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than 16642 gallons. This fact, taken in connection with our increasing railway traffic, must be very distressing to the gentleman who thought "rum and railways" the curse of Nova Scotia. Our partiality for molasses would seem to be on the decline, while our taste for cultivating onions has been largely developed. Assuming the bulk of the population to be as fond as formerly of this tasty root, it is gratifying to find that we have grown 13,478 lbs more of onions than in 1863. The home manufacture of tobacco has increased by nearly twenty per cent, and the whole tobacco subject to duty during the past year shows an increase of three per cent of home manufacture. This is highly satisfactory. Green tea, being commonly supposed less wholesome than black, it is pleasant to find Nova Scotians giving to the latter a most decided preference, albeit the suddenness with which we changed our minds is very remarkable. In 1863 we consumed one pound of green tea to almost every forty pounds of black, whereas in 1864, the consumption of black tea was to that of green as something more than 1000 to 1. The importation of Coffee during the past year was considerably less than that of the year 1863. The total increase on duties collected is \$127,060.14.

The Report of the Chief Commissioner of Railways for the year 1864, is tolerably satisfactory. The traffic receipts of the line for the nine months ending last October, show an excess of \$16,438.22 over those of the corresponding period of 1863. The total number of passengers carried was 86,090, exclusive of 920 distinguished individuals, and 6,929 teamsters, whereas the number carried in 1863 was only 82,613. The Road Inspector reports "that up to 31st September 1864, a total of 36,312 new sleepers were put into the road, exclusive of new sleepers used in the construction of sidings." Eight new cattle cars have been built, and are now running, and two horse boxes will be finished and placed on the road at an early date. Three engines have been thoroughly repaired at a cost of \$3960.35. Two fatal casualties are reported, and two porters are recovering from serious injuries. "The location and survey of the Extension of the Railway from Truro to the waters of Pietou Harbor, are rapidly progressing, and the work will be put under contract at an early day." At Windsor Junction "an additional wood shed has been built, one hundred and fifty feet, by twenty-four,—calculated to hold 400 cords; this building will supply the want long experienced at that station."

CANADIAN PLEASANTRIES.—The following extract gives us an insight into the manners and customs of the great men of Canada. We are by no means astonished that the *Unionist* should have been evinced surprise and delight, on learning that Mr. G. BROWN, a gentleman doubtless accustomed to such scenes as those narrated, should have been favorably noted in England.

Just before the dinner recess yesterday afternoon, a fracas took place on the floor of the House of Assembly, between the Hon. Mr. Cauchon and Mr. Dufresne, of Itherville, which led to quite a lively excitement and no little commotion. The galleries were immediately cleared, and the House sat with closed doors from six until nine o'clock, but what transpired within can only be indefinitely guessed at. The cause of the altercation was substantially as follows. During the afternoon sitting, Mr. Dufresne, of Itherville, in pursuance of previous notice, moved for a return of all orders issued to Messrs. Cote & Co., proprietors of the *Journal de Quebec*, by the Departments for printing, binding, &c., during the last eighteen months. In the debate on this motion a good deal of crimiatory and recriminatory language was indulged in. Mr. Dufresne asserted that the quantity of work sent to the *Journal* office was enormous, in some cases as much as 100,000 blanks at a time, and 50,000 of the same description of blanks a week or so afterwards. Mr. Cauchon became heated and as he was about leaving the chamber by the side door near the Speaker's chair, and near Mr. Dufresne's seat, he whispered to him that as motions to fish out corruption were the order of the day, he too would move for a Committee to investigate the working of some Mutual Insurance Companies in Lower Canada. Mr. Dufresne being connected with one, which Mr. Cauchon said were nothing better than robbing swindles. Mr. Dufresne replied that he lied, or that whoever said so lied, whereupon Mr. Cauchon drew his hand and hit him slightly on the face. There was an instant rush of members to the spot, the Sergeant-at-Arms was called upon by the Speaker, and there were cries from every part of the House to clear the galleries, which was soon done, and for the three subsequent hours a heated

discussion took place within, which resulted, we believe, in the matter being placed upon the journals of the House without an apology.—*Daily News*.

Having so often expressed our opinions regarding the evil effects of Responsible Government, in a colony such as Nova Scotia it is gratifying to find that the *Unionist* (an organ professing attachment to the party which secured Responsible Government) heartily endorses our views. The journal in question thus forcibly describes our present pitiable condition: "It is no use shutting our eyes to the fact that we are fearfully demoralized, as a people. We are travelling downward on the same road which the neighboring States have trodden before us, to be finally engulfed in almost irretrievable ruin—in much bloodshed, and suffering, of which we can have no adequate conception. An organization exists, which, had it the power, would to-morrow oust from public life all those whom we have been accustomed to look up to, and who certainly embody the intellect and ability of the country. Their places would be filled by whom? By men without a tithe of their intellect, and no public experience whatever. Thus it was in the United States in the last years of their prosperity. Their great statesmen were never able to obtain the chief magistracy of the nation, (the italics are our own); but some obscure, unknown, bar-room politician; a flat-boatman, perhaps, a rail-splitter, or a pettifogging village attorney, was selected by the wire-pullers of the party and elected; whilst Webster, Everett, and other statesmen of acknowledged ability were left in the cold shadow of public neglect." This melancholy picture of the present political state of Nova Scotia must commend itself to all thinking men. It is well drawn, vividly colored, and, we fear, only too true.

The *Express* informs us that: "Claptrap, and misrepresentation, and abuse, will not do at St. James." Our contemporary is perfectly right, as regards "misrepresentation and abuse," but is in error regarding "claptrap." We venture to assert that nothing but the most transparent claptrap finds favor at St. James' Palace, which is never opened save for the purpose of holding "levies" or "drawing-rooms." Our contemporary probably meant to allude to Whitehall, or St. Stephens! If we remember aright, it was the *Express* that defined the position of the "chief clerk of the House of Commons" as "perhaps more important than that of the Speaker himself."

NOVA SCOTIA INSTITUTE.—We observe with deep regret that, at the last meeting of the Institute, Mr. Gossip and Sir Charles Lyall are at variance on the subject of the "Antiquity of Man." Mr. Gossip should at once put himself in communication with Sir Charles upon this important matter. There can, we fancy, be no doubt whatever that the great Geologist would be as much moved by the force of Mr. Gossip's arguments, as the venerable Professor Owen was not long since, by the valuable collection of bones forwarded to him by our never-too-much to be commended Society.

Says the *Journal*, with reference to P. E. Island—"Whatever they think of the measure on the Island, they treat the delegates as gentlemen, and not altogether unworthy of public confidence." This is a sad admission, implying as it does, that in this Province the reverse would seem to be the case.

Extracts.

THE VAMPIRE. (Concluded.)

I saw him with some sharp instrument open a vein in the boy's neck, and applying his lips, he drank a long draught of blood!

In a moment all was explained: the pallor of his companions; his own strange manner. Sanderson was a vampire!

I had read of these monsters, and had regarded them as the creations merely of a popular superstition. Now, at that midnight hour, I found myself face to face with one, and with one,

that during the y endorsed the of sole leather ater than that ole leather has n Nova Scotia, sufficient. The two and a half the amount of oly alarming—mediately pre- limport of "tle e—brewed, and d pork" we art formerly. Tha not much mo- ion of bran, o be st- dily on tress of no less