

179. The duties on bill stamps, &c., were all repealed in 1882, the amount received in that year up to the date of repeal having been \$82,616, and the total amount received since Confederation, \$2,686,850. The receipts from sugar duties in 1889 were \$266,806 more than in 1888, and were larger than in any other year in the table. The duty on tea was taken off in 1882, causing a large reduction of revenue.

Bill stamps.

Sugar duties.

180. The consumption of tea and sugar per inhabitant has been generally considered one of the best standards by which to judge the condition of the people, it having been found that the consumption of these two articles indicates more clearly than almost anything else their well-being, or otherwise; and judging the condition of the inhabitants of Canada by this test, it will be found that there has been a steady and satisfactory improvement. In 1868 the consumption of sugar was 15 lbs. per head, in 1877 it was 23 lbs. per head, and is now no less than 44 lbs., an increase of 21 lbs. per head in the last ten years, and more than double the quantity consumed in 1877. As far as information is available, it would appear that the *per capita* consumption of sugar in Canada is larger than that of almost any other country, with the exception of the United Kingdom and the United States, a fact that speaks well for the condition of the working classes in this country. In the United Kingdom the amount was 73 lbs. per head, having increased from 15 lbs. per head in 1840; in the United States the consumption is about the same as in this country. The consumption of tea in Canada has also very largely increased; in 1868 it was 2 lbs. per head, in 1877 it was 3½ lbs. per head, and is now about 4 lbs. per head. In England the consumption in 1888 was 4.95 lbs. per head.

Consumption of tea and sugar.

181. The amount of taxation in the United Kingdom, and in such other British possessions for which the figures for any recent period were available, are given, as nearly as could be

Taxation in British possessions.