

G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

The gravest Genus is the Ass; the gravest Bird is the Owl;
The gravest Fish is the Oyster; the gravest Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1874.

Grip's Sense of the Session.

Wednesday, April 22.—Our Senators met at three, received two petitions, added Mr. SMITH's name to the committees, and having postponed several juvenile Bills, found the work utterly inadequate to the pay, and therefore adjourned at 3.30.

Oh, potent, grave, and reverend signiors!

In the Commons, the "great uncontroverted" met at three also, at which time the Speaker was graciously pleased to take his seat.

Mr. HAGGART wished to know, in regard to the Lanark Postmaster-ship, if the Government would be kind enough to acknowledge that they had done wrong in this matter, to which the P. M. G. (Postmaster General, not Past Grand Master) made answer that he rather thought not.

Mr. ROSS enquired if the Government intended to take the Telegraph Lines into their own hands; but the Premier seemed of opinion that their lines were already cast in pleasant places, and that they had better "let well alone."

In re the Montreal Harbour Commissioners, Mr. RYAN waxed wroth, and elevated his dorsal column (Anglic—got his back up) with reference to his own and fellow Commissioners' dismissal from office; "he, himself, didn't care a rap about it, but, nevertheless, he could tell the hon. gentlemen," &c., &c. At which the statesman whom the *Mail* designates the "Accidental Premier," simply intimated that if Mr. R. didn't like it, why, Mr. R. might lump it.

And then, with many a longing look at the deserted bar, they went to ten.

In the evening, Dr. BROUSE moved for a Sanitary Bureau (No puns, gentlemen, if you please).

Mr. MACKENZIE thought the Doctor's idea first-rate; it had been one of his own, and, though he was not exactly prepared to say No, still, he could hardly see his way to an affirmative reply, but, nevertheless—

Here the House cut short his eloquence by going into Supply.

This being merely a question of spending the Nation's money, was easily got through, and 11 p. m. saw the country's legislators in their nightcaps, and their nightcaps in them.

April 23.—In the Senate: discussion on the Government Railways actually detained members until 6 p. m., which M. DE ST. JUST thought was really too bad.

We shall have no Senators soon if they are to be overworked in this way.

In the Commons, very little was done beyond discussing the New Election Bill.

Mr. MILLS fell foul of Dr. TUPPER for bringing on elections in the absence of the fishermen, thus altering the *net* results of the election; and, amongst other opinions, Mr. KERRPATRICK thought that minors, felons, and women, should not be prohibited from voting.

SIR JOHN didn't think the present bill as good as his own pet scheme; he was open, however, to conviction, though he would like to see the man that could convince him; he hoped the Minister of Justice wouldn't do anything rash.

And they put on their hats at midnight.

April 24, Friday.—Hon. Mr. BORSFORD complained of the issue of free passes over the Government railways. Whereupon Hon. R. W. SCOTT explained that the only doadheads were the Local Legislators, to which Mr. WANK objected that they are paid their travelling expenses.

Happy Local Legislators! who can both eat their cake and have it. At 5.45, however, hunger prevailed over the country's interests.

In the Commons, the ventilation question once more arose.

Mr. CAUCHON drew a lamentable picture of asphyxiated members, and complained that although the subject had been ventilated, the chamber hadn't.

Dr. BROUSE attributed the impure atmosphere to the escaping gas. (Oh! sarcastic Doctor).

While for his part, GRIP suggests as a cause:—

The ventilation of such scandals as the one yeleft Pacific;

And as a remedy—

Respirators for eloquent members, and gags for the remainder, at the country's expense.

The House here shewed signs of impatience, and at 1 a. m. members were swearing at their latch-keys, and wondering where the deuce the key-holes had gone to.

HINTS TO CARTWRIGHT.

GRIP beholds with undiminished and lively interest the efforts of suffering manufacturers at Ottawa to procure a slight advance on the protective duties. It is perfectly right for all men to get what is right. But there are certain other interests that appear to have been overlooked in these delegations to the Government, *e.g.*, the farmers' labourers. Our laboring population want Protection from hordes of mud-sills coming out to Canada to cut down the wages; GRIP wants a tariff of his first year's wages off each miserable working man who is "thrown, pitched, cast, or otherwise deposited on our shores." He is also extremely anxious to "protect" the interest of the literary profession, poets and lecturers on "Westminster Abbey," indeed all "big guns." (GRIP desires it to be distinctly understood that he has placed the posterior claw of his left foot at the point of his beak, and the anterior claws are projecting in front in a loose and jocular style.) All "big guns" should be imported free. Newspaper writers, however, are verging on the grasshopper limit; they are too thick. GRIP would put an *ad valorem* on these commodities. A writer with a mere London experience should be fined, that is "tariffed" \$20, to be paid out of his first earnings, otherwise garnished; but a writer with testimonials, a bald head and wearing spectacles, should be quarantined for two years till he gets accustomed to the climate, and then admitted to the profession on payment of all the money he has in his possession, with his "expectations from home." Further, no poor but good-looking young women should be permitted to land here on any account; our own ditto are quite sufficient for the situations that are vacant. Among the non-dutiable goods, GRIP casts his sparkling eye upon unmarried ladies (any age) with fortunes ranging from £10,000 to £40,000 stg.—in their own right. To use the hackneyed slang of parliamentary speeches, "there are openings for this sort of immigration at present in Canada equal to those of any other country in the world." On the subject of Miss RYE's children, GRIP has not yet decided whether to make them dutiable or not, but will take information on the subject before it comes up before the House.

A COMICAL DEBATE—QUITE LAUGHABLE.

(From the *Globe's* Parliamentary Report, Tuesday.)

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

Mr. ORTON moved for a suspension of the rule in reference to Select Committees.

Mr. DYMOND said it was not possible to get a quorum of five righteous men to save the great agricultural interest from destruction (cheers and laughter!) (a) He (Mr. DYMOND) therefore ventured to move that, &c., &c., who would help the mover of the motion in bringing the matter to an issue, although not the issue expected when the motion was proposed (cheers and laughter!) (b)

Mr. YOUNG said he was already on the committee.

Mr. WALKER suggested Mr. DYMOND's own name.

Mr. DYMOND said he was already on a committee (laughter and cheers, and cheers and laughter.) (c)

Mr. ORTON asserted there was a quorum (silence all round.) (d)

Mr. SPEAKER said he would have to rule the amendment out of order (hear, hear, and laughter.) (e)

Mr. CAUCHON said the hon. member for North York could insist on the members being named by the House if he desired (No laughter.) (f)

Mr. DYMOND said he took exception to the original motion, on the ground that no notice had been given of the names of those who were proposed to be on the committee. (g)

(a) Where is the joke?

(b) Is that a humorous saying?

(c) May we enquire wherefore?

(d) Why didn't the members laugh at that?

(e) How very witty, indeed!

(f) For a wonder.

(g) Most unaccountably there is no indication that *cheers and laughter* followed this brilliant repartee. Perhaps the reporter was overcome with mirth, or the night editor was sick of it.

HAMILTON HUMOUR.

Those who have a *penchant* for practical joking and occasionally suffer from the want of an opportunity or a victim, will be quick to take the hint incidentally offered by their jocular *confere* in Hamilton. According to the *Globe's* correspondent in that city:

"A practical joke was played on the house of a family on James Street, last night, when no one was at home."

Here is a boundless field of rare fun opened up. What a very jolly thing it must be, playing jokes on empty and unprotected houses!