

## CUSTOMS OF THE COUNTRY.

The custom duties collected at the port of Winnipeg, last month, amounted to nearly double those collected in the corresponding month of 1881. The figures are: July, 1881, \$111,221; July, 1882, \$227,274.

## THE LIVELY PEG.

Winnipeg appears to be a lively town. She has changed from a tented field to a big city. Elegant family mansions are elevating their chimneys in all directions. Business blocks are getting into the hands of sharp business men, who intend to make things boom, and no mistake. The pretty little sum of \$5,000,000 is still to be spent on buildings this season. What were suburbs now form part of the city, and new suburbs are being formed, which in time will also be included in this rapidly increasing town. No wonder bricklayers, carpenters, painters, blacksmiths, moulders, gasfitters, in fact, all useful working-men are paid from 12s. to 16s. a day. Why, mere labourers employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway works are getting 8s. and upwards a day. Here it is hard work and half starve, or don't work and quite starve. In the North-West of Canada the people prefer

## WORK, GOOD PAY, AND SOME PLAY.

We are glad to learn that the crops on the Brandon Hills and in the Souris valley are magnificent. The area under crops is immensely increased. The blue hills of Brandon seem to be thoroughly appreciated by the settlers, who are continually picnicing there. People there don't like all work and no pay; they prefer work, play, and good pay, and get them too.

Now, I hope you are all in a good temper, and prepared to listen to a lot of dry facts—no! they are not dry facts, they are eloquent in the highest degree—about Manitoba. First, let me quote the opinion of a semi-royal prince—we all love princes here, even half a one; then Dr. Bryce's letter, which appeared in the well-written, gritty *Scotsman*; then Professor Sheldon, of the College of Agriculture, Salisbury; then a letter from Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, as to the kind of labour most in demand: a very important thing for you to know. The Hon.