



Published every Saturday. \$2 per year in advance, postage free. Single copies, 5 cents. All business correspondence to be addressed to J. V. WRIGHT, General Manager; literary matter, sketches, etc., to the EDITOR.

J. W. BENGOUGH

EDITOR.

VOL. XXVII. TORONTO, SEPT. 11TH, 1886. No. 10.

Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date on the printed address-label—in the issue next after our receipt of the money. The date always indicates the time up to which the subscription is paid. We cannot undertake to send receipts aside from this.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

OUR friends are reminded that the magnificent lithographed plate, "Prominent Conservatives," issued as a supplement to Midsummer GRIP, will be sent to every subscriber applying for same and enclosing five cents for postage.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

SINCE the enlargement and typographical improvement of GRIP, this paper has taken a firm position in the front rank of comic journalism, and is regarded by Canadians generally as an honor to the Dominion. Having achieved this proud position, it is now GRIP'S purpose to extend the field of his beneficent labors, and to visit weekly thousands of homes in which he has hitherto been a stranger, except by reputation. To this end it has been decided to reduce the subscription price to \$2 PER YEAR, and the charge for single numbers to 5 CENTS PER COPY. The paper will remain in its present form, 16 pages, and it is now absolutely the cheapest humorous journal in America. Subscriptions already received at the \$3 rate will be credited in extension of their respective terms. We feel confident that this departure will give us immediately a much increased subscription list, although our list as it now stands is greater than that enjoyed by any weekly periodical in Canada.

Comments on the Cartoons.



THE DISCORDANT ORGANS.—Sir John Macdonald has occupied many ridiculous positions before the Canadian public in the course of his long career, but the one in which he finds himself to-day, between his two accredited organs, the *Toronto Mail* and the *Montreal Gazette*, surpasses in absurdity anything we can call to mind in his past experience. Any other man in such a predicament would blush to death because he couldn't reconcile the organs; Sir John goes right on without altering a muscle, and makes no attempt to reconcile them. For a long time the *Mail* has been at it "hammer and tongs," agitating for the abolition of the special rights and privileges of the Romish Church in Quebec. The Quebec organ of the Government declares that such talk is nonsense, and dangerous nonsense, on a par with the worst utterances of the most ribald of

Rouges! And both papers speak in the name and—as is universally believed—by direct inspiration of the Government. The key to this mystery is, of course—politics. The *Mail's* crusade tickles Ontario, and the *Gazette's* indignation is the proper card for Quebec. What fools somebody must think certain other people are, to be sure!

WHICH QUESTION?—Perhaps there is no popular phrase in current politics so confusing and misleading as "the Riel Question." All over the country, on public platforms, Grits and Tories are discussing the Riel question. In Quebec, we are told, the Riel question is the principal if not the only issue of the Parti Nationale, and it is alleged that in Ontario Mr. Blake is doing his best to prevent the Riel question from being made an issue, while his opponents are determined that it shall be. Now, which Riel question is meant? The fact is, each party is willing and anxious to discuss its own Riel question, but not the other fellow's. In other words, the Tory Riel question is: Didn't we do right to vindicate the majesty of the law by carrying out the sentence on Riel? To this the almost unanimous answer is, Yes! and the Tories in Ontario know it. But the Grit Riel question is, How came it that Riel was able to raise a rebellion? Who afforded him the opportunity, by cruel and callous neglect of the Halfbreed grievances? The Grits are equally sure of the unanimous answer to this question.

WHO'S A-DOIN' OF IT?—The *Mail* affirms that the attempts being made to set race against race in this country are not approved by the public. True. Then why doesn't the *Mail* cease its attempts? There is nobody else at the business that we know of.

THE SHOWMAN.

GRAND OPERA.—The Florence's produced their new comedy, *The Flirt*, on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. It will hardly do. The business was only saved from being dreadfully dull by Mr. Florence's lively performance of *Sparks*. Mrs. Florence's part was a watery edition of *Mrs. Gilflory*, and the other characters excepting *Captain Splasher* were simply no characters at all. . . . This week Daly's masterly comedy *Nancy & Co.*, (which has of late kept all London laughing) is being done by Arthur Rehan's company.

TORONTO OPERA HOUSE.—Manager Shaw—who is already a popular favorite personally—made a good beginning of his season with the McCaull Company. This success he is following up with Gus Williams in his characteristic Dutch comedies, *One of the Finest*, *Captain Mishler* and *Oh, What a Night!* Mr. Williams was formerly the star comique of the Vaudeville stage as a delineator of German humor, and his success as a legitimate comedian, has been equally great.

THE GARDENS.—The Templeton Opera Co., gave Mr. Bengough's operatic medley for the first three evenings of the week, and will repeat it on Saturday afternoon. The piece was originally called *Funthorne Abroad*, but a change of title was considered advisable, and a good deal of new business was introduced. The singing, acting and stage appointments were all first class, and the play scored a decided success. For the other evenings of the week *The Mikado* is revived.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—The great and only Kennedy is with us again for a week, and evidently he can't come too often, nor stay too long. Many talented Scotchmen have undertaken to sing the "Sangs o' Auld Scotia," but to be perfectly successful, the aspirant for fame needs to have just the humor, the voice and the unction with which nature has endowed Mr. Kennedy. Four of his daughters—all good singers—accompany the popular vocalist on this visit.

A CONSERVATIVE OPINION.

LAST week's GRIP is exceptionally brilliant. The principal cartoon represents the railed off den of a tiger (the Grit party) which Mercier is trying to pull on to the Riel platform. Mr. Blake, another keeper, is standing ready to help, should the animal fight. The party is evidently not inclined to mount that platform. Sir John is seen outside the rails, observing matters.—*The Regina Leader*.