



The gravest beast is the Ass; the gravest bird is the Owl;  
The gravest fish is the Oyster; the gravest man is the Fool.

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TORONTO, SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1892.



SIR JOHN REPLIES TO SIR RICHARD.—The prevailing opinion even among the supporters of the Government—in so far at least as *Saturday Night* may be regarded as speaking for Conservatives—is that Sir John Thompson did himself and his cause more harm than good by the manner in which he replied to the speech of Sir Richard Cartwright some days ago. Sir Richard has a notoriously sharp tongue, and when fairly aroused, as he was on this occasion, can deliver a raking fire of sarcasm and invective calculated to disturb the most phlegmatic opponent. But while his language is scorching, it is never ungentlemanly, and it is levelled at legitimate objects. It is true there were some personal allusions to Sir John of a bantering nature in this speech, but as a whole it dealt with the policy of the Government and the acts of the session, and it called for a fair answer if such could be made. Sir John, however, hopelessly lost his temper, and his usual stolid and judicial manner disappeared with it. He barely touched on one or two points

in Cartwright's bristling array of charges, and then fell upon his hated adversary in the most approved Billingsgate fashion, pouring out a torrent of wild accusations and vulgar epithets. As a display of ill-tempered eloquence it was certainly wonderful, but its effect could only be to lower the orator himself, and to impress the public with the belief that the defendant had really no case. If Sir John Thompson can make no adequate defence of the Government, it may fairly be assumed that they stand guilty as indicted.

CHASING A RAINBOW.—Sir Charles Tupper is perhaps convinced now that John Bull has no stomach for the Protection nostrum, even in homeopathic doses. Being dissatisfied with the defeat of his preferential trade resolution at the Congress in London, he called for a fresh ballot to be cast by Boards instead of by individual delegates. The result was another crushing defeat, which was shortly afterwards followed by a signal victory for a resolution in favor of Imperial Federation on a free trade basis. Sir Charles might find some more profitable occupation than that of chasing rainbows.

THE move to make Sir John Thompson Premier is meeting the stalwart opposition of the Orange section of the Conservative party. It is pretty shabby treatment to mete out to the man who has made such sacrifices as Sir John has made during the session. He has been willing to stultify himself and to give away even his character as a gentleman in the performance of the dirty work forced upon him by the party, and now he is to be refused the recognition he has so well earned! Truly the *Orangistes* are hard task-masters. But Sir John probably knows that their opposition will not extend beyond a brief bellowing, and he will get the Premiership a 1 the same.

IT is refreshing to get a highly complimentary allusion to Edward Blake from the lips of Sir Charles Tupper. The gallant baronet however, has said something very handsome about his erstwhile opponent, *apropos* of his entering the Imperial House, and this notwithstanding that he is an opponent of the party with which Mr. Blake proposes to work.



On opening the *Globe* of July 5th at the editorial page a displayed heading attracted our attention. It read as follows:

THE OLD POLICY,  
THE OLD FLAG AND AN APPROPRIATION.

CUT OF UNION JACK.

ALL ABOARD!  
*Balance of the railway subsidy granted to the C. N. & P. Railway.*

THE NEW RAILWAY IS OUR'N.

MR. GUILLET IS A HERO.

We took this to be a severe Globular burlesque on Tory loyalty, but it turned out to be a literal quotation from