrassment is caused to lumber and the cost of carrying it largely increased beyond what it would be were proper facilities for transport provided. It is estimated that fully \$1 per 1000 feet would be saved on the cost of carrying the lumber, were the canal and river improved to the full capacity of the latter, representing an annual saving to the country of \$300,000.

That unless improvements in the navigation are speedily made, a large portion of the sawed lumber of the Ottawa, destined for the market of the United States, will be diverted from the river, and to the great loss of this country, be forced to seek other channels of transport. In other words—the committee cannot help being impressed with the conviction that while the trade is rapidly increasing, the carrying capacity of the river as measured by that of the existing canals, has been tested to its utmost.

The committee is therefore of opinion that the improvement of the lower Ottawa

should be at once undertaken, and that all works incident to such improvements should be designed with a view to the ultimate completion of a great inland navigation by way of the Ottawa waters and those of the French river to Lake Huron.

And the committee begs leave to recommend, that in the reconstruction of the locks of the Lower Ottawa not less than ten feet depth of water—measured by the draught of vessels to be floated through—should be provided for, and that in respect of width and length the locks should have dimensions amply sufficient to admit the passage of the largest class of vessels ever likely to be needed for the carrying trade between the great lakes and the ocean.

In conclusion, the committee would venture to foreshadow the immense advantages to the settlement and trade of the Ottawa valley, which could not fail to result from improving the river, so as to admit of large vessels ascending from Quebec or Montreal to Ottawa, and to predict, that, when that had been accomplished, the success and pride attending the first step in so grand a national work, would convince the people of the country generally that the prosperity and stability of the Dominion would be assured by continuing the improvement of our great interior river, until the waters of lake Huron had been reached.

Tables showing the estimated number of logs taken out annually on the Ottawa and its tributaries, and the cost of procuring them are appended hereto.

Estimate of men, teams, &c., &c., used in taking out and driving 1,000,000 saw logs.

	\$	\$
1,500 Teams, 100 days each,		
150,000 days at.....	1 50	225,000
2,500 Men, 100 days each		
22,500 months.....	22 00	495,000
5500 Barrels Pork.....	20 00	110,000
6000 Barrels Flour.....	5 50	33,000
3500 Bushels Beans and		
Peas.....	1 50	5,250
250,000 bushels oats.....	0 40	100,000
2,000 tons of hay.....	12 00	24,000
25,000 gallons of syrup.....	0 50	12,500
50,000 pounds of tea.....	0 15	22,500
12,500 pounds of soap.....	0 06	750
40,000 pounds of tobacco.....	0 30	12,000
20,000 pounds of grindst's.....	0 62	40
500 boxes of axes.....	10 00	5,000
400 cross cut saws.....	4 50	1,800
1,500 sleighs—at \$25 00—	\$37,500	
25,000 lbs of rope—	0 15	3,750
10,000 chains	1 50	15,000
300 boats	25 00	7,500
6,000 p.blankets	5 00	30,000
100 cooperies	20 00	2,000
2,000 cant dogs,&c	4 00	10,000

Loss and waste 33½ — 35,250

Cost delivering 16,500,000 lbs. supplies as above at.....	0 01½	247,000
Government duties on 1,000,000 logs.....	0 15	160,000
Booimage on 1,000,000 ...	0 05	50,000

2000 men employed sawing 200,000,000 feet, 150 days per man, 300,000 days.....	1 15	345,000
		1,527,950

Freighting 200,000,000 feet, employs 30 barges, 20 steamers, manned by 2,200 men. The above does not include interest on amount invested in limits, improvements on river, mill, property, docks, &c.

Statement logs taken out annually on Ottawa river and tributaries: