

## 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 Oyeſter; the grabeſt Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1874.

## Xmas Greeting.

Grip draws an infinitude of Christmas corks for his patrons; thus ministering to their amusement without encouraging dissipation.

## Grip's Essence of Parliament.

THURSDAY.

LAUDER moved an expression of opinion that before concurrence in the estimates for public works and public institutions, the reports for the preceding year should be brought down. He held that the Public Accounts Committee lacked intelligence. He did not believe in the mere statements of Departmental heads. He had discovered some startling figures in the report of the Inspector of Asylums, which is by no means strange. He thought there must be a mistake with reference to the House of Industry in Hamilton.

FRASER said there evidently was.

LAUDER would like to know, you know, and restore the procedure of SANDFIELD'S time.

FRASER called the mistake a printer's error, and argued that LAUDER'S resolution would create a cast-iron rule in the face of a Statute regarding the time of presenting reports, and of a resolution just adopted, that the House may go into Committee of Supply at any time. He declared the proposition was made for effect in the country. A good many resolutions are made for that purpose.

CAMERON said the resolution contained nothing to hamper the Government. He considered it wrong to hold the present session at all, and that the Speaker would get \$4,200 for the year and each member \$1,200, just because the Government wanted to prepare for the elections.

HOGANS said the resolution would alter the statutory regulations which are fixed by Tory statute.

LAUDER didn't wish to impugn the integrity of the Premier, but contended that want of Government information had made it difficult for the Public Accounts Committee to get the right officials up for examination.

MOWAT said the Government could not give LAUDER intelligence if he didn't possess it, which is another way of saying, "0 plus 0=0." He characterized CAMERON'S exception to the present session as clap-trap, prophesying it would be a year or more ere another session is held. That remains to be seen; and isn't it rather too long, anyway, to delay pressing legislation? In closing he moved in amendment that the House has a right to have any information it likes to demand before concurring in the estimates. If members delayed concurrence till they got all the information they *should* have, they'd hear Gabriel's horn before voting the Supplies.

LAUDER said such motion were unnecessary did not the Government baulk efforts to obtain information.

CAMERON said the law required a session every twelve months, therefore, this session should have begun on the 21st March, and that the only necessity for calling the House together was gerrymandering.

FRASER remarked that the rumor of no session before the elections gave rise to the howl that such omission was to prevent investigation of the Public Accounts, and now they held it was useless. Which it was—the attempted investigation.

The motion as amended was carried.

QUEKLEY was put down quickly, the motion for a select committee being voted down.

It was resolved that three sittings be held on Friday, which is more than most M.P.'s. hold in church on Sunday.

The House expressed its regret at the death of the member for Glengary, who, we hope has gone among better company. The sessional allowance was voted his family, and also to MERRICK of North Leeds, absent through sickness in his family.

The RYKERT Investigation Committee presented a majority and a minority report, showing how the spectacle is different through different spectacles.

The Bill to make further provision for courts in unorganized districts passed. Increase of crime makes further provision for courts.

At the evening session a batch of private bills were passed, and visions of gratuities passed through the minds of their promoters, or hands passed complacently into greased pockets.

CAMERON moved the Bill with reference to the Toronto Water Works Commission be granted reference to committee of the whole; but CROOKS moved the three month's hoist, and after slight discussion it was made a *remnant*.

The Supply Bill passed, and will supply OLIVER with the needful.

The House in Committee on the Redistribution Bill struck out the second syllable as regards Bothwell, and made two *Kents* to lift Grit "lumps." It also dried up Niagara by linkin' it to Lincoln. Thus Niagara falls.

STEPHEN RICHARDS sang his death song, and becomes "STEPHEN, the Martyr." However, we did not hear him pray, "Lord forgive them; they know not what they do."

The Bills relative to Procedure on County Court appeals and to Marriages and Marriage Licenses passed. Being opposed to marriages of consanguinity we think any BILL, or any other man, should pass everything relative, to marriage.

FRIDAY.

The Election Law Amendment Bill passed on division.

The Bill respecting the boundary between Ontario and Quebec passed. These two provinces are now "The Old Canada Company (Limited)."

During the morning and afternoon the debate on Redistribution continued. A number of divisions occurred, and at the elections we shall see verified the saying that "a House divided against itself shall not stand." All amendments of the Opposition were voted down, and when even was come, the Grits with one accord proclaimed the triumph of JERRY MANDER, against the voice of the score who cried out against it.

Three private bills were passed.

The Toronto Water Works bill, on motion of CROOKS was hoisted, on a division.

The bill for the relief of the relatives of intestates was passed. We don't expect it will relieve them sufficiently to dispense with mourning.

The Bill respecting railway traffic was withdrawn at the request of the Premier, who wants to get the views of the railway companies. He wants their influence too, next month.

The Mechanics' Lien Bill passed. Mechanics generally prefer to pass a "fat" bill when they can.

The Speaker to avoid possible difficulty ruled that the House has no power to deal with the law regulating the sale of liquor. The Speaker in the Commons rules similarly as regards that House, he too seeing possible difficulty. Neither House, individually, is so cautious in dealing directly with liquor. It would be better for many members did they then consider possible difficulties.

The Bill to amend the Administration of Justice Act by taking the control of County advertising from the Government, was given the six months' hoist. There is justice, and justice.

The House passed the Bills respecting Watercourse Ditching, Railway Arbitration, and the Northerly and North-Westerly boundaries of Ontario.

The charges against RYKERT were discussed, in a way that creates disgust. It ended just as Grip predicted last Saturday. MOWAT held it was too late to get an opinion of the House, and that this saved RYKERT from condign expulsion. CAMERON was satisfied there was no corrupt motive on RYKERT'S part. Grits and Tories chimed in with their leaders. WENN said, in substance: "I'm sleepy. Use it in your election speeches. Give us a rest!" MOWAT moved that any member receiving any valuable consideration for assistance previously rendered shall deserve expulsion, when CAMERON suggested a rider to include any member of a firm one of whose members sits in the House. MOWAT was not prepared to assent to that, and after some further discussion he refused to move the resolution, and the matter dropped. "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone."

SATURDAY.

Majority and minority reports of the Committee on the Model Farm Scandal showed that the Committee agreed to disagree, and to report their inability to complete the evidence.

The formal bill to amend the charitable institutions act was passed through all its stages.

MONDAY.

The Lieutenant-Governor shortly after three o'clock entered the House and took the Speaker's chair. Ordinary persons who enter houses and take things are called burglars.

The presence of a number of prominent citizens on the floor of the House suggested a conundrum: Why are they like fox-hunters? *Ans.*—Because they come to the meet, and are eager to be in at the death.

As regards the Bills passed by the House during the session, His Honor gave assent to each of the ninety and nine which went not astray; and at the request of the Speaker he squandered the even dollar by giving assent, the hundredth, to the Supply Bill.

The Speaker then whispered in His Honor's ear, "Come along, JOHN, we've got lots of money;" and accordingly JOHN came up smilingly and spoke his little piece.

The House was then prorogued. We wish it could be unrogued as easily.