



PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

BY THE

Grip Printing and Publishing Co.

26 and 28 Front Street West, Toronto, Ont.

President	JAMES L. MORRISON.
General Manager	J. V. WRIGHT.
Artist and Editor	J. W. BRNGOUGH.
Manager Publishing Dept.	R. T. LANCEFIELD.

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

To United States and Canada.

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

To Great Britain and Ireland.

One year \$2.50.

PAYABLE STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

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.

Comments on the Cartoons.



Wiman, the erudite Butterworth, the argumentative *Mail*, the hard-headed *Globe*, and all and sundry the advocates, friends and believers in Unrestricted Reciprocity! What would not Europe give for such a paragon as our Sir John?

EDWARD CROSSES THE BOYNE.—Mr. Edward Clarke is our new Mayor, and we hope he will prove as good as he is handsome. As a newspaper man we are in duty bound to admire him—especially as he is personally well worthy of our esteem. While it cannot be denied that Mr. Clarke was the favorite candidate of the opponents of civic purity and temperance reform, we hope that he will prove true to his own high personal character, and show to the world that he does not consider himself under any obligations to the reactionary element. GRIP most heartily congratulates him, and hopes he may have a pleasant and successful term of office.



MARK, gentle reader, that this is NUMBER ONE OF VOLUME THIRTY-ONE. Sounds somewhat venerable, doesn't it? Well, yes, GRIP, *etat* fifteen years to-day, is at least half a decade the senior of any publication of the same class in America, but, as his appearance indicates, he is just as full of life and vigor as ever, and looks forward to a long career of merry usefulness to his esteemed public.

STARTING out upon another year, GRIP has no radical changes to announce in his programme, for the sufficient reason that the policy in question is not susceptible of improvement. What is it? Everybody ought to know by this time.

IT is to treat all public men with fairness and, as far as possible, with kindly consideration; and to deal with all public questions upon their merits, so far as honest and unbiassed enquiry may enable us to estimate the same. Having no axe to grind at Ottawa or elsewhere, GRIP can afford to "hew to the line," regardless of where the chips may fall.

GRIP'S view is that the legitimate forces of humor and caricature can and ought to serve the state in its highest interests, and that the comic journal which has no other aim than to amuse its readers for the moment, falls short of its highest mission. GRIP has sought to play the part of an educator though dressed in the motley; and upon questions with a distinct moral bearing, he has always striven to be on the right side.

THE civic elections are over! Please understand us to ejaculate this with a deep-drawn sigh of relief. So far as this city is concerned, the fight has been a three-cornered one, and the corners proved unusually jaggy. Happy is the defeated candidate who can reflect that, at all events, he didn't say anything nasty about his opponents. He has better chances for a happy new year than the fellow who "got there," if he only knew it.

THE general verdict upon the first number of *The Empire*, so far as we noted critical remarks, was that theed a l pop was "tame." The editor has a right to consider this flattering. What the public evidently expected was something "wild"—a renewal of the rip-tearing sort of editorial which the accomplished Mr. Griffin used to give us every morning in the *Mail*. We have outgrown Griffinism, however, and it is just as well that the editor of the new organ acts on the opinion that "calm printed words" will in the long run do more for the Party than the "vigorous" writing of other days.

BUT, after all, is there really any use for this new organ? The daily papers already in existence are, most of them, ready and willing to make official announcements for the Government (at so much per line, nonpareil), and to render the due measure of praise editorially for governmental acts that are worthy of praise. A good majority of them, also, could be safely counted upon to support the Government in any measure that was manifestly in the public interests. What, then, is the