

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Grip Printing and Publishing

26 and 28 Front Street West, Toronto, Out.

President -General Manager Artist and Editor Manager Publishing Department

V. WRIGHT. J. V. Wright. T. G. Wilson, I. W. Bengough.

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PAYABLE STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

To United States and Canada.

To Great Britain and Ircland.

One year, \$2.00; six months . \$1.00 One year 82.50

Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date of the printed address-label.

In remitting stamps, please send one-cent stamps only.
MESSES, JOHN HADDON & Co., Advertising Contractors, Fleet St., London, Eng., are the sole agents for Great in Great Britain.

Comments on the Cartoons.



EXTREMES MEET.—When Mr. N. F. Davin wrote his able and learned work, "The Irishman in Canada," he over-looked one striking feature of his countryman which might have formed the subject of an interesting chapter, we mean the unanimity with which the Canadian Irishman, Catholic and Protestant, has supported Sir John A. Macdonald. There are Irishmen of both varieties, of course, who are Grits, but they merely form the exception which proves the rule. The "Irish vote" of the Dominion, a mass of ballots of mingled orange and green, has gone pretty solidly for "John A." ever since that clever political manipulator assumed the leadership of his party. But

this fellowship on election day has by no means brought about a harmonious blending of the Irish colors on the other three hundred and sixty-four days of the year. The old feud has gone on, and the transatlantic hatred has lived in full force. It has been the exalted business of the eminent statesman above named, not to overcome this rancour and bitterness in the interests of the country, but to work it to the advantage of his party, and in this he has unquestionably succeeded. While the rival sons of the North and South have had their heads together in battering-ram fashion he has managed to plant upon their mutual shoulders the soft chair of office, and therein scated, to enjoy for the better part of forty years the loaves and fishes of the treasury.

NEXT IN ORDER.—The rapid growth of public-opinion in Great Britain on the Land Question is one of the most interesting political phenomena of the day. The thinking that is going on from John o' Groats to Land's End seems to be tending more

and more in the direction of the taxation of ground rent as the natural and sufficient source of all public revenue. As the recognized exponent of the single tax system, Mr. Henry George received a warm welcome to the Old Country in April, and his lecturing tour in England, Scotland and Wales since then has been a continuous ovation, almost as hearty as Gladstone himself could command. It is noteworthy that at all the principal centres Mr. George has spoken under the auspices of the Liberal Associations, and prominent members of that party have appeared and spoken upon his platform. A very few years ago few of these gentlemen would have consented to touch the prophet of San Francisco with the traditional "ten-foot pole." Perhaps most significant of all, however, is the fact that the Liverpool Financial Reform Association, the recognized medium of the English Free Traders, has come out squarely for the single tax on land values. The question has become a living issue in Imperial politics, and careful observers are confident that as soon as the Irish question can be got out of the way Landlordism will he sternly called upon to prove its proposition that God is the Father of the 300,000 land owners of the kingdom, and the stepfather of the 30,000,000 dwellers therein.



E direct the attention of our readers to the announcements which they will find on the dead walls of the city, setting forth that on Saturday of this week the "Reform Party "intend holding a grand picnic and talking

match at the Exhibition grounds. We have not been specially requested to insert this notice, but do so pro bono publico, as we feel it our duty to encourage this young and struggling party, whose principles are said to be worthy of some consideration. What those principles are is not as yet generally known, but no doubt on this occasion some of the aspiring young men who are at the head of the affair will make it their business to explain. We advise those of our readers who are curiously disposed to be on hand.

GREAT outcry is being made because the Ottawa Government have brought an action against the G. N. W. Tel. Co.'s District Messenger Service to restrain them from carrying on their business which, it is now alleged, competes against the business of the P.O. Department. Even enthusiastic N.P. men are joining in the general shout of protest. The action on the part of the P. M. General is certainly a high-handed outrage, but why should Protectionists object to it? It is in strict accordance with the "principles" of protectionism that legitimate and useful businesses should be crippled and destroyed either to serve the supposed ends of public revenue, or more generally, to put extra profits into the pockets of favored private concerns. The whole system from top to bottom is a detestable fraud and a shame to civilization.

IT OUGHT to be kept in mind that the only constitutional course for those of the people of Canada who disapprove of the Government's action in the Jesuits' Estates matter, is to turn out that Government at the To defeat every man in the House who next election. voted against the O'Brien resolution, excepting the gentlemen on the Treasury benches, would be little to the purpose. The Government alone is known to the law,