

## G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

The grabest Beast is the Ass; the grabest Bird is the Owl;  
The grabest Fish is the Oyster; the grabest Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1874.

## Grip's Essence of Parliament.

THURSDAY.

The petitions presented were all together perfect, being seven in number.

A number of reports were heard; but they didn't appear to startle anybody.

A lot of members brought in bills. GRAHAM had a tax-bill. We understand that members often make a good thing in getting bills passed. In such cases the Act is that of some private party; but the commission thereof is generally due to Honourable gentlemen. This day but one bill was passed, for certain real property actions and suits. It was MOWAT's bill, therefore it may be taken for granted that it amounted to a good deal.

A number of members severally asked for a return of names and moneys, not their own. Each has had his good name taken from him by the others, and its not worth asking for again; but any of them will take all the money they can get,—“for professional services.” They are all professional innocents, who “can't be bought”—without money.

The House committed itself to a change in the mode of securing immigrants, the chief desire being to present the claims of Canada First.

Sundry items of supply were concurred in, the House doing what it seldom does, allowing others to lie before it. No one need argue after this that figures can't lie.

The bill to increase the ways and means by which municipalities can spend their share of the surplus was read a second time. RYKERT expressing himself pleased, the House thought it a good time to adjourn.

FRIDAY.

CAMERON wanted to raise a question of privilege, but was denied the privilege. LAUDER would have discussed the point, but to his great disgust was knocked out of time by the chair. Then he just cussed. A brief debate took place on a motion to ratify an Order-in-Council with reference to the Prince Edward County Railway Company. Business out of session is done by Order-in-Council; during the session by disorder in council. CAMERON wanted it committed for consideration. He'd commit almost any act for a consideration. LAUDER wanted the members to obtain all necessary information. He might just as well propose to put a head on each of them. The House divided: 45 members put down 14, and carry the motion.

The Opposition being satisfied with their ill-success in division, two other Orders-in-Council were quietly ratified in addition.

The House re-echoed the reports of the Committee on the Immigration resolutions.

On motion for concurrence in further items of Supply a debate took place on the item for the Crown Lands Department, RYKERT moving an amendment expressing regret that the expenditure for contingencies exceeds the appropriation. PARDEE offered explanations, but LAUDER could not accept the arguments, being constitutionally opposed to accepting anything in that shape. GOW moved an amendment to the amendment expressing justification for increased expenditure. STEPHEN RICHARDS claimed credit for the reductions made when he was Commissioner—*reductio ad absurdum*. PAXTON assured the Unready that he was too slow for a Crown Lands Commissioner in this age of progress, and STEPHEN, not being ready with a reply, became simply querulous. The Opposition failed to give the Government a ROWLAND for their OLIVER, though it would not take much of a ROWLAND to pass him through the Custom House, neither would the duties be heavy, even with a retaliatory tariff. Some petty passes were made a new re-valuation, a war of small arms which was resumed after recess, 35 members ayed the amendment to the amendment, while the eight old war-horses of the Opposition nayed. The original motion was then carried through the House triumphantly.

On the item for gratuities to officers whose services have been dispensed with, LAUDER moved an amendment against gratuities to persons who have resigned or been dismissed the public service. SINCLAIR moved an amendment to the amendment affirming the propriety in certain cases of reasonable gratuities to retiring officials, who don't generally consider them gratuitous insults. A question of order was drowned out by a gush from the mouth of the little WELLS. The amendment to the amendment was carried, the minority representation being CAMERON, McCOLL and RYKERT. Three don't look well

opposite three dozen. MEREDITH moved an amendment regretting the vote to the Inspector of Division Courts, and declaring the office useless—eight other members thought likewise, and voted with him, but thirty-four went for the grant, many of them thinking nothing about it. The original motion was then carried, and members carried themselves off home.

MONDAY.

RYKERT evinced a desire to remove a HILL, who is a Police Magistrate at Clifton. It does not please the scrap book man that Clifton is not wicked enough to pay the magistrate's salary in Police Court fines. He declares that this HILL, like other mountains in labor, has brought forth a mere mouse.

The House concurred in a number of items of supply; but it remains to be seen whether the country will concur in the government expenditure on the one hand and the opposition waste of time on the other. There were a number of amendments, which we hope will lead to an amendment of the House by the return of a lot of better men next election. The votes led to a little arithmetical practice, the opposition always appearing as an exceedingly vulgar fraction. The ministerial side may be considered under the Rule of Three, and these three are MOWAT, FRASER and CROOKS, and they in turn will be found to act as exponents of ruling figures in the political problem. These are our estimates, in which we move concurrence.

TUESDAY.

FRASER stated that he wasn't the other FRASER. The remaining items in the Report of the Committee on Supply were concurred in.

The Bill relating to Fire Insurance Companies was read a second time, a thing insurers had better do with their policies. A number of other bills passed a second reading.

The Bill respecting Water Privileges was allowed to stand. That's a privilege any Bill is entitled to. CAMERON did not see the use of additional legislation. We don't either; but then we know nothing about Water Privileges. We wonder had the question been one of Whiskey Privileges, would the House allow it to stand.

The debate on the Agricultural College showed that the Opposition has been learning something from the dismissed Professor, and that the Model Farm has grown a good crop of scandals, if nothing else. CAMERON moved for a committee of inquiry, and opened the rank oyster. MCKELLAR took the creature out of the shell and showed its resemblance to the brain of McCANDLESS. MOWAT moved an amendment in which the proposed committee was changed so as to secure a majority of Government supporters. LAUDER wanted the House to leave politics out of the matter altogether. He is in the House. FRASER and others having said their say the House divided and the amendment was carried by a vote of 31 to 21. The House adjourned at 2.20 a.m., and it is supposed all the members went to bed, and to sleep.

WEDNESDAY.

There was more wit displayed at this sitting than any since the opening. It was very short, and we know “brevity is the soul of wit.”

MCKEEN moved for the correspondence relative to the allotment of pine lots to WILLIAM QUICKLEY. He will probably find, and quickly too, that it will have no impression on the occupants of the Treasury Benches. We would advise the mover to spare himself the trouble of listening to such counsels as induced him to make the inquiry. “Hear it not, Duncan, 'tis the knell that summons thee to—shall we say it,—well, to be the victim of another sell.”

But little business was done during the sitting. In this it resembled all preceding ones. However there was less talk, and consequently less folly displayed. Probably owing to the protracted sitting of the previous night, the talkative members were too sleepy to inflict themselves upon the nodding figures around them, and the readers of Thursday's dailies were in consequence given a lighter omic than usual.

## How Much?

THE ladies of New York, after a most alarming discussion, have arrived at the conclusion that men possessed of an income of \$1,000 and over, who do not take to themselves a wife, are nothing more or less than brutes; selfish animals, who having had the bad taste to declare for celibacy versus marriage, ought never again to be blessed with the smiles of a pretty girl. This is a rather hard sentence, and the New York Times has much to answer for in letting loose the feminine tongue upon the peaceful community of bachelors, who prefer the unfettered principles advocated by the charming VICTORIA, to be loved out of house and home, ruined by milliner's bills, and ultimately killed with kindness.

The question of marriage or celibacy is beginning to assume most ominous proportions; and we cannot but entertain the gravest fears for the safety of the lords of creation. Our mind's eye carries us onward to a period in the future when erring mankind will be led like lambs to the slaughter; when languishing belles of New York will