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EDITED AND ILLUSTRATED BY J. W. BENGOUGH.

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

Proposed Legislation.

Mr. McMILLAN is preparing a new Temperance Bill. He says the increasing use of alcoholic beverages is injurious, especially to members of Parliament. He will ask Sir JOHN MACDONALD to second it.

Mr. DOMVILLE intends to move a resolution, next session, for the expulsion of any member who indulges in a personal attack on another. He says such assaults are disgraceful to those who make them, and lower the tone of the House to a vulgar level quite beneath gentility. Mr. GILLMOR will second the resolution.

Mr. TILLEY gives notice of his intention to prepare a measure during recess, declaring any one ineligible to sit in the House who makes any allusion, for political purposes, to private letters received by him. Sir ALBERT SMITH has been taking notes for a speech in support of this bill.

Mr. HUNTINGTON will ask the House to resolve that, as tampering with private correspondence is a great and growing evil, any member who avails himself of any information which may have been obtained either by himself or another, by purloining private letters, shall be expelled. He will say that while it is a matter for discussion whether or not sufficient good has not followed the practice of this evil in the past to justify it, the time has arrived for its abolition. Mr. KEELER is expected to make a feeling speech in support of this resolution.

Mr. BUNSTER will move, seconded by Mr. DECOSMOS, that any allusion to the Pacific Railway, except when the subject is properly before the House, shall render the offender liable to a fine of 206 bottles of champagne, or, in lieu thereof, to the punishment of reading the Hansard three consecutive hours.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD is preparing a bill against punning; Mr. MACKENZIE will move for the proscription of the word "amazed"; Mr. A. GLIN will move against the use of "very erroneous"; and Mr. BOULTBEE will seek to have the phrase "on this occasion" placed on the forbidden list.

Mr. RYKERT will introduce a bill making the use of scrap books punishable by expulsion and disqualification. Mr. MACKENZIE BOWELL will, of course, cordially support this bill.

Mr. CARON will prepare a resolution against the carrying on of flirtations with ladies in the gallery. He will be seconded by Dr. FORTIN, and feelingly supported by

the young and handsome Mr. BERGERON, and by all the baldheaded members.

Mr. CHARLTON will move that any member who ever made a Protection speech is not in order in making a Free Trade speech.

Mr. DE COSMOS will move that any member who ever bore another name, must enter it on the rolls, preceded by the word *alias*.

Mr. ROCHESTER will provide for the expulsion of members who mention commercial agencies; Mr. LANDRY, for the expulsion of members who cry "carried;" Mr. CALLUM, for fining members who scrape their desks to annoy speakers; and Mr. HUNTINGTON, for fining any member who uses the word "partisan."

Mr. MCCARTHY will introduce a bill forbidding any member to act as Parliamentary agent for Atlantic Cable or other corporations seeking legislation. Mr. RYKERT will second the motion for the second reading, and Mr. HECTOR CAMERON will support it ably.

Mr. OLIVER, seconded by Mr. ROCHESTER, will ask Parliament to forbid the wearing of wigs.

Sir ALBERT SMITH will ask for the adoption of a rule, that ex-Ministers who know nothing about the Departments they have presided over, shall not be permitted to discuss them.

Mr. MACDOUGALL will move that any member who gains a seat through the machinery of either party, must resign before assuming the role of an independent.

Mr. MILLS will ask Parliament to "sit upon" lay members who persist in discussing intricate questions of law which they necessarily know nothing about.

The want of time prevented these gentlemen from taking action this session. They have, however, talked the matters over with members, and are confident of carrying their points next session.

The National Currency Catechism.

By ZEDEKIAH TIMBERTOP.

Question.—What is a Currency?

Answer.—A Currency is a "Circulating medium."

Q.—How many descriptions of Currency are there?

A.—There are a great many kinds of Currency: such as lies, statements in Picnic orations, Parliamentary effusions, and those with which we are now more immediately concerned, *viz.*, Metallic, Paper, and National Currencies.

Q.—What is a Metallic Currency?

A.—A Metallic is a hard-money Currency.

Q.—What is a Paper Currency?

A.—A Paper is a Soft-money Currency.

Q.—What is a National Currency?

A.—A National Currency is a—rag baby. Q.—What is the difference between a Currency founded on Coin and a National Currency?

A.—The one is a matter of fact, the other a matter of fiction.

Q.—How is a Coin, or in other words, an old fashioned Currency manufactured?

A.—A Coin, or old fashioned Currency, can only be made out of material representing actually the intrinsic value expressed, and was suitable to the slow notions of our forefathers.

Q.—How is a National Currency manufactured?

A.—A National Currency requires only a good large paper mill, a printing press, and unlimited faith on the part of a confiding public, and is suitable for the go-aheadism of our times.

Q.—What is the primary object of a Currency?

A.—The primary object of a Currency is to supply a medium for the payment of one's debts.

Q.—Will not an old fashioned Currency answer this purpose?

A.—Yes, if it could be distributed with more impartiality, and made more generally available, and all millionaires were compelled to divide up.

Q.—What advantages in this respect will a National Currency confer?

A.—Under the operations of a National Currency every one will be abundantly supplied with the needful, as money will be made cheap, (very cheap, and by-and-bye so will the people who have been fooled into the use of it), and so all debts will be paid, and the hearts of tailors, haberdashers, and general dealers will be made glad.

Q.—What would be a good motto for the advocates of a National Currency?

A.—An appropriate motto would be: "We will not starve; we could beg, but we won't, and to work we are ashamed."

Great National Project.

To the Editor of GRIP,

SIR:—I wish to bring before the public the advisability of founding a "school for the production of Canadian poetry;" and I consider that spring is the most appropriate time for advocating the scheme. For, is it not true that the season which to the practical heads of families suggests such uninteresting subjects as house-cleaning, drainage, etc., brings before the poetic eye visions of meadows which have cast aside their mantles of snow and revealed their robes of green, placid waters, opening buds, singing birds, etc., which seem to charm into new life that delicate plant, the poetic sentiment, which often appears to wither during the frosts of winter? Spring, moonlight, and autumn leaves, are undoubtedly powerful poetic stimulants; (with this fact, however, editors are probably familiar.) I used to labor under the delusion that

"Not every man can be a poet,
No more than sheep can be a go-at."

But having read much modern poetry, and observed the abundance of the article, and the apparent facility with which it is produced, I hold a different opinion. I have lately read two articles on the subject; one is headed, "Every man his own Poet; or the Inspired Singer's Receipt Book;" it contains some very good suggestions; the other article was published by Mr. PORE, in the *Guardian*, and is entitled "A receipt to make an Epic Poem." Both prove conclusively that poems may be made without *any genius whatever*.

Some people may think as poetry is produced in such abundance there is no necessity for any instruction in the art of making it, but there are still many of our countrymen who have never written any, who might do so with a little assistance. There are conservatories of music and art societies, why should not the poetic sentiment of "this Canada of ours" receive extraneous assistance?

If these suggestions meet with your approval, I will, in my next, give you my opinion as to the manner in which the school should be conducted, and also send you some sample poems.

Your obedient servant,
SU SCEPTIBLE.

A DARK horse—a nightmare.—*Boston Post*.
The Lord Mayor of London's Knight Mayor.